NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DEPRESSION-ERA BUILDINGS

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NAME: Verlot Ranger Station (Public Service Center)

- LOCATION: Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District; Congressional District 2; Granite Falls, WA (53) Snohomish County (061)
- ADDRESS: USDA Forest Service Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 1022 First Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

CLASSIFICATION/CATEGORY: District

DESCRIPTION:

Condition

<u>x</u> Excellent <u>x</u> Altered <u>x</u> Original Site

Verlot Ranger Station Office #2031: 1936; 45' x 40'; H-shaped, 11/2 story, wood frame, poured concrete foundation, split-shake high hipped roof, offset cross gables, center gable with extending gabled porch north (rear) elevation; two hipped dormers on both south and north roof slopes. South (front) wall recessed between offset gables to form porch, supported by two squared-timber posts with small, short curving brackets affixed. Horizontal clapboard exterior, vertical boards, angular cut, with molded battens on gable ends. Small. coursed-rubble interior chimney straddles main ridgeline, center. Eight-overeight double-hung sashes singly, six-over-six double-hung sashes in combination with mullions. Dormers exhibit nine-light single sash windows. All windows on main level flanked by vertical three-board decorative shutters, the center board having a simple pine tree cutout. A single graceful, well-executed pine tree cut out from a single board is centered on each offset gable end. The front door handle is hand-forged, backed by a forged plate of pine tree design; the lock is backed by a small forged plate having the shape of the U. S. Department of Agriculture shield. No apparent exterior alterations, excellent condition.

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ridgeline of projecting center gable. Horizontal clapboard exterior, vertical boards, angular cut, molded battens on all gable ends. Mullion window with three eight-vertical-light sashes, south facade; eight-over-eight double-hung sashes singly and in combinations with mullions. Front door exhibits hand-forged handle and latch, backed by forged pine tree shaped plate; lock is backed by small shield shaped plate. Single, well-executed pine tree design cut out from single board above center on center gable end, south facade. No apparent exterior alterations, excellent condition.

Verlot Ranger Station Warehouse #2259: 1935-38; 90' x 60'; Rectangular, 11/2 story, wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, center gable, south (main) facade; offset slightly projecting gable, west gable end; center gable with projecting gable porch above concrete loading dock, supported by two large squared timber posts with short, shallow flush brackets affixed on north (rear) elevation. Single coursed-rubble interior chimney, offset on north slope. Horizontal clapboard exterior, vertical boards, angular cut, molded battens on all gable ends. Mullion windows of four twelve-light sashes surmounted by center sash of twenty lights flanked by fifteen light sashes. Gable ends, four large vertical-lift doors, single large vertical-lift door center offset gable on west gable end. No decoration. Original roof material replaced with corrugated sheet metal.

Four Vehicle Garage #1545: 1936-37; Rectangular, 1 story, wood frame, poured concrete foundation, split shake high gable roof. Four bays in length, interspaced with heavy squared-timber posts, open on south (main) facade. Exterior walls are horizontal clapboard, vertical boards, ends angular cut, molded battens in gable ends. No apparent structural additions or alterations. No obvious material modifications.

Gas and Oil House #2545: 1936-37; Rectangular, 1 story, wood frame, poured concrete foundation, concrete loading dock abuts north gable end, medium gable roof, center portion of east slope extends, bellcast to form porch cover, supported by heavy squared timber posts in binary arrangement, with curving brackets. Horizontal clapboard exterior walls, vertical boards, molded battens on gable ends. Twelve-light single sash window offset to left on cast (main) facade. Main entry, single leaf door, centered on east facade; vertical plank horizontal slide-opening service door, center north gable end, opens on loading dock. No apparent structural additions or alterations. Textured metal roof matrial replaces original materials.

