

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: 90001914 Date Listed: 12/27/90

Sugarloaf Peak Lookout      Chelan      WA  
Property Name                      County                      State

USDA Forest Service Fire Lookouts on Wenatchee NF 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.

*Autumn J. Lee*  
for \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

1/7/91  
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

**Statement of Significance:** The Period of Significance should be amended to read 1933-40 and the Significant Dates should be deleted.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

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

1914

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Sugarloaf Peak Lookout

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location at summit of Sugarloaf Peak on

street & number Wenatchee National Forest, Entiat R.D.

not for publication

city, town Leavenworth

vicinity

state WA

code 053

county Chelan

code 007

zip code 98826

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>2</u>	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>2</u>	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

USDA Forest Service Fire Lookouts on Wenatchee N.F.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

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.

Joseph G. Shaw  
Signature of certifying official

7-17-89  
Date

Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Wanda J. DeBlois  
Signature of commenting or other official

10-25-90  
Date

USDA Forest Service  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  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): \_\_\_\_\_

Autumnette A. Lee

12/27/90

for Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Fire Lookout  
Fire Lookout Garage  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Fire Lookout  
Fire Lookout Garage  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Standard Plan L-4 (1932)  
Hipped roof vernacular  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone - granite/basalt  
walls plywood  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof cedar shingles  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

---

Sugarloaf Peak Lookout is situated on the eastern ridge crest of the Entiat Mountains, which run roughly parallel and to the south of the lengthy Wenatchee Mountains that stretch southeasterly from the Cascade crest to the Columbia River. Although quite isolated, the Lookout is relatively easily accessed via a good secondary Forest road which traverses the ridge of the Entiat Mountains. The Lookout, at +5814' elevation, commands a panoramic 360° view over the Wenatchee River Valley to the west toward the Stuart Range and Glacier Peak and over the Entiat Valley and beyond to the wheat fields of eastern Washington.

The Lookout is located atop and adjacent to dramatic columnar basalt outcrops and the immediate site includes rock paths, fir trees and alpine floral ground cover. The lookout house rests on a wood frame structure which is secured upon and between basalt rock outcrops. The Lookout is also secured by a guy anchorage cable system to adjacent rock outcrops. Remaining in place is a rock stairway that originally lead to an earlier lookout house which was constructed at this lookout point c.1922.

The Lookout was constructed according to the standard Plan L-4 (revised 1932) and exhibits several typical/original and character defining features. These features include: a 14'x14' plan with hipped (pyramidal) roof form, an expansive glazed wall area composed of two-over-two window sash, cedar shingle roofing with ornate galvanized metal ridge flashing, and original built-up T&G shutters with Z-bracing which utilize standard 2x2 shutter braces and hardware. Original exterior cladding has been covered by modern plywood type. The Lookout includes a simply constructed catwalk and entry stairs, which were presumably constructed at the time the lookout house was moved to the site c.1948. The original lightning protection system remains in place.

The interior exhibits atypical Plan L-4 floor and ceiling finishes, plywood with battens, which appear to have been laid over original building fabric. Modern vinyl flooring has also been installed. Original standard wooden furnishings include; firefinder stand with Osborne firefinder in place, table/desk, two low storage cabinets, and lightning stool.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

---

The immediate site also includes a radio antenna, aluminum flagpole and visitor information kiosk. A short distance west of the Lookout is a one-car garage. This wood frame structure features a steeply pitched roof with exposed rafter ends, V-groove rustic siding and sliding doors constructed with beaded board paneling and x-braces. Stenciled package mark and plan mark numbers are visible on unpainted members from the interior side. Such marks are indicative of typical pre-cut buildings commonly constructed by the Forest Service during the CCC era.

Sugarloaf Peak Lookout exhibits several distinctive features and site characteristics and remains relatively little altered and in generally good condition.

**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)

Architecture  
Conservation  
Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1914 - present  
1914 - present  
1914 - present

Significant Dates

1921/1924  
1921/1924  
1921/1924

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Clyde P. Fickes/J. B. Helm  
Civilian Conservation Corps

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

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number   8   Page   1  

---

Sugarloaf Peak Lookout and associated site features are significant for their historic association with the development of the USDA Forest Service and the stewardship and conservation on our National Forests, as part of a comprehensive forest fire surveillance and detection system. The Lookout is also significant as it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a uniquely functional property type designed for and constructed in isolated and challenging mountain terrain. The Lookout also possesses significance as it reflects the accomplishments of the Civilian Conservation Corps which had an extremely significant impact on the development, improvement and conservation of National Forests in the Pacific Northwest. Although this lookout house was removed from its original location, this property meets the special criteria requirements of the Criteria Considerations (Exceptions). The property is significant primarily for its architectural value, which it continues to convey and for its association with the development of the USDA Forest Service and its stewardship of our natural resources, which it continues to possess.

### Historic Background:

Concern for the protection of America's natural resources led to the enactment of the Forest Reserve (Creative) Act of 1891 and establishment of Forest Reserves administered by the General Land Office within the Department of the Interior. In 1905, the Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture (USDA) was established and assumed responsibility for the Reserves, which then became known as National Forests thus, the Forest Service began to develop a comprehensive system for the administration of the forests which included the construction of Ranger and Guard Stations, forest trails and roads and the establishment of fire lookout stations. Fire crews were then formally recruited and paid. The creation of this Federal agency, however poorly equipped and meagerly financed, was a tremendously important historic advance in public attitude and recognition of natural resource conservation and the need to anticipate and rapidly respond to the threat of forest fires.

