

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

DEPRESSION-ERA BUILDINGS

CONTINUATION SHEET

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NAME: Zigzag Ranger Station

LOCATION: Mt. Hood National Forest, Zigzag Ranger District; Congressional District 5; Vicinity of Zigzag, Oregon (41) Clackamas County (005)

Address: USDA Forest Service
Mt. Hood National Forest
2955 NW Division
Gresham, OR 97030

CLASSIFICATION/CATEGORY: District

DESCRIPTION:

Condition

Good

Altered

Original Site

The Zigzag Ranger Station, administrative headquarters of the Zigzag Ranger District of the Mt. Hood National Forest, is located at the foot of Hunchback Mountain in Clackamas, Oregon. Sited on U.S. Highway 26, the Ranger Station is 45 miles southeast of Portland and 15 miles southeast of Sandy, within Section 3, Township 3 south, Range 7 east, Willamette Meridian, in the USGS Rhododendron Quadrangle.

The station is situated in the low Cascades physiographic province at an elevation of 1400 feet. The climate is affected by the Cascade Crest as well as maritime influences. Like all areas west of the Cascade Crest, it experiences higher humidity and fewer extremes than do areas east of the Crest. Maritime influences are evident in the nine month rainy season. The station receives an annual average of seventy inches of precipitation, most of it in the form of rain. The station is located in a frost pocket but the summer season is typically warm and dry.

The natural vegetation of the area is that which is common to the Transition Zone of the Mt. Hood National Forest. The principle evergreen trees are Douglas fir and western hemlock; broadleaf and vine maple predominate among deciduous trees. The plants that surround the station include avalanche lilies, bear grass, juniper, ferns and azaleas. A large rhododendron garden makes a significant contribution to the landscape design.

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Contained in a geographic area encompassing approximately 13 acres partially bordered by dry masonry walls, most of the existing buildings of the Zigzag Ranger Station were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps between 1933 and 1942. Upon completion, the station consisted of 21 buildings functionally arranged and aesthetically united; one major building was added after 1942.

The structures illustrate the "refined rustic" style of architecture that was used by the Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest Region during the Depression era. This style is characterized by the use of clapboard, shiplap, and vertical board and batten as exterior wall material rather than the logs and stone which were common in the "rustic" style.

The "refined rustic" style is nonintrusive and functional. All buildings are integrated with the environment, spatially related for efficiency and visually harmonized through the repetition of color, scale, and texture. Buildings are without superfluous ornamentation but the "pine tree" logo of the Forest Service is occasionally present. Foundations are typically poured concrete. Gabled roofs covered with wood shakes or shingles are common. Porch roofs repeat the shape of the main roof and are often supported by heavy squared timber posts with decorative corbels. Windows are of many kinds. Native stone chimneys blend with the dry masonry walls, walkways, steps, and rockeries that are present. Most of the structures at the station were built according to a site plan drawn by Francis E. Williamson, Jr. in 1929. Williamson was the first Recreation Assistant hired by the Mt. Hood National Forest. The CCC saved existing buildings that were still in good condition when they started construction in 1933, but most of the station was newly built at that time. Uneven topography and planning principles required some terracing and the construction of stone retaining walls on the property.

In keeping with the planning criteria of the period, the location of the Ranger Station Office (now designated Timber Office #2003) remained at the station entrance to facilitate interaction with the public and the efficient flow of traffic. The Mt. Hood National Forest entrance sign was located across US Highway 26 from the office. A matching entrance sign was located next to the highway on the office side, but was demolished by a highway widening project.

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The Service Court is located to the south of the office. It is shaped like a "T" laid on its side. Moving from north to south along the western side of the "T" were situated the Fire Warehouse (Recreation and Trail Crew Warehouse #2214), the Ranger's Roads and Trails Warehouse (Interpretive Services Office and Maintenance Building #2216) a blacksmith shop behind that warehouse (demolished), Roads Storage Shed #1 (now part of Interpretive Services Office and Maintenance Building #2216), a Storage Dock behind this building (no longer used for storage), a Machine Shop (Carpenter Shop #2104), a Wash Rack and Steam Plant behind that shop (demolished), and the Roads Storage Shed #3 (Sign Warehouse #2221).

