

**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: 93000511

Date Listed: 6/10/93

Water Canyon Administrative Site
Property Name

Apache
County

AZ
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.

for *Antoinette DeLoe*
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. DeBloois, 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 NATIONAL REGISTER
historic name Water Canyon Administrative Site
other names/site number

2. Location
street & number Forest Road 285 / /not for publication
city, town Springerville /XX/vicinity
state Arizona code AZ county Apache code 001 zip code 85938

3. Classification

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

Susan J. DeBlora
Signature of certifying official 5/17/93
Date

USDA - Forest Service

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

Archie S. HPO
Signature of certifying official 6-5-92
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. *Autawietta Bee* 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

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/ government office
DOMESTIC/institutional housing

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls WOOD

roof ASPHALT, METAL
other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary

The Springerville Ranger District's Water Canyon Administrative Site (formerly the Springerville Ranger District headquarters) is located south of the Town of Springerville, some 165 miles east-northeast of Phoenix. This USDA Forest Service administrative facility (Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests) consists of four Bungalow style structures: a residence, a barn/garage/shop, a pump house and a shed, that were constructed in 1933 - 1934. Several small scale, temporary metal and wood sheds of recent construction are located near the barn/garage/shop. The buildings retain much of their original appearance. The setting has changed little over the years with the removal of an office and the addition of recent buildings around the periphery of the complex.

Natural Setting

Springerville is located in east-central Arizona, just north of the White Mountain volcanic fields. The Water Canyon Administrative Site lays at an elevation of some 7500 feet, located along the first terrace of Water Canyon Creek. A diversity of riparian species is dominated by cottonwood. The compound is entered from Forest Road 285, where one first sees the barn. The residence is to the south, beyond a broad open yard. The pump house is situated alongside the road that connects the two main buildings, while the storage shed is behind the residence. Several sheds are also located within the property boundary. These sheds are small, temporary structures that do not intrude upon the site setting.

Physical Description

The Water Canyon Administrative Site residence is based on Region-3 Standard Plan A-2, and was built in 1934. It is a rectangular building (42 ft. 8 inches by 28 ft. 8 inches) of wood frame construction with shiplap siding and a cement foundation. The roof is cross-gabled with brackets and covered with asphalt shingles. A portion (15 ft. 5 inches by 4 ft. 1 inch including the brick chimney) of the living room projects from the east side of the building.

An open concrete porch (18 ft. 6 inches by 8 ft. 1 inch) attached to the north side of the building is supported by three pillars which are half concrete and half wood. The porch ceiling is of two-inch wooden slats. A porch on the south side of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

building is fully enclosed and has a linoleum floor and wallboard ceiling. Original plans of the building (on file, Supervisors's Office, Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest) show the north porch as screened rather than fully enclosed, but there is no evidence of modification to the present design. A small wooden platform forms the entry to the south porch.

The front door in the north wall, which opens from the north porch into the living room, is paneled and has six panes in the top panel. The rear door which opens into the south porch is also paneled and the top half of the door consists of six large panes. Along the south wall is a sloping hatch door leading into the basement. Windows in the residence are four-over-one or six-over-one sash type or six-pane side-hinged casement type. Six-pane fixed windows are located in the east-west gable.

The interior of the structure consists of a living room, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom and basement. The living room has a brick fireplace with a wooden mantel and glass-front, built-in cabinets on either side. Stairs lead from the kitchen into the basement. Walls and ceilings are wallboard with two-inch latch covering the joints. Floors in the kitchen and bathroom are linoleum. Other rooms are carpeted, but the carpeting probably covers hardwood floors.

The residence is surrounded by a large, well-maintained, grass-covered yard. It faces north toward the barn and other storage buildings. An unpaved rock-lined road enters the area from the north and ends in a large circular turn-around on the west side of the building. To the south, beyond the yard, is a small stream that is obscured by heavy vegetation. A stone path leads from the residence toward a wooden shed located near the stream. The stream curves around the east side of the structure, but is separated from it by the wide grass-covered yard.

The Water Canyon Administrative Site barn is based on Region-3 Standard Plan C-1, and was built in 1933. It is a rectangular building (43 ft. 4 inches by 21 ft. 4 inches) of wood frame construction with board and batten exterior walls and a concrete foundation. The split-level roof is medium-gabled and has been covered with corrugated metal within the last ten years. The higher south portion of the roof covers a loft storage area. The east wall has five paneled double doors with six panes in the top panel and a single paneled door with six panes in the top panel. The north wall has a single paneled door with six panes in the top panel, and the south wall has two paneled dutch doors and a paneled loft door. Windows are mostly six-pane side-hinged casement type in sets of three, although six-pane fixed windows also occur.

