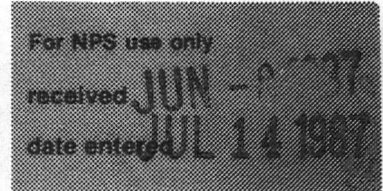


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Inventory

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1 of 3

NAME: Winchester Mountain Lookout

LOCATION: Mt. Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest; Congressional District 2, Mt. Baker Ranger District, Sedro Wooley, Washington (53), Whatcom County (073).

ADDRESS: USDA Forest Service  
Mt. Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest  
1022 First Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

CLASSIFICATION/CATEGORY: Building CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES: 1 building  
NONCONTRIBUTING: 0

DESCRIPTION:

Condition

Excellent/good     Altered     Original Site

Winchester Mountain Lookout is located on a ridge of volcanic rock soils and outcroppings at an elevation of +6,520 feet. This subalpine setting of wildflowers and scattered trees is within the Mt. Baker Wilderness Area and overlooks the north fork of the Nooksack River and west fork of Silesia Creek. It commands panoramic views dominated by Mt. Baker, Mt. Shuksan and the Picket Range. The Lookout is accessed by foot over two miles of an old mining road and two miles of Forest Service trail which steeply traverses alpine meadows, dense fir and hemlock stands, and loose rocks, snow fields and boulders at timberline.

This one-story, single room, 14' x 14' cabin is wood-frame construction and was built according to standard Forest Service Lookout House plans from 1932. Built on a level grade, the floor framing is supported on and anchored to indigenous rock piers. The typical pyramidal roof is covered with new and weathered cedar shingles and original metal ridge flashing. The lightning rod and protection system is in place. Exterior walls are composed of two-over-two pivoting and fixed sash with 1 x 6 v-groove shiplap siding below. Most original window shutters appear to remain in place or were replaced "in-kind." They are constructed of 1 x 6 shiplap with double-z bracing and utilize original 2 x 2 shutter braces and eyebolt support hardware. Typical original panel door with four upper lights and shutter is in place. Since 1984 deferred maintenance, extensive repair and restoration has been undertaken by a "user group". The interior is finished with 1 x 4 fir flooring. The interior also exhibits some typical simply constructed furnishings which include the original firefinder and stand, table, and built-in shelves.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Specific Dates: 1935 (restoration 1985)

Builder/Architect: Constructed per standard Forest Service Lookout House Plan L-4 1930 (revised 1932). Believed to have been built by Camp Glacier CCC crews.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received	JUN 8 1987
date entered	

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 2 of 3

History

Winchester Mountain Lookout was constructed in 1935 on an old lookout site associated with late 19th century gold mining and prospecting activities. P.R. Jeffcott related, in an account of gold mining in Whatcom County, that the mountains name resulted from an incident in connection with Jack Post, an important character in the opening of Mt. Baker Gold Mining District. Apparently, Post was on fire watch duty overlooking mining operations near Twin Lakes and the upper North Fork when he left his station, and his trusty rifle as well. Upon returning, it could not be found until, mysteriously, it again appeared the following year. A Forest Service map dated 1931 also noted Winchester Mountain as a lookout point.

It is believed that this permanent lookout house was constructed by a small crew which may have included CCC enrollees. A 200 man Civilian Conservation Corps camp had been established at Glacier in June, 1933, and CCC work programs included extensive road and trail construction, as well as valuable administrative and protective improvements. The lookout was in use for fire detection and suppression purposes until 1966 when like the majority of other Lookouts within the detection system, it was abandoned. By 1981, the Winchester Mountain Lookout was in a fairly serious state of disrepair due to exposure and vandalism. An active group of hikers associated with the Mt. Baker Club, Inc. of Bellingham, found the building to be structurally sound and adopted the Lookout as a club project in 1982. Under special use permit, the club has carefully repaired and restored the cabin with the support and aid of the Mt. Baker Ranger District. The group intends to continue to maintain the Lookout for use by club members and the general public.

Statement of Significance

Winchester Mountain Lookout is an intact and well-maintained example of the Plan L-4 Lookout House typically constructed on Region 6 between 1932 and 1936, and is on a site which possesses associations with historic gold mining and fire lookout efforts. It is among only a few extant fire lookout buildings on the Forest that once functioned as an extensive fire detection and suppression network which served to protect and conserve timber and other natural resources for over 50 years. This restored Lookout represents an essential part of the system as a uniquely functional building type, which was specifically designed for construction in such isolated and challenging environments as Winchester Mountain.

