

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 00000460

Date Listed: 12/29/2000

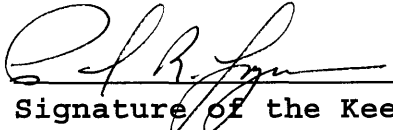
Star Ranger Station Building, Old  
Property Name

Jackson  
County

OR  
State

U. S. Forest Service Historic Structures  
on the Rogue River National Forest, MPS  
Multiple Name

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
to \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

12/29/2000  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

**Historic Name:**

The name is revised to read: *Star Ranger Station Building, Old*, to differentiate this property from the previously listed *Star Ranger Station* (NR 1991).

**Significance:**

*Architecture* is added as an area of significance under Criterion C.

*Criteria Consideration B* is checked.

[The property meets the criteria consideration as a moved property significant for its architectural character--the building is a rare extant example of a Forest Service property type--and as a property moved to a compatible location within the general proximity of its original site.]

These revisions were confirmed with the Forest Service.

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**DISTRIBUTION:**

National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 3 Page 1

U. S. Forest Service  
Historic Structures on the  
Rogue River National Forest  
MPS

**SECTION 3: FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that the nominations listed below meet the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meet the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the properties meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that these properties be considered significant locally.

  
Signature of certifying official/FPO

  
Date

Federal Agency and bureau: *U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region*  
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**Administrative**

Star Ranger Station Building/"Tack Room" (1911)  
Willow Prairie Cabin (1924)  
Big Elk Guard Station (1929)

**Fire Lookouts**

Hershberger Mountain Lookout (1924)  
Dutchman Peak Lookout (1927)  
Mt. Stella Lookout (1933)  
Squaw Peak Lookout (1943)

**Snow Survey Cabins**

Whaleback Snow-Survey Cabin (1937)  
Honeymoon Creek Snow Cabin (1943)

**CCC/FERA Recreation Facilities**

McKee Bridge Campground (1935-1936)  
Wrangle Shelter (1935-36)  
Dead Indian Soda Springs Shelter (1936)  
Fish Lake Shelter (1936)  
Parker Meadows Shelter (1936)

Star Ranger Station Building  
Name of Property

Jackson Oregon  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the  
Rogue River National Forest

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/government office

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Work in progress (interpretation)

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20 TH CENTURY  
AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

OTHER: Vernacular

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation WOOD  
walls WOOD: Weatherboard

roof WOOD: Shingle

other WOOD

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Please See Continuation Sheets

Star Ranger Station Building  
Name of Property

Jackson Oregon  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT  
CONSERVATION

**Period of Significance**

1911

1911-1932

**Significant Dates**

1911

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

**Name of repository:**

Rogue River National Forest

Star Ranger Station Building

Name of Property

Jackson Oregon

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 110 4915 21010 416 616 240
Zone Easting Northing
2

3
Zone Easting Northing
4

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Katherine C. Atwood
organization (for) USDA Forest Service date November 20, 1999
street & number 365 Holly Street telephone 541-482-8714
city or town Ashland state OR zip code 97520

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Please see Continuation Page

name U.S.D.A. Forest Service Rogue River National Forest
street & number P.O. Box 520 telephone 541-858-2200
city or town Medford state OR zip code 97501

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
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Star Ranger Station Building

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**Description**Setting

The old Star Ranger Station Building is a component (and the single feature proposed for nomination) of the Star Ranger Station administrative/residential compound, a triangular-shaped twenty-acre parcel in the SW ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 28, Township 39 South Range 3 West, WM. The site, at an average elevation of about 1,570 feet above sea level, is bounded on the east by the Applegate River and on the north by Star Gulch. The southwest perimeter follows the contours of the intervening slope to the property boundary along the south edge of the site. The present Upper Applegate Road bisects the Star Ranger Station compound into two natural areas. On the east side is a series of nearly level alluvial terraces with riparian vegetation along the banks of the river. On the west side is a generally steep slope with a transition forest of scattered ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and Pacific madrone as well as oak and manzanita. The original Star Ranger Station Building is sited immediately east of Upper Applegate Road in the northwesterly environs of the site, oriented toward the road and standing between that thoroughfare and the Applegate River.

