

1948

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Summit Mountain Lookout Tree

other names/site number AR-03-07-02-871

2. Location

street & number N/A

/ /not for publication

city, town Williams

/xx/vicinity

state Arizona

code AZ

county Coconino code 005

zip code 86046

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

Category of Property

Number of Resources within Property

private

building(s)

Contributing

Noncontributing

public-local

district

1

buildings

public-State

site

1

sites

public-Federal

structure

1

structures

object

1

objects

1

Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Number of contributing resources  
previously listed in the National  
Register 0

NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUTS IN THE  
SOUTHWESTERN REGION, USDA FOREST SERVICE

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.

Wan D. DeBlois  
Signature of certifying official

7-30-91  
Date

USDA - Forest Service

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Shereen Arner  
Signature of certifying official

4/8/91  
Date

State Historic Preservation Office

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

Antoinette Aue

1/12/92

determined eligible for the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

for Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/Lookout Facility

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

N/A

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Materials enter categories from instructions)

foundation

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walls

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roof

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other N/A

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**Summary

Summit Mountain Lookout Tree is located at the top of Summit Mountain, about nine miles south of the city of Williams on the Chalender Ranger District, Kaibab National Forest. It is within a Ponderosa pine and oak forest at an elevation of 7,700 feet. Vegetation has grown up densely around the site in the years since it was abandoned. Nevertheless, the setting provides a wide view to the north and east. A communication site with buildings and radio towers is located several hundred yards to the west, but it is not visible from the site. The lookout tree has fallen over but the associated map board pedestal is still standing nearby. Together they communicate to the viewer the site's past function. It retains sufficient integrity to qualify for National Register listing under Criterion A.

Physical Description

This lookout site has two features: the lookout tree and map board pedestal. The lookout tree was a 50 foot high Ponderosa pine with a 26 foot long wooden ladder nailed to it. This pine tree became a snag and was later cut down intentionally. The tree did not have a platform in it. The fire finder was used on a nearby map board mounted on a pedestal approximately 3 feet high. The board is 2 feet square, and the log pedestal is grounded into concrete. There are no artifacts in association with this site, except for some rusted wire which might have been a guy wire. There is no galvanized telephone wire in association with the site.

Integrity

Although this tree has been cut down and is now in archeological context, its appearance and association with the map board pedestal convey its essential historic role. As the only known example of a lookout tree facility in the approximately 600,000 acres of the Kaibab National Forest surrounding Williams, Arizona, it retains sufficient integrity of location, feeling, materials, association, and setting to qualify for National Register listing.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Today, there is no trace of the cabin or telephone line that were reportedly built at Summit Mountain. The lookout tree may have been cut down for safety purposes when it was abandoned, and if so, tree ring data could reveal the date. Today, Summit Mountain Lookout Tree is the lone reminder of this early type of lookout facility in the Williams and Chalender Ranger Districts of the Kaibab National Forest.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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PHOTOGRAPHS Page 1

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

- 1). Summit Mountain Lookout Tree
- 2). Vicinity of Williams, Arizona
- 3). Teri A. Cleeland
- 4). May 1990
- 5). Kaibab National Forest, Williams, Arizona

INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

6). Facing northeast. Tree with ladder in foreground, person is standing next to  
the fire finder pedestal in right rear.

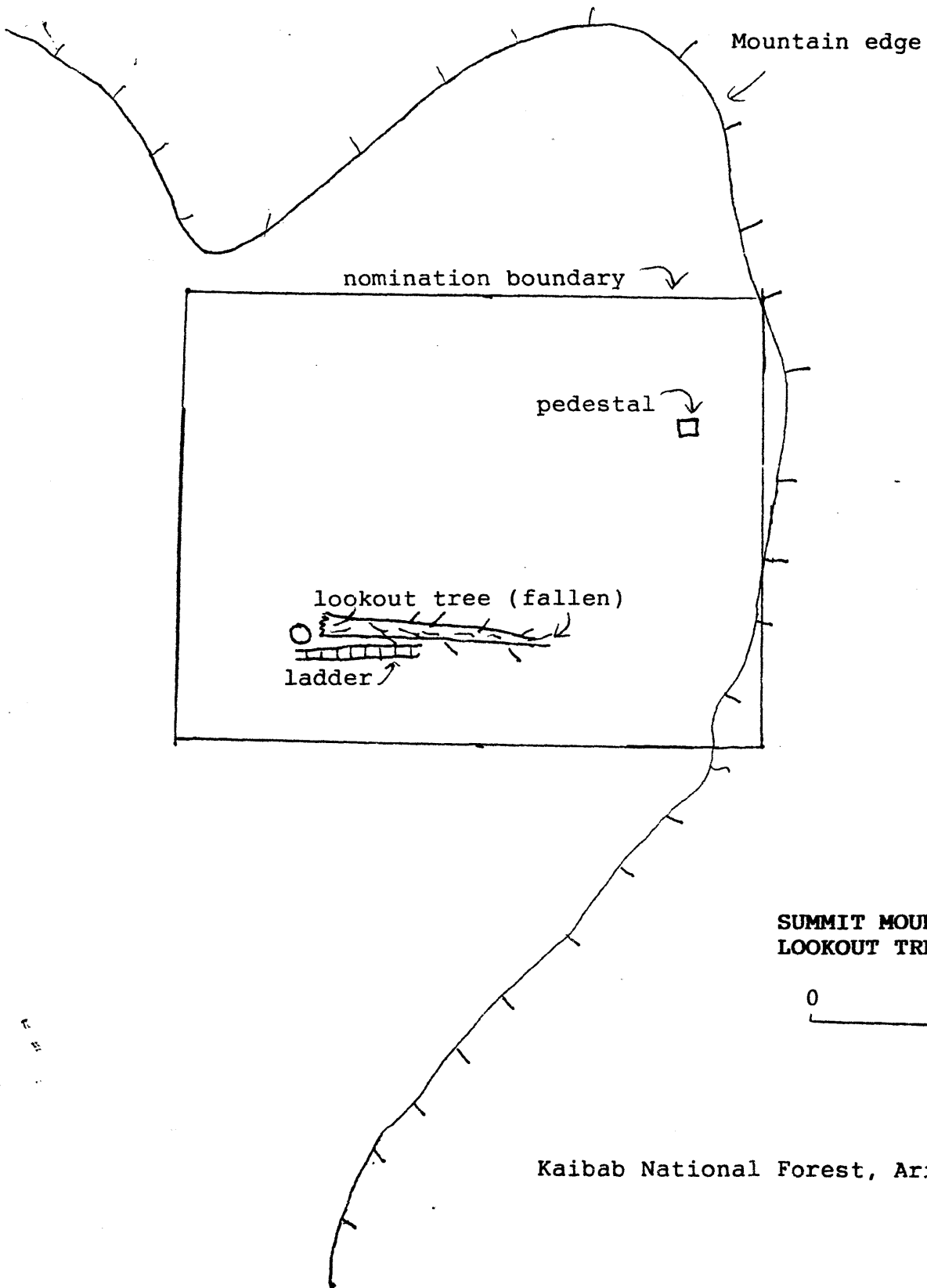
7). #1

6). Facing east. Individual is kneeling at the tree stump. Note ladder in  
foreground to right of fallen tree.

7). #2

6). Facing northeast. Individual is standing at the fire finder pedestal.

7). #3



**SUMMIT MOUNTAIN  
LOOKOUT TREE**

0 10 20  
meter

Kaibab National Forest, Arizona

