

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormInventory
Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1 of 3

NAME: Hidden Lake Peak Lookout

LOCATION: Mt. Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest; Congressional District 2, Mt. Baker Ranger District, Marblemount, Washington (53), Skagit County (057).

ADDRESS: USDA Forest Service
Mt. Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest
1022 First Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104CLASSIFICATION/CATEGORY: Building CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES: 1 building
NONCONTRIBUTING: 0

DESCRIPTION:

Condition

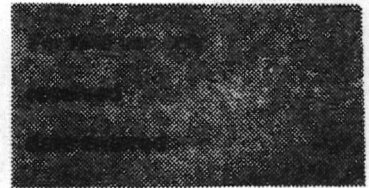
x Excellent/good x Altered x Original Site

Hidden Lake Peak Lookout is located on a pinnacle of highly jointed granitic rock on the southernmost peak of Hidden Lake Peaks. It is situated in close proximity to the North Cascades National Park boundary. At an elevation of +6,890 feet, the cabin is well above timberline and only moss and lichens grow in the vicinity. The Lookout is accessed by a 4.5 mile long Forest Service trail which climbs steeply through heavy timber, open meadows, and over snow fields and glacial scarred granite. Although views are slightly obscured by adjacent granite outcrops, the Lookout commands spectacular views to Cascade Pass, El Dorado Peak, Inspiration Glacier, Lookout Mountain, Mt. Baker and Hidden Lake.

This one-story, single room, 14' x 14' cabin is wood-frame construction built according to standard Forest Service Lookout House plans first issued c. 1929. The floor framing system is anchored to and supported by knee-braced, peeled cedar posts and piled rock piers. A guy anchorage system with a varied combination of wrapped and bolted cables and rock weights is utilized to secure the vulnerable structure against severe wind velocities and snow loads. The roof is a simple gable form covered by cedar shingles with lightning rods and protection system at each gable end. Exterior walls are clad with 6" beveled cedar siding with corner boards, and a band of five 9-light fixed and pivoting sash windows are located at each elevation with the exception of the door opening. Some original window shutters constructed from 1 x 6 ship-lap with z-bracing remain in place on the east elevation and portions of the west and north elevations. Some shutters have blown off or been purposely removed and stored on site due to concerns based on the difficulty and danger of their operation by current short-term and transitory users. Original 1/2" steel rod and eyebolt shutter supports remain in use. Original panel door with 9-lights above is in place although slightly altered. The Lookout is essentially unaltered and regularly maintained by an active "user group." The only significant exterior alteration in addition to shutter removal is the replacement of foundation post knee-braces with milled lumber rather than "in kind" peeled logs. Original intact interior finishes are beaded board walls and ceilings and 1 x 4 fir flooring. The interior also exhibits original simply constructed furnishings which include built-in cabinets and open shelves, table and lightning stool. The firefinder and stand have been removed.

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SIGNIFICANCE:

Specific Dates: 1931

Builder/Architect: Constructed per earliest standard Forest Service Plan L-4 (c. 1929). Built by Larsen Brothers Construction.

History

Hidden Lake Peak was apparently constructed in the late summer or fall of 1932 by members of "Larsen Brothers Construction" and Forest Service crews. The design of the Lookout is that shown on shop drawings developed in 1930 for the Aladdin Company, Portland, Oregon, the principal supplier of pre-cut Lookout Houses to the USDA Forest Service. The marked and pre-packaged bundles of construction materials were apparently shipped to the Baker River Ranger Station, and then hauled by pack team from the Marble Creek Crossing up a 7-mile trail to the saddle between Hidden Lake Peak and the southern summit of the peak. From there they were hand-carried and winched by cable 400 feet to the pinnacle, where they were assembled. Considerable innovation and ingenuity were employed by the builders in order to anchor the cabin to its granitic mountaintop foundation. Hidden Lake Peak Lookout was among the earliest of the L-4 Lookout Houses built on the Mt. Baker Forest and played a key role in fire detection and protection of eastern Skagit County and the Cascade Pass drainage. It was last used for emergency fire purposes in the late 1950's.

