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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

	perty					
historic name	Government I	Mineral Springs	s Guard Stati	ion		
other names/site	number GMS	Guard Station #105	51			
2. Location						
street & number	End of Forest Se	rvice Road 3065 o	ff of Wind River	Highway		not for publication
city or town N	t. Adams Ranger	District, Gifford Pin	chot National Fo	rest. Stabler	(Carson)	X vicinity
state Washing			Skamania	code	59	zip code 98610
	Agency Certifica					
As the designat	ed authority under	the National Histo	ric Preservation	Act, as amen	ded,	
for registering p	that this <u>x</u> nom roperties in the Na et forth in 36 CFR	tional Register of I	t for determination Historic Places a	on of eligibility nd meets the	rocedura	e documentation standards al and professional
		neets does no llowing level(s) of s		nal Register	Criteria. I	recommend that this property
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	statewid	e <u>X</u> local				
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United States Department of the Interior	
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration For	m
NPS Form 10-900	

Ownership of Property Category of Prope   Check as many boxes as apply.) (Check only one box.)	rty Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)
	Contributing Noncontributing
private x building(s	) <u>2</u> buildings
public - Local district	sites
public - State site	structures
x public - Federal structure object	objects 2 <b>Total</b>
lame of related multiple property listing Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)	Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A	N/A
. Function or Use	
listoric Functions Enter categories from instructions.)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)
OVERNMENT: Ranger Station	RECREATION & CULTURE: Outdoor Recreation
. Description	
Architectural Classification Enter categories from instructions.)	<b>Materials</b> (Enter categories from instructions.)
Other: Rustic Cabin	foundation: Concrete (Stone Faced)
	walls: Wood
	(Clapboard)
	(Clapboard)
	roof: <u>Wood (Cedar Shakes)</u>

Name of Property

## **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

## Location and Setting

The Government Mineral Springs Guard Station #1051 is located on federal land administered by the Gifford Pinchot National Forest near the unincorporated community of Stabler, Washington, and approximately fifteen miles north of the town of Carson, Washington. The site is at an elevation of 1,200 feet above mean sea level (amsl). The surrounding forest is dominated by old growth Douglas-fir and western red cedar trees. Trapper Creek, a tributary of the Wind River, is located approximately 350 feet northeast of the Guard Station. The Wind River Highway and Forest Service Rd 3065 (Government Mineral Springs Road) provide access to the site. A short driveway, 24 meters in length, is located on the northwest end of the property and provides direct access. Facing the main road is a modern wood sign that reads, "Government Mineral Springs/ Guard Station/ Built 1937/ By/ Civilian Conservation Corps/ Company 944 - Camp Hemlock/ Restored 2001-2002". The historic property also includes a garage. Please refer to Maps section for a site plan map of the property.

## **Exterior Description**

The Guard Station is a one and one-half story wood-framed structure, irregular in plan, on a poured concrete perimeter foundation with portions of the foundation faced with stone. The structure measures 31 feet by 25 feet, on a northeast/southwest axis. The exterior walls of the first floor consist of horizontal clapboard, while the gabled ends are covered in vertical board and batten siding with an angular cut at the base. There is a coursed rubble stone interior chimney with an arched cap, also called a "Haystack Cap", slightly northwest of center, projecting from the main ridge crest of the roof. In addition, there is an exterior, coursed rubble stone chimney with an arched cap located on the southeast gable end. The roofing material consists of split cedar wood shingles. The southeast section of roof does not extend to the end of the building footprint and finishes with a smaller adjoining gabled roof. The boxed eaves project slightly, and the verge boards project very slightly. Please see the Graphics section, for the original floor plan and elevation drawings.

The primary entrance on the main facade is on the northeast elevation. There are two primary entrances to the building, both are recessed and located under the adjoining gable roof on the front porch. The northeast (main façade) entrance accesses the living room. The door is constructed of solid wood with knotty pine paneling. The door exterior is painted dark brown to match the exterior trim and the interior panels match the knotty pine paneling pattern of the interior walls. The door handle hardware on each front door consists of a separate dead bolt and non-locking lever latch system. The dead bolt and latch plates at the lever, along with the handle base, are in the shape of a fleur-de-lis. The interior latch is a simple door knob with no plate. There is the outline of a removed plate on the back door.

The inset area of the northeast elevation forms a porch consisting of an open flagstone platform measuring 7' 9" x 7' 11", with three stone steps. The inset is supported on the southeast corner by one 8" x 8" square timber post with short, curving brackets. Siding on this elevation consists of horizontal clapboard and the roofing material is cedar shingle. The main façade has two grouped pairs of six-over-six double hung sashes. These windows are flanked with vertical board faux shutters with two-tiered decorative pine tree cutouts. These windows are original, as shown in the plan for the front elevation (Graphics section). Portions of both chimneys are shown in the elevation, with the open end of the arched caps shown.

The southeast elevation has the second of the two main entrances in the recessed porch. The door is constructed of solid wood with knotty pine paneling, identical to the other primary entrance. This door accesses the office/dining room. The southeast section of roof does not extend to the end of the building footprint and finishes with a smaller adjoining gabled roof. This gable end has board and batten siding with an

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angular cut at the base. The first floor portion of the siding is horizontal clapboard. A rubble coursed stone chimney is located on this side terminating with an arched cap.