South of the Gas and Oil Storage Building #2507 and the Storage Dock (demolished) on the eastern side of the "T" were the Roads Shop (demolished), Roads Warehouse (Maintenance Building #2215), the Hose Storage Building (Conference Hall #1317) and Roads Storage Shed #2 (demolished). Five structures were situated on the lower or eastern leg of the "T": Carpenter Shop (demolished), Bunkhouse #1302, Bathhouse #1614, Forest Officer's Quarters (Bunkhouse #1304) and Telephone Operator's Cabin (Personel Clerk's Residence #1082. Dates of demolition are not known.

Rerouting of US Highway 26 placed the Protective Assistant's Residence #1084 on the south side of the highway. The Ranger's Residence #1083 is located to the northeast of the old Ranger Station Office #2008 and the Assistant Ranger's Residence #1086 is northwest of the Ranger's Residence, both are on the north side of the highway. All three residences were originally located on the north side of the old Mt. Hood Loop Highway during the CCC construction period. Most of the residences are screened from public view by trees and shrubs, as stipulated by the planning guidelines of the period.

A service road travels south from the central station entry to the Service Court, branching to the east (the route of the old Mt. Hood Loop Highway) to reach a parking lot and the new Main Office #2016.

Landscape design was also an important component of the site plan designed by Williamson and it too was rustic. Trees and plants which were native to the environment were extensively used. Douglas fir, western hemlock, and maples were planted to screen buildings. In 1952, a rhododendron garden was completed which originally contained over seventy varieties of the species. Built landscape features also used native materials. Battered dry masonry walls of

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gray basalt are prevalent, demarcating portions of the western and southern boundaries of the station, as well as serving as retaining walls. Dry masonry walkways, steps, rockeries, and tree wells have been frequently used. Especially important is the extensive stone masonry surrounding the Ranger's Residence. This includes a walkway and steps leading down to a man-made pond, retaining walls, rockery, and tree well. A wall of free-standing native boulders which delineates part of the station's western boundary also enhances the rustic quality of the compound.

The fireplaces in the Ranger's Residence #/1083 and the Protective Assistant's Residence #1084 deserve special attention. The mantel shelves bear scenes carved by Tony Espinoza, a skilled CCC craftsman who worked at the station. Because both scenes depict packers and pack stock, they are linked to the station's historical past; for more than thirty years Zigzag served as the pack train headquarters for the Mt. Hood National Forest. The carvings on these mantel shelves, artistically composed and beautifully executed, testify to the fine craftsmanship of many CCC workers.

One major building has been added to the compound since the 1930's. Main Office Building #2014 was constructed in 1966. It is intrusive but its low gabled roof and vertical board exterior help to make it more compatible with the architectural style of the other buildings. It is screened by trees, shrubs and the rhododendron garden when viewed from the Depression-era buildings.

With the exception of this structure, the Zigzag Ranger Station maintains its strong ensemble character. The exteriors of most buildings have sustained few alterations. When alterations have been necessary every effort has been made to preserve the integrity of the architectural style; exceptional care has been taken to locate materials which blend with the original materials. The station, therefore, vividly evokes the atmosphere of Depression-era America and impresses the visitor with the quality and magnitude of Civilian Conservation Corps projects in the Pacific Northwest.

The Construction and Maintenance Compound located immediately northeast of the station boundaries is specifically excluded. This area originally served as pasturage for the pack stock. The barn and remaining structures constructed by the CCC have undergone minor and major alterations. The pasturage is now mostly covered by gravel. The area was used as a CCC camp for Company 928 and originally consisted of 28 buildings, of which only four structures remain. As a

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former CCC camp, this area is not strictly associated with the Forest Service administrative history of the Zigzag Ranger Station. Present use of the C & M Compound is not related to its past historical use. The historic use of this area is no longer visually apparent.

