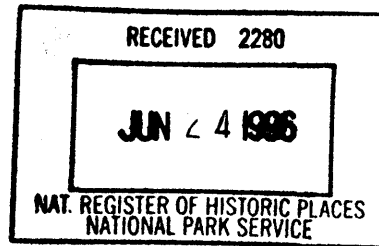


United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name EDGAR ROCK LODGE
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 380 Old Naches Road not for publication
city or town Naches vicinity
state Washington code WA county Yakima code 077 zip code 98937

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary M. Thompson 6/12/96
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary Thompson, State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 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:)

Edson H. Beall 8-1-96

Entered in the
National Register

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

Property Name EDGAR ROCK LODGE

County and State YAKIMA CO., WA

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approx. 2

UTM References

1	<u>1/1</u>	<u>6/4/8/4/0/0</u>	<u>5/1/9/8/0/3/0</u>	3	<u>/</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	
	Zone	Easting	Northing			Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>/</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	4	<u>/</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	

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 Mrs. Roland (Pamela) Brown
 organization _____ date 4/24/96
 street & number 380 Old River Road telephone (509) 658-2407
 city or town Naches state WA zip code 98937

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.)

name Roland/Pamela Brown, edited by Lauren McCroskey
 street & number 380 Old River Road telephone (509) 658-2407
 city or town Naches state WA zip code 98937

Property Name EDGAR ROCK LODGE

County and State YAKIMA CO., WA

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources Within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>2</u> Total

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

N/A

No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:

0

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

WAYSTATION

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

No Style: vertical log cabin

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation stone
walls log

roof composition
other _____

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Name of Property Edgar Rock Lodge
County and State Yakima Co., WA

Named after a nearby outcropping by its owner/builder Dick Darlington, the Edgar Rock Lodge was built in 1904. The simple log structure is composed of hewn logs measuring roughly ten inches in diameter, set vertically into hewn sill plates to a height of one-and-one-half stories. The foundation consists of river rock. Overall dimensions of the building's footprint are forty feet by twenty-two feet. An extension of the side-facing gable roof creates a full length porch measuring eight feet deep. The porch is supported by plain square posts, and a railing of vertical logs.

The log chinking is a mixture of sand and cement, perhaps with a whitewash additive. Windows on both floors are all one-over-one, double-hung sash. A dormer containing a sliding window is located in the center of the roof. The roofing consists of rolled composition material, laid erroneously from crown to eave, instead of parallel to the gable peak. A river rock chimney laid up with tuck-pointed joints is located at the east end.

Interiors are minimally appointed, the ashlar fireplace with plain log mantel being the only notable feature. Vertical logs are exposed, as are the floor joists and framing of the second floor.

The building's level of integrity is high, however uneven settling of the porch has distorted the railing in places.

Originally, the property encompassed one hundred and eighty acres of homestead land filed by Darlington -- an area that took in the Lost Creek drainage, and a large frontage of the Naches River, and one of the large bridges across the Naches River, at that point.

A historic root cellar located adjacent to the lodge is included in this nomination as a structure. Though mostly obscured, the feature is historically associated with the lodge and therefore significant.

The nominated site includes two noncontributing properties: a modern two-story house and detached garage located to the left of the front elevation. Due to the visual separation and intervening trees and vegetation, these properties do not detract from the historical presentation of the lodge.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1 Name of Property Edgar Rock Lodge
County and State Yakima Co., WA

Edgar Rock Lodge has historical significance as one of the only remaining way stations that served in the construction of nearby Bumping Lake reservoir and galvanized early recreational travel over the Chinook pass. Always in private ownership and never commercially exploited, the "lodge" was first the home of Dick Darlington.

Before Darlington's arrival in the area, there was little settlement beyond Horseshoe Bend, six miles west of the town of Naches. Around 1900, the only residents were cattlemen, sheep herders and miners intent upon discovery of various minerals believed to exist in abundance in the Rattlesnake Creek, Naches River and American and Bumping River drainage. The area became known in modern Bureau of Reclamation maps as the Summit Mining District of Washington.