Structural Description:

The 1911 Ranger Station Building (or "Tack Room" as it is commonly known), is a simple vernacular wood-frame building measuring approximately 12' x 20' in plan. Resting on wooden piers and native boulders, the building has a gable roof with wood shingle roofing and exterior walls clad with horizontal shiplap siding. Each wall contains a four-over-four, double-hung sash window with plain trim. The building has triangular knee braces at the gable peaks and eaves, and exposed rafter ends. The two entrances contain four-panel doors with white ceramic knobs. The building is in good condition.

In the early 1990s the Forest Service issued a contract to restore both the building's exterior and interior. The interior was modified for maximum storage space by removing interior wall partitions. Drywall material was used to cover the original wood wall and ceiling surfaces. A portion of the original wall was left intact to reveal the original leather hangers used for tack equipment. The wood floor is original. On the exterior, new gutters and shingles were added to the roof. The windows and glass lights are original. The four-paneled front door is an in-kind replacement. A small deck porch was added at the front door in 1997 and a ramp affixed for wheelchair accessibility (LaLande, August 2, 1999).

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Star Ranger Station Building

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**Significance**

The Star Ranger Station Building, built in 1911 as the administrative headquarters on the Applegate Ranger District of the Rogue River National Forest, is significant for its association with the development of the Forest Service in southwest Oregon, and particularly in the Applegate Valley. Submitted as part of a multiple property submission, "U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest, Oregon," Star Ranger Station Office represents its associated historic context, "Early Forest Service Administrative and Natural Resource Management on the Rogue River National Forest 1907 to 1932." The building meets the registration requirements outlined for vernacular agency structures in the registration document. Constructed in 1911, it was established near the beginning of the historic period. The Star Ranger Station Office retains its integrity of setting, design, and materials, and it evokes direct historic associations with its historic context. Although the building's location has shifted several times, including once within the historic period, it retains a prominent location on the site in proximity to the main road, reflecting its early status as an important Forest Service facility in the Applegate area. The Star Ranger Station Office embodies the characteristics of its type through its setting, design, and materials. The building has been declared eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as an important, tangible representative of early Forest Service administrative activities in southwest Oregon. One of the earliest Ranger Stations built within the Rogue River National Forest, it is one of the oldest Forest Service structures in continuous use in the nation. The Star Ranger Station Building is now the oldest Forest Service building extant in southwestern Oregon (LaLande, August 2, 1999).

Additionally eligible to the National Register under Criterion C as an excellent representative of early vernacular National Forest structures, the Star Ranger Station Building retains a substantial portion of its integrity of setting, design, and materials and it evokes direct historic associations with its historic context. It exemplifies the simple, vernacular style used for early Forest Service administrative buildings.

**History**

The Star Ranger Station compound is located in an area where extensive placer mining took place during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Evidence of hydraulic operations – mining cuts and tailings piles are visible about 0.3 miles south of the Ranger Station.

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The present Star Ranger Station compound was included in the Ashland Forest Reserve proclamation of 1906, and was removed from homestead or mineral entry as part of an administrative site withdrawal in 1914 (Rogue River National Forest, Item I-9). The earliest "Ranger Station" at the site was located in an abandoned log cabin on the Star Mining Claim on the south side of Star Gulch. Ranger Horace G. Whitney used the cabin until the winter of 1910-1911. Whitney left the Applegate Valley to be married, and upon returning to Star Gulch in the spring of 1911, found:

... two carpenters just completing a one-room, combined office and living quarters in the middle of the alfalfa patch at Star Ranger Station. Later on the place was fenced and a barn was built.  
(LaLande 1979)

This structure, now known as the old Star Ranger Station Building or "Tack Room," was situated on the east side of Upper Applegate Road south of its present location. It served both official and residential functions until Forest Service employees built a larger "Ranger's house on the wooded slope above the Upper Applegate Road during the winter of 1914-1915.

The compound facilities at Star Gulch became inadequate for Forest Service administrative/residential needs by the early 1930s. The agency utilized Companies 5463, 290 and 926 of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) stationed at nearby Camp Applegate F-41 to build new structures at the Star Ranger Station complex. The CCC construction activity occurred between 1934 and 1936 (Brown [1971] 1934-1937; RRNF Historical Photograph Collection, File #V-4). Thirteen buildings and rockwork features were among the improvements included in the Civilian Conservation Corps site development at Star Ranger Station.