Early in the 1960's, the Skagit Alpine Club of Mt. Vernon approached the USDA Forest Service in pursuit of an abandoned lookout which they could work on and use for Club activities. After examining six such lookouts, they selected Hidden Lake Peak, secured a special use permit from the USDA Forest Service, and repaired and maintained the Lookout for the following 10 years. By 1980, the club chose to terminate this agreement and a small group of volunteers, called the Friends of Hidden Lake Lookout (a subsidiary of the Skagit Environmental Council), assumed maintenance and special use responsibilities. The Lookout is currently maintained by active volunteers, led by Dr. Fred T. Darvill, who contribute labor, materials and financial resources toward the preservation of the Lookout, which remains open to hikers and campers during the summer hiking season.

Statement of Significance

Hidden Lake Peak Lookout is one of two gable roof ("grange hall") style lookouts, the earliest of the Plan L-4 Lookout House types, which remain on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie Forest. These early lookout houses, constructed before 1932, when the Plan L-4 was revised, are the oldest remaining fire lookout buildings on Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and represent a crucial part of a fire detection and suppression system which functioned for over 50 years to protect and conserve our timber and natural resources. This unaltered and well-maintained lookout represents a uniquely functional building type which was specifically designed for construction in such isolated and challenging terrain as Hidden Lake Peak.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
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For NPS use only

received

date entered

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GEOGRAPHIC DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

UTM Reference:

Point
A

Zone
10

Easting
632680

Northing
5372710

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Hidden Lake Peak Lookout (Building #4062) is located in a portion of NW1/4 of NE1/4, Section 26, T.35N, R.12E, Willamette Meridian. Proposed nomination to include lookout house, related rock foundation and guy anchorage systems and immediate access trail within a 50 foot radius of the center of the Lookout per Green Trails map CASCADE PASS, WASH - NO 80.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 8 1987

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number _____ Page 171Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName 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] 7/15/87

1. Evergreen Mountain Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper

William B. Bushong
7/14/87

Attest

2. Hidden Lake Peak Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper

William B. Bushong
7/14/87

Attest

3. Miners Ridge Lookout

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

Attest

4. Park Butte Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper

William B. Bushong
7/14/87

Attest

5. Suntop Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper

William B. Bushong
7/14/87

Attest

6. Three Fingers Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper

William B. Bushong
7/14/87

Attest

7. Winchester Mountain Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper

William B. Bushong
7/14/87

Attest

8. Green Mountain Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper

Patrick Andrews 2/22/88

Attest

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Hidden Lake Peak Lookout (USDA Forest
Service Fire Lookouts on Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie
National Forest TR)
Skagit County
WASHINGTON

87001184
JUN - 8 1987

Substantive Review

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 TR comments.

Recom./Criteria: Accept A, C
Reviewer: Bushong
Discipline: Historian
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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed |

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

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: _____



Hidden Lake Peak Lookout
nr. Marblemount, Washington

Chapin K. Krafft
August 1986

Katheryn H. Krafft

View northwest of south & east elevation

8 of 25



Hidden Lake Peak Lookout
nr. Marblemount, Washington

Chapin K. Krafft
August 1986

Katheryn H. Krafft

South & east elevations

9 of 25



Hidden Lake Peak Lookout
nr. Marblemount, Washington

Chapin K. Krafft
August 1986

Katheryn H. Krafft

Typical table

10 of 25

UTM References:
Zone 10
Easting 632680
Northing 5372710

SONNY BOY LAKES QUADRANGLE
WASHINGTON-SKAGIT CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Where omitted, land lines have not been established

CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Light-duty..... Unimproved dirt

SONNY BOY LAKES, WASH.
N4822.5—W12107.5/7.5

1963

AMS 1780 I NW—SERIES V891

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

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

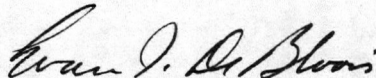
Dear Ms. Shull:

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