The north half of the interior of the barn has been cleared of the original partitioning, and now is a large machine shop. The south half consists of a storage room, loft and stalls. The stalls have been converted to secure storage and the loft is used for hay storage. In most of the building, walls and ceilings are plywood

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 3

with two inch slats over the joints. In the south end of the building two-by-twelve boards form the floor of the loft and the ceiling of the stalls and stair area. Interior partitions are horizontal one-by-eight boards. The floors throughout the building (except the loft) are poured concrete.

The double doors of the barn face east across an unpaved parking area toward several wooden and metal storage sheds located to the east and southeast. Beyond the buildings is a small stream. An unpaved road leads away from the area to the east. South and west of the building are corrals. Beyond the corrals to the west is a canal obscured by heavy vegetation. North of the building is a fence and a heavily vegetated area.

The Water Canyon Administrative Site pump house is a rectangular building (11 ft. 1 inch by 9 ft. 2 inches) of wood frame construction with shiplap siding and a concrete foundation. It has a medium-gabled roof covered with wood shingles. A paneled door in the south wall has six panes in the top panel. Windows are six-pane, side-hinged casement type. It may not have been built to a standard plan, but its outward appearance conforms to the style of the other buildings. It was likely built in 1933 or '34.

The interior consists of a single room with shelving along the north wall. Walls and ceiling are unfinished and the exterior walls and the underside of the roof are visible. The floor is concrete.

The pump house faces south across an unpaved road and a large grass-covered yard toward the residence. West of the building is a canal obscured from view by heavy vegetation. The barn and corrals are southeast of the pump house, but are also largely obscured from view by vegetation. Early photographs of the site show that the pump house was located immediately northwest of the office building and adjacent to a windmill. Both the office and the windmill have been removed.

The shed located behind the Water Canyon Administrative Site residence is a rectangular building (8 ft. 4 inches by 6 ft. 4 inches) of wood frame construction with shiplap siding and a concrete foundation. The roof is medium-gabled and covered with wood shingles. It has a single paneled door in the north wall and a nine-pane fixed window in the south wall. It conforms to the other buildings in style, and was likely built in 1933 or '34.

The interior of the structure is a single room with shelving along the north and south walls. The walls are unfinished and there is no ceiling so that the exterior walls and the underside of the roof are visible. The floor is concrete.

The shed sits at the south end of the large grass-covered back yard of the residence. It faces north across the back yard toward the residence. A stone path

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 4

leads from the residence toward the shed. Immediately south of the shed is a fence and beyond that is a stream obscured from view by heavy vegetation.

Integrity

The Water Canyon residence is in good condition and is very well-maintained. There appear to have been few modifications to the structure except the addition of storm windows and reroofing. It continues to be used as a residence.

The barn is in good condition although some of the wood, especially around window sills shows deterioration. It is presently used as a workshop and barn.

The pump house is in poor condition. Several panes are broken in the windows and the siding shows warping and deterioration. It does not appear to be in use.

The shed is in good condition, but is not currently in use.

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	1933 - 1942	1933
SOCIAL HISTORY		1934
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT		
CONSERVATION		
	Cultural Affiliation	
	N/A	

Significant Person	Architect/Affiliation
	USDA Forest Service, Region 3

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

Summary

The residence, barn, pump house and shed of the Water Canyon Administrative Site are significant under criterion "A" for association with the history of the development of the U. S. Forest Service and the Federal response to the Depression in Arizona. They are also significant under criterion "C" because they embody a distinctive style of architecture developed by the Forest Service during the Depression Era. The Period of Significance dates from 1933, when the first building was constructed, to 1942, which corresponds to the end of the Great Depression.

Historic Contexts/Background

The Water Canyon Administrative Site is significant for its association with expansion of Forest Service administration from custodial superintendence to active resource management. Built by Civilian Conservation Corps or Forest Service crews supported by National Industrial Recovery Act funds, it reflects the role of the Forest Service in relieving unemployment during the Depression Era. As an ensemble of standard plan architecture developed in the 1930s by Regional Office architects, it represents a distinctive Forest Service architectural design style and philosophy.

The site is located on Forest Road 285 some five miles south of Springerville. At an elevation of 7600 feet, the ranger station provided housing for Apache National Forest personnel. These rangers had a wide variety of duties, and were (typically) understaffed to perform them. Forest Service administration of the 1910s and 1920s can best be described as mere custodial superintendence.

By the early 1930s, the Forest Service had begun practicing more active resource management. New facilities were needed to accommodate additional personnel or to replace inadequate buildings, and the Forest Service Regional Office developed standard plans for administrative sites. These plans were used for constructing the office, residence, barn and out-buildings for the Springerville Ranger District.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 2

Construction crews were allowed some flexibility in the design of certain details, apparently depending on funding, availability of materials, skills, and personal preference. However, all changes required Regional Office approval. Most records in this regard are lost to history.

