

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 11 1981

DATE ENTERED APR 20 1981

 SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS
1 NAME

HISTORIC Bonaparte Mountain Cabin

 AND/OR COMMON
 Bonaparte Mountain Cabin
2 LOCATION
 STREET & NUMBER ^{E OF TONASKET IN} Okanogan National Forest, three miles south on Trail #306
 from Forest Road #3902

 CITY, TOWN ^{Tonasket vic.} Havillah NOT FOR PUBLICATION
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 35

 STATE Washington VICINITY OF CODE 53 COUNTY Okanogan CODE 047
3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY
 REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(If applicable)* U.S. Forest Service
 Pacific Northwest Region 6

STREET & NUMBER 319 S.W. Pine - P.O. Box 3623

 CITY, TOWN Portland VICINITY OF Oregon STATE 97208
5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, SUPERVISORS OFFICE
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Okanogan National Forest

STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 950

CITY, TOWN Okanogan STATE Washington 98840

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE N.F.O.R.R.R. Recreation Area Plans

 DATE 1972 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Okanogan National Forest, Supervisor's Office

CITY, TOWN Okanogan STATE Washington

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

99A

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bonaparte Mountain Cabin, a square building of hand-hewn log construction was erected in 1914 as a fire lookout and was occupied seasonally until 1930. Located on the Tonasket Ranger District of the Okanogan National Forest, the cabin is situated on the Summit of Mt. Bonaparte, at an elevation of 7,258 feet, and occupies an alpine landscape of glacially polished granite boulders interspersed with whitebark pine and low brush. The site is in Sections 13 and 14, Township 38 North, Range 29 East on the U.S.G.S Mt. Bonaparte Quadrangle map.

Measuring twelve feet by twelve feet, the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin is pyramidal in shape, tapering at an angle of approximately fifteen degrees to a low hipped roof. Although as built, the roof material was a heavy corrugated steel, possibly salvaged from an abandoned mine building, no lightning protection was devised. The exterior wall materials were square-hewn with a broad ax and stacked horizontally, utilizing the dovetail method of jointure. The log ends were closely trimmed and square-sawn. Mortar chinking ensured the structure's weatherproof qualities. Six-light single sash windows on three elevations provided light and ventilation. The cabin was accessed by a single sawn-plank door centered on the west facade. The cabin interior has unfinished log walls and a plain plank floor.

Originally, the cabin formed the base of a lookout tower. Peeled log posts abutted each corner of the cabin and extended through the roof to support an observation platform and its covering hipped roof. The platform, with its center-based heliograph, was enclosed by a simple peeled pole railing and accessed by ladder. Structural deterioration caused by environmental factors led to the removal of the platform as a safety hazard, but the lower portions of the corner posts remain, the ends square-sawn a few inches above the roof.

Repairs which essentially stabilized the cabin were effected in the summer of 1971: the roof material was replaced with new wood shingles, the logs were rechinked where the original mortar had fallen out and the plank door was renovated. The original sash windows were replaced with single pane casements. A stove and wooden bedstead were installed at the same time.

Albeit the lookout tower with its observation platform has been removed, the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin itself exhibits no significant structural changes. Material alterations, such as the replacement of the roof and the sash windows, have modified the original appearance of the cabin only slightly.

Adjacent to the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin, on the south, is the current lookout tower, brought to the site by helicopter in 1961. The design of this structure approximately inverts the design of the original lookout: a square cabin with a hipped roof rests on a platform which is supported by a tower constructed of treated square timbers. An intermediary lookout tower, erected immediately to the north of the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin in 1930, no longer stands. Apart from a small toilet facility of relatively recent construction, there are no outbuildings.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Forest fire suppression
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Forest fires resulting from lightning storms and from human carelessness have hampered good forestry since the inception of forest management in this country. Built in 1914, the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin was the first permanent structure erected for fire detection purposes on what was then the Chesaw Ranger District of the Colville National Forest. With its observation platform and heliograph, the cabin represented a significant development in the evolution of fire control methods, and predates the 1915-1916 standardization of the cupola design.

The Bonaparte Mountain Cabin exhibits the pioneer techniques of log construction common to the time and location: logs were square-hewn by hand with a broad ax and stacked horizontally utilizing the dove-tail method of jointure with closely trimmed ends. Although its tower has been removed, the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin possesses integrity of form, material and environment, retaining the primary elements of fabric, setting, location, design and workmanship.