During the 1930s the original Ranger Station Building was moved across the Upper Applegate Road to a position on the hillside near the CCC-built barn, where it served as a "tack room" for storing saddles, pack frames, and other equipment. During the first half of the twentieth century, because of its mild climate, all of the Forest's horses and mules were quartered at Star Ranger Station each winter. Later, the building was moved again, back across the road to a location at the rear of the new office building.

The Forest Service built additional facilities after 1950, including residences, an office building, and a water treatment building. A number of the pre-1940 structures at Star



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Ranger Station were removed from the site between 1955 and 1970. (The few remaining CCC-built structures, utilitarian in design, have previously been found ineligible to the National Register of Historic Places with concurrence of the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office). The Star Ranger Station Compound site underwent major revision in the late 1970s and 1980s, and the agency completed a modern, expanded office building on the site by 1990.

In about 1992, the Star Ranger Station Building was relocated to a site fronting Upper Applegate Road near the northwest corner of the expanded office structure. The site makes it clearly visible from the county road and easily accessible from the compound parking lot. The structure was re-roofed and restored to its ca. 1920-1930 appearance on the exterior. Plans call for eventually fitting the building as an interpretive site exhibiting history of the Applegate Valley and the Applegate Ranger District. Restoration may include arrangement as an early Ranger's office with appropriate furniture, equipment, and maps.

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National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Star Ranger Station Building

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## **Bibliography**

Black, John and Marguerite

1990 Ruch and the Upper Applegate Valley: An Oregon Documentary, Webb Research Group, Medford Oregon.

Jeff LaLande

1979 A Cultural Resource Inventory and Evaluation of Existing Structures at Star Ranger Station, Applegate Ranger District Rogue River National Forest C.R. Job RR-11, Rogue River National Forest

Rogue River National Forest

n.d. C.R. Job RR-852 Interpretive Proposal for the Old Star Ranger Station

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Star Ranger Station Building

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A USGS map of the Ruch Quadrangle is included with this nomination. A photocopied section of this map with the site location marked by an arrow is also contained within the nomination document.

**Boundary Description:**

The Star Ranger Station Building is situated on National Forest land in the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 28, Township 39 South Range 3 West, W.M., in Jackson County Oregon. The property is further identified on USGS map Ruch Quadrangle, 7.5 minutes series, included with this nomination.

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated area includes only the Star Ranger Station Building. Although the structure is located in an appropriate setting, it was moved to this prominent area of the compound. The building alone constitutes the discrete, identifiable location where the historic activities with which it is associated took place.

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Star Ranger Station Building

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**Photographs**

Photograph No. 1

- 1) Star Ranger Station Building
- 2) Jacksonville Vicinity, Jackson County, Oregon
- 3) Photographer: Katherine Atwood
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1999
- 5) Negative Holder: Rogue River National Forest  
P.O. Box 520  
Medford, Oregon 97501
- 6) View looking south along Upper Applegate Road
- 7) Photograph Number: 1 of 3

Photograph No. 2

- 1) Star Ranger Station Building
- 2) Jacksonville Vicinity, Jackson County, Oregon
- 3) Photographer: Katherine Atwood
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1999
- 5) Negative Holder: Rogue River National Forest  
P.O. Box 520  
Medford, Oregon 97501
- 6) View of south elevation
- 7) Photograph Number 2 of 3

Photograph No. 3

- 1) Star Ranger Station Building
- 2) Jacksonville Vicinity, Jackson County, Oregon
- 3) Photographer: Unknown
- 4) Date of Photograph: c. 1914
- 5) Negative Holder: Rogue River National Forest  
P.O. Box 520  
Medford, Oregon 97501
- 6) Historic View of Star Ranger Station Building
- 7) Photograph Number 3 of 3

