DUTCHMAN PEAK LOOKOUT  
(C.R. Job RR-446) 

and 

SQUAW PEAK LOOKOUT  
(C.R. Job RR-1134) 

Heritage Resource Evaluation  
and 

Rehabilitation Project Report  

Jackson County, Oregon  
Applegate Ranger District  
Rogue River National Forest 

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ABSTRACT

Two Forest Service fire lookouts on the Applegate Ranger District, Dutchman Peak Lookout and Squaw Peak Lookout, have been inventoried and evaluated for their historic significance.

Dutchman Peak Lookout is a "D-6" cupola-style lookout, built in 1927, and Squaw Peak Lookout is a "L-4" hipped-roof-style lookout, built in 1943. Both structures retain their physical integrity. Drawing upon information given in a historical context statement, both lookouts are evaluated as meeting criteria "a" and "c" of the National Register. Dutchman Peak Lookout and Squaw Peak Lookout are eligible to the National Register of Historic Places.

Structural rehabilitation (following the Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines) is proposed for both lookouts, as is possible inclusion in the Forest Service's Regional "recreational rental" program (with fees received going to a maintenance/repair fund for each lookout). These proposals are beneficial in nature; they are determined to have "no adverse effect" on the historic lookouts.
I. Purpose and Scope

This brief report inventories the physical character and condition of two fire lookouts: Dutchman Peak Lookout and Squaw Peak Lookout, the last remaining Forest Service lookouts in the eastern Siskiyou Mountains. Further, it discusses the historical background of both structures, provides overall historical context to Forest Service fire detection developments in the Pacific Northwest/southwestern Oregon, evaluates the structures' significance relative to the eligibility criteria of the National Register of Historic Places, and describes the specific measures that would be undertaken as part of structural rehabilitation projects.

II. Physical Setting

Both Dutchman Peak and Squaw Peak are situated in southwestern Jackson County, within the eastern Siskiyou Mountains of southwestern Oregon. They are located approximately six miles apart, and are both within the Applegate Ranger District of the Rogue River National Forest. The surrounding terrain may be characterized as "rugged," with deeply incised stream drainages and steep, densely forested slopes. The Siskiyou Mountains are a "peneplain," the eroded remnant of an uplifted ancient plateau/plain, and hence the summits of most major peaks are of relatively similar elevation—with only a few, such as Mt. Ashland and Dutchman Peak, extending somewhat higher above the surrounding terrain. The geology of the area between the two peaks consists of highly metamorphosed Paleozoic and early Mesozoic Age sediments of the Applegate Formation and Dutchman Peak Melange (e.g., amphibolites at the summit of Dutchman Peak), as well as Mesozoic Age "intrusions" of peridotite-serpentine (such as along the ridge east of Squaw Peak).
Both lookouts provide unobstructed views north (to and beyond the Rogue River Valley), east (of the Cascade Range), south (of California's Mt. Shasta and Klamath River canyon country), and west (of the western Siskiyous) towards the Pacific Coast.

**Dutchman Peak:** Dutchman Peak Lookout is situated at the summit of Dutchman Peak, at an elevation of 7,417 feet above sea level. It is located in the SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of Section 36, Township 40 South, Range 2 West, W.M. Dutchman Peak is the second-highest point in the Siskiyou Mountains (after Mt. Ashland). From its summit, in high-visibility conditions, one can see as far south as Mt. Lassen, and north beyond the rim of Crater Lake and Mt. Thielsen to Diamond Peak. Because the vista from Mt. Ashland's summit (elev. 7,533' a.s.l.) has a large unseen area to the west/northwest (blocked from view by nearby McDonald Peak and Wagner Butte), the panorama from Dutchman Peak is the most distant and inclusive of any from the Siskiyou Mountains.

Dutchman Peak occupies the high point of a major northwest/southeast-trending ridge. The south side of the ridge system drains into the Applegate River's Elliott Creek/Silver Fork Basin watershed, and the north side drains into the Little Applegate River's Yale Creek/Glade Creek watersheds. At its southeast end, the Dutchman Peak ridge system terminates at the Siskiyou Crest, with the Klamath River drainage occupying the far (south) side of the crest. Winters at Dutchman Peak are generally severe, with intense wind and deep snowpack lasting into May or June. By June or July, the mountain is largely snow-free. In summer, the nearest source of water is Dutchman Springs, about 600 feet lower in elevation than the summit.

