

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED JUL 1 1980	SEP 12 1980
DATE ENTERED	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Allison Ranger Station

AND/OR COMMON Allison Ranger Station

**LOCATION** Ochoco National Forest, Approximately fifty miles northwest  
of Burns, near Forest Service road # 1810

STREET & NUMBER NE of Burns  
CITY, TOWN Burns mic. VICINITY OF  NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2  
STATE Oregon CODE 41 COUNTY Harney CODE 025

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Non-use

**AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If applicable) U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region 6

STREET & NUMBER 319 S.W. Pine St., P. O. Box 3623

CITY, TOWN Portland VICINITY OF STATE Oregon 97208

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harney County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Burns STATE Oregon

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS State Historic Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN 525 Trade St., S.E., Salem, Oregon 97310 STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Allison Ranger Station, a log cabin, was built in 1911 by Ranger Ci Donnelly. It is located in the Snow Mountain Ranger District of the Ochoco National Forest in Oregon at an elevation of 5,500 feet. The cabin was used until 1935, when new facilities were built nearby. The building is in fair condition; the basic structure is sound, but some repairs are needed to correct damage caused by environmental factors.

On the accompanying USGS Delintment Lake Quadrangle map, the cabin is in Township 19 South, Range 26 East, Section 15. The environment is a ponderosa pine forest, with some fir, in an open park-like stand, with a spring nearby. The site of the cabin is fairly level but is surrounded by sloping, rolling topography.

The cabin measures 19.7 feet (including porch) by 10.2 feet. An accompanying sketch map shows complete measurements. The cabin is chinked with rough-sawn boards and overlapping corner joints. The hand-split shingle roof extends out over the planked front porch, which is a five feet wide extension of the interior floor. A single south facing window measures 3.5 feet by two feet and has six panes. The front door has wooden hinges and a hand-carved latch and handle. (see sketch)

Originally, the cabin contained two rooms. The front room served as an office, living room, and kitchen; the back room had two bunks. No room partition exists now. The interior has exposed log walls, no ceiling, and six cross beams of rough-sawn two by fours. A chimney hole passes through the roof. There is no furniture, and there are no facilities inside. The original stove is now on the front porch.

At one time, the site included the cabin, a tool storage shed, outhouse, and corral. The log cabin and the outhouse, of unknown vintage, are all that remain now. The site has been fenced to exclude livestock.

In 1935, new facilities were built on eighth mile southwest of the cabin to serve as the district's administrative headquarters. The depression era buildings still stand but are not visible from the cabin. During the late 1930's and 1940's the cabin was intermittently occupied by range riders, and it was later used to store livestock salt.

Most of the cabin logs are sound, but the roof needs repair. The interior floor has been gnawed by wood rats, attracted by the salt that penetrated the planks.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES    1910 - 1935

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Allison Ranger Station is historically significant in that it was among the earliest permanent structures built on the Ochoco National Forest for the purpose of administering the lands of that jurisdiction. As such, it was a focal point for the Forest Service's responsibilities of protecting and conserving those natural resources held in public trust. Because the timber and summer forage of the Ochoco National Forest were, and remain, important to the lumbering and stock raising industries that form the basis of the area's economy, the Allison Ranger Station is associated with events that have contributed significantly to the broad patterns of local history. The structure and its environment retain sufficient integrity to convey a feeling of time and place consistent with the period of construction. Together, they have a readily identifiable relationship to early Forest Service history.

The Allison Ranger Station is architecturally significant as well, in that it exemplifies the pioneer techniques of log building construction and carpentry. Although some materials are deteriorated, the cabin is structurally sound and retains much of its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

A 1915 Forest Service map of the Snow Mountain Ranger District, Ochoco National Forest, shows seven ranger stations. Some stations were merely tents. The Allison Ranger Station is the only one left and one of the few Forest Service log cabins in existence.

In the early days of the Forest Service, stations, such as the Allison Ranger cabin, were established so that a few scattered individuals could administer National Forest lands. The primitive cabins reflect the low operation budgets and limited personnel of the Federal agency.

Ci Donnelly was the first ranger appointed to the Snow Mountain District; he served in this capacity from 1910 until 1939. He administered approximately 200,000 acres of National Forest land, but at that time, the ranger's work was primarily custodial in nature. They attempted to control grazing, detect and suppress fires, develop trails and telephone lines, and act as representatives of the United States government in charge of the area.