Fenestration on the southeast elevation of the upper level consists of a pair of twelve-pane casement windows (three across and four down) with mullion. These windows are original, as shown in the plan for the front elevation (Graphics section). There is also a single two-tiered decorative pine tree cutout above the window, in the peak of the gable. On the lower level is a single six-over-six double hung sash. A single vent for the gas heater is located to the left of the chimney.

The southwest elevation is the rear of the building, and contains the rear entrance which is offset to northwest (left if facing the building) of center. It is covered by a small shed roof porch supported by two 6" by 6" square timbered posts with short, curving brackets. The rear door is accessed by a single stone step and an open flagstone platform measuring 3' 7" x 5' 5". The rear door exterior is similar to the front doors, with dark brown-painted knotty pine paneling, with a single, solid wood panel on the interior. The door handle is a separate bolt with no plate and the latch is a door knob with a rectangular plate. Southwest elevation siding consists of horizontal clapboard and the roofing material is cedar shingle. Both chimneys are visible in this elevation. Window types include a single six-over-six double hung sash, located to the left of the rear entrance, and to the right a single six-pane casement window (two across and three down), and three six-over-six double hung sashes. These windows are original, as shown in the plan for the front elevation (Graphics section Section).

The northwest elevation faces the driveway and has a gable end with vertical board and batten siding with an angular cut at the base. The lower level has horizontal clapboard siding. Fenestration on the upper level of the northwest side consists of a combination of three eight-pane casement windows (two across and four down). Decorative pine tree cutouts flank these windows on either side, with another located above, in the peak of the gable. These decorations are cut out of the batten boards, with the flanking cutouts not shown in the building plans. On the lower level of the northwest side, there is a triple six-pane casement window (two across and three down) centered on the façade with a six-over-six double hung sash to the left. The six-over-six double hung sash is not in the original building plan (Graphics section); it is unknown if it was an original alteration or was installed at a later date. Located to the left of the three six-pane casement windows are two vents used to vent the cooler cabinet in the kitchen, currently blocked from the interior. A third vent to the right of the three six-pane casement windows provides ventilation for the bathroom but was not included in the original plans.

## **Interior Description**

The first floor interior is divided into four rooms with a hallway. Please refer to the original floorplan and layout blue prints in the Graphics Section (Attachment 3). The northeast facing front door enters to the living room measuring 17' 1½ " x 13' 10". The living room has two interior doorways; the southwest doorway provides access to the office and the southeast doorway accesses the hallway. The living room has tongue-in-groove hemlock wood flooring and the wall consists of knotty pine wood paneling. The ceiling is painted plywood with boxed joists. A stone rubble open hearth fireplace with a decorative spruce wood mantle is located on the southeast wall. The open hearth has a removable closed wood-burning fireplace, installed at an unknown date. A gas burning furnace has been added to the right of the fireplace to augment the fireplace and provide heat during vacancies.

The office measures 11' 2" x 12'  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " and can be accessed from the southeast facing exterior front door. The office has two interior doorways, one on the northeast leading to the living room, and the second, on the southeast wall, leading to the kitchen. Both have doors which were removed during the 2001 and 2002 rehabilitation efforts. The office also has a small closet on the northeast wall to the right of the door, under the stairwell, and measures 4' 0" x 3' 5". The office has tongue-in-groove hemlock flooring and knotty pine paneled

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walls with a painted plywood ceiling and boxed joists. The southeast wall originally had a map board next to the front door which has been removed. The room is currently used as a dining room.

The kitchen measures 10' 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 17' 0" and can be accessed by two doorways, one from the northwest leading to/from the office, and the other on the northwest wall, leading to/from the hallway. The kitchen floor, which was originally a dark linoleum, was replaced during 2001 and 2002 rehabilitation efforts with a lighter linoleum that matches the original pattern. The walls and ceiling consist of painted plywood. The cabinets along the northwest wall support a counter top with a drop sink and wash tub, with no running water. The original built-in cabinetry above the counter top to the right of the three six pane casement windows was removed in 2001, due to damage. A floor-to-ceiling cabinet at the end of the counter was also removed along with the cabinets, counter, and hung cabinets on the southwest wall. The cooler vents have been plugged.

The hallway is 3' 5" wide and 8' 2" long from the kitchen door to the rear exterior door, and turns to the northwest for a length of 6' 10", forming a right angle. The bathroom, located in the hall, is accessed from the first door on the right from the kitchen and measures 8' 2" x 7'  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ". It is located in the southeast corner of the building, and formerly contained a toilet, sink, and shower stall; the floor of which is cast concrete.

Two bedrooms are located on the second floor, which is reached by the staircase located in the hallway. The staircase has 14 wood steps and a beveled wood handrail. At the top of the stairs is a linen closet. The southeast bedroom measures 13' 3" x 10'  $9\frac{1}{2}$ " and contains a closet on the northwest wall, along with a gas mantle lamp between the closet and door. The northwest bedroom measures 9' 10" x 17'  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and contains two closets on the southwest wall.

The second story has tongue-in-groove hemlock flooring with plywood ceiling and walls which parallel the pitch of the roof from the vertical termination of the pony walls. Both bedrooms retain the original pressed tin light fixtures.