The slopes of Dutchman Peak and the surrounding terrain have been modified by Pleistocene glaciation; the head of Silver Fork Basin (quite visible to the south from the summit) is a classic glacial cirque with several prominent terminal moraines. An extensive meadow occupies much of the Silver Fork Basin cirque. Vegetation at/near the summit of Dutchman Peak consists of scattered (and typically "krumholz" or snow/wind-stunted) groves of Shatsa red fir and mountain hemlock on the north side of the ridge, and copses of curl-leaf mountain mahogany on the south-aspect slope. The extensive unforested area in the immediate area of the summit supports hardy grasses (e.g., fescue) and mat-form perennial flowering species. The area's vivid display of summer wildflowers is well-known to many local residents, and the Forest Service has designated a portion of Dutchman Peak that contains sensitive plant species as a botanical area. The numerous rock outcrops at the summit have a thick covering of black lichen; briefly each year these outcrops serve as breeding habitat for dense populations of "ladybugs."

Forest Service road 20 and spur road 800 provide access to the lookout. The spur road ends in a small parking area about 50 feet west of the lookout structure. A foot trail connects the parking area with the lookout. Dutchman Peak, because of its location along the Rogue River National Forest's
relatively heavily traveled "Siskiyou Loop Discovery Tour" (FS Road 20), is a
popular stop for summer recreationists. It receives a considerable number of
visitors each year between July and November. The person who staffs the
lookout often acts as an informal Forest Service host/interpreter during these
visits.

Squaw Peak Lookout: Squaw Peak Lookout is situated at the summit of Squaw
Peak, at an elevation of 4,984 feet above sea level. It is located in the
SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of Section 24, Township 40 South, Range 3 West,
W.M. Squaw Peak is a prominent point on the east/west-trending ridge system
that includes Little Grayback Mountain (elev. 5,083' a.s.l.) to the west and
Squaw Mountain (elev. 5,240' a.s.l.) to the east of Squaw Peak. Although not
the highest point on the ridge system, Squaw Peak provides an excellent view of
a substantial portion of the lower-elevation (and most heavily used) sections
of the upper Applegate Valley, between Star Gulch and the Oregon/California
boundary.

The north side of the Little Grayback/Squaw Mountain ridge drains into the
Applegate River's Beaver Creek watershed; the south slope drains into the Squaw
Creek watershed. The Little Grayback/Squaw Mountain ridge system terminates at
its eastern end at Squaw Creek Gap; this is the location of the
northwestern-most (and lowest) part of the Dutchman Peak ridge system. The
significant elevational differences between Squaw Peak and Dutchman Peak result
in notable climatic differences. Winters at Squaw Peak are generally much less
severe than at Dutchman Peak, with the snowpack (except at protected
north-slopes) typically melted by April or May. Summers tend to be hotter and
drier than Dutchman Peak as well.

No Pleistocene glaciation occurred in the vicinity of Squaw Peak. Dry, open
"meadows" and brushfields (dominated by buckbrush ceantothus and greenleaf
manzanita) are extensive on Squaw Peak's southern flank. Mixed-conifer and
true fir forest dominate the upper elevations of the north slope; Douglas-fir,
ponderosa pine, western white pine, and white fir are common. Scrub Oregon
white oak grows near the summit. Comparatively low-elevation Squaw Peak is
located well away from the Applegate Ranger District's high-traffic travel
routes, and the summit access road is usually blocked by a gate. Consequently,
Squaw Peak is visited by very few people; Forest Service employees and deer
hunters probably account for the majority of annual visitors.

III. Structural Description

Dutchman Peak Lookout: Dutchman Peak Lookout, built in 1927, is a standard
wood-frame, "D-6" style cupola lookout, virtually identical in construction to
other cupola lookouts built on the Rogue River National Forest at Mt.
McLoughlin, Hall's Point, Hersherberger Peak, Old Baldy, Rustler Peak, Wagner
Butte, and Windy Peak, and at numerous other places in Oregon and Washington
during the period between about 1917 and 1928. (Oregon and Washington formed District [now Region] Six of the Forest Service, hence the label "D-6" that was given to this distinctive style of lookout.) As with other D-6 cupola structures, Dutchman Peak was built from a pre-cut "kit," (almost certainly purchased from the Aladdin Manufacturing Company of Portland, Oregon).

