

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

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

For NPS use only
received JUN 8 1987
date entered JUL 1 1987

Inventory

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1 of 3

NAME: Park Butte Lookout

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

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

Park Butte Lookout is located on a steep ridge of basaltic outcroppings with subalpine fir and cedar trees in close proximity to the cabin. The Lookout is immediately SW of the Easton Glacier of Mt. Baker, at an elevation of +5,400 feet. It is currently accessed by a 3.5 mile long Forest Service Trail which crosses Sulphur Creek and glacial meltwater, transverses fir and hemlock forests, heather meadows and loose rock outcrops. Panoramic views from the Lookout are dominated by Mt. Baker as well as Mt. Blum, Hagan Mountain, and Bacon Peak.

This one-story, one room, 14' x 14' cabin is wood-frame construction and built according to standard Forest Service Lookout House plans from 1932. The floor framing system is supported by and anchored to indigenous rock and cross-braced timber posts on concrete pads. Imprinted in the concrete pads at the foundation are the names of the builders, "C.A. Larsen 9/23/32" and "USFS Wm. Thompson 1932". Cabin includes a catwalk constructed per standard plan with 2 x 4 decking and handrail. A particularly noteworthy feature is the access stair which is constructed around and supported by old tree roots. Typical pyramidal roof is covered with relatively new cedar shingles and galvanized metal ridge flashing. Lightning protection system is in place. Exterior walls composed of two-over-two fixed and pivoting sash with v-groove 1 x 6 shiplap siding below. Window shutters, constructed from 1 x 6 shiplap with varied double-z bracing, are in place except on the east elevation. Some shutters have been purposely removed and stored on site due to concerns based on their difficult and dangerous operation by short-term and transitory users. Shutter support hardware is in place and 2 x 2 shutter bases, which secure to the catwalk rim joists, are stored in the Lookout. Original panel door with four lights above is in place. Typical intact interior finishes are 1 x 4 T & G paneling on walls and ceiling and fir flooring. Standard 2 x 2 interior window supports remain in place. Interior exhibits typical simply constructed original furnishings which include the standard table, cabinets and open shelves and lightning stool and original wood stove. The firefinder and stand have been removed. A turnbuckled cable tie of undetermined origin runs north-south at ceiling level. Alterations of note are limited to minor structural repairs and shutter and firefinder removal.

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SIGNIFICANCE:

Specific Dates: 1932Builder/Architect: Constructed per standard Forest Service Plan L-4 1930 (revised 1932).
Built by C.A. Larsen and Wm. Thompson. Packer Roy Evans.History

Park Butte Lookout was constructed in the fall of 1932 by a small crew of Forest Service personnel which included C.A. Larsen and William Thompson (who both worked as fire lookouts), and a hired carpenter. Roy Evans was the Forest Service packer responsible for packing in bundles of pre-cut construction materials with a team of 7-8 pack horses for this Lookout and for four other fire lookouts constructed between 1932 and 1934. Mr. Evans stated that the materials were supplied by the Aladdin Company, Portland, Oregon, and shipped to Concrete where they were then hauled by truck to the Baker River Ranger Station. Approximately 20 trips were required to then pack the materials to Park Butte. Fire report records from 1926 show that Park Butte was in use for lookout purposes before the construction of a permanent Lookout House. Apparently, the fire guard camped in a tent on the bench below the summit and climbed a tall fir tree on the site in order to "look out." Roy Evans stated that the construction crew blasted the tree out in order to construct the Lookout House and that a portion of the roots still remain and are used to support the entry stair. Some of the difficulties encountered during construction of the Lookout were pre-cut members which were oversized and unexpected heavy snowfall before completion. The Lookout was regularly used for fire detection and suppression purposes until 1961. In 1962, the Skagit Alpine Club, having acquired a special use permit the previous year for Hidden Lake Peak Lookout, entered into a special use permit with the USDA Forest Service for Park Butte Lookout. Since that time this volunteer organization has carefully maintained and used the Lookout for recreational purposes. Roy Evans has continued to visit and work on the Lookout as well. Club members have priority use of the facilities, but otherwise it remains open to hikers and climbers.