Forest personnel stationed on the Springerville Ranger District conducted the normal range of administrative functions. The administration of timber and grazing lands was the ranger's most important job. In the 1950s, a new office was built in Springerville. In the 1960s, the former office building itself was moved to the Stray Horse Administrative Site 35 miles to the south.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Files located at the Supervisor's Office, Springerville, 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:

Apache-Sitgreaves Supervisor Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 6 acres

UTM References

A 1|2| 6|5|7|5|4|0| 3|7|7|0|5|5|0|
 Zone Easting Northing

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
 Zone Easting Northing

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
 Zone Easting Northing

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
 Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The point where the access road crosses Water Creek is the northeast corner of a rectangle measuring 350 feet east-west by 800 feet north-south. The boundary is shown on the accompanying site plan.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary conforms to the smallest rectangle encompassing all contributing buildings with their access roads.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bruce R. Donaldson, Forest Archeologist

organization Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests date 26 Sept 1989

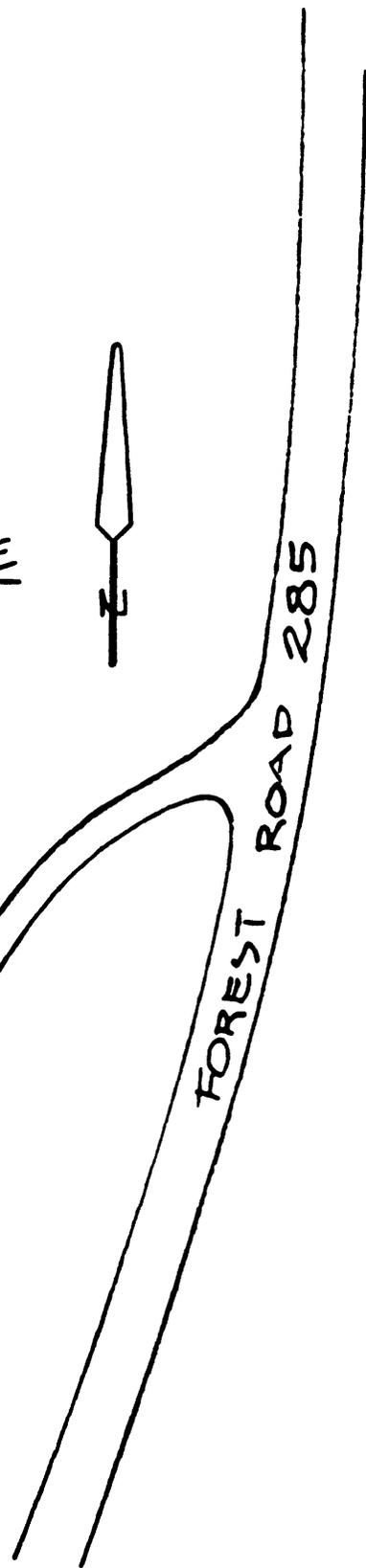
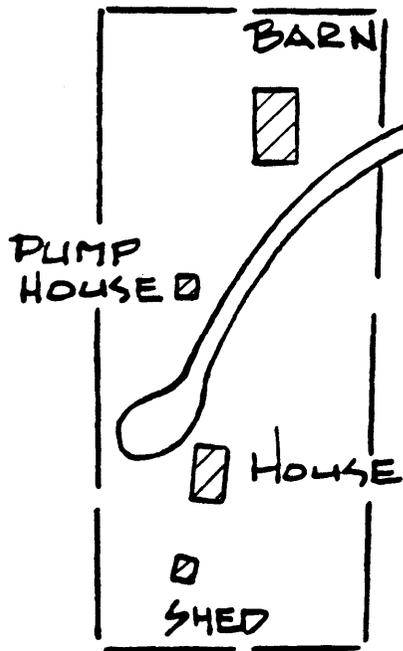
street & number P.O.Box 640 telephone 602/333-4301

city or town Springerville state AZ zip code 85938

WATER CANYON
ADMINISTRATIVE SITE

NOMINATION BOUNDARY

0 100 200 300'
SCALE
APPROXIMATE



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) Water Canyon Ranger Station
- 2) Vicinity of Springerville, Arizona
- 3) Bruce R. Donaldson
- 4) 1988
- 5) Supervisor's Office, Apache - Sitgreaves National Forest, Arizona

INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

- 6) Facing southwest, showing residence
- 7) 6.1-4

- 6) Facing east, showing barn/garage/shop
- 7) 6.2-3

- 6) Facing southwest, showing front of shed
- 7) 6.4-1

- 6) Facing northwest, showing front of pumphouse
- 7) 6.3-2