Dutchman Peak Lookout is a wood-shingled/hip-roofed, balloon-framed structure. The lookout is a "ground cab" (i.e., it has no tower) that rests on a low, mortared-rock foundation. As with virtually all D-6 cupola lookouts, the main (lower) story (which contains the living quarters, and currently houses the fire-finder as well) has a square floor plan measuring 12'x12'. The upper-story "cupola" measures approx. 6'x6' in plan. The lookout's single door is situated in the east facade (adjacent to the southeast corner). Continuous banks of one-over-one windows (four windows per wall, except for the east wall, where the door fills the space taken by a fourth window) occupy most of the structure's "wall" space.

Exterior walls below the main-story windows are covered by gray asbestos shingles (probably added in about 1955-60), which apparently conceal the original horizontal clapboard wood siding. The main-story windows are covered in winter by means of "awning" type (top-hinged) wooden shutters (held open during the fire season by wooden "prop poles" that rest on the railing of the lookout's surrounding catwalk). The cupola windows are protected by bottom-hinged shutters that rest on the main roof when open. The exterior door includes an outer screen door that appears to have been salvaged from an early-twentieth century house and was placed here in the 1980s.

Sawn wood shingles (joined by galvanized sheeting at the hip joints) cover the roof of the lower story and the cupola. The original wire "lightning protection" is not in place over the roof. The lookout is surrounded by a plank-floored catwalk, approx. 3'-wide, with an open railing constructed of 2x4s that rises to 3.5' high.

The interior of the main story has been slightly modified over the years by (a) the addition of half-brick heat protection on the wall and floor in the southwest corner, for the wood-burning heating stove, (b) removal of the original celotex wall-covering material and its replacement with "T-1-11," and (c) installation of some post-1960s furnishings (wood stove, table). Overall, the interior is in original condition: tongue-in-groove flooring, fixed cabinetry, placement of moveable furnishings (i.e., bed, stove, tables) around the perimeter of the main-story floor, celotex walls and Osborne fire-finder pedestal in the cupola. The cupola story is reached by the original fold-down, "trap-door" ladder in the main story's ceiling. The window frames and most of the glass appear to be original as well.

Dutchman Peak Lookout, which has been in active service since its construction, appears to be in relatively good condition. (A detailed condition survey/needs assessment is planned for 1998.) Structurally, the lookout is sound; the
original framing and most of the flooring have weathered the past seventy years quite well. The previously mentioned modifications have changed the historic fabric of the building to some extent. However, the original siding may well be intact and in relatively good condition beneath the asbestos shingles. Water-damaged and missing celotex in the cupola needs to be replaced. Window frames and other exterior woodwork have suffered erosion and splitting; over the years, caulk has been applied in large amounts to these exposed areas. Some floor joists may need replacement/repair.

Two additional, associated structures are located at the summit of Dutchman Peak: a pre-1960 standard Forest Service privy and a small residence/storage structure (built as a garage by the Civilian Conservation Corps in about 1937, and converted to living quarters in 1942 for use by the Aircarft Warning Service (AWS) observers stationed at Dutchman Peak during World War II). The original CCC-built garage was a simple woodframe structure with a slider door to enclose the storage space. (The road to Dutchman Peak, built by the C.C.C. in 1936-37, permitted the lookoutman to drive a vehicle to his duty station; the garage protected the vehicle from autumn snowstorms and provided space to stack firewood and other supplies.) The structure was heavily altered in 1942 to serve as a residence: windows were added; the slider door was replaced with a wall and small hinged door (with a snow vestibule for added protection); and the interior was given a plywood floor, celotex ceiling and walls, and divided into two small rooms. The AWS cabin has been substantially modified since 1960: T-1-11 siding now covers the entire exterior (replacing the horizontal clapboard siding), and the celotex of the interior walls has been replaced with modern sheetrock. The wood shingle roof was replaced by sheetmetal roofing. The original cabinetry and dry sink were also replaced. The privy has fallen over several times, due to severe winds and snow buildup; although still in use, it is not in good physical condition.

(NOTE: Neither the privy nor the AWS cabin are being formally evaluated by this report; however, physical condition and history of modification would argue against NRHP eligibility as distinct structures.)

Squaw Peak Lookout: Squaw Peak Lookout, built in 1943, is a standard, wood-frame, "L-4" hipped-roof style lookout, virtually identical in construction to hipped-roof L-4 lookouts built on the Rogue River National Forest at Mt. Stella, Rustler Peak, Blue Rock, and Butler Butte, and at numerous other places in Oregon and Washington from about 1932 through the 1940s (a few were apparently built in the early 1950s, before the subsequent "R-6" flat-top style became standard). As with other L-4 structures, Squaw Peak was built from a pre-cut kit, purchased by the Forest Service from the Aladdin Manufacturing Company.