The extent of archaeological remains within the station is currently unknown. To date, there has been no intensive archaeological survey of the area. Although no surface sites remain intact, subterranean remains may be present because the Clackamas Indians, a tribe practicing riverine subsistence, are known to have frequented the area.

Buildings Contributing to the Character of the Site

1. Timber Office #2003: (formerly designated Ranger Station Office) c. 1917, remodeled 1938; 800 sq. ft.; rectangular with ells, 8-room building, 1 1/2 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, wood-shaked. Intersecting gables project from north and south facade; two gabled dormers, east facade. East roof slope extends to form shed porch, supported by six squared timbers with arched, decorative brackets; west slope roof extends to cover rear entry. Interior center brick chimney, west slope roof; exterior coursed stone chimney, offset on west facade; stone planter at three ft. level attached. Vertical board and batten exterior wall material covers first story, clapboard covers second story. Six light double sash casement windows in combinations of two, three, and four, flanked by shutters with "pine tree" logo cut out. Main entry east facade, single-leaf one panel wood door with nine lights, accessed by cut stone porch and decorative cement walkway. Native stone water fountain adjacent to main entrance. Cellar entrance added to west facade; maintains integrity of structure with vertical board and batten exterior wall material. Good condition.
2. Entrance Sign: c. 1935; 9 x 9 x 11 1/2 ft.; sign base constructed of coursed basalt rubble; four sides slope in and step up. The unique feature is a large stone incorporated on the face of the base fronting US Highway 26 in the shape of Mt. Hood. Shield-shaped wood sign suspended from a log which juts out on north side of the top section of the stone base. Although the wood sign is of recent construction the shape and wording is the same as the original sign. Good condition.

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3. Recreation and Trail Crew Warehouse #2214: (formerly designated Fire Warehouse) 1931, remodeled 1941; 1300 sq. ft.; rectangular, 6-room building, 1 1/2 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, composition-shingled. East roof slope extends to from shed porch, supported by two squared timbers with decorative arched brackets. Interior offset brick chimney with metal cap, east roof slope. Vertical board and batten exterior wall material covers first story, clapboard covers second story. Nine light single sash and six-over-six double hung windows, plain trim surrounds. Main entry east facade, vertical plank door and vertical slide-opening single-leaf fifteen panel wood door. No significant structural or exterior material alteration. Good condition.

4. Interpretive Services Office and Maintenance Building #2216: (formerly designated Ranger's Roads and Trails Warehouse) 1931; 3500 sq. ft.; rectangular, 6-room building, 2 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, wood shaked. Three open bays, east facade, supported by two squared timber posts and squared timber brackets. Shiplap exterior wall material. Four light double sash horizontal slide-opening windows, plain trim surrounds. Main entries east facade, single-leaf one panel wood doors with nine lights; loft door, second story, south facade. Native stone retaining wall and platform behind structure once used for oil storage. Some exterior material alteration includes conversion of north bay to wall with shiplap exterior wall material, entry door, and eight light single sash window. Good condition.

5. Carpenter Shop #2104: (formerly designated Machine Shop) 1933; 4000 sq. ft.; rectangular, 3-room building, 1 1/2 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, wood-shaked. Two intersecting cross gables, east facade; two gabled dormers, east facade. Gabled porch roof projects from east facade, supported by two squared timber brackets. Clapboard exterior wall material, vertical planks with scalloped ends on gables and dormers to eave line. "Pine tree" logo cut out on corss gable ends. Six light double sash horizontal slide-opening windows, molded trim surrounds. Main entry east facade, vertical plank door with one light surmounted by transom with four lights. Four sets of vertical plank double doors, decorative hinges, with fixed casement windows of four and six lights. No significant structural or exterior material alteration. Good condition.