The garage is a single story, rectangular, wood-framed structure set to the immediate northwest of the Guard Station. It is oriented northwest/southeast. It has a concrete stem wall foundation and measures 28' 6" x 20' 3", with a height of 19' 2". The exterior walls of the bottom half consist of horizontal clapboard, while the gabled ends are covered in vertical boards and battens with an angular cut at the bottom. The roof materials consist of cedar shingles. The sliding garage door is located on the front façade (northwest side) of the building, right of center. It is solid wood and is set on a horizontal metal rail to slide open. It measures 7' 10" x 7' 1". There is a back door near the east corner, measuring 6' 8" x 2' 8", and is solid wood. Fenestration consists of three windows, two on the northeast elevation, and one on the southeast elevation. All three windows measure 2' 10" x 2' 5" and were likely either casement windows or a single unmovable sash. The sashes were removed at an unknown date. One of the windows on the northeast elevation has plywood placed over the opening and the other two have metal screen installed on the interior.

The garage interior has an open floor plan and is currently used for firewood storage. It has diagonal shiplap with bare stud walls. There is one central beam with two vertical support beams. There is a small work bench near the back door but it is unknown if it is original to the building.

### **Modifications and Additions**

Throop (1995) defines three levels of modifications to Forest Service administrative structures constructed between 1905 and 1960. These include slight, moderate, and severe. Only slight modifications have been made to the Government Mineral Springs Guard Station, primarily during extensive rehabilitation efforts in 2001 and 200. It is possible that the single six-over-six wood sash window on the northwest elevation was added to the building, but no records or photographs indicating this action are known to exist. It is not shown on the original 1937 plan (Graphics section - Attachment), thus the possibility that it was added

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following construction of the Guard Station.

Extensive rehabilitation activities were conducted in 2001 and 2002 to address damage and deterioration to the structure from years of neglect, disuse, and vandalism. Damage to the structure prior to rehabilitation efforts included extensive roof leaking, moisture damage that had resulted in rot to the floor structure and substructure, and delamination of interior plywood walls and ceilings. Vandalism to the structure prior to the rehabilitation efforts included stolen window shutters and broken windows.

Rehabilitation efforts were extensive and involved the work of several groups of volunteers, including one week with a Passport in Time group, several weeks with an Americorps crew, and one week with a group of Forest Service retirees, called "The Old Smokeys", as well as work from specialized contractors. The rehabilitation work included: 1) removal and replacement of rotted studs, 2) replacement of rotted window trim and sills, 3) in-kind replacement of damaged wall and ceiling materials 4) installation and finishing of new tongue-and-groove hemlock flooring, 5) door jamb repair, 6) installation of a new gas heater, lights, and stove, 7) window pane replacement, 8) chimney repair, 9) replacement of damaged and broken siding, and 10) painting. An exterior vent was added to the immediate southeast of the exterior chimney for the gas heater. Also, the original electrical wiring, which was rusted and non-functional, and all associated light fixtures, were removed. All electrical boxes were capped. The sash cords on all of the windows were also replaced. The shower walls were removed and the toilet and sink were removed due to the lack of running water.

There have been no structural additions to the Government Mineral Springs Guard Station. A propane storage tank was installed to southwest of the structure, behind the garage, and a vault toilet to the northwest; both in preparation of placement of the property on the recreation rental program.

within the past 50 years.

Name of Property

8. Stat	ement of Significance					
Applie	cable National Register Criteria x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property	Areas of Significance				
for National Register listing.)		(Enter categories from instructions.)				
¬. <u>.</u>		CONSERVATION				
XA	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our	ARCHITECTURE				
	history.	ENTERTAINMENT/ RECREATION				
B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.					
С	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or					
	represents the work of a master, or possesses high	Period of Significance				
	artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack	1007				
	individual distinction.	1937				
D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Datas				
		Significant Dates				
		1937				
	ia Considerations x" in all the boxes that apply.)					
		Significant Person				
rope	rty is:	(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)				
A	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.					
В	removed from its original location.	Cultural Affiliation				
c	a birthplace or grave.					
D	a cemetery.					
E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	Architect/Builder				
	a commemorative property	US Forest Service Architects Group (Architect)				
F	a commemorative property.	CCC (Builders)				
G	less than 50 years old or achieving significance					

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## Narrative Statement of Significance

(Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Government Mineral Springs Guard Station, built in 1937, is historically significant under Criterion "A" for its direct association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of regional, and national, history. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, the building is directly associated with the New Deal work relief programs established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in response to poor economic conditions and high, widespread unemployment. The Guard Station also significant under Criterion "C" as a resource that embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type and period of construction, representing the Rustic style of architecture specific to the U.S. Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest Region, and exclusive to the Depression Era, 1933-1942. In 1936, the Acting Assistant Regional Forester sent a memo to the Columbia National Forest (presumably Forest Supervisor K.P. Cecil) requesting construction of "guard cabins" at Government Mineral Springs and La Wis Wis. The structure retains a high level of architectural and associative integrity including those of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association.

The period of significance begins and ends in 1937, the date the cabin was built. It has been used as a recreation rental since 2002, following two years of rehabilitation and restoration efforts.

The Government Mineral Springs Guard Station was classified as having "Primary" level historic importance under the National Register thematic nomination (Throop 1983). The structure typifies the construction projects undertaken by the Civilian Conservation Corps and signifies the aid to the local community provided by the emergency work-relief program through employment of youth and experienced craftsmen and purchase of building materials and camp supplies.