Sugarloaf Peak was one of the earliest fire lookout points to be formally established by the Forest Service on Wenatchee National Forest. By 1914 a "camp" for fire surveillance purposes was located at Sugarloaf Peak, as well as Dirtyface Peak, Icicle Ridge and Tiptop. Typical of lookout stations of this era, the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

---

lookout personnel at Sugarloaf lived in a tent or "rag house" below the peak and a fire finding instrument was mounted atop a basalt pillar at the summit. The camp was accessed via a primitive road to Dry Creek from Leavenworth and an old trail system originally used by sheep herders. Former Sugarloaf lookout Gladys West, like her sister Ira West Gruenwald, served as a lookout on several Wenatchee National Forest lookout stations during the early 1920's. Ms. West reported the solitude and isolation on the Peak during this era "for days the only visitor might be a couple of hikers or a shepherd passing by." Ms. West reported that a small cave was located near the tent which could "keep things like butter reasonably cool" between the delivery of food supplies twice a month.

An official Forest map, printed in 1922, shows a more fully developed "horse trail" system, with a corral in relatively close proximity to the Lookout, and phone lines throughout the lookout network. Corrals were an important forest structure during this era, as fire patrols and forest travel was primarily by horse or mule. The map, which provided information to "Mountain Travelers" who could make the trip from Seattle to Wenatchee "easily by automobile in 12 hours", promoted the "beautiful views" seen from several fire lookout stations including Sugarloaf Peak. By 1924, a "Permanent Lookout" used for primary fire surveillance and detection purposes had been constructed on the Peak. The construction required blasting to remove basalt pinnacles in order to make room for a standard D-6 (cupola style) lookout house. The lookout house was supported on an indigenous rock foundation and access appears to have been via steps constructed from loose rock.

During the Civilian Conservation Corps (C.C.C.) era, forest roads were vastly improved and extended to nearly all fire lookout stations including Sugarloaf Peak. Sugarloaf Peak remained a primary lookout point within a vastly expanded network of fire lookout stations which commonly included a Plan L-4 lookout house typically constructed with labor provided by C.C.C enrollers.

A wood frame garage which is located in close proximity to the Lookout is indicative of both the expanded road system and the work of the C.C.C. It was clearly constructed with pre-cut and marked members according to a standard plan and is identical to others constructed by the C.C.C. for the Forest Service during this era.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

---

In the late 1940s as aerial surveillance proved to be cost effective, many outlying lookout sites were abandoned while centrally located lookouts remained in use. It was common, where feasible and accessible, to dismantle and then relocate abandoned 1930s era lookouts to preferred lookout points which were still occupied by older D-6 cupola cabins. Thus, in 1948 the old 1920s era Sugarloaf lookout house was removed and the Plan L-4 lookout house from Lion Rock, near Liberty in Kittitas County was moved to the lookout point. Forest Service records related to the relocation of other lookout houses on Wenatchee National Forest state that the system of "cutting into sections" and then moving and re-assembling lookout houses "has proved successful." These records include the instructions to, "salvage all lightning protection, and metal hipped shingles. The entire house, including the catwalk, is to be dismantled... Please see that all windows are carefully crated to prevent breakage." The Lion Rock Lookout was constructed in 1933-1934 during the CCC era and as reassembled at Sugarloaf Peak exhibits its original and distinctive Plan L-4 features.

Sugarloaf Peak Lookout has since the late 1940s been a particularly popular sightseeing destination due to its accessibility by improved forest roads and the panoramic view from the station. While few lookout stations remain in active use after 1968, this Lookout has continued to be used by the USDA Forest Service. It has proven to be particularly useful, despite modern aerial surveillance techniques, in providing effective fire surveillance and detection during the often vulnerable fire season in Wenatchee National Forest.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Kresek, Ray. Fire Lookouts of the Northwest. Ye Galleon Press, Fairfield, WA. 1984.

Spring, Ira. Lookouts: Firewatchers of the Cascades and Olympics. The Mountaineers. Seattle, WA. 1981.

Miscellaneous Administrataive records and documents on file at Forest Supervisor's Office, Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee, WA.

Miscellaneous Historic Maps - 1908-1936, Wenatchee National Forest, Forest Supervisor's Office, Wenatchee, WA.

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 historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: USDA Forest Service, Wenatchee N.F., Forest Supervisor's Office, Wenatchee, WA

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreege of property less than one

UTM References

A 110 6853610 52920510  
 Zone Easting Northing

C         

B           
 Zone Easting Northing

D         

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Sugarloaf Mountain Lookout is located in a portion of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 13 T. 26N R. 18 E, Willamette Meridian. Proposed nomination to include lookout house, garage, any related rock foundation and guy anchorage system and immediate access trail or associated site features within a 100 foot radius of the center of the Lookout per USGS map - Sugarloaf Peak Quandrangle.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the identified resource and all associated immediate site features.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Katheryn H. Krafft  
 organization Krafft & Krafft date November 1988  
 street & number 85 So. Washington telephone (206) 587-0413  
 city or town Seattle state WA zip code 98104