In the early years of the U.S. Forest Service, fire suppression was difficult and dangerous. Few fire trails or roads accessed the remote forest areas and before mechanized transportation was readily available, fire crews had to carry the most essential fire-fighting tools on their backs and pack heavier equipment and supplies on horses and mules. Because much valuable time was necessarily consumed in reaching a fire on foot, the earliest possible detection of a fire was paramount to its successful containment: the fire lookout bore a great responsibility.

At the highest peak in eastern Washington, Mt. Bonaparte was identified early as a strategic location for a fire lookout. Its moderate slopes gave comparatively easy access to a broadly rounded summit when, prior to 1914 when the cabin was built, fire lookouts were housed in tents. With the improved visibility provided by the observation platform of the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin, the fire lookout scanned the surrounding forest for the smoke that signalled a forest fire. Before telephones were installed, the lookout communicated the locations of fires to a receiving station, perhaps 20 or 30 miles distant, by heliograph, a mirror device with which the sun's reflection could be trained: messages in Morse code were flashed by means of a shutter.

Subsequently used for storage, the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin was replaced in 1930 by a second tower (since removed), and by a third in 1961. The continued active use of the site indicates the importance of the location for fire control in the area

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Okanogan National Forest Visitor Information Plan, Okanogan, Washington
2. Forest Service Records, Okanogan National Forest, Tonasket Ranger District, Supervisor's Office, Okanogan, Washington.
3. Kerr, Charles, "Lookout," Wenatchee Daily World, August 1971.
4. Kresek, Roy, Spokane, Washington, telephone interview, October 16, 1979.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.4 acres

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

UTM REFERENCES

UTM NOT VERIFIED

A 1 1 3 4 4 1 7 4 5 4 0 5 5 1 5
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The summit of Mt. Bonaparte - the boundary, described by a circle 150 feet in diameter

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE L. G. Sandberg, Landscape Archicect and revised by E. Gail Throop, Historian, Regional Office, Portland, Oregon

ORGANIZATION U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan National Forest DATE November 8, 1979

STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 950 TELEPHONE (509) 422-2704

CITY OR TOWN Okanogan, STATE Washington 98840

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES X NO NONE

Jeanne M. Williams
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National X State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE Darryl R. Flamm Director Office of Environmental Quality DATE 3/4/80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: Bruce M. Dwyer DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DATE 4/20/80

ATTEST: Emmagine Saxe KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE 4-20-81

Regional Reviewer

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

2

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

2

With its pyramidal shape and hand-hewn squared log construction, the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin is one of two fire lookouts of its type and age remaining in the Pacific Northwest Region. The structure and its environment retain sufficient integrity to convey a feeling of time and place consistent with the periods of construction and important use, and together, they have a readily identifiable relationship to early Forest Service history. The Bonaparte Mountain Cabin continues to evoke the isolated life and the responsibilities of the early fire lookouts who manned it.

A year later a sister lookout on Columbia Mountain (elevation 6782 feet) was built apparently by the same person. The cabin is one mile north of Sherman Pass about 30 miles east of Bonaparte Mountain Cabin. This land is under supervision of the Colville National Forest.

The Bonaparte Mountain Cabin has been an attraction for hikers for many years. Several hundred visitors ascend the trail up the north slope of Mt. Bonaparte annually, a distance of three miles, to view the cabin and talk to the fire lookout. The Forest Service plans to equip the cabin with fire equipment of the 1914-1930 era for visitor information.

Property

Bonaparte Mountain Cabin

DUE 81000586

State

WA, Okanogan

Working Number

3/11/81/77

4/8/81 - 4/25/81

TECHNICAL

Photos

6

Maps

1

CONTROL

assigned 2

Substantive Review

HISTORIAN

1914 log fire lookout is only 1 of 2 of this era in Wash. State. Significant for association w/ early 20th C. U.S. Forest Service fire management activities.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept. A, C

Save 4-20-81

Pre-dates standardization of design that occurred shortly thereafter.

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Federal Register Entry

2. 2. 82

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered

APR 20 1981

INT:2106-74



1. Bonaparte Mountain Cabin
2. Okanogan National Forest
Tonasket Ranger District
Okanogan County
16 miles NE of Tonasket,
Washington.
3. Unknown
4. Summer 1924
5. Unknown
6. Looking east
7. Photo #1

MAR 11 1981
APR 20 1981

Note: Enclosed photo is a copy of the original. This photo was retrieved from an extra album.