GEOGRAPHIC DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

UTM Reference:

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
10	599425	5423325

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 3 of 3

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Winchester Mountain Lookout is located in a portion of SE1/4 of NE1/4, Section 16, T.40N, R.9E, Willamette Meridian. Proposed nomination to include lookout house, related rock foundation, lightning protection system and immediate access trail within a 50 foot radius of the center of the Lookout per Green Trails map MT. SHUKSAN, WASH - NO 14.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

JUN 8 1987

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 171

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name USDA Forest Service Fire Lookouts on Mt. Baker--Snoqualmie National Forest TR  
State Pierce County (and others), WA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Cover

~~Substantive Review~~

~~for~~ Keeper [Signature] 7/19/87

1. Evergreen Mountain Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong  
7/14/87

2. Hidden Lake Peak Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong  
7/14/87

3. Miners Ridge Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

~~for~~ Keeper [Signature] 7/19/87

4. Park Butte Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong  
7/14/87

5. Suntop Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong  
7/14/87

6. Three Fingers Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong  
7/14/87

7. Winchester Mountain Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong  
7/14/87

8. Green Mountain Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper Patrick Andrews 2/22/88

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest

87001188

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Winchester Mountain Lookout (USDA Forest  
Service Fire Lookouts on Mt. Baker--  
Snoqualmie National Forest TR)  
Whatcom County  
WASHINGTON

~~Substantive Review~~

JUN - 8 1987

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88  
Date Due: 7/9/87 - 7/23/87  
Action:  ACCEPT 7-14-87  
 RETURN \_\_\_\_\_  
 REJECT \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Agency: USFS

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*See cover comment  
for TR*

Recom./Criteria Accept A, C  
Reviewer Bush  
Discipline Historic  
Date 7/14/87  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category Ownership Status Present Use  
Public Acquisition Accessible

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition Check one Check one  
 excellent  deteriorated  unaltered  original site  
 good  ruins  altered  moved date \_\_\_\_\_  
 fair  unexposed

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

---

**8. Significance**

Period      Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates                      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

---

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

---

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

---

Verbal boundary description and justification

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title                      date