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6. Sign Warehouse #2221: (formerly designated Roads Storage Shed #3) c. 1935; 2800 sq. ft.; rectangular, 1-room building, 1 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, composition-shingled. Shiplap exterior wall material. Twelve light single sash windows, plain trim surrounds. Main entry east facade, four large vertical shiplap horizontal slide-opening double doors, reinforced by criss-crossed timbers. No significant structural or exterior material alteration. Good condition.

7. Gas and Oil Storage #2507: 1931; 240 sq. ft.; 1-room building; rectangular, 1 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation. High gable roof, wood-shaked, extends to cover service area and pumps on west facade. Extended porch roof supported by two squared timber posts with squared brackets. Shiplap exterior wall material. Main entry west facade, vertical shiplap horizontal slide-opening door, reinforced with criss-crossed timbers; side entry north facade, vertical shiplap horizontal slide-opening elevated door, reinforced with criss-crossed timbers. Four light double sash horizontal slide-opening windows, plain trim surrounds. No structural or exterior material alterations other than modern gas pumps. Good condition.

8. Maintenance Bulding #2215: (formerly designated Roads Warehouse) 1931, remodeled 1941; 2100 sq. ft.; rectangular, 4-room building, 2 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, wood-shingled. Hipped porch roof projects from north facade to cover wooded loading dock extending major length of north facade. Rear entry south facade, accessed by smaller loading dock. Two interior brick chimneys, center and off-center, adjacent to ridgeline. Shiplap exterior wall material. Eight and six light single sash windows, plain trim surrounds. Main entry north facade, three large vertical shiplap horizontal slide-opening doors, one double, reinforced by criss-crossed timbers, accessed by two sets of four wooden steps. Native stone retaining wall and loading platform adjacent to structure on west side. No significant structural or exterior material alteration. Good condition.

9. Conference Hall #1317: (formerly designated Hose Storage Building) c. 1935; 700 sq. ft.; rectangular, 2-room building, 1 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable rood, Six-over-six double hung windows, plain trim surrounds. Main entry north facade, single-leaf three panel wood door with one light, accessed by five stone steps and stone walkway. Rear entry west facade; side entry east facade. Native stone retaining wall, north slope and behind structure on south slope. Slight exterior material alteration. Good condition.

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10. Bunkhouse #1302: c. 1935, remodeled 1941; 830 sq. ft.; rectangular 7-room dwelling, 2 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, wood-shaked. North roof slope extends to form shed porch, supported by four squared timber posts, decorative arched brackets. Shed porch roof covers rear entry south facade. Stone exterior side chimney, east facade. Vertical board and batten exterior wall material covers first story, clapboard covers second story. Twelve light double sash horizontal slide-opening windows, six-over-six double hung windows, six light single sash windows, and six light double sash vertically paired horizontal slide-opening windows, plain trim surrounds. Main entry north facade, single-leaf one panel wood door, accessed by five wooden steps, cement walkway. Addition of wooden fire escape, east facade, harmonizes with exterior style. Good condition.

11. Bathhouse #1614: c. 1935, 240 sq. ft.; rectangular, 2-room building, building, 1 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, composition-shingled. Four and six light single sash windows in combinations of two and three, plain trim surrounds. Multiple main entries north facade; single leaf five panel wood doors, accessed by three and four wooden steps. Shiplap exterior wall material. Shed addition on north facade with clapboard exterior wall material. Good condition.

12. Bunkhouse #1304: (formerly designated Visiting Officer's Quarters) c. 1935; 832 sq. ft.; rectangular, 7-room dwelling, 2 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, wood-shaked. Gabled porch roof projects from north facade, supported by two squared timber posts; gabled porch roof covers side entry west facade. Interior brick chimney, offset on north roof slope. Shiplap exterior wall material. Six light double sash casement windows, plain trim surrounds. Main entry north facade, single-leaf wood panel door with one light, accessed by one cement, four wooden steps, cement walkway. Native stone landscaping includes rockeries. Addition of wooden fire escape, east facade, harmonizes with exterior style. Good condition.