1. Bonaparte Mountain Cabin
2. Okanogan National Forest
3. Tonasket Ranger District
Okanogan County
16 miles NE of Tonasket, WA
3. Unknown
4. Summer 1961
5. Unknown
6. Looking southwest
7. #2

MAR 11 1981

APR 20 1981



1. Bonaparte Mountain Cabin
2. Okanogan National Forest
Tonasket Ranger District
Okanogan County
16 miles northeast of Tonasket, WA
3. Unknown
4. Summer 1961
5. Unknown
6. Looking southwest
7. Photo #3

MAR 11 1981

APR 20 1981



1. Bonaparte Mountain Cabin
2. Vicinity of Havillah, Washington
3. Leslie E. Wildesen
4. September, 1976
5. (slide) USFS Regional Office
Portland, Oregon
6. Aerial view, looking southwest; cabin
in center of middle ground.
7. Photo #4

*Okanogan
County*

MAR 11 1981

APR 20 1981



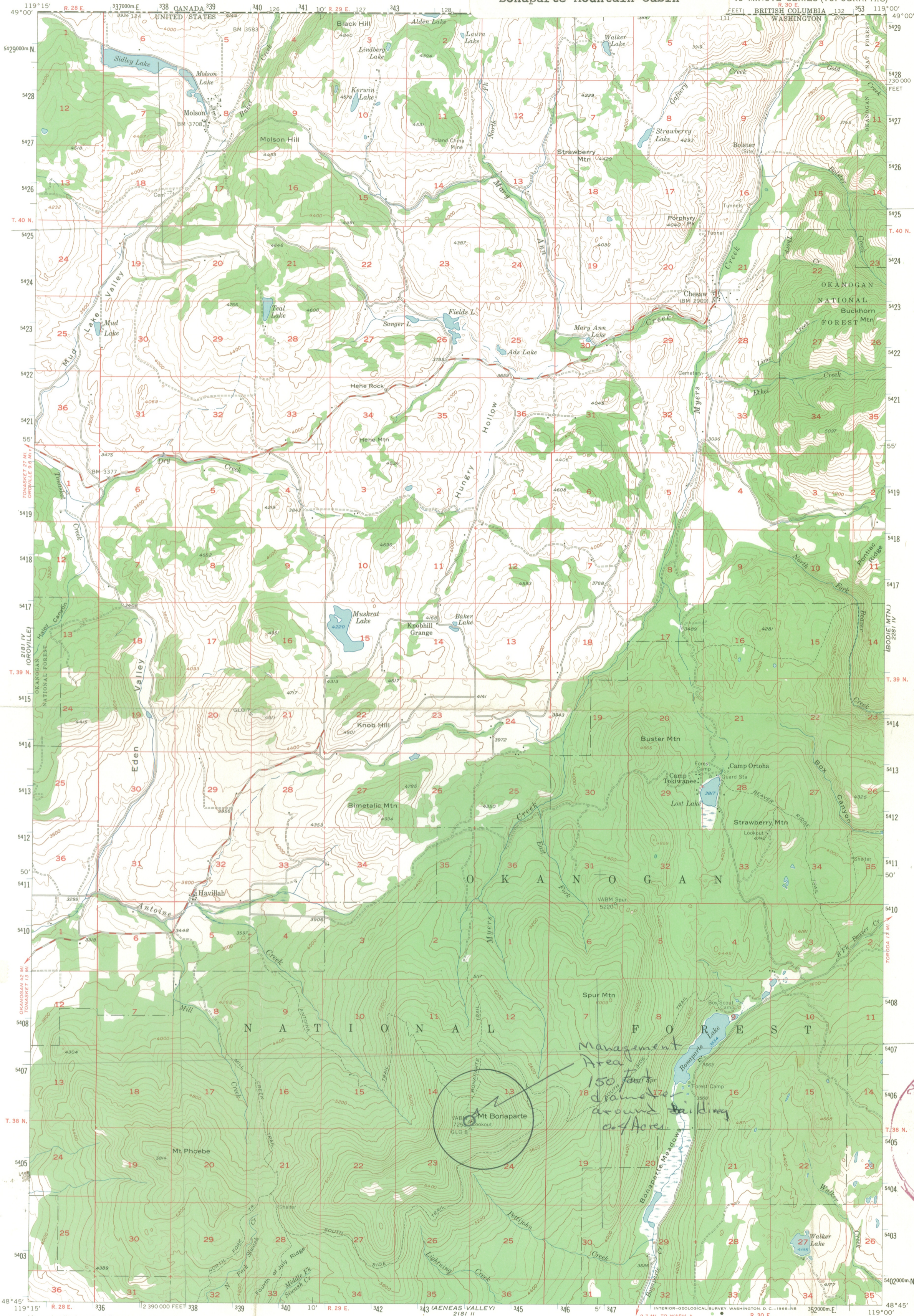
1. Bonaparte Mountain Cabin
2. Vicinity of Havillah, Washington
3. Leslie E. Wildesen
4. September, 1976
5. (slide) USFS Regional Office,
Portland, Oregon.
6. Looking south; 1961 lookout in background.
7. Photo #5