The lookout is a wood-shingled/hip-roofed, balloon-framed structure. As with Dutchman Peak, Squaw Peak Lookout is a "ground cab," built without a tower, resting on low mortared-rock footings. As with all L-4s, the single floor served as both fire observatory and living quarters. It measures approximately
14' x 14' in plan. The lookout's single door is situated in the south facade (adjacent to the southeast corner). Banks of 4-pane (2-over-2) fixed-sash windows (five windows per wall, except where the door fills the space taken by a fifth window) occupy most of the structure's "wall" space.

Exterior walls below the windows are covered by gray asbestos shingles (as with Dutchman Peak, these were likely added in the 1950s); these shingles apparently conceal the original horizontal wood (1"x6" single-V rustic) siding. The windows are covered in winter by "awning"-type wooden shutters (1x6 tongue-in-groove flooring, braced with single diagonal cleats), with two shutters per side. In the summer, the shutters are kept open by prop poles that attach to the catwalk floor (i.e., Squaw Peak is not the L-4 variant that has extended ceiling joists that permit the open shutter to be attached to the extenders).

Sawn cedar shingles (5" to the weather, with double courses of shingles along the hips) cover the roof; the roof pitch is 8/12. The lookout is surrounded by a 2x4"-floored 3'-wide catwalk, with 2x4" upright supports and railing. Two sets of wooden steps provide access from the ground, at the north and south sides of the structure.

The interior of the lookout contains the original flooring, ceiling, shelving, and cabinetry. The Osborne fire-finder is in place. As a structure that has not been staffed for many years, it is bare of most other standard furnishings. The interior was last repainted in the early 1970s.

Squaw Peak Lookout, which became an "emergency use only" lookout in 1962, has been regularly maintained and it appears to be in relatively good condition. Structurally, the lookout is sound and no major areas of deterioration are apparent. The catwalk was repaired/replaced (in-kind) in the late 1980s. The addition of asbestos shingles to the walls in the 1950s has changed the appearance from the original; however, it is likely that the original siding remains beneath the shingles and may be in good condition. Re-roofed in the early 1980s, and repainted on a 5-7-year schedule, the lookout has weathered the elements quite well.

A post-1950s standard Forest Service privy is located close to but out-of-sight of the lookout; it is not being evaluated for NRHP eligibility in this report.

IV. History

Broad historical context of the development of Forest Service fire detection systems, including the evolution of various lookout "styles," is given in Section V of the report. Prior to discussing the history of the two lookouts in this section, the following background is sufficient:
The D-6 cupola-style lookout was developed in 1915 (first built on the summit of Mt. Hood, although a similar design may have been first developed in California, or "D-5") and was built at a number of Northwest peaks through the late 1920s. Other designs were built during that period as well, but the "two-story" cupola was the most popular. Beginning in 1929, the agency stopped building cupola structures and began building the single-story L-4 style. From 1929 until about 1933, the standard L-4 was a gable-roofed structure (nicknamed the "grange hall" style); from 1934 through the early 1950s, a nearly identical L-4, except for the change to a hipped roof, became standard. Some of the post-1936 hipped-roof L-4s had extended ceiling joists (for attaching the window shutters), but many did not. By the mid-1950s, the L-4 was replaced by the most recent standard style, the "R-6 flat top," built into the 1960s.

Dutchman Peak: In 1916, Rogue River National Forest assistant forest supervisor Harold D. Foster recommended construction of a lookout on the summit of Dutchman Peak. Although the "seen area" visible from Dutchman Peak considerably exceeded that of lower-elevation Yellowjacket Mountain (about three miles to the southwest), problems with land ownership held up implementation of Foster's suggestion until over a decade later. In the interim, fixed-point fire detection in this portion of the eastern Siskiyous was by means of a "lookout tree" on Yellowjacket Mountain (a crude "crow's nest" built in the top of a Jeffrey pine).