Significant amounts of copper were found and mined in Copper City, as were gold deposits in Gold Hill and Lost Creek. There were also mines of low grade coal, cinnabar and later bauxite and crystal (used for two-way radio during World War II.) In several areas of the drainage evidence of this mining activity remains in the form of equipment, stamp mills and numerous exploratory and small sites along the drainage of the Summit Mining District. Some of the first mining enterprises were located at Gold Hill in the Naches River drainage, located one mile from the Edgar Rock Lodge.

Early settlers included the Fife family, who emigrated from Scotland in 1886 and eventually settled in the Naches River drainage, filing claims on some of the first "finds" in the area. Brothers Tom and Robert Fife filed on the first quartz location in 1888 at Gold Hill and remained for several years, leaving only when the winter drove them out for supplies. During this period there were no roads or trails into the area and they had to find their way out by trail blazes.

Tom Fife located Gold and filed at Union Creek, naming his find the "Blue Bell," after the national flower of Scotland. Brother Robert remained at Gold Hill where he had the "Elizabeth Mine," named for his daughter. Other notables who mined the area of the Summit Mining District were George Gibbs, who recorded one of the original claims at Morse Creek, above the Little Naches River, and fellow Tacomans George M. Brown, Frank W. and George W. Dobs, James A. Farrel and J. R. Forrest. These miners found gold up Silver Creek and Morse Creek.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2 Name of Property Edgar Rock Lodge
County and State Yakima Co., WA

In addition to gold "finds" there were also substantial mining operations of quartz, particularly at Quartz Mountain where there was a five stamp mill set up during World War II to mine the mineral for use in radios.

Webster Brown, Civil and Mining Engineer, indexed the following list of claims in the district in 1897: Mascot, Knox, Comet, Cold Spring, Parrot, Forrest Queen, Prater, Ophir, Fairview, Goodenough, Mammoth, Campbell Group, Hawks, Neptune, Terror, Current, Flor, G.A.R., Black Hawk, White Elephant, White Quail, Weis (?), or Star Group, Little Gem, Mastadon, Blazing Star, Highland Mary, Forrest and Farrels' Group, Tip Top, Emma, Silver Reef, Bluse Bell, Crown Paint, Warriors Mask, Dry Spring, Dam Fino, Cold Spring, Lawson and Cole, Comstock, Lauretta, Gold Finch, Boston, Lady of the Lake, Bonanza, Summit Co., Black Diamond, Bertha, Georgie Holley, Combination, and Elizabeth.

Arriving in the area in the late 1890s, Dick Darlington filed claims up the Bumping River, Lost Creek and along the Naches River and worked them into the 'teens. He filed claims in his own name and in partnership with other local settlers, including Jack Campbell and Tom Fife.

By 1900 most of the placer mines had played out and most of the adventuring miners had gone to Alaska. Two notables who remained to mine the area were Tom Fife and Jack Campbell, as well as John Anderson. Dick Darlington worked for the Bureau of Reclamation as a camp cook from about 1901 to 1910 during the construction of the Bumping River Dam project. At the same time he was a partner in several mining operations. While performing his duties as camp cook he also used his private property, the Edgar Rock Lodge, as a way station for the wagon loads of goods and supplies which were brought into the area for use in the construction of the dam.

During the period 1901-1916, the primary interest in the Nile Valley was herding, timber, saw mills, the Bumping Lake Dam project, and exploration. After 1916, the wagon road was expanded into a dirt road and later into what is now U.S. Highway 410. Chinook Pass was opened to vehicular traffic during this time, which in turn opened the Nile Valley to tourism and travel over the Cascades to western Washington cities. Way stations, which provided modest lodging for weary travelers, facilitated transportation for mining and recreation interests.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 3 Name of Property Edgar Rock Lodge
County and State Yakima Co., WA

As Chinook Pass and the Bumping/American Rivers became more accessible to the general public, the roads were improved and became more passable. The miners, ranchers, and construction equipment for the Bumping River Dam and the mines of the area had earlier widened the original foot and wagon roads. With the advent of the automobile and summer homes in the area the roadway became a true highway. From about 1910 to the present day, the Chinook Pass area has been a popular place for family summer homes; in addition, the U.S. Forest Service built and leases a large number of summer cabins along the Naches, American, Bumping and Little Naches Rivers. Some of these properties have remained in the same families for the past eighty to ninety years.