Statement of Significance

Park Butte Lookout is an intact example of the typical Plan L-4 Lookout House typically constructed on Region 6 between 1932 and 1936. It is among only a few extant fire lookout buildings on the Forest that once functioned as part of an extensive fire detection and suppression network which served to protect and conserve timber resources for over 50 years. This unaltered and well-maintained Lookout represents a crucial part of that system as a uniquely functional building type which was specifically designed for construction in such isolated and challenging environments as Park Butte.

GEOGRAPHIC DATA:

Acreage: less than one acre

UTM Reference:

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <u>Point</u> | <u>Zone</u> | <u>Easting</u> | <u>Northing</u> |
| A | 10 | 584225 | 5396350 |

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Park Butte Lookout (Building #4003) is located in a portion of SE1/4 of SE1/4, Section 2, T.37N, R.7E, Willamette Meridian. Proposed nomination to include lookout house, related rock and root foundations, lightning protection system and immediate access trail within a 50 foot radius of the center of the Lookout per Green Trails map HAMILTON, WA - NO 45.

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~~

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

1. Evergreen Mountain Lookout

for Keeper William B. Bushong
7/14/87

~~Substantive Review~~

Attest

2. Hidden Lake Peak Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

for Keeper William B. Bushong
7/14/87

Attest

3. Miners Ridge Lookout

~~Substantive Review~~

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

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

Substantive Review

Park Butte Lookout (USDA Forest Service Fire
Lookouts on Mt. Baker--Snoqualmie National Forest
TR
Skagit County
WASHINGTON

Working No. JUN - 8 1987
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88
Date Due: 7/9/87 - 7/22/87
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 Burghart
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

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- 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

Acreege 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: _____



Park Butte Lookout
nr. Sedro Wooley, Washington

Katheryn H. Krafft
August 1986

Katheryn H. Krafft

View northwest of southeast elevation

13 of 25



[REDACTED]

Park Butte Lookout
nr. Sedro Wooley, Washington

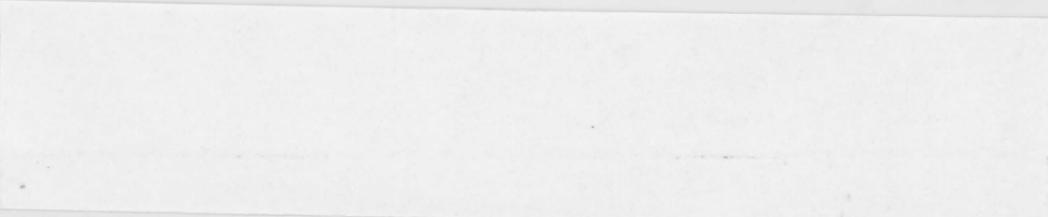
Katheryn H. Krafft
August 1986

Katheryn H. Krafft

Tree root entry stair support

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Park Butte Lookout
nr. Sedro Wooley, Washington