**United States Department of the Interior  
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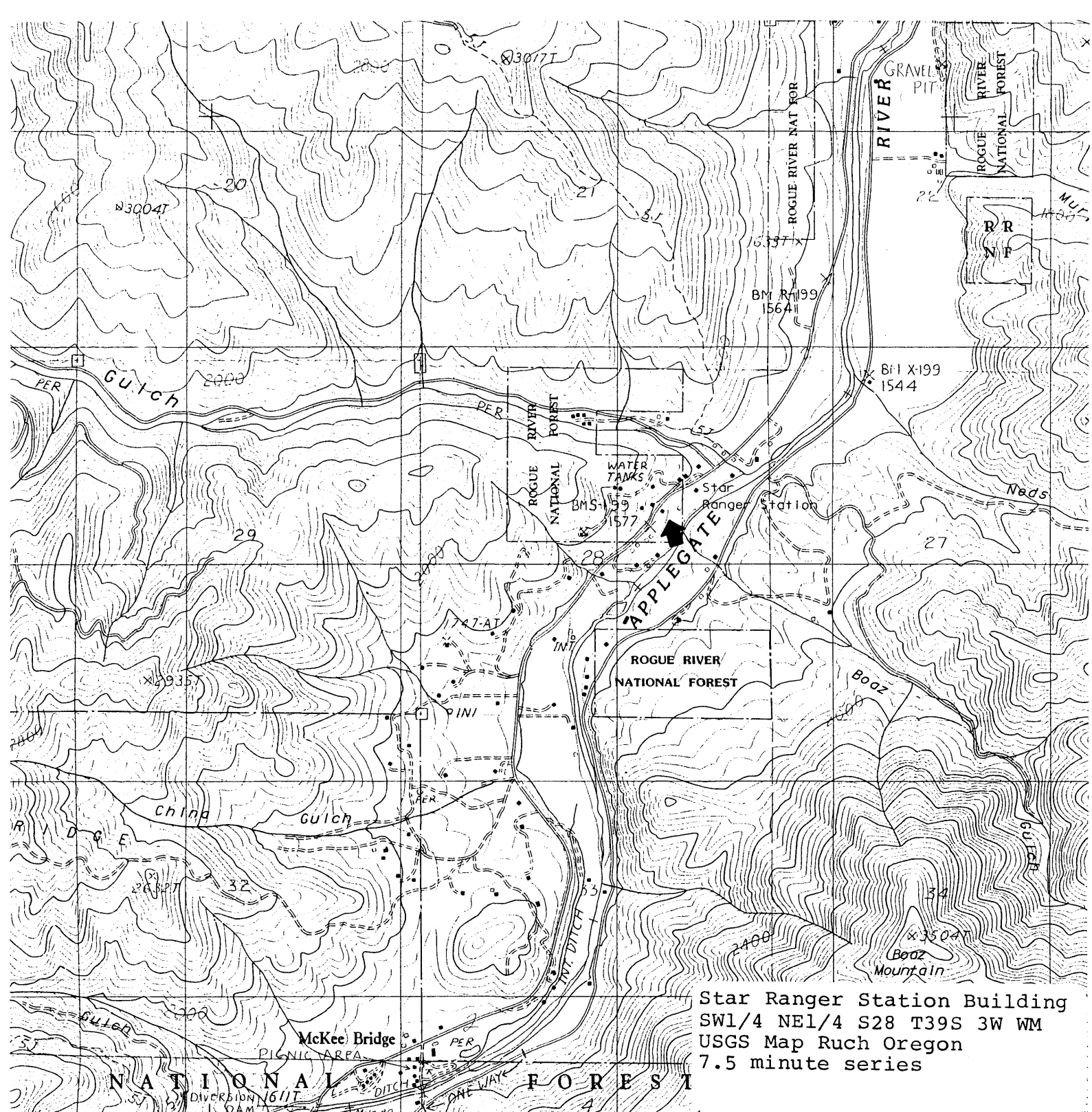
Star Ranger Station Building

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## **Property Owner Notification**

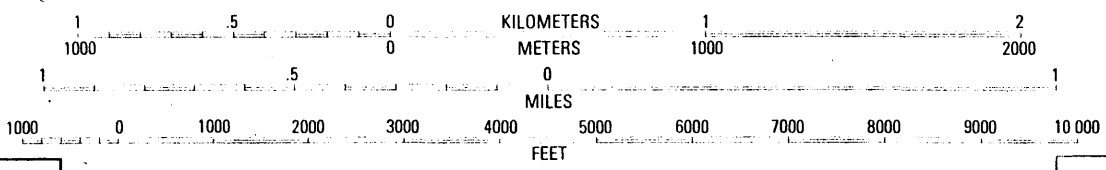
U.S. Forest Service  
J. Michael Lunn, Forest Supervisor  
Jeff LaLande, Forest Archaeologist  
P.O. Box 520  
Medford, Oregon 97501



Star Ranger Station Building  
 SW1/4 NE1/4 S28 T39S 3W WM  
 USGS Map Ruch Oregon  
 7.5 minute series

