

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: 91001947 Date Listed: 1/13/92

Hull Tank 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.

Antoinette 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)

RECEIVED
DEC 09 1991

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name Hull Tank Lookout Tree
other names/site number AR-03-07-04-868

2. Location

street & number N/A / /not for publication
city, town Grand Canyon /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	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)		<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district		<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<u> 1 </u>	<u> </u> structures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> 1 </u>	<u> </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 SOUTH-
WESTERN 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.

Gwan D. DeBlois
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 Turner
Signature of certifying official

4/13/91
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.

Antwicola A Bee

1/13/92

determined eligible for the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

for 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

Hull Tank Lookout Tree is located on an unnamed ridge near the south rim of the Grand Canyon on the Tusayan Ranger District, Kaibab National Forest. It is within a Ponderosa pine forest at an elevation of 7,400 feet. The tree and associated features are in excellent condition and the site retains integrity from the historic period.

Physical Description

This lookout facility is built into a live Ponderosa pine tree that is about 65 feet tall and 32 inches in diameter. The top is accessed by two rows of steel spikes (lag bolts) driven at approximately two foot intervals from bottom to top on the southwest side of the tree. The top has been cut off the tree for a platform. The wood plank platform measures about 8 feet square. It has a trapdoor entry, a table (for the map board) at the southeast corner, and a 3 foot high handrail around the perimeter. The cut-off tree top penetrates the platform to about the height of the handrail. It has a 1" by 1" pine plank is nailed to its cut-off surface. This probably supported an alidade, protractor, or compass table. The trapdoor has a carved inscription: "1917 AC FW."

Running up the side of the lookout tree from bottom to top are a number of wooden insulator holders. Two glass insulators and one ceramic insulator were found in the area. Two of them are still in the tree and have telephone wire attached. Remnants of telephone wire are hanging from the tree and on the ground nearby.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

Integrity

Hull Tank Lookout Tree is presently in excellent condition and retains many of the historic features seen in a 1916 photograph (photo #4). Although the area has been logged in the past, the tree is still isolated within the Ponderosa pine forest. It retains integrity of location, design, feeling, association, workmanship, materials, and setting.

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 ca. 1916-1940 1916

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ Cultural Affiliation _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

Significant Person Architect/Affiliation

N/A N/A

_____ _____

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

Summary

Hull Tank 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

Hull Tank Lookout Tree was probably constructed in 1916, the year its photograph was taken. Two individuals appear in that photograph. They may have left their initials on the trapdoor inscription: "1917 AC FW." This lookout tree, as others, likely had a two person crew comprised of the lookout and the smokechaser. The lookout spotted the fire and the smokechaser went to fight it. The lookout used a telephone to maintain contact with Hull Tank Ranger Station, some three miles to the northeast. The 1916 photograph shows a telephone at the base of the tree.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 2

This tree is one of three known lookout trees on the Tusayan Ranger District. One, the Grandview Lookout Tree (AR-03-07-04-860) is located only about one mile southwest of this tree. Its relationship in age and function to Hull Tank Lookout Tree is not currently known. The two trees may have provided different views of the surrounding terrain, which despite the presence of ridges has low relief.

This lookout facility may have been abandoned in the 1930s when steel towers were built nearby at Skinner Ridge and Grandview. Only the Grandview Lookout Tower is used today. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

9. Major Bibliographical References

McGann, Tim (USFS Silviculturalist who discovered the site and recorded features on the platform): Personal Communication, 1990.

US Forest Service, Lookout Trees in the Southwestern Region, 1989.

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

Acreeage of property less than one.

UTM References

A 1|2| 4|1|3|6|0|0| 3|9|7|7|5|5|0|
 Zone Easting Northing

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

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

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

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is a rectangle measuring 15 meters by 20 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 Martin Flynn, Forestry Tech./ Teri Cleeland, Asst. Forest Archeologist
 organization USFS Kaibab National Forest date May 29, 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 PHOTOGRAPHS #1-3 ACCOMPANYING THIS NOMINATION:

- 1). Hull Tank Lookout Tree
- 2). Vicinity of Grand Canyon, Arizona
- 3). Teri A. Cleeland
- 4). April 1990
- 5). Kaibab National Forest, Williams, Arizona

INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

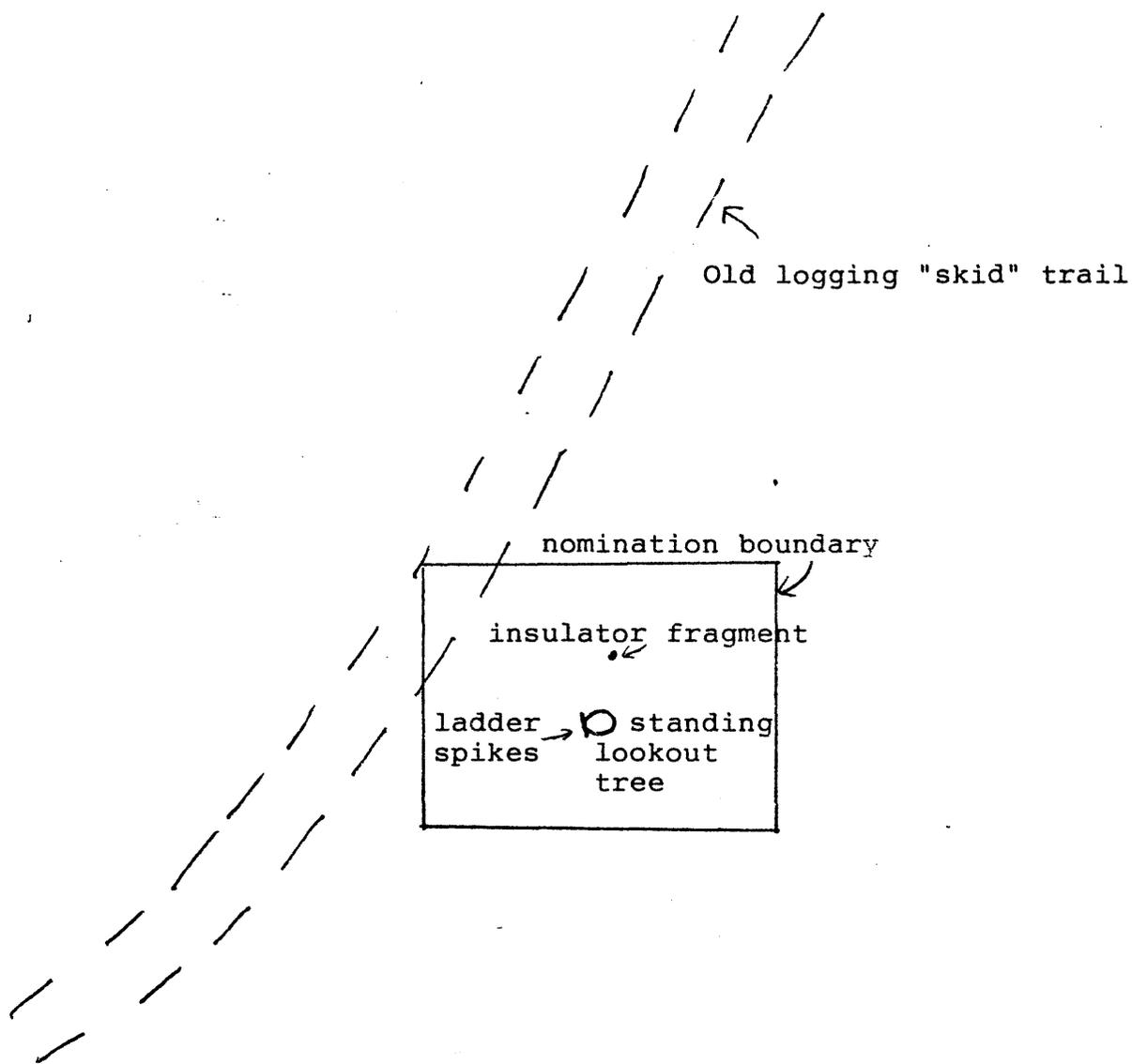
- 6). Facing southwest, lookout tree and setting. Individual climbing up lag bolts.
- 7). #1

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

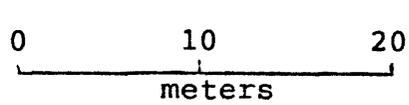
- 6). Facing north, view of platform from the ground. Trapdoor, right, is open.
- 7). #3

INFORMATION FOR PHOTOGRAPH #4:

- 3). E.S. Shipp (USFS Photo #15589A)
- 4). 1916
- 6). Facing east, overall view of lookout tree, with two people in it. Note telephone mounted at base of tree.
- 7). #4



HULL TANK LOOKOUT TREE
Kaibab National Forest, Arizona



Hull Tank
Lookout tower
3977550 N
413600 E

Goodie 1
Lookout tower
3976720 N
412700 E