The creation of the National Forest system (initially the Forest Reserves), and the establishment of the United States Forest Service, resulted in a radical change in the methods and approaches to the management of forest resources on public lands. Conservation of resources became a focal point of Federal land management increasing both employment and economic development of local communities who were directly tied to these public resources. From its inception, the Forest Service had a marked effect on the historic development of the Pacific Northwest. This increased during the Great Depression when the agency, through work relief programs such as the CCC, became a major employer of local citizens, and changed its overall management philosophy from one of custodial treatment to one of intensive resource extraction and development. The result was a vast public resource base actively managed for the economic benefit of the region, with effects so strong that extraction and processing of Federally-managed resources remains a major economic factor in more than half of the counties in Oregon and Washington (Throop 1983).

Recreation was also an important early use of national forest system lands in the Pacific Northwest. One of the first areas developed for public recreational use within the Columbia National Forest (now Gifford Pinchot National Forest), was around Government Mineral Springs, north of the town of Carson, Washington, located in Skamania County. S.D. Fox, of Portland, Oregon, first developed the area around the springs under a Forest Service Special Use Permit (Thompson 1988). Initial development included construction of a resort hotel in 1910, with wagon road access. Fox also owned the Star Brewing Company and bottled the mineral water, claiming it provided numerous health benefits. Mineral spring resorts were popular in Skamania County in the early 1900s and there were several in operation on private lands close to the Columbia River. Popularity increased as access became easier with the completion of the North Bank Railroad in 1908, and the 1916 completion of a paved highway on the south side of the Columbia River from Portland east to Hood River (Mack 2005).

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Ferry service provided access to the north side of the River. The hotel opened in 1912 and included a bath house and stable.

W. B. Marquam acquired the hotel around 1917 and made improvements to the existing structure (Thompson 1988). The hotel prospered during the 1920s, and based on oral histories, the hotel's willingness to provide alcohol and card game gambling during Prohibition contributed to the success (Andrews 1999, McNee 1981, Thompson 1988). A daily motor stage ran from Carson to Government Mineral Springs, brining tourists to the popular destination (Thompson 1988).

Given the popularity of the area, the Forest Service constructed a public campground in 1920, adjacent to the hotel. In 1921 an estimated 6,000 people had visited the campground (Thompson 1988). Tourists visited the area for various recreational opportunities including fishing, enjoying the mineral springs, and for the beauty of the virgin stand of timber that grew in the area.

The Great Depression was one of the key turning points of American history in the twentieth century. Affecting all segments of the American population, the Depression had an intense impact on the economic, social, and political make-up of the nation. Unemployment and dislocation were commonplace, and industrial disruption was pedestrian. Unable to find work locally, almost two million men and women adopted a vagrant existence (Throop 1979). Young workers just entering the work force were disproportionately affected by high unemployment levels. Untrained and unskilled, and exceptionally unqualified they struggled to find employment in a nonexistent job market. On March 21, 1933, President Roosevelt's message on the "Relief of Unemployment" went to Congress with a bill to create a civilian conservation corps for public works projects. Ten days later the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Act passed. More commonly known as the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the mission of the legislation was to address high unemployment rates through public works projects. More than any other New Deal agency, the CCC bore the personal stamp of President Roosevelt.

The CCC was designed to operate through the existing machinery of four cooperating agencies (Atwood et al. 2005). The Department of Labor was to select enrollees through local relief agencies and the War Department was tasked with overseeing enrollment, and to provide basic necessities including food, clothing, and housing, as well as transportation. The Departments of Agriculture and Interior, through their various technical agencies, such as the Forest Service and National Park Service, were to design and select work projects, provide supervision, and administer the camps. The tasks of building, equipping, staffing, and operating the camps were initially given to the technical agencies, but almost immediately reassigned to the Army, which alone had the resources and experience to handle the logistics and meet mobilization schedules. Program coordination was the responsibility of ECW Director, Robert Fechner (Throop 1979).

Improvement work on the GMS Campground began in 1935 and was conducted by enrollees of CCC Company 944 from CCC Camp Hemlock (F-40), located six miles to the southeast of the Government Mineral Springs area (Thompson 1988). They built a community kitchen, registry booth, amphitheater, play areas, and 36 developed campsites featuring camp stoves and tables. By 1937, CCC Company 944, under the supervision of Forest Service foreman Orie Hisel, completed the Government Mineral Springs Guard Station, to provide seasonal housing for Forest Service personnel involved with campground administration and local fire protection activities (Hisel 1985).

Orie Hisel was interviewed on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1985 and discusses his experiences working or the CCC at Camp Hemlock (Hisel 1985). During the interview he briefly mentions working on the GMS

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Guard Station but does not provide any specific details. Orie was interviewed again on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2002 (Hisel 2002). During this interview he only mentions construction of the GMS Guard Station while discussing the death of another foreman who worked on the Guard Station. Orie, however, does not mention the foreman's name.

Senior Fire Guard (CU-5) Alfred "Shorty" Albert was the first Forest Service employee stationed at Government Mineral Springs Guard Station (Albert 2001). Albert had an office on the ground floor, accessible by way of a separate door from the front porch. His duties involved public contact with campground visitors, fire prevention and protection activities, and maintenance of Forest Service telephone lines in the general area. A recreation consumer survey described Mr. Albert as "pleasing, alert, and always conscientious of everything that shall add to the convenience of the Government Mineral Springs visitors." Alfred, his wife lola, their three children; Virginia Louise, Alfred Ellsworth Jr. and Mary Margaret, as well as lola's brothers (number unknown) lived in the Guard Station seasonally from 1937 to 1940. During the winter months the building was closed and unoccupied.