At Dutchman Peak an 80-acre parcel near the summit had passed into private ownership sometime around 1900 (possibly under terms of the Timber Claim Act). Title passed to Jackson County in the late 1910s after the absentee owner (William Spaulding, of Council Bluffs, Iowa) failed to pay long-due property taxes. The Forest Service began proceedings to purchase the land from the county in 1922. The transaction (which involved a quit-claim deed from the county and payment by the Forest Service of $75.00) was thought to have been completed in 1926, and the agency built the lookout the following year. However, the U.S. Attorney in Portland refused to accept title to the land under terms of the quit-claim deed, and the matter dragged on for several years. The April 1930 edition of the Forest Service newsletter stated:

"It looked like a simple transaction...land really worthless, nobody would even pay taxes on it...Meanwhile the record has gained the proportions of a book of federal statutes...The Solicitor and the Attorney General took turns looking a gift horse in the mouth, and when they all got through, we had swapped horses on the road about four times." (Brown 1960)

County Commissioner Alex Sparrow became so exhasperated with the proceedings that he threatened to void the transaction and give "Uncle Sam...notice to fold his tent and move off" the peak. Federal officials formally accepted title to Dutchman Peak about two months later.

While the upper levels of offialdom debated the question of the peak's ownership, the Applegate Ranger District posted Alex Schichtl (who had been the
observer at Yellowjacket Mountain) to Dutchman Peak in the summer of 1927. It is likely that Schichtl, assisted by at least one other person, was the person responsible for building the structure. Schichtl evidently spent each summer at Dutchman until about 1937. The lookout was accessed by trail, and all supplies were brought by packstring.

In the summer of 1937, a 5-man crew of Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees built the garage/woodshed; the Ashland/Applegate "loop road" had been built in 1936-37, providing vehicular access to Dutchman Peak. Robert L. "Slim" Dowell took over lookout duties in 1938. Dowell remained at Dutchman every summer through World War II. He and his wife served as the Aircraft Warning Service (AWS) spotter team from mid-1942 through the fall of 1943. During the summer of 1942, the Forest Service converted the CCC-built garage into the AWS residence. Literally "snow-bound" at the lookout throughout the winter of 1942-43, the Dowells received food and other supplies from supply teams that climbed to Dutchman Peak on nordic skis. Telephone provided the communication link with the Forest Service administrative headquarters at Star Gulch and with the War Department's "AWS Filter Command" in Medford. No Japanese airplanes were seen, although an occasional P-39 "buzzed" the lookout during training exercises. By 1943-44, the development of radar detection made the AWS lookouts obsolete; Dutchman Peak once again was staffed only during fire season. (Note: As part of their regular fire-season duties, Forest Service lookouts continued to report aircraft observations to the Defense Department through 1953.)

Following World War II, recreation use along the Ashland/Applegate loop road increased significantly, and Dutchman Peak became a favorite stopping point for tourists to admire the view and quiz the observer about "life at a lookout." Hal Von Stein, who was stationed at Dutchman Peak from the late 1950s through the 1960s, was an amateur landscape painter and author. He wrote and illustrated a religious inspirational book based on his experiences at the lookout and elsewhere on the Applegate Ranger District; this work was published locally and apparently sold well among Applegate Valley residents in particular.

Dutchman Peak Lookout called in various fires over the years, and daily fire-season weather data was another important duty. By the 1960s-70s, with radio communication supplanting the old Forest Service telephone system, the lookout took on an additional role as southwestern Oregon's major Forest Service radio relay point, passing messages back and forth between parties who could not establish good direct communication. Highly unusual for the remaining Oregon lookouts in general (most of which have been abandoned or used only in emergency situations), Dutchman Peak has been continuously staffed through every fire season since 1927. In 1993 it was nominated and accepted to the National Historic Lookout Register.

Squaw Peak: In comparison to relatively well-documented Dutchman Peak Lookout, there is very little historical background information specific to Squaw Peak.
Lookout. Forest engineering records indicate a construction date of 1943, and fire management records show that it was staffed regularly through 1961, after which it served only during periods of electrical storms during the height of fire season. No lookout roster and no written anecdotes concerning its use are available.

Construction of a lookout on 4,900'-high Squaw Peak probably was undertaken in order to provide improved coverage of the upper Applegate Valley area, particularly the relatively well-settled farming/ranching area from Star Gulch south to the California border. (Dutchman Peak, although it has a very extensive seen-area, is situated at such a high elevation that the lookout could easily miss small, beginning "smokes" in the more heavily used, lower elevation areas of the valley.)

Built as an outgrowth of the Forest Service's massive lookout-construction program during the New Deal of the 1930s, it is likely that a lookout had been recommended and planned for Squaw Peak for some years prior to its actual construction. The nation's entry into World War II ended the manpower availability of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC crews are thought to have built many of Oregon's L-4 lookouts during the Depression/New Deal era). Perhaps the Aladdin "kit" that became Squaw Peak Lookout had been stored at the Ranger District's warehouse compound since 1940 or even earlier, awaiting the personnel to pack the material by horse to the mountain-top (roads did not reach the Squaw Peak vicinity until well into the 1950s) and erect the structure.