Original homesteads and ranches have since been subdivided, sold off by remaining family members and developed for recreational use. Most significant of the area's residents was U. S. Supreme Court Justice, William O. Douglas, who maintained a home at Goose Prairie in the Bumping River drainage, about twenty-eight miles from Edgar Rock Lodge. Other related properties located in the area include the Buckeye Ranch, which is listed in the National Register. The Buckeye Ranch served in a similar capacity as the nominated property, providing lodging and relief to people and goods passing over Chinook pass.

Other commercial enterprises in the area include the Squaw Rock Resort, which features a private camp ground, store, restaurant and other amenities for travelers. This facility is located three miles east of the Edgar Rock Lodge. Two miles north of Edgar Rock Lodge is the well known Whislin' Jack Lodge. Both of these structures were built in the 1930s to enhance recreational traffic over the pass. In addition, the Boulder Cave National Recreation Area is located six miles from the lodge; Mt. Rainier National Park is also twenty-five miles to the southwest. A number of hiking trails, as well as the well developed Little Naches Recreation area can also be found nearby.

The Edgar Rock Lodge appears to be distinguished in the local context as a vertical log structure; no similar structures which have associations with the opening of Chinook Pass and the building of the Bumping Lake Reservoir have been located.

The Buckeye Ranch is a clapboard and stone structure, and the old American River Lodge (destroyed by fire in 1920) though made of logs, was designed in horizontal log construction, as was the Bumping Lake Lodge. The Edgar Rock Lodge, however, is constructed of vertically set logs using conventional roof joists and dormer window

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3 Name of Property Edgar Rock Lodge
County and State Yakima Co., WA

construction. In spite of different construction types, these properties do share the same period of significance, 1900-1920.

Oral history's taken from local residents indicate that the Edgar Rock Lodge was later used as a "speak easy" during prohibition and was a well known gathering place for local miners, cattlemen, mill operators and other area residents (interview with Joann Frisque). This is corroborated by the remnants of several stills found in the nearby Lost Creek drainage, just across the Naches River.

Since the Edgar Rock Lodge has always been in the ownership of the builder/occupant, Dick Darlington, it can be assumed that the primary function of the property was as a private residence. The term "lodge" was used generically to refer to similar properties built in the area prior to the arrival of highways and recreationists.

The Buckeye Ranch is eighteen miles from the town of Naches, historically a day's travel for wagons and teams. The distance from the Buckeye Ranch to the Edgar Rock Lodge is also eighteen miles, another day's travel; it is also eighteen miles from the Edgar Rock Lodge to the American Lake Lodge (destroyed); and finally, fourteen miles from the American Lake Lodge to the dam site. The Edgar Rock Lodge is distinguished in the group, architecturally, and one of only two surviving links in this system of way stations that were essential for the development of Chinook Pass as a major route over the Cascades.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1 Name of Property Edgar Rock Lodge
County and State Yakima Co., WA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. CLICK RELANDER: PUBLISHER, YAKIMA HERALD REPUBLIC
NEWSPAPER. File collection of information on the area, Yakima Regional Library,
Box 36-3.
2. BEYOND THE BEND: GRETТА PETERSON GOSSETT. YE GALLEON
PRESS, Fairfield, WA.
3. GOLD CREEK SKETCHES: JOANNA FRISQUE (personal interview, 1995).
4. WE NEVER GOT AWAY: JACK NELSON, FRANKLIN PRESS, Yakima, WA
1965.
5. ILLUSTRATED HISTORY; KCLICKITAT, YAKIMA & KITTITAS COUNTIES:
Interstate Publishers, 1904.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1 Name of Property Edgar Rock Lodge
County and State Yakima Co., WA

VERBAL BOUNDARY

Section 35, Township 17N, Range 14 EWM

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary is based upon the parcel that remains from the original property holdings. Subsequent subdivision in the immediate area reduced the property, which is bound by the legal description above.