In an oral interview conducted on March 16, 2001, Alfred briefly discusses his time living with his family in the Guard Station (Albert 2001). He mentions that he was not part of the construction of the structure as he had other work, likely "chasing fires or on one". He does mention the "rock mason" that built the fireplace but couldn't remember his name. This was likely Clifford Barnes, who was a CCC foreman from Company 944. Alfred also mentions visits from K.P. Cecil, Forest Supervisor, and Ross Shepeard, District Ranger and that, "they was always welcome. I kept the place clean." Albert also describes some of the furniture, the cook stove, and the kitchen cupboards and cabinets.

Forest Service personnel continued to use the Guard Station on a seasonal basis for the next twenty-four years following 1940. Increasing safety concerns regarding danger trees prompted the permanent closure of the campground in 1974, which meant that the guard station was no longer needed for administrative purposes.

The Government Mineral Springs Guard Station remained vacant and abandoned from 1976 until 2001. Internal documents indicate that as early as 1987 serious structural issues and other deficiencies were identified. In 1991 it was recognized that the building had deteriorated to the point on being unsafe for occupancy. At the time, an attempt was made to identify partners to help with rehabilitation of the structure, including the Government Mineral Springs Homeowners Association. However, it appears that no work was conducted during the 1990s, leading to further deterioration.

In 2001 it was recommended by Forest Service personnel that the structure be decommissioned and removed as a result of its poor condition from decades of benign neglect. Forest Service retiree Lloyd Musser, however, felt the guard station could be saved and organized a group of retirees, with support of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest Heritage Program and facilities personnel, to work on rehabilitation of the structure. In May 2001, an AmeriCorps crew conducted initial demolition of damaged and decayed material in preparation of the more complex structural repairs. Working as volunteers, Musser and the retirees initiated the rehabilitation, which continued over successive weeks with assistance from *Passport in Time* program volunteers, Forest Service staff, a County Corrections Department crew, and additional AmeriCorps help. Specialized restoration work, including repair of door jambs and hardware, and floor refinishing, was accomplished by contractors.

In October 2002 a formal rededication ceremony, held at the Guard Station, honored the legacy of the CCC. Orie Hisel, Alfred Albert, and a few other surviving members of CCC Company 944 attended the event. The Government Mineral Springs Guard Station is currently available to the public

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as part of the recreation rental program, which is rented nearly every night of the year. The majority of fees procured from the recreation rental program are used for maintenance and upkeep of the structure, which total approximately \$25,000/yr. A small fee of \$9 per reservation is procured for operation of the recreation rental reservation website, <u>www.recreation.gov</u>.

The Government Mineral Springs Guard Station typifies the construction projects undertaken by the Civilian Conservation Corps and signifies the aid to the local community provided by the emergency work-relief program through employment of youth and experienced craftsmen and purchase of building materials and camp supplies. The property represents the Forest Service's presence in the locality, denotes the physical facilities required to carry out the agency's expanding responsibilities, and is an expression of the critical transition of the Forest Service from custodial superintendence to extensive resource management.

In the early years of the Great Depression, Forest Service evaluation studies identified critical deficiencies in facilities development as well as in resource conservation work (McClure 2007). Analysis of the broad architectural tendencies of existing Forest Service buildings revealed dissatisfaction with their appearances, primarily because they were not considered representative of the agency. At the same time, it was recognized that forests were not only areas of economic value, but also areas which were developing an increasing social value. This amplified awareness of the need to safeguard the aesthetic qualities and to preserve the natural aspects of the forests. Accordingly, an architectural standard was sought that would possess Forest Service identity, and express its ideals and purposes. Additional design criteria included harmony with the natural environment, economy of materials, and appropriateness to specific function.

Each Forest Service region undertook the task to design buildings appropriate to regional and local climatic characteristics, vegetation and landscape, utilizing predominant native building materials (Atwood et al. 2005). Some regions were able to take advantage of their traditional or native architecture, while others found it necessary to develop original designs based only in part on regional prototypes. The style that emerged in the Pacific Northwest Region had no clearly identifiable regional architectural prototype, but drew heavily upon rural vernacular models. The character of the old growth forest environment provided inspiration, as well. The Region 6 expression conveyed a feeling of enduring substance in sturdy designs drawn from the image of big timber, and communicated the wealth of a timber-rich Region in an almost lavish use of wood. While the architecture's outward appearance adhered to traditional forms, albeit stripped of superfluous decorative elements, Forest Service rustic was very modern in terms of interior arrangements and planning. Distinguished by a symbolic vocabulary which established Forest Service identity, the overall architecture suggested the agency's pragmatic mission in its strictly utilitarian design. The extensive use of wood and wood products was simultaneously economical and associative, underscoring the agency policy of promoting the extraction of timber resources and the production of wood for construction.

The Region 6 expression of rustic architecture was intended to characterize the "woods", with a broad appeal to residents in the area (Atwood et al. 2005). The Architecture Group in the Regional Office that oversaw all building design and site planning included architects Linn A. Forrest, Howard L. Gifford, James Pollock, W.I. "Tim" Turner, and Landscape Architect Emmett U. Blanchfield (McCLure 2007).