Okanogan County

MAR 11 1981

APR 20 1981

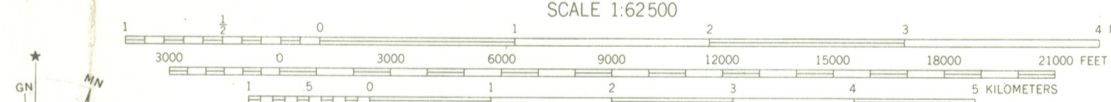
Bonaparte Mountain Cabin



BONAPARTE
MOUNTAIN CABIN

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and International Boundary
Commission

Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1953. Field check 1957
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Washington coordinate system,
north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 11, shown in blue
Unchecked elevations are shown in brown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Medium-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Unimproved dirt - - - - -



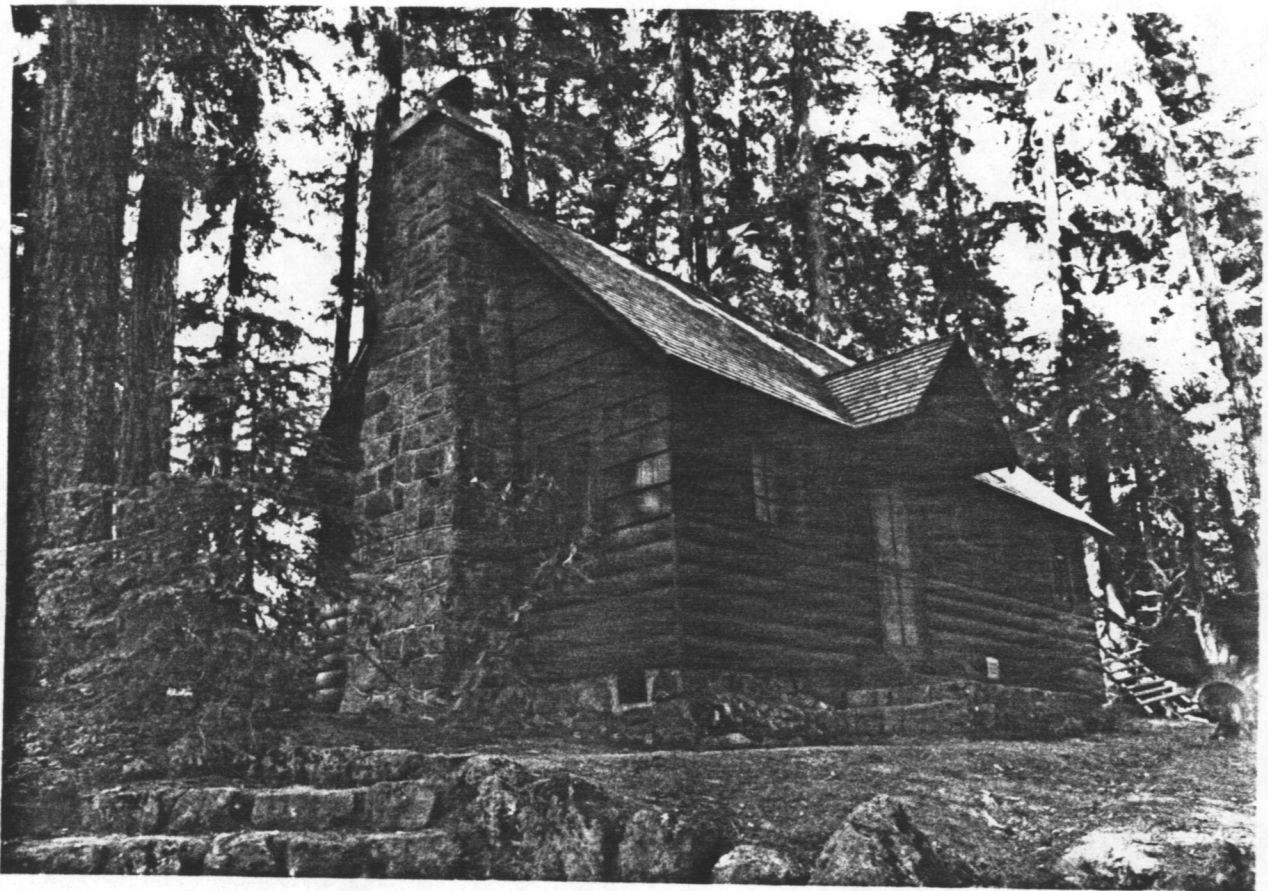
MT. BONAPARTE, WASH.
N4845—W11900/15

APR 20 1981

1957

AMS 2181 I—SERIES V791

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



MAR 11 1981

MAR 11 1981

BONAPARTE MOUNTAIN CABIN
Okanogan County, WA

APR 20 1981

1882.1.1 HAM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

OKANOGAN NATIONAL FOREST
P.O. Box 950
Okanogan, Washington 98840

REPLY TO: 2360 Special Interest Areas

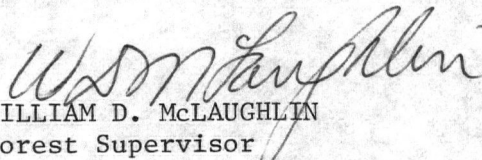
January 31, 1980

SUBJECT: Bonaparte Mtn. Cabin - A Nomination to the
National Register of Historic Places

TO: Regional Forester



The Bonaparte Mtn. Cabin, a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, has my concurrence and support.


WILLIAM D. McLAUGHLIN
Forest Supervisor

cc: Irving Smith, S.O.
James Webb, Tonasket R.D.

MAR 11 1981



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

R-6

Reply to: 2360 Special Interest Areas

Date: January 21, 1981

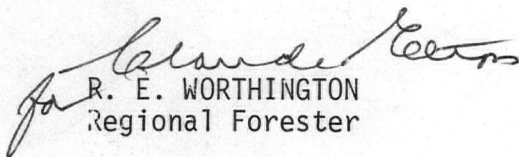
Subject: Nomination of Bonaparte Mountain Cabin to National Register of Historic Places

To: Chief

At its May 16, 1980, meeting in Spokane, the Washington State Advisory Council on Historic Preservation concurred with the nomination of the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin to the National Register of Historic Places.