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Verlot Ranger Station, Ranger's Dwelling #1136: 1936; 45' x 40'; T-shaped, $1\frac{1}{2}$ story, wood frame, poured concrete foundation, split-shake high gable roof with intersecting cross-gable, stepped on north (rear) elevation, forming projecting bays. Single hipped dormer, center main gable, north slope; single coursed, squared-rubble interior chimney, offset, north slope. Hipped porch roof extends from west gable end, supported by pairs of large squared timber posts, short, slender curing brackets affixed. Horizontal clapboard exterior, vertical boards, angular cut, molded battens on all gable ends; ashlar-like coursed rubble veneer to eave line on projecting north bay, similar masonry finish to window level on south bay. Mullion windows in south bay are six-overnine sashes across, four-over-six sashes on sides. Rear bay exhibits a mullioned window having three six-over-six sashes; treatment repeated on west elevation. Front door exhibits a hand-forged handle and latch, backed with forged pine-tree shaped plate; lock is backed with small shield shaped plate; cedntered, a hand-forged door-knocker in form of tree branch with two short side branches and a beautifully wrought pine cone knocker. A hand-forged wroughtiron lantern serves as porch light beside north entrance. No visible exterior alteration, excellent condition.

Ranger's Residence Garage #1546: 1936; Rectangular, wood frame, poured concrete foundation, split-shake high gable roof; attached to residence by means of a below ground surface snow tunnel having coursed squared-rubble masonry walls and a split-shake high gable roof. Horizontal clapboard exterior, vertical boards, angular cut, molded battens. Six-light horizontal sash windows; two vertical board doors, north gable end. Two vehicle capactiy. Single well-executed pine tree cut out from single board above center on north and south gable ends. No apparent exterior alteration.

Verlot Ranger Station Timber Office #1137: 1936-37; 45' x 30'; T-shaped, 11/2 story, wood frame, poured concrete foundation, split-shake high gable roof with projecting center gable on south elevation, gabled entrance abuts at right angle to recessed open porch and main entry on south facade; entrance supported by 4 x 4 posts, porch supported by heavy squared timber posts having short, slender curving brackets affixed; small projecting gable-roofed porch, entry offset on west gable end, open, supported by squared-timber curving brackets affixed. Single hipped dormer on north slope. Large ashlar-like coursed-rubble masonry exterior end chimney on east gable end, similar masonry interior chimney, center, south slope, smaller similar interior chimney straddles

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SIGNIFICANCE:

The Verlot Ranger Station (now Public Service Center) typifies the construction projects undertaken by the Civilian Conservtion Corps and signifies the aid to the local communicy provided by the emergency work-relief program through employment of youth and experienced craftsmen, purchase of building materials and camp supplies, and personal expenditures of enrollees. The property represents the Forest Service's presence in the locality, as the headquarters for field operation, and denotes, via the physical facilities required to carry out the agency's expanding responsibilities, the critical transition in the Service's development from custodial superintendence to extensive resource management. The Verlot Ranger Station exemplifies the rustic architectural idiom developed by the Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, to impart Forest Service identity and to represent its purposes and ideals, and signifies the agency's particular interpretation of a singular expression of early twentieth century American architectural thought. Possessing superior qualities of design and execution, the Ranger Station is an outstanding example of an architectural location invested with special aesthetic and associative values by the agency that created it.

The Verlot Ranger Station manifests the principles of comprehensive site planning initiated by the Forest Service during the Depression, through spatial arrangement, functional organization, architectural unity from complimentary building materials and forms, and landscaping to integrate the building site and complex, and signifies an important advance in administrative site development.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Actual acreage of administrative site fewer than 10 acres.

UTM Reference:

Point	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	10	590895	5327226

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The Verlot Administrative Site (the former Monte Cristo Ranger Station) is comprised of the buildings and features within a 59 acre tract in the NE 1/4 of Section 16, T30N, R8E, WM in Snohomish County, State of Washington.

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The boundaries are delineated as follows: Beginning at the NE corner of Section 16, thence south to the north side of Forest Highway 7, thence following the north side of the highway in a northwesterly direction to the north section line of Section 16, thence east along the section line to the beginning point. This description is subject to any easements for public road right-of-way along Forest Highway 7.