Also known in Region 6 as "Cascadian" architecture, the Rustic Style of architecture it is an expression of the early-twentieth century (Atwood 2006). On national forest lands, the rustic architectural style is specific to the period 1933-1942. These were concepts that were in line with

Skamania County, WA County and State

changing economic conditions of the 1930s and early 1940s. With increasing emphasis on efficiency and functionalism, the rustic style of architecture was viewed as deliberate, self-conscious, and romantic. Harmony with nature could be achieved as well through modest functional design with less cost for labor and locally sourced materials.

## **Comparative Analysis**

Government Mineral Springs Guard Station is one of many Depression-era structures constructed in Region 6. During the 1930s into the early 1940s approximately 651 new administrative buildings were constructed in Region 6 (Oregon and Washington) of the United States Forest Service (Throop 1983). The majority of these structures were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. This tally does not account for many backcountry structures such as trail shelters and fire lookouts that also served administrative purposes. Therefore, it is a significant underestimate of the total effort taken by the CCC and Forest Service in the Region to construct new administrative facilities to better serve employees and the public.

The Government Mineral Springs Guard Station is one of three Guard Stations built by the CCC on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The other two are the North Fork Guard Station, and the La Wis Wis Guard Station, both of these buildings are listed on the NRHP. Other forests throughout Region 6 have Depression-era guard stations, sometimes called "cabins". The Okanogan-Wenatchee, Wallowa-Whitman, Deschutes, Umatilla, Rogue River Siskiyou, and Olympic national forests each have one guard station or residence. Those listed on the NRHP include the Lost Lake Guard Station located on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, the Paulina Lake Guard Station located on the Deschutes National Forest, and the Imnaha Guard Station located on the Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest. The Gifford Pinchot National Forest is the only Region 6 Forest with more than one, with a total of three primary-rated buildings that are either guard stations or residences.

La Wis Guard Station, located on the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, was listed on the NRHP in 1986. It was commissioned at the same time as the GMS Guard Station, and has an identical, yet reversed floorplan, which was also based on the Preliminary Sketch (Graphics section). A letter dated September 12, 1936 from the Assistant Regional Forester M.L. Merritt commissioned the construction of both guard stations and included specifics of design and setting as requested by K.P. Cecil, Supervisor of the Columbia National Forest at the time. A scanned copy of this letter is provided in the Graphics of this document. The Preliminary Sketch indicates that a third guard station was to be built on the Newhalem Ranger District of the Mt. Baker National Forest although it does not appear that it was constructed (Paul Alford, personal communication 2017). This building contains all of the design features common to rustic style architecture and identical, yet reversed, to the Government Mineral Springs Guard Station including window types and design, design of both chimneys including arches caps, pine tree cutouts on window shutters and the gable ends.

The North Fork Guard Station, along with an associated garage, was built in 1937 by the CCC, and is located on the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District. It was listed on the NRHP in 1986. While the building has a different floor plan than Government Mineral Springs and La Wis Wis guard stations, it contains many of the architectural elements that typify the Forest Service rustic style, including the use of wood and wood products, and use of locally procured materials. It also displays pine tree cutouts on the building exterior.

Name of Property

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#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

#### Albert, Alfred

2001 Oral historic interview conducted by Richard McClure. USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Heritage Program, Trout Lake, Washington.

## Andrews, Lynne

1999 Oral Interview conducted by Cheryl Mack and Richard McClure. Transcript on file. USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Heritage Program, Trout Lake, Washington.

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#### Davis, Jeff

n.d. Historic Property Inventory Form, Government Mineral Springs Guard Station. Manuscript on file. USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Heritage Program, Trout Lake, Washington.

## Hisel, Orie

2002 Oral history interview conducted by Rachel Lamson. "Voices from the Forest" Project, Portland State University, for the Heritage Program, Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

1985 Oral history interview conducted by Pete Paladeni. Heritage Program, Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

### Mack, Cheryl

2005 National Register Eligibility Determination for Government Mineral Springs Summer Home Tract, Mt. Adams Ranger District, Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Manuscript on file. USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Heritage Program, Trout Lake, Washington.

#### McClure, Richard

2007 Region Six Personnel Training Station National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Heritage Program, Trout Lake, Washington.

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1999 For the Greatest Good; Early History of Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Seattle: Northwest Interpretive Association.

## McNee, Wade

1981 Oral Interview conducted by Jaime Tolfree. Transcript on file. USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Heritage Program, Trout Lake, Washington.

#### Thompson, Marion

1988 *Then and Now.* Funded and printed by the Government Mineral Springs Home Owners Association.

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## Throop, Elizabeth Gail

- 1983 A Characteristic Expression: A Thematic Evaluation of Forest Service Depression-Era Administrative Buildings in the Pacific Northwest. Contract Abstracts and CRM Archaeology 3(2):123-129.
- 1979 Utterly Visionary and Chimerical: A Federal Response to the Depression. An Examination of Civilian Conservation Corps Construction on National Forest System Lands in the Pacific Northwest. Unpublished Master's thesis, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon.

## **USDA Forest Service**

1989 Internal Management Guidelines, Amended Programmatic Agreement for Depression-Era Administrative Structures on Forest Lands in Oregon and Washington.