Squaw Peak Lookout did not serve as a year-round AWS observation point during the war; Dutchman Peak, despite its difficult winter access, was far better positioned for that role. However, during the summer fire season, spotting and describing all aircraft would have been part of the regular duties at Squaw Peak.

Staffed through the 1950s and into the early 1960s, Squaw Peak Lookout became "obsolete" as the Forest road system proliferated (providing improved fire detection and access) and as increased local aircraft traffic supplemented the visual coverage of the region. Without the excellent radio reception/transmission capabilities of Dutchman Peak, Squaw Peak had no important role as a Forest Service communications facility. Its use since the 1960s has been occasional. During the severe fire season of 1987, Squaw Peak was used to observe fires in the Applegate valley area.

V. Historical Context of Fire Lookouts

This section provides a brief overview of the development of Forest Service lookouts in the Pacific Northwest, with a focus on Oregon. It gives the historical, architectural, and current "preservational" context of lookouts.
sufficient to permit evaluation of the significance and National Register-eligibility of both Dutchman Peak and Squaw Peak lookouts.


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Historical and architectural context: When the National Forests of the Pacific Northwest were first established in the opening years of the twentieth century, protection of the forests from the "waste and ravages" of fire was a major management goal--well in keeping with the conservation tenets of the Progressive Era. Between 1905 and 1909, the earliest rangers spent considerable time "chasing smokes," battling blazes with shovel and axe, and drafting sometimes less-than-willing local residents into aiding this effort. The National Forests were virtually roadless, and the agency spent much of its field efforts during these years in building pack trails to link the remote "guard stations," which served as shelter for seasonal fire guards. Through this initial period, there was little if any organized effort of early, systematic fire detection other than the random efforts of individual Forest Service employees.

The Pacific Northwest's catastrophic fire season of 1910 changed this situation. Immense areas of land were scorched of their timber throughout the region (although Idaho experienced the worst damage from the 1910 fires, Oregon was also hit hard). Dwellings and even whole towns were burned, and over eighty lives were lost. Congress and the public demanded a far more aggressive and effective forest-fire suppression organization. One result of the 1910 fire season was the Forest Service's commitment to developing a "fixed-point detection" system that would entail a network of fire observation, or "lookout," stations.

During the 1910s, the agency established a number of such stations at mountain tops throughout the region. In many cases, the lookoutman stayed at a tent "rag camp" at the nearest spring and hiked each day up to the summit. The Forest Service linked these places to district ranger stations by means of telephone (which entailed at-least yearly repair to the lines due to the effects of snowload and windfallen trees). Some of these first lookouts simply consisted of a barren rock "knob," with no structure. Others involved construction of a crude "crow's nest" in the tallest tree on the peak, usually reached by a rickety ladder nailed to the trunk of the tree. Although some of these early lookouts were log or lumber structures, there was no "standard" design until World War I.
In 1915, the first "D-6" style cupola lookout was built, on Mt. Hood (designed and constructed by local guide Lige Coalman, assisted by Forest Service packer Dee Wright). The Mt. Hood cupola lookout, slightly modified by the manufacturer, became the standard lookout design for the region over the next decade. In 1917, a D-6 lookout was erected on the summit of Mt. McLoughlin, on the Rogue River (then Crater) National Forest, and many others followed during the 1920s. The war period also saw the first women hired to "man" Forest Service lookouts. It is estimated that by the late 1920s (when the D-6 style went out of production), over 200 standard cupola lookouts, Dutchman Peak among them, had been built in the Pacific Northwest (including Idaho and western Montana). The D-6 kit was relatively easy for horses or mules to pack and for an employee armed with a hammer and keg of nails to build; when erected it was efficient and sturdy. Although other styles of lookouts were built in the 1920s (e.g., the steep hipped-roof "Supervisor Halls' special" and the unusual "Cathedral" lookout), cupola lookouts far outnumbered these. A few D-6's were built atop low towers, but most of them were "ground cabs."

The 1920s saw greatly increased recreational use of the National Forests, and hikes "up to the lookout" became popular (and well-photographed) excursions for many Northwestern families. As a standardized structure that was relatively common during this period, the D-6 became the first lookout distinctly associated in the public mind with the Forest Service--and with sometimes romantic attitudes about "life at a lookout."

Although the D-6 had become something of a "signature structure" of the Forest Service by the late 1920s, the agency sought to make lookout kits less cumbersome to pack