

**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: 93000528

Date Listed: 6/10/93

Sunflower Ranger Station
Property Name

Maricopa AZ
County State

Depression-Era USDA Forest Service Administrative Complexes in
Arizona 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.

Antonio A. Lee
m Signature of the Keeper

6/10/93
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: This property has been evaluated at the statewide level of significance.

This information was confirmed with Michael A. Sullivan, Archeologist with the Tonto National Forest, and Evan I. DeBlois, Federal Preservation Officer, USDA Forest Service.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

RECEIVED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

MAY 12 1993

1. Name of Property
historic name Sunflower Ranger Station NATIONAL REGISTER
other names/site number Sunflower Administrative Site; Sycamore Ranger Station;
AR-03-12-03-511

2. Location
street & number N/A /NA/not for publication
city, town Punkin Center /XX/vicinity
state Arizona code AZ county Maricopa code 013 zip code N/A

3. Classification

Ownership of Property		Category of Property		Number of Resources within Property	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/>	private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	public-local	<input type="checkbox"/>	district	2	4 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/>	public-State	<input type="checkbox"/>	site		sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/>	structure		1 structures
		<input type="checkbox"/>	object		objects
				2	5 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: DEPRESSION-ERA USDA FOREST SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEXES IN ARIZONA
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register None

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Guan J. De la Torre 5/7/93
Signature of certifying official Date
USDA - Forest Service

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Jelesa J. D. [Signature] 6-5-92
Signature of certifying official Date
State Historic Preservation Officer

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. *Antoinette [Signature]* 6/10/93
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:)
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/government office
DOMESTIC/Institutional Housing
GOVERNMENT

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Institutional Housing
GOVERNMENT

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls WOOD/Weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other BRICK

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary

The Sunflower Ranger Station is located approximately ten miles west of the small community of Punkin Center, Arizona about 35 miles south of Payson. This USDA Forest Service administrative facility consists of six buildings and one structure. Two of these buildings, a residence/office and a barn/garage/shop, were constructed in 1935 to a Bungalow style standard plan. The remaining buildings are three sheds and a latrine that were erected after the period of significance. The structure, a corral attached to the barn/garage/shop, is also a recent addition to the complex. Except for alterations to the barn/garage/shop, the complex retains its original appearance. The setting has changed very little over the years and contributes to the integrity of the property.

Setting

The Sunflower Ranger Station is located in the central region of the Mazatzal Mountains. The property is situated on a flat along the banks of Sycamore Creek. The area around the complex consists of rugged mountainous terrain, rising to an elevation of almost 7200 feet, although the complex itself sits at about 3500 feet. Vegetation in the vicinity of the complex includes cottonwood, oak, juniper, and a variety of grasses.

Physical Description

Sunflower Ranger Station is a USDA Forest Service administrative site consisting of six buildings and a structure. Two of the buildings, a residence/office and a barn/garage/shop were built in 1935. The remaining buildings, three sheds and a latrine are more recent additions to the complex. The structure, a corral located adjacent to the barn/garage/shop, is also a recent addition. The residence/office and the barn/garage/shop are the only contributors to the nominated property. The outbuildings and the corral are considered to be non-contributors since their construction postdates the period of significance. Of the two contributors the barn/garage/shop has undergone modification. Although modified, the barn/garage/shop retains its configuration. This configuration continues to convey the feeling of the unmodified structure when viewed as part of the entire complex. Therefore the

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visual impact of the complex is quite similar to what it would have been during the period of significance. Adding to this visual integrity is the fact that the setting of the complex is relatively unchanged since the historic period. The district then retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The dwelling at Sunflower Ranger Station is the only building in Region 3 constructed to the specifications of the A-19 standard plan. This plan is the final modification of the series of plans that began with the A-1 standard plan. The A-1 plan is a bungalow style wood frame building with a relatively low pitched cross gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. Knee braces and rafter ends are exposed underneath wide eaves. It has horizontal board siding, an open two-bay front porch with square wooden posts resting on larger square piers constructed of red brick, an external masonry chimney, 6/1 or 4/1 sash windows and a concrete foundation. The A-19 variation of this plan is altered more in floor plan than in exterior appearance. Expansion and reorganization of the kitchen/dinette area was the area of greatest change. Exterior manifestation of these changes is in the kitchen outer wall being in line with that of the living room. A dining nook and a service porch replaced the dinette of the earlier versions. Another change was the moving of the exterior masonry chimney to the interior. This change placed the chimney in the center of living room wall with the kitchen. The sun porch was eliminated and the rear bedroom expanded into its space. Finally, the open front porch was screened with a low horizontal board wall between the piers. At Sunflower the front bedroom functioned as the Ranger's office so a separate office was never built.