493 5' 494 495 496 497  
 2' 30" INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA, 1983

SCALE 1:24 000

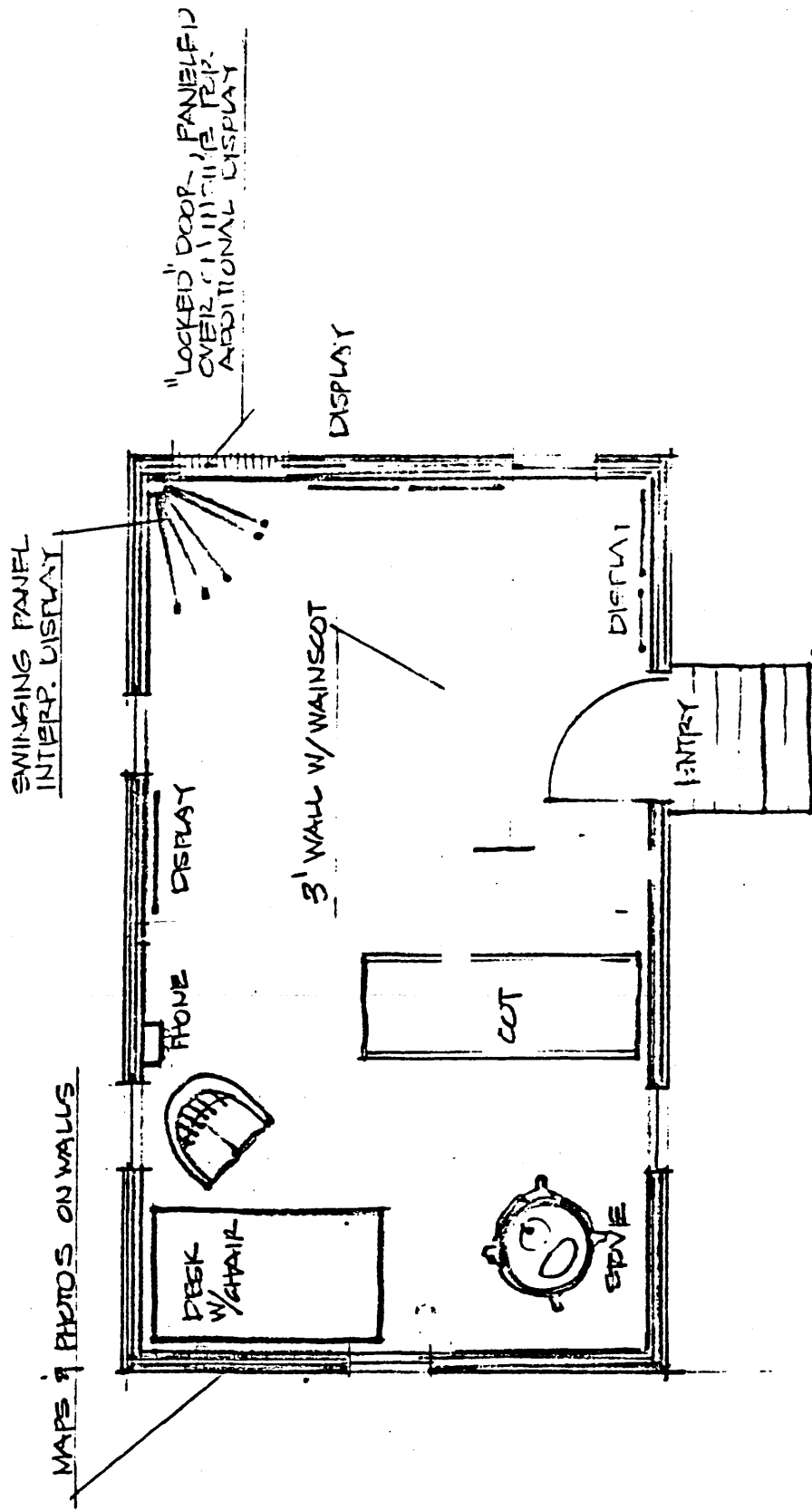


CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808  
 To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

**PROVISIONAL MAP**  
 Reduced from original  
 manuscript drawings. Infor-  
 mation shown as of date of  
 field check.

