# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property	
historic name Summit Mountain Lookou	
other names/site number AR-03-07-02-	·871
2. Location	
street & number N/A	/ /not for publication
city, town Williams	/xx/vicinity
<del></del>	inty Coconino code 005 zip code 86046
Double Harding Code Har Code	moj obsemino code coj lip code con lo
3. Classification	
Ownership of Property Category of F	Property Number of Resources within Property
private building(	s) Contributing Noncontributing
public-local district	buildings
_ public-State   x site	sites
x  public-Federal   structure	structures
_  object	objects
	Total
Name of related multiple property lis	
NAMES OF A STATE OF A	previously listed in the National
NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUTS IN THE	Register 0
SOUTHWESTERN REGION, USDA FOREST SERV	
4. State/Federal Agency Certification	<u>n</u>
of eligibility meets the documentat National Register of Historic Place requirements set forth in 36 CRF Pa	4/8/91 Date
I, hereby, certify that this property	
Lentered in the National Register.	15.
	autoriceta 1 au 1/13/92
determined eligible for	- Institution
the National Register.	
See continuation sheet.	
determined not eligible for	
the National Register.	
removed from the National	
Register.	
other, (explain:)	
, Sig	mature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions GOVERNMENT/Lookout Facility	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions) VACANT/NOT IN USE		
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions) N/A	Materials enter categories from instructions) foundation walls		
	roof other_N/A		

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.

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the stother properties:	ignificance of this proper	ty in relation to
	nationally   statewide	X locally
Applicable National Register Criteria $ \bar{x} $	A  _ B  _ C  _ D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	A  _ B  _ C  _ D  _ E  _ I	?  _ G
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
CONSERVATION	ca. 1916-1940	1916
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT		
	Cultural Affiliation N/A	
Significant Person N/A	Architect/Affiliation N/A	

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

#### Summary

Summit Mountain Lookout Tree is significant under Criterion A [36 CFR 60.6] for its association with 1) the development of forest fire prevention, detection, and control by the USDA Forest Service between 1905 and 1940, and 2) the conservation movement and its influence on public land management from 1905 to 1940.

## Historic Contexts/Background

Established in 1916, Summit Mountain Lookout Tree is one of the two earliest documented lookout facilities on the Kaibab National Forest [the other is Hull Tank Lookout Tree]. Newspaper articles reveal the construction date and development of Summit Mountain Lookout Tree. "Mr. Benham has accepted a position as Forest ranger for the summer. Monday of this week, he started work on a trail and phone line to the top of Mt. Summit where he will establish a lookout station" (Williams News April 27, 1916). Seven years later, this article appeared: "The Forest Service is building a lookout cabin on Summit Mountain, which they expect to complete this week. C. Moose is seeing to the transportation of lumber to the mountain top" Williams News October 12, 1923.

These articles reveal that the Forest Service invested in the facility on Summit Mountain over a period of several years. This site likely provided a critical viewshed to the east that was not visible to the lookout on top of Bill Williams Mountain, located west of Summit Mountain.

A 1937 Kaibab National Forest "Fire Control Visible Area Map" mentions Summit Mountain as a "proposed site", with field work having been done by "H.T. and A.G.W." on October 13, 1937. The proposal referred to may have been for a steel lookout tower, but one was never built there. By 1937, then, it appears that the location had been abandoned for fire lookout purposes.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

NPS Form 10-900a

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	8	Page	2			

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.

9. Major Bibliographical References	
Williams News April 27, 1916 and October 12, 19	923
"Fire Control Visible Area Maps", Kaibab Nationa Ranger District Office, Williams, Arizona.	al Forest. On file at the Williams
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	_ See continuation sheet.  Primary location of additional data:  _  State hist. preservation office
previously determined eligible by the     National Register   designated a National Historic Landmark   recorded by Historic American Buildings   Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering	Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other
Record #	Specify repository: Keibah National Fenant Williams A7
	Kaibab National Forest, Williams, AZ
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property less than one.	
UTM References  A   1   2     3   9   6   8   5   0       3   8   8   7   9   5   0     B  Zone Easting Northing  C	Zone Easting Northing  Zone Easting Northing  Northing
I_I	See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description	
The boundary is a rectangle measuring 40 meters and fire finder pedestal (see accompanying sketch	• •
I_I	See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification	
The boundary includes the lookout tree, related	feature, and immediate area only.
	_  See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Teri A. Cleeland	J-1- M 20 4000
organization USFS Kaibab National Forest	date May 30, 1990
street & number 800 S. Sixth St. city or town Williams	telephone (602) 635-2681 state AZ zip code 86046
CICY OF COMIT MITITALES	State NA 21p Code 00040

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

PHOTOGRAPHS	Page _1		

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