We are submitting the enclosed nomination of the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin, Okanogan NF, Okanogan County, Washington, for review and comment. Also enclosed is the Forest Supervisor's letter of support for the nomination. Because of its association with early fire detection and suppression, and its virtually unique construction predating the standardized cupola design, we feel that the Bonaparte Mountain Cabin is significant in local and state history, and hope you concur in our assessment.

Please contact E. Gail Throop, Regional Office, Recreation, FTS 423-3644, if you have any questions regarding this nomination.


R. E. WORTHINGTON
Regional Forester

Enclosures (2)

cc: Okanogan NF w/encl.
Tonasket RD " "
Rn (EGT)

MAR 11 1981





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

WO

Janet
mf

Reply to: 2360 Special Interest Areas

Date: FEB 18 1981

Subject: National Register Nominations-Clackamas Lake & Bonaparte Mountain

To: Director, OEQ

Enclosed are the nomination packages for two sites in Region 6: Clackamas Lake Ranger Station, Clackamas National Forest, Clackamas County, Oregon; and Bonaparte Mountain Cabin, Okanogan National Forest, Okanogan County, Washington. Please sign and forward these packages to the National Register if you concur with the nominations.

ROY W. FEUCHTER
Director, Recreation Management

Enclosures

MAR 11 1981



2/18

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE WASHINGTON

Date Entered APR 20 1981

Name

Location

Bonaparte Mountain Cabin

**Tonasket vicinity
Okanogan County**

Also Notified

Honorable Henry M. Jackson

Honorable Slade Gorton
Honorable Thomas S. Foley
Mr. Barry Flamm,
U. S. Forest Service
Northwest Region, HCRS

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Jacob Thomas
111 West 21st. Avenue
KL-11
Olympia, Washington 98504

NR

Byers/4/27/81

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.