1	2	3	1	Apl
2			2	Mt.
3			3	Me
4		5	4	Tal
5			5	Ste
6			6	Car
7			7	Sq
8			8	Dut



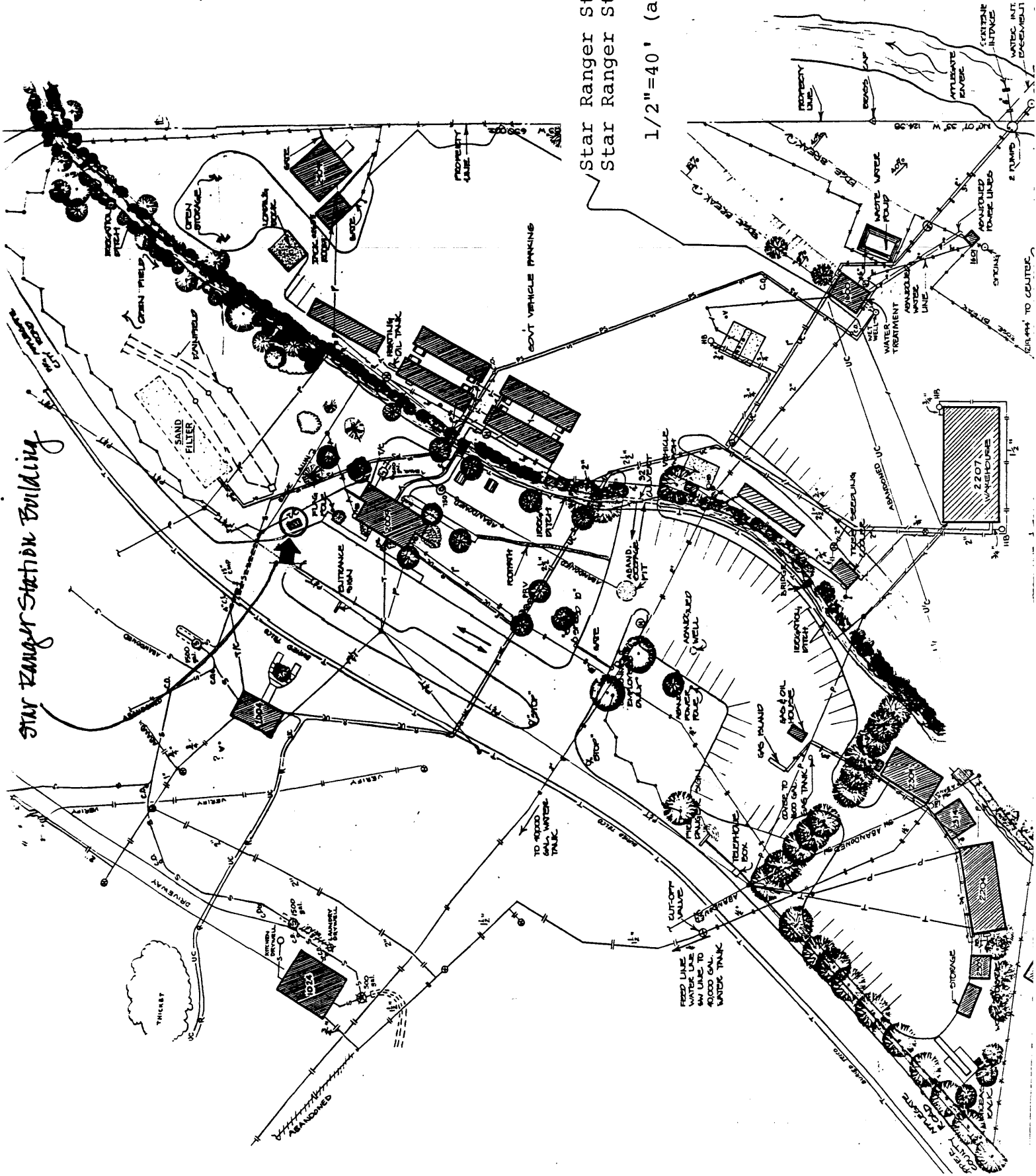
Star Ranger Station Building

1/4" = 1' 0"

FLOOR PLAN 1/4" = 1'-0"

OLD STAR RANGER STATION

# Star Ranger Station Building



Star Ranger Station Building  
Star Ranger Station Complex

1/2" = 40' (approx.)