## Womack, Bruce R.

2007 Cultural Resource Evaluation; Wallowa Lake Guard for Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Chesnimnus/Joseph Ranger District. USDA Forest Service, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Heritage Program, Baker City, Oregon.

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)	<u>X</u> State Othe
previously listed in the National Register	Fede
previously determined eligible by the National Register	Loca
designated a National Historic Landmark	Unive
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	Othe
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Name of r
recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #	

#### Primary location of additional data:

- te Historic Preservation Office er State agency eral agency al government
- ersity
- er
- repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

Name of Property

Skamania County, WA County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property <u>1/2 acre</u> (Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

## **UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 <u>10</u> Zone	578045 Easting	5081320 Northing	3 Zor	e Easting	Northing	
2 Zone	Easting	Northing	4 Zor	e Easting	Northing	

### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The physical boundary of the nominated property is presented on Attachment 3 - Graphics, and conforms to the fenced area in front of the guard station, the driveway along the north, and the garage to the west.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The physical boundary encompasses the Guard Station, garage and the immediate landscape that provides a sense of the property's historic setting.

11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Chris Donnermeyer, Heritage Program Manager; Matthew	Mawhirter, Historian; and Allie Wenzl,
Architectural Historian	(Edited by DAHP Staff)
organization USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest	
street & number 2455 Hwy 141	telephone <u>509-395-3421</u>
city or town <u>Trout Lake</u>	state WA zip code 98650
e-mail <u>cjdonnermeyer@fs.fed.us</u>	

Name of Property

Skamania County, WA

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County and State

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

• Maps: A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.



Location of Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Portion of the Bare Mountain, Termination Point, Lookout Mountain, and Stabler 7.5' series topographic

Name of Property

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## quadrangles, 1998.



Government Mineral Springs Guard Station (circled in red) As shown on portion of 1940 Columbia National Forest map This is the first Forest map to show the Guard Station OMB No. 1024-0018

OMB No. 1024-0018

Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Name of Property

Skamania County, WA County and State



Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Site Plan showing the boundary of the nominated area (in red). Drawn and digitized by Chris Donnermeyer, 2015.



**Government Mineral Springs Guard Station** Floor Plan – First Floor From original plan 3/31/1937

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**Government Mineral Springs Guard Station** Floor Plan – Second Floor From original plan 3/31/1937

Name of Property

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Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Foundation Plan From original plan 3/31/1937



**Government Mineral Springs Guard Station** Front Elevation From original plan 3/31/1937



Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Rear Elevation From original plan 3/31/1937

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Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Left (SE) Elevation From original plan 3/31/1937

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**Government Mineral Springs Guard Station** Right (NW) Elevation From original plan 3/31/1937

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**Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Cross Section** From original plan 3/31/1937

OMB No. 1024-0018



Government Mineral Springs Guard Station **Cross Section** From original plan 3/31/1937

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Government Mineral Springs Guard Station **Details of Fireplace** From Original Plan 3/31/1937

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Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Details of Mantle Shelf From Original Plan 3/31/1937



Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Details of Kitchen Cupboards From Original Plan 3/31/1937



**Government Mineral Springs Guard Station** Floor Plan – First Floor Date unknown

OMB No. 1024-0018



Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Floor Plan – Second Floor Date unknown

OMB No. 1024-0018

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Improvement	September 12, 1936.
Columbia	
MURICEANIT	M FOR E(A):
IMENOTAD CO	M FOR E(A):
There are a	ttached Forms R6-01 for construction of a guard
cabin at Government Miner	al Springs and La Wis Wis on the Columbia Forest.
You WILL no	te that it is the Columbia's intention to con-
struct the same type of o	abin at both of these places. The Division of
Lands is taking up with S	upervisor Cecil the matter of securing landscape
plans, but sine these gua	rd cabins will be the only structures on the sites
it is suggested that you	prepare the building plans in order that such plans
may be sent to the column	ia as soon as Laids has approved the site plans.
The preliminary sketches	for this guard cabin should be routed through Lands nasmuch as these are administrative guard cabins
TOL MAIL CONSIDERATION I	naamugh as these are administrative guard caping
AN IMPORTANT AGAIN AMARAA	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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Letter requesting construction of two guard stations - La Wis Wis and Government Mineral Springs This page and next page.

OMB No. 1024-0018

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Reproduced at the National Archives and Records Administration – Pacific Alaska Region (Seattle)
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par Black
40
In designing the exterior from the attached floor plan for the
guard stations at Government Mineral Springs and La Wis Wis, the
following facts should be given consideration:
1. Both building sites are located in large Douglas
fir timber.
2. No basements are desired.
3. Steep shake roof desired.
4. Truss for a maximum snow load of ten feet.
5. No, or very little overhanging eaves.
6. Wide rough siding desired.
7. Rustic interior.
8. Lava rock available at Government Mineral Springs
for fireplace but not at La Wis Wis.
9. A desirable color would be gray stain walls and
brown shutters.
10. Twelve foot studs desired to obtain story and one-
half effect.
11. The only existing building in each case is a community
kitchen of design similar to Recreation Handbook Plate 12-E-1.
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proces

OMB No. 1024-0018



Preliminary sketch for the Government Mineral Springs Guard Station, La Wis Wis Guard Station, and Newhalem Guard Station, which was to be built on the Mt. Baker National Forest.

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Close-up from the above scanned Preliminary Sketch showing dates of approval for each of the three buildings.

