

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: 91001951 Date Listed: 1/13/92

Tusayan Lookout Tree
Property Name

Coconino AZ
County State

National Forest Fire Lookouts in the Southwestern Region TR
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.

fr *Autumnella J. Lee*
Signature of the Keeper

1/23/92
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: Under Areas of Significance, Engineering is added.

This information was confirmed with Evan DeBloois of the U.S. Forest Service.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

1951

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Tusayan Lookout Tree

other names/site number AR-03-07-04-869

2. Location

street & number N/A

/ /not for publication

city, town Tusayan

/xx/vicinity

state Arizona

code AZ

county Coconino code 005

zip code 86023

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

Category of Property

Number of Resources within Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
	buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
<u>1</u>	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.

Guan D. DeBorja
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 Jerner
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.

Antoniotti / Rao

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:)

h Signature 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

Tusayan Lookout Tree is located on the rim of Long Jim Canyon about one mile west of the town of Tusayan on the Tusayan Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest. It is within a mixed Ponderosa pine and oak forest at an elevation of 6,650 feet. The tree is still alive and the platform is largely intact. An APS electrical substation is located nearby (about 150 feet south) and is partially screened by trees. A trailer park is also located nearby to the east but is not visible from the site. Despite these encroachments on the site's setting, it maintains sufficient integrity to qualify for National Register listing.

Physical Description

This lookout tree is a live Ponderosa pine about 50 feet tall and 24 inches in diameter. Branches are lopped off the west side of the tree and a wooden ladder was apparently once in place on this side. Remnants of the ladder are scattered on the ground, and nails that once secured the ladder remain in the tree. The top ten feet of the tree was sawn off for platform placement and is lying to the east of the tree. A 6 foot square platform of milled lumber is built into the crown. Unlike other lookout trees observed in the region, there are no remnants of a telephone line here.

Integrity

Although this tree is now missing its ladder (it may have been removed for safety purposes), it is still in good condition and retains the essential feature (platform) that identifies it as a lookout tree. The nearby electrical substation has impacted the integrity of its setting somewhat, but this tree still retains integrity of location, design, feeling, materials, and association.

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

CONSERVATION 1905-1940

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person Architect/Affiliation
N/A

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

Summary

Tusayan 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. It is also significant under Criterion C [36 CFR 60.6] because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type of construction, the earliest and simplest form of fire detection structure, built into a living tree.

Historic Contexts/Background

The construction date for the Tusayan Lookout Tree is presently unknown. It could be ascertained, however, through dendrochronology, as the sawn-off crown of the tree remains at the site. The old Williams-Grand Canyon highway, paved in 1930 and realigned in 1950, is nearby. It may have provided access to the tree. The date of abandonment for this tree is not presently known, either. It is not mentioned in the memoirs of Clyde P. Moose, who became District Ranger in 1948. The Tusayan District Office, opened in 1942, is about 2 miles to the northeast.

Although much remains to be learned about the history of this lookout tree, it had an important function in the earliest fire detection network on the Kaibab National Forest. It continues to evoke a sense of the past.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Memoirs of Clyde P. Moose. in People and Places of the Old Kaibab, Cultural Resource Management Report No. 10, (1990) Southwestern Region USDA-Forest Service.

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:

Kaibab National Forest, Williams, AZ

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one

UTM References

A 1|2| 3|9|7|5|4|0| 3|9|8|1|1|5|0|
 Zone Easting Northing

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

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

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

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is a square measuring 30 meters by 30 meters centering on the tree itself (see accompanying sketch map).

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the lookout tree and its immediate area only.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Teri A. Cleeland, Assistant Forest Archeologist

organization USFS Kaibab National Forest date May 30, 1990

street & number 800 S. Sixth St. telephone (602) 635-2681

city or town Williams state AZ zip code 86046

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). Tusayan Lookout Tree
- 2). Vicinity of Tusayan, Arizona
- 3). Teri A. Cleeland
- 4). April 1990
- 5). Kaibab National Forest, Williams, Arizona

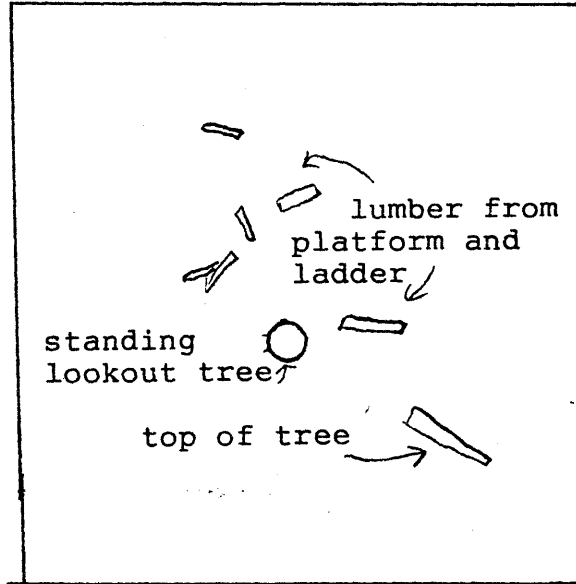
INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

- 6). Facing northeast, tree in its setting. Note powerlines in foreground.
- 7). #1

- 6). Facing east, close up of platform hatchway.
- 7). #2

Two-track dirt road

Nomination Boundary



power lines

approximately 30 meters to APS substation

0 10 20 meters

TUSAYAN LOOKOUT TREE
Kaibab National Forest, Arizona