Ranger Donnelly became familiar with the history of the area. In 1933, he wrote, in an article on nearby Howard Valley, that the station should have been named after General O. O. Howard, of the U.S. Army. Howard, with a detachment of troops, camped in the valley while on the trail of Chief Joseph and his Paiute and Banok Indian warriors during the Indian outbreak of 1878. Donnelly mentioned the location, near the cabin, of wagon tracks and scars on trees where the army had taken wagons down a steep mountain slope. The station was named after a homesteader, Jesse Allison, who was living on a claim in the valley.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ochoco National Forest Supervisor's Office record, Information, general history, including:

1. "Origin of Names - Howard Valley," by Ci Donnelly, 1936.
2. 1915 Forest Service Map of District #1.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 1	29, 10, 5, 5	4, 8, 6, 5, 0, 7, 5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is bounded to the east at forty-five feet by an undeveloped access road; to the north by a grazing fence; to the west by an edge of timber; and to the south at one-eighth mile by the guard station compound facilities.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marilyn D. Dennis, Cultural Resources Coordinator;  
reviewed and revised by Brooke Abbruzzese, Recreation Unit, Regional Office, Portland, Oregon

ORGANIZATION

USDA, Forest Service, Ochoco National Forest

DATE

June 24, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

MSR, Box 255

TELEPHONE

(503) 447-3845

CITY OR TOWN

Prineville

STATE

Oregon

# 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

*Barry R. Flamm* 6/24/80

*David R. Talbot*

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is  National  State  Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

**BARRY R. FLAMM**  
Director

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
Office of Environmental Quality

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*W. Ray Juice*

DATE

9/12/80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

9-5-80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Statement of Significance

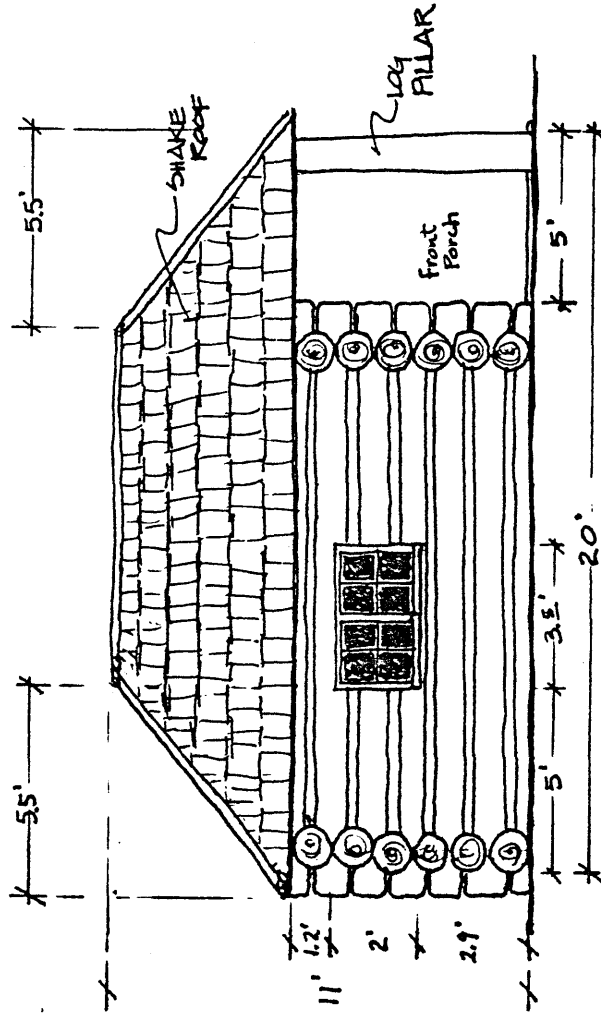
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

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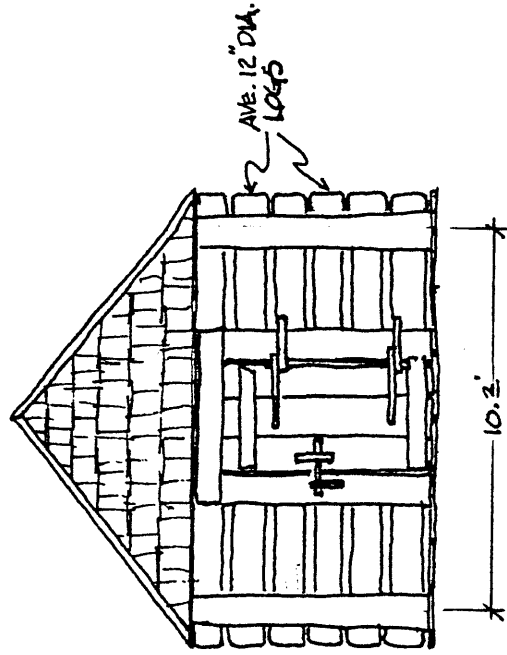
The cabin appears much as it was in former times, and, with its backwoods environment, it still calls to mind the rugged outpost it must have been for Ranger Donnelly. The cabin is now fenced off for protection, and the Forest Service plans to add preservatives to the logs to prevent further deterioration. Consideration is also being given to restoration of the site to its original state. This would preserve a local landmark and provide a valuable resource for the interpretation of the life and duties of early Forest Service rangers and their place in Forest Service history to the public.