13. Personnel Clerk's Residence #1082: (formerly designated Telephone Operator's Cabin) c. 1936; 448 sq. ft.; rectangular with ell, 5-room dwelling, 1 1/2 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, wood-shaked. Gabled porch projects from north facade, supported by two timber brackets. Gabled porch projects from east facade, covering enclosed side entry. Stone exterior side chimney, west facade; interior center brick chimney with cap straddles ridgeline. Shiplap exterior wall material; vertical board and batten

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on ell. Nine light single sash windows, plain trim surrounds. Main entry north facade, single-leaf one panel wood door with fifteen lights, accessed by three wooden steps. Native stone landscaping surrounds residence; includes retaining wall on north slope, tree well, cut stone walkways and steps accessing residence. No significant structural or exterior material alteration. Good condition.

14. Protective Assistant's Residence #1084: c. 1936; 390 sq. ft.; rectangular, 5-room dwelling; 1 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, random rubble veneer, rusticated finish; high gable roof, wood-shaked. High gabled porch roof projects from south facade, vertical planks with scalloped ends on gables to eave line with "pine tree" logo cut out, supported by eight squared timber posts with decorative brackets; stone porch. Stone exterior side chimney, west facade; interior offset brick chimney, north roof slope. Clapboard exterior wall material. Main entry south facade, vertical shiplap door with decorative hinges; rear entry north facade. Six light double sash casement windows, plain trim surrounds. Unique fireplace in living room; single hand-hewn fir log mantel shelf with hand carved scene of packer leading pack train; rectangular fireplace chamber with stone surround, decorative stone arch with alternate radiating voussoirs. No structural or exterior material alteration. Good condition.

15. Garage for Protective Assistant's Residence #1516: c. 1936; 300 sq. ft.; rectangular, 1-room building, 1 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, wood-shaked. Clapboard exterior wall material; vertical planks with scalloped ends on gables to eave line with "pine tree" logo cut out. Six light single sash windows. Multiple entries, west and east facades, vertical plank doors; south facade, vertical plank slide opening double doors. No significant structural or exterior material alteration. Good condition.

16. Ranger's Residence #1003: 1917, remodeled c. 1935; 2600 sq. ft.; rectangular with ell, 8-room dwelling, 1 1/2 story with basement, wood frame, poured concrete and cement block foundation, medium gable roof, wood-shaked. Gabled porch roof projects from south facade, supported by six squared timbers; side entry, gabled porch roof projects from east facade, supported by six squared timbers. Two interior stone chimneys with stone caps, offset on south roof slope and north roof slope. Clapboard and narrow shiplap exterior wall material; shingles from roof to eave line on gable ends. One-over-one single sash windows, and six light single sash windows. Main entry south facade, single-

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leaf three panel wood door with four lights, accessed by two and four cement steps; east porch facade, one cement step and cement walkway. Rear entry west facade, hipped porch roof, supported by two squared timber brackets, three panel wood door with one light. Unique fireplace in living room; single hand hewn fir log mantel shelf with hand-carved scene of ranger and pack horse; rectangular fireplace chamber with stone surround, decorative stone arch with alternate radiating voussoirs. Extensive stone landscaping surrounds residence; includes tree well, cut stone walkway and steps to pond, rockeries, outdoor fireplace. No significant structural or exterior material alteration. Good condition.

17. Garage for Ranger's Residence #1515: 1917, remodeled c. 1935; 450 sq. ft.; rectangular, 1 room building, 1 story wood frame, cement block foundation, medium gabled roof, composition shingled. Narrow shiplap exterior wall material, shingles from roof to eave line on gable ends. Four light double sash horizontal slide opening windows. Side entry on south facade, single-leaf four panel wood door with four lights; east facade, shiplap slide opening double doors. No significant structural or exterior material alteration. Good condition.