The barn/garage/shop was built to a C-10 standard plan. This plan is for a bungalow style wood frame structure with horizontal board siding. The roof is side gabled with double roof planes over a two and a one story section. Each section is sheathed in asphalt shingles. No decorative knee braces were included at the cornices. Although the standard plan called for five bay doors and an entry door in the primary facade this building was shortened to include only three bay doors and an entry door. All doors in the building were glazed with fixed multiple lights. Windows throughout the building were multiple light casement type. The C-10 plans call for animal stalls, garage areas, a store room, and a shop on the first floor. A loft and an additional storage area occupy the second story area. Over the years several modifications have taken place on the structure. Only one of the bay doors remains in operation as the other two have been covered over by horizontal board siding. It appears that these doors were never removed but simply sheathed by the board siding. The windows are in the identical location as the bay door windows and are the same fixed three over three light arrangement as on the doors themselves. The entry door has also been covered by the board siding. Finally, an apron of cinder block was installed around the building to protect it from flood waters from Sycamore Creek. Each of the modifications was undertaken with sensitivity to the historic nature of the building. The new board siding was matched to the old and painting was done so as to harmonize with the Depression-era feeling of the complex. In spite of the modifications the barn/garage/shop still retains sufficient integrity to be considered a contributor to the complex.

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Integrity

The Sunflower Ranger Station has undergone some alterations since its construction. No changes have been made to the residence/office. Modifications to the barn/garage/shop while altering the fenestration pattern (reversible if the doors remain behind the board siding) have not changed the configuration of the building. This configuration continues to convey the feeling of the unmodified building when viewed in the context of the complex. Therefore, in spite of the modifications to the barn/garage/shop it is felt to retain sufficient integrity to be considered a contributing element in the complex. Modern intrusions are limited to the sheds, a latrine, and a corral. The design of each of these non-contributors is sensitive to the historic nature of the complex. No changes outside the property boundary detract from the historic setting. The complex, as a whole, possesses integrity of design, workmanship, materials, setting, feeling, and association and is, therefore, a good representation of a USDA Forest Service administrative complex from the Depression-era.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Period of Significance Significant Dates

ARCHITECTURE 1935-1942 1935

SOCIAL HISTORY _____ _____

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT _____ _____

CONSERVATION _____ _____

_____ Cultural Affiliation

_____ N/A _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

Significant Person Architect/Affiliation

N/A USDA Forest Service, Region 3

_____ _____

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The Sunflower Ranger Station is significant under criterion "A" for its association with the history of the development of the U.S. Forest Service and the Federal response to the Depression in Arizona. It is also significant under criterion "C" because it embodies a distinctive style of architecture developed by the Forest Service during the Depression-era. The Period of Significance dates from 1935, when the buildings were constructed, to 1942, corresponding with the end of the Great Depression and the disbanding of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Historic Contexts/Background

Sunflower Ranger Station is significant for its association with expansion of Forest Service administration from custodial superintendence to active resource management. Built by Civilian Conservation Corps crews it reflects the role of the Forest Service in relieving unemployment in the Depression-era. As an example of "standard plan" architecture developed for general use throughout the Region and of the Bungalow style, as developed in the 1930s by Regional Office architects, it represents a distinctive Forest Service design style and philosophy. (See "Depression-Era USDA Forest Service Administrative Complexes in Arizona Multiple Property Form" for additional information)

Sunflower Ranger Station began in 1909 as the station for the old Rio Verde Ranger District. The original structures at the complex were a small dwelling/office and a barn. Neither of these are standing today although the remains of the dwelling/office can be found just outside the property boundary. These early structures were built for the Forest Service by local labor. At first the station was known as Sycamore Ranger Station. This was changed shortly after the station opened when it was realized that another station on the Forest already was using the name. The precise location of the station was determined by the desire to find a

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piece of unencumbered land along Sycamore Creek that contained enough pasture and agricultural land for Forest Service administrative purposes. The only place that could be found was located between the C.E. Chilson and Diamond Ranches. C.E. Chilson was less than happy that part of his grazing allotment was taken for the administrative site.

Historic documentation shows that the administrative site was selected as a withdrawal parcel and approved as such in 1911. Through some process, however, the withdrawal was not completed at this time but was put on hold. By the 1930s, when construction of the present structures was taking place, this situation was noted but again no withdrawal was formalized. Finally, in 1971 the Sunflower Administrative Site was withdrawn from public use. Today the complex is primarily used as a summer quarters for fire suppression crews.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Forest Service Historical and Withdrawal files, Tonto National Forest, Phoenix, AZ.

See continuation sheet.

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 hist. preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:
Tonto National Forest

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 12 Acres

UTM References

A	<u>1 2 </u>	<u>4 5 5 2 9 5 </u>	<u>3 7 5 0 4 9 0 </u>	B	<u>1 2 </u>	<u>4 5 5 3 8 0 </u>	<u>3 7 5 0 2 6 0 </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1 2 </u>	<u>4 5 5 5 1 0 </u>	<u>3 7 5 0 2 6 0 </u>	D	<u>1 2 </u>	<u>4 5 5 5 1 0 </u>	<u>3 7 5 0 3 4 5 </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The western boundary is the right of way for State route 87. The eastern boundary is the western bank of Sycamore Creek. These two lines converge 1100 feet to the north of the residence forming the northern boundary. The southern boundary is an east/west line 50 feet south of the corrals. The boundary of the Sunflower Ranger Station is shown as a dashed line on the accompanying sketch map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all buildings and structures historically associated with the historic Sunflower Ranger Station and its immediate natural surroundings.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title <u>Michael A. Sullivan, Assistant Forest Archaeologist</u>	date <u>19 September 1989</u>
organization <u>Tonto National Forest</u>	telephone <u>(602) 225-5233</u>
street & number <u>2324 E. McDowell Rd.</u>	state <u>AZ</u> zip code <u>85010</u>
city or town <u>Phoenix</u>	