LOG STRUCTURE - DETAILS  
OLD ALLISON RANGER STATION  
 SNOW MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT - COCHOCO N.F.



SOUTH SIDE ELEVATION

SCALE: 1"=40'



EAST FRONT ELEV.  
 SCALE: 1"=40'

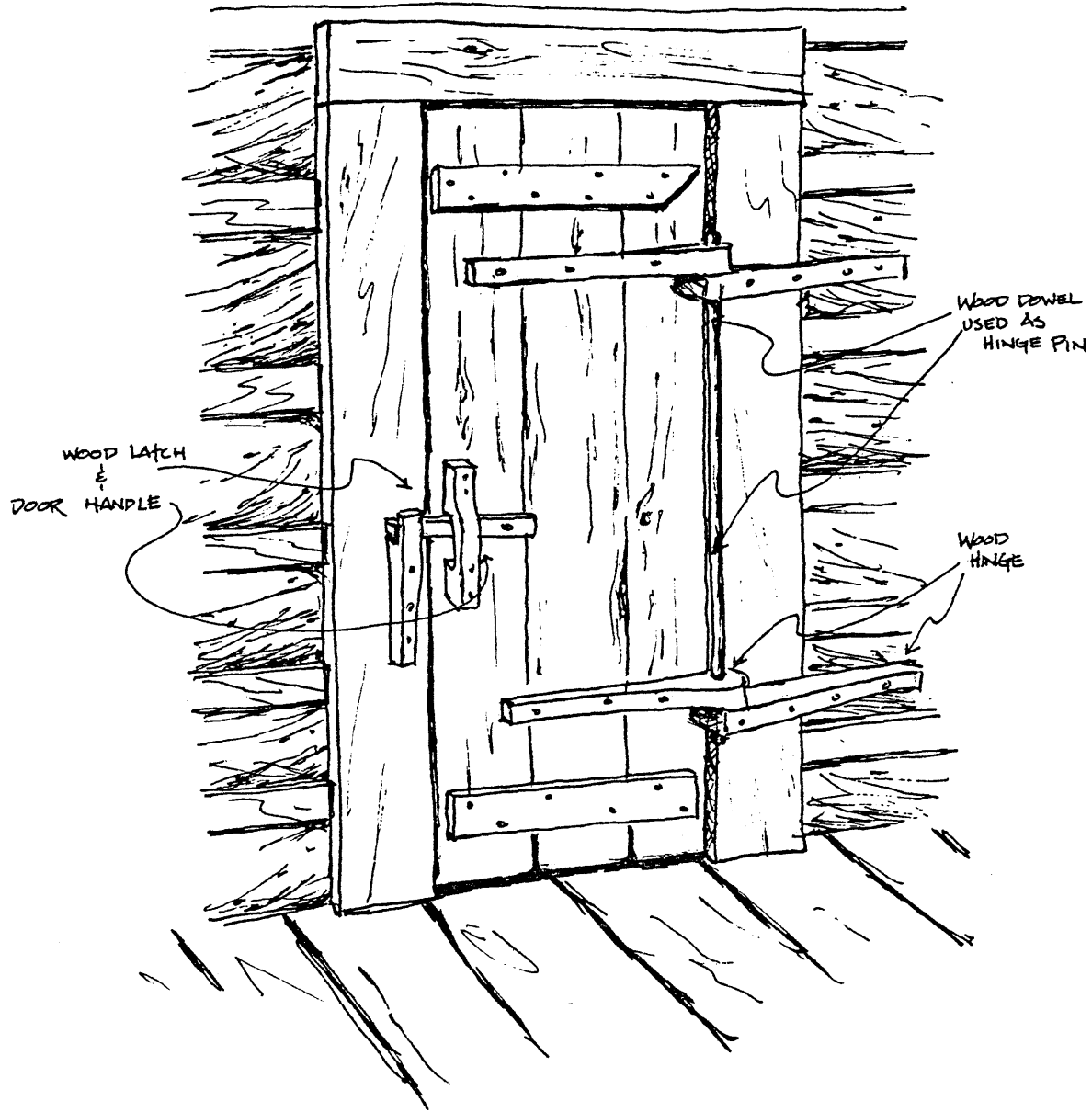
JUL 1 1980

Sketch by: Frank van W.

12

SEP 12

FRONT DOOR DETAIL SKETCH  
OLD ALLISON RANGER STATION  
SNOW MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT - OCHOCO N.F.



JUL 1 1980

SKETCH BY:  
FRANK VAN W.