Katheryn H. Krafft
August 1986

Katheryn H. Krafft

Typical fenestration

15 of 25



Park Butte Lookout
nr. Sedro Wooley, Washington

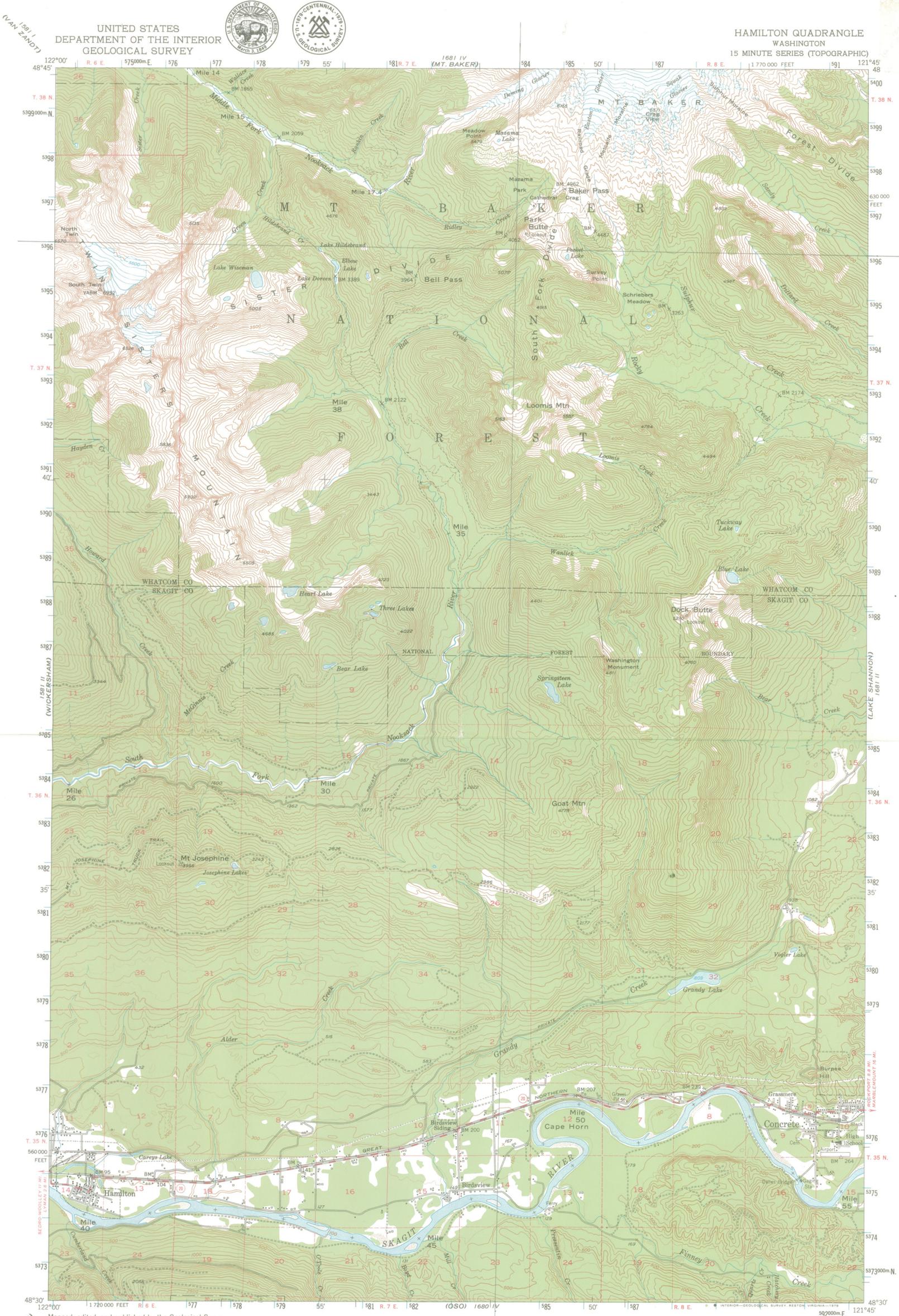
Katheryn H. Krafft
August 1986

Katheryn H. Krafft

Typical interior cabinets

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Park Butte Lookout
nr. Sedro Wooley, WA.
UTM References:
Zone 10
Easting 584225
Northing 5396350



Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1947. Field check 1952
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Washington coordinate system, north zone
Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations
Unchecked elevations are shown in brown
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 10, shown in blue

SCALE 1:62500
0 1 2 3 4 MILES
0 3000 6000 9000 12000 15000 18000 21000 FEET
0 1 2 3 4 5 KILOMETERS

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Medium-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Unimproved dirt - - - - -
State Route ○

CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 50-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

HAMILTON, WASH.
N4830-W12145/15
1952
MINOR CORRECTIONS MADE 1973
AMS 1681 III—SERIES V791

UTM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

QUADRANGLE LOCATION
WASHINGTON

GLEAR LAKE
1580 (WICKERSHAM)

1681 (IV)
1681 (V)

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