18. Assistant Ranger's Residence #1086: c. 1935; 1600 sq. ft.; L-shaped, 8-room dwelling, 1 1/2 story with basement, wood frame, poured concrete foundation, stone veneer, rusticated finish, high hip roof, wood-shingled. Offset gable projects from west facade. West slope roof extends to form shed porch roof, supported by one squared timber post, accessed by two cement steps and stone walkway. High gabled porch roof projects from north facade supported by decorative brackets to cover side entry; five panel recessed wood door. Interior stone chimney, offset on west roof slope; exterior side stone chimney with stone cap, offset on south facade. Wood shingle exterior wall material. One and two light single sash windows and six-over-one double-hung windows; glass horizontal slide-opening doors. Native stone landscaping includes wall of free-standing boulders, fish pond. Glass doors, fiberglass porch roof and addition of wood shingle exterior wall material mar integrity of exterior. Good condition.

19. Garage for Assistant Ranger's Residence #1517: c. 1935; 384 sq. ft.; rectangular, 2 room building, 1 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, high gable roof, wood shingled. Vertical shiplap slide-opening double doors, reinforced by criss-crossed timbers, north facade. Wood shingle exterior wall material. Four light double sash windows, plain trim surrounds. Main entry

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north facade, vertical shiplap door reinforced with criss-crossed timbers. Addition of wood shingle exterior wall material mars integrity of exterior. Good condition.

Nonconforming Intrusions Detracting from the Integrity of the Site

20. Main Office #2016: 1966; 3930 sq. ft.; rectangular, 11-room office, 1 story wood frame, poured concrete foundation, low gable roof, wood-shaked. Main entry north facade, medium gable roof supported by two squared timber posts; accessed by four cement steps and cement walkway. rear entry south facade. Vertical board exterior wall material. One light double sash horizontal slide-opening windows, plain trim surrounds. Good condtion.

21. U.S. Highway 26: The present route of this two-laned paved road was constructed sometime between 1953 and 1956 with the latest widening occurring in 1972. Further widening to four lanes will occur within the next few years. The highway separates the Ranger's and Assistant Ranger's Residences from the main portion of the station. Historically, the site of the station was always split by a road, either the Barlow Road or the old Mt. Hood Loop Highway.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

The historical significance of the Zigzag Ranger Station is multifaceted. As the first station to use the "refined rustic" style of architecture devised by the architects who later designed Timberline Lodge (a National Historic Landmark), it is important in the architectural history of Oregon. The Zigzag Ranger Station has also been very significant in the administrative history of the Forest Service. It has been an important station within the Mt. Hood National Forest (formerly the Oregon National Forest) since 1907, as well as the headquarters of the Zigzag Ranger District. As such, it has provided the setting for the implementation of major policy changes within the Forest Service. Because the Mt. Hood National Forest is an extremely popular recreational area, the station has played a prominent role in Oregon's recreational history. In addition, the station's close association with a difficult section of the Oregon Trail, the Barlow Road, ties it to the history of transportation and development within the State.

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Considered as an architectural entity, the Zigzag Ranger Station possesses integrity of material, form, design, and association. With the exception of a few buildings, all major structures were constructed or remodeled by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's in the "refined rustic" style of architecture particular to the Pacific Northwest Region of the Forest Service.

Because of the station's great public visibility, Zigzag was selected as the testing ground for the style designed by W. I. Turner and his team of architects in the early 1930's. Key elements of the style were the use of vertical board and batten as exterior wall material, multiple heavy timber porch supports with decorative corbels and "pine tree" cutouts as logos on shutters and gable ends. With the establishment of the CCC and the arrival of the corpsmen at Zigzag in 1933, the funds and manpower were provided to remodel and construct additions to the Zigzag compound.