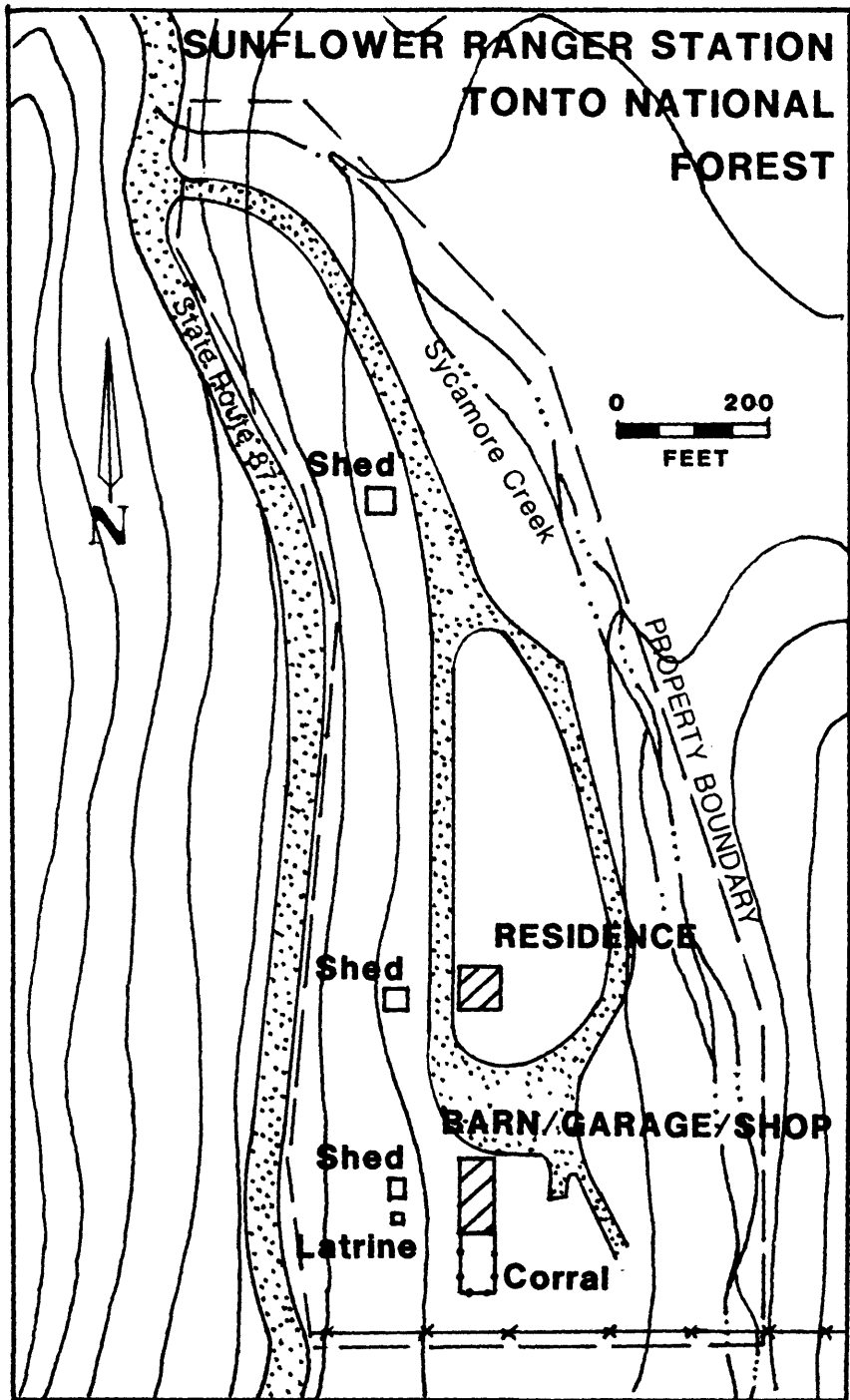
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UTM References (Continued)

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Photographs Page 1

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS THE SAME FOR ALL PHOTOGRAPHS ACCOMPANYING THIS
NOMINATION:

- 1) Sunflower Ranger Station
- 2) Vicinity of Punkin Center, Arizona
- 3) Michael A. Sullivan
- 4) 17 February 1989
- 5) Tonto National Forest, Phoenix, Arizona

INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

- 6) Facing northwest, primary elevation of residence
- 7) TNF 14

- 6) Facing southwest, primary elevation of barn/garage/shop
- 7) TNF 15

- 6) Facing southwest, setting of complex
- 7) TNF 16