

FILE COPY

Honorable Thomas S. Foley
JNG. DISTRICT # 5

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Washington	
COUNTY: Okanogan	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

sent to Wash., D.C.
8-3-71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Parson Smith Tree

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Access by trail only. Located approx. 1/4 mile west of where the Pasayten

CITY OR TOWN:
River flows from the No. Cascade Primitive Area into British Columbia.

STATE: Washington CODE: 53 COUNTY: Okanogan CODE: 047

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: U.S. Dept. of Agr.
United States Forest Service, Washington, D.C.

STREET AND NUMBER: South Building
12th and Independence Ave. S.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington D.C. STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: U.S. Forest Service

STREET AND NUMBER: Okanogan National Forest Box 950

CITY OR TOWN: Okanogan STATE: Washington CODE: 98840 53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Okanogan National Forest

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Okanogan STATE: Washington CODE: 53

STATE: Washington

COUNTY: Okanogan

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

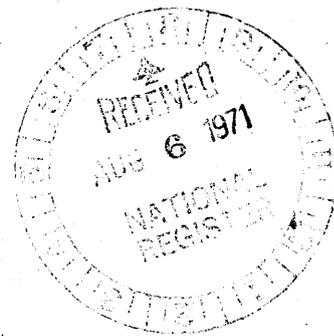
(Check One)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Parson Smith Tree is dead, but by joint efforts of the Okanogan County Historical Society and the Okanogan National Forest Service, it has been preserved. The top has been cut out of it and a shelter has been built over it, housing both the tree and a sign made and erected by the Historical Society. The tree is far off of the beaten path and plans at one time were made to move it where more people could see it. However, it was decided best to leave it in the primitive area where it was found.

The United State Forest Service is using a picture of the old tree in its advertising folder of the Okanogan National Forest and the Cascade Primitive Area. The Forest Service has also built a trail to the tree so people can get to it.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1886**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Close to monument 85 on the Canadian border, nineteen feet inside the U. S. and about a quarter of a mile west of where the Pasayten River flows from the North Cascade Primitive Area, into British Columbia, stands the Parson Smith Tree. On this large tree, which is now dead, is the following inscription:

"I've roamed in foreign parts my boys,
And many lands have seen,
But Columbia is my idol yet
Of all lands, she is Queen."

Parson Smith, 1886.

The words do not appear in neat lines but are carved below each other, two or three at a time, starting about as high as a man can conveniently reach with a knife.

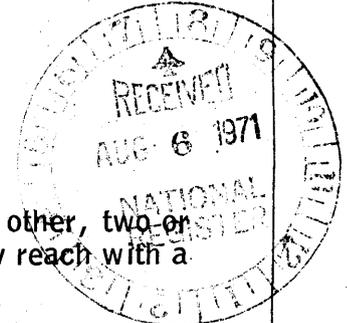
Few people had penetrated this rugged, primitive area and no trail lead to the tree. However, a man by the name of John Bell of Tonasket, Washington, is reported to have seen the tree, in 1902 or 3 when he was working with a border survey crew. A forest service ranger found the tree in 1913 and in the 1930's the forest service made an attempt to preserve the tree by putting a shelter over it. A couple of years ago, the forest service and the Okanogan County Historical Society joined forces for a marking and preservation program.

The sign erected reads:

PARSON SMITH TREE

This Smith, a mighty man was he. A tireless, life-loving man, who shouldered packs that would stagger a mule. He has been prospecting around Hope, B. C., with no luck to speak of, so he struck across the wilderness, relaying several hundred pounds of gear and supplies. Smith came past here in June of 1886, pausing to carve this doggeral into this tree. He went on to spend the winter, trapping in the upper Methow. Alfred L. (Parson) Smith died on the Coast about 1920. His poetry never won a Pulitzer prize but sure enough came from the heart.

Site marked by the Okanogan National Forest and the Okanogan County Historical Society.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Okanogan County Heritage, December, 1964 and December, 1965.
 The Okanogan National Forest Service Pamphlet, 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		49° 0' 5"	120° 33' 10"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.1 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Robert M. French

ORGANIZATION: Okanogan County Historical Society DATE: 10-10-69

STREET AND NUMBER: Route 1

CITY OR TOWN: Okanogan STATE: Washington CODE: 53

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Charles H. Odegaard
 Charles H. Odegaard

Title Director, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Date August 3, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

MAR 16 1972

Date _____

ATTEST:
William Mustagh
 Keeper of The National Register

Date JAN 3 1972

NO UTM CD SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	Washington	
COUNTY	Okanogan	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		MAR 16 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:		Parson Smith Tree	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION N.W. N.W. Sec. 1 Twp. 40 N. Range 18 E.W.M.			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Access by trail only. Located approx. 1/4 mile west of where the Pasayten River			
CITY OR TOWN:			
flows from the No. Cascade Primitive Area into B.C.			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Washington	53	Okanogan	047
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
Washington State Department of Highways			
SCALE: 1" = 8 miles			
DATE: January 1, 1969			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



10/678985/5430275

THIS AREA IS NOT COVERED BY THE U. S. G. S.
MAP SURVEY