---


**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_





Winchester Mountain Lookout  
nr. Sedro Wooley, Washington

David W. Harvey  
August 1986

Katheryn H. Krafft

View southwest of east & north elevations  
w/ shutters closed  
24 of 25





Winchester Mountain Lookout  
nr. Sedro Wooley, Washington

David W. Harvey  
August 1986

Katheryn H. Krafft

View southwest of east & north elevations  
w/ shutters open  
25 of 25

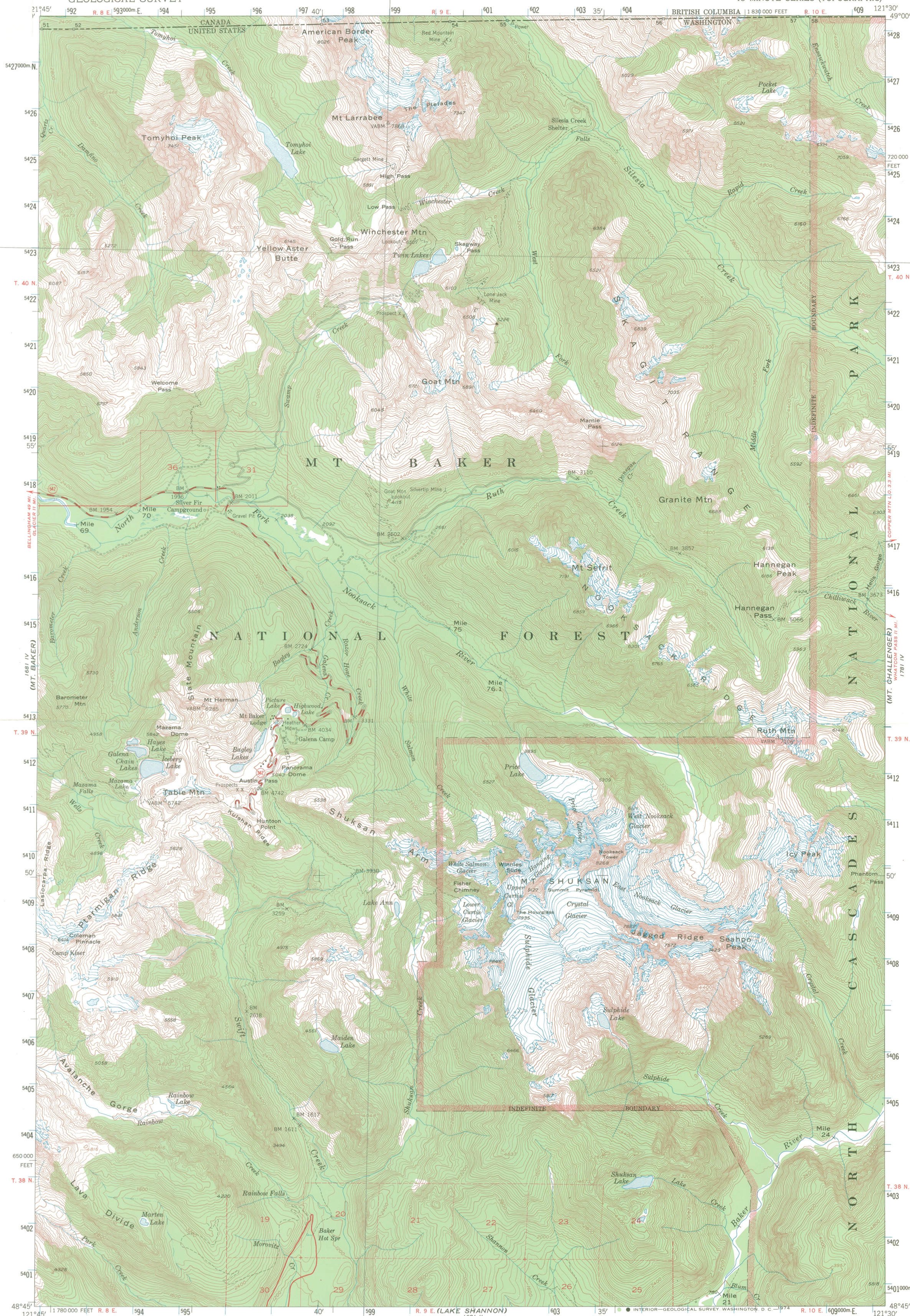
JUN 8 1987

Winchester Mtn. Lookout  
nr. Sedro Wooley, WA.

UTM References:  
Zone 10  
Easting 599425  
Northing 5423325

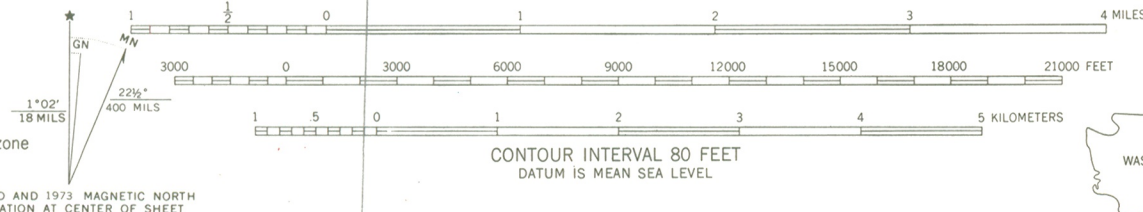
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

MT. SHUKSAN QUADRANGLE  
WASHINGTON—WHATCOM CO.  
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



(HAMILTON)  
1881 IV

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USBPR  
and International Boundary Commission  
Topography from aerial photographs by multibox methods  
Aerial photographs taken 1950. Field check 1953  
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 10, shown in blue  
Where omitted, land lines have not been established



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty 4 LANE 6 LANE Light-duty  
Medium-duty 4 LANE 6 LANE Unimproved dirt  
U. S. Route State Route  
Roads added after 1953, not field checked



MT. SHUKSAN, WASH.  
N 4845—W 12130/15

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

1953  
MINOR CORRECTIONS MADE 1973  
AMS 1881 I—SERIES V791

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Washington  
Office

12th & Independence SW  
P.O. Box 96090  
Washington, D.C. 20090-6090

Reply To: 2360

Date: JUN 04 1987

Ms. Carol Shull  
Chief of Registration  
National Register of Historic Places  
USDI National Park Service  
P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, DC 20013-7127

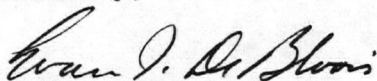
Dear Ms. Shull:

The following properties are being submitted for your consideration as additions to the National Register of Historic Places. Thirteen are new nominations and one is a resubmission with technical corrections.

Name	Group	State	Forest	County
Brow Monument		AZ	Kaibab	Coconino
Jacob Lake Ranger Station		AZ	Kaibab	Coconino
Stibnite Historic District		ID	Payette	Valley
Suntop Lookout	Fire Lookouts	WA	MT Baker-Snoqualmie	Pierce
Hidden Lake Peak Lookout	Fire Lookouts	WA	MT Baker-Snoqualmie	Skagit
Park Butte Lookout	Fire Lookouts	WA	MT Baker-Snoqualmie	Skagit
Miners Ridge Lookout	Fire Lookouts	WA	MT Baker-Snoqualmie	Snohomish
Three Fingers Lookout	Fire Lookouts	WA	MT Baker-Snoqualmie	Snohomish
Evergreen Mountain Lookout	Fire Lookouts	WA	MT Baker-Snoqualmie	Snohomish
Green Mountain Lookout	Fire Lookouts	WA	MT Baker-Snoqualmie	Snohomish
Winchester Mountain Lookout	Fire Lookouts	WA	MT Baker-Snoqualmie	Whatcom
Ketchikan Ranger House		AK	Tongass Ketchikan	Gateway

We would appreciate your consideration of these nominations.

Sincerely,



EVAN I. DEBLOIS  
Preservation Officer  
Recreation Management

Enclosures

JUN 8 1987