The buildings at Zigzag have strong ensemble character and visual impact; the association between the physical structures and the work of the CCC is immediately apparent. The landscape design of the station is also important for it illustrates the planning principles adopted by the Forest Service in this era. Efficiency was an important goal for planners; however, every effort was made to interrupt nature as little as possible.

The station is also historically significant because it has served as a site for the administration of Forest Service land management policies. These policies have had a great impact on Oregon's development. The history of Federal administration in the Zigzag Ranger District begins in 1892 when President Harrison created the Bull Run Forest Reserve.

The station was selected as the site of an administrative unit in 1907 by R.S. Shelley who suggested the name "Zigzag." It was then located in the Bull Run Ranger District which was later renamed the Zigzag Ranger District. Shelley chose the location both because it provided good pasturage for the pack train which transported Forest Service supplies throughout the area and because its location on the Barlow Road made it a convenient stopping place for traveling Forest Service personnel and the general public. For these reasons, Zigzag was selected as the headquarters of the District.

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Zigzag was a bustling station from its beginning. By 1917 the rapid expansion of administrative functions required the building of a workshop, larger residence and a barn. The original cabin which had served the ranger as a house and office since 1907 was demolished.

Zigzag played a strategic role in the administrative communications network. It served as a central switching station and was in direct telephone communication with all parts of the District as well as the Supervisor's Office in Portland. A daily horse stage covered the road in winter and several auto stages traveled the road in summer, providing the station with good mail service and making it easily accessible from Portland. The station continued to be important as the pack train and tree planting headquarters for the District and as the central point of distribution for supplies and equipment.

Forest Service activities at Zigzag increased still more in the 1920's and the focus of administrative duties was already on recreation by that time. Approximately five hundred summer homes has been constructed in the District and a steady stream of day visitors used the area for skiing, sledding, mountain climbing, hiking, camping, fishing, scenic motor touring, and swimming. The District was one of the first in the nation to hire a Recreation Assistant. Many of these posts were filled by landscape architects and in 1929 Francis Williamson, Jr., a young man just starting out in this field, became Zigzag's first Recreation Assistant.

One of Williamson's very first tasks was to design a site plan for the station; the deterioration of existing structures and the increased demand placed on the administrative facilities required the construction of new buildings. The site plan Williamson devised for Zigzag is important in Forest Service history because its specific purpose was to offer the public a new image of ranger stations. They were to be presented as modern, efficient, standardized units while at the same time the use of a "refined rustic" architectural style kept them in harmony with nature. Other stations in Region Six of the Forest Service were modeled after the Zigzag site plan.

In the 1930's one of the most significant aspect of Forest Service administrative history was the management of the Civilian Conservation Corps. The CCC were responsible for the building of many recreational facilities in the District. The men created fireplaces, toilets, benches, and picnic tables for campgrounds and carved many trails out of the wilderness. Timber stand

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improvement and road construction and maintenance were also among the corpsmen's list of accomplishments at Zigzag, but their primary focus was on the development of recreation facilities.

Administrative activities at Zigzag continued to revolve around recreation in the 1940's, although there was increased involvement in timber sales. Timber sales also expanded in the 1950's, but the dominance of recreation was never seriously challenged.

Recreation management has always been the most important aspect of Forest Service administrative history at Zigzag. The Mt. Hood National Forest has been an extremely popular recreational area since its origin as part of the Bull Run Forest Reserve in 1892 and the Cascade Forest Reserve in 1893. At the turn of the century recreationists were already eagerly using the Forest for berrypicking, fishing, camping, hiking, scenic motor touring, and mountain climbing. In the second two decades of the century the station became involved in the administration of summer homes and campgrounds as the Forest Service sought to expand its role in recreation management.

The ensuing decades have brought an ever-increasing number of recreationists into the Zigzag Ranger District. All of the activities which attracted many people to the area at the turn of the century continue to draw users, but the emphasis on certain sports has shifted and new kinds of interests have emerged. These changes have involved the Forest Service in a continual process of developing new recreational policies and programs. Because the Zigzag Ranger Station has provided the physical site for the administration of major policy changes within an extremely popular recreational area of Oregon, it has played a very significant role in the State's recreational history.

As a land-managing agency, the Forest Service has also had great impact on the communities surrounding the station. It has managed timber, water, and range resources and has benefited local economies by attracting visitors with its programs and by functioning as an employer.

The station has also had a close association with the Barlow Road, the last and most treacherous section of the Oregon Trail. The steep inclines of the Barlow Road made it almost impossible to traverse. As mentioned, the site for the station was chosen partly because it was a convenient stopping place for Forest Service officers and the general public traveling the Barlow Road. This road

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is easily one of the most important historical features in the Mt. Hood National Forest and its significance in the period of heavy emigration into Oregon is well documented in the literature.

Although the construction of the railroad in the 1890's meant that the Barlow Road was no longer used as an emigration route, it had already become heavily traveled by recreationists by the turn of the century. This made it highly desirable for the Forest Service to maintain a station on the road to supervise activity within the area. Throughout this century, use of this section of the Barlow Road by recreationists has continued to expand, thus keeping the historical link between the station and the Barlow Road intact.

The historic significance of the Zigzag Ranger Station clearly has many dimensions. As an architectural entity it is important because of its strong ensemble character and visual impact. It is illustrative of the "refined rustic" architecture and planning principles developed within the Forest Service in the 1930's and has unique architectural features of considerable merit as well. Zigzag Ranger Station has also provided the physical setting for the administration of land management policies within the Forest Service; of particular significance is the development of recreational policy. Additionally, the station's connection with the Barlow Road ties it to an historically important route of travel. Study of the records and physical structures of the Zigzag Ranger Station will, therefore, yield valuable information in the fields of architectural, administrative and recreational history.

The Forest Service plans to continue to use the Zigzag Ranger Station as an administrative facility. Every effort will be made to preserve the present integrity of the buildings, and any alterations will be materially and architecturally compatible with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards (36 CFR 67.7).

The Zigzag 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.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage: 12.46 acres

UTM Reference:

<u>Point</u>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
A	10	583103	5021547
B	10	583069	5021411
C	10	583121	5021390
D	10	583116	5021245
E	10	582946	5021239
F	10	582959	5021462
G	10	582943	5021477
H	10	582961	5021584
I	10	583047	5021588
J	10	503053	5021547

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Zigzag Ranger Station

The Zigzag Ranger Station is comprised of those buildings and features constructed by the CCC. The property thus specifically excludes all structures constructed after the Depression Era, such as the Main Office (#2016) and US Highway 26. The boundaries are delineated as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of Section 3, Township 3 south, Range 7 east of the Willamette Meridian, as monumented and described in the records of the Surveyor General, 1931; thence south 55° east 575 feet (calculated) to the northeast corner of the property, thence south 88° 30' east 123 feet (calculated) along the fenceline, thence north 88° east 178 feet along the fenceline, thence south 0° west 460 feet to the centerline of US Highway 26, thence south 20° east 93 feet along the centerline of US Highway 26, thence south 0° west 480 feet to the southeast corner of the property; thence south 90° west 582 feet to the southwest corner of the property; thence north 0° east 701 feet to the centerline of US Highway 26, thence south 23° 30' east 24 feet along the centerline of US Highway 26, thence north 0° east 396 feet to the northwest corner of the property; thence north 90° east 293 feet to close on the northeast corner of the property. All bearings and distances are calculated and are subject to adjustment in actual field location. Area of the property is 12.46 acres, more or less.

PREPARATION:

The documentation for the Zigzag Ranger Station was prepared by Eleanor Ann Fulton, and revised by Susan Marvin, Mt. Hood National Forest archaeologist.