Name of Property

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Skamania County, WA County and State

## Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Photo Log - GMS Guard Station NRHP Nomination

Property Name: Government Mineral Springs Guard Station Nearest City: Carson, WA County: Skamania State: Washington Photographer: Chris Donnermeyer Date of Photographs: 10/23/2014, 1/21/2015, & 9/9/2015



Photograph #1 - Main Façade (northeast elevation) with front porch
Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #2 - Overview of main façade with wooden sign. Garage shown in background, right

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #3 - Southeast elevation with exterior chimney and front porch

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #4 - Gable portion of southeast elevation

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #5 - Southwest elevation with back porch, exterior chimney (on right), and interior chimney (center top). Photo taken at an angle due to vegetation obstructing a clear perpendicular shot

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #6 - Northwest elevation showing gable and windows including window on left not shown on original elevation drawing (Graphics section)

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #7 - Garage - Front (NW) elevation with Guard station in background (left)

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #8 - Garage - Side and back elevations

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #9 - Photograph showing the spatial relationship of the GMS Guard Station (background left) garage (midground middle) and the modern vault toilet (foreground right)

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #10 - Photograph showing the spatial relationship of the GMS Guard Station (midground left partially obscured by vegetation), the garage, midground center) and the modern vault toilet (midground right)

Government Mineral Springs Guard Station

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Photograph #11 - Living room with fireplace, knotty pine paneling, four six-over-six wood sash windows, 4"x8" trimmed pine open beams on the ceiling, and furniture

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Photograph #12 - Living room taken from primary entrance to the structure showing triple six-over-six wood sash windows with mullions

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #13 - Close-up of the stone fireplace with spruce mantle

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Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #14 - Dining room/office with table, chairs, coat rack, and two shelve book case. Also note door which provides access to front porch

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Photograph #15 - Dining room/office with table, chairs, and double six-over-six wood sash windows with mullion

Name of Property

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #16 - Kitchen with table and chairs, range (right) with sink and cupboards (left). Also shown are double six-over-six wood sash windows with mullion above table, single six-over-six wood sash window to left of table, and portion of six-over-six wood sash window above sink

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #17 - Kitchen showing modern gas range with wood table and sinks with cupboards, counter, and sinks on right

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Government Mineral Springs Guard Station

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Photograph #18 - Kitchen sink (left) and laundry tub (right) with pine cupboards with plywood doors and spruce counter and back splash. Photo also shows triple six-pane wood casement windows

Skamania County, WA County and State

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Photograph #19 - Utility Room - former bathroom. With two metal lockers and a single six-over-six wood sash window

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #20 - Hallway leading to living room with staircase to second level on right and single sixpane wood casement window on right

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Photograph #21 - Staircase with wood bannister

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Photograph #22 - Bedroom with double twelve-pane wood casement windows and two twin beds

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #23 - Bedroom showing closet, propane lamp, and doorway to hall

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Photograph #24 - Close-up of double twelve-pane wood sash casement windows with mullion. Note the single screen on the right window

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Photograph #25 - Second bedroom with bunkbed, dresser, nightstand, and triple eight-pane casement wood windows with mullions and screen on right window

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #26 - Second bedroom showing bunkbed, closet and propane lamp

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Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #27 - Upstairs hallway and closet - taken from top of staircase

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Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #28 - Original hardware on front door

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #29 - 1942 photo of the Guard Station

Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #30 - 1910 Photo of the Government Mineral Springs Hotel

Government Mineral Springs Guard Station

Name of Property

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Skamania County, WA County and State



Photograph #31 - 1920 Photo of the Government Mineral Springs Hotel with addition and some alterations to the front façade

## **Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)				
name	USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest			
street & number 987 McClellan Road		telephone(360) 891-5000		
city or town	Vancouver	state <u>WA</u>	Zip Code 98661	

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.






















































## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination			
Property Name:	Government Mineral Springs Guard Station			
Multiple Name:				
State & County:	WASHINGTON, Skamania			
Date Recei 11/13/20		ist: Date of 16th Day: 12/26/2017	Date of 45th Day: 12/28/2017	Date of Weekly List: 12/29/2017
Reference number:	SG100001939			
Nominator:	State			
Reason For Review:				
<b>X</b> Accept	Return	Reject <b>12/2</b>	2 <u>6/2017</u> Date	
Abstract/Summary Comments:	All procedural requirements have been met; The nomination form is adequately documented; The nomination form is technically and professionally correct and sufficient.			
Recommendation/ Criteria	Accept			
Reviewer Edson	Beall	Discipline	Historian	
Telephone		Date		
DOCUMENTATION	: see attached comment	s : No see attached S	LR : No	

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.





Allyson Brooks Ph.D., Director

NOV + 3 017

November 3, 2017

Paul Lusignan Keeper of the National Register National Register of Historic Places 1849 "C" Street NW, MS 7228 Washington, D.C. 20240

## **RE: Washington State NR Nomination**

Dear Paul:

Please find enclosed new National Register Nomination form for:

 Government Mineral Springs Guard Station – Skamania County, WA (an all-electronic nomination)

Should you have any questions regarding this nomination please contact me anytime at (360) 586-3076. I look forward to hearing your final determination on this district.

Sincerely,

Michael Houser State Architectural Historian, DAHP 360-586-3076

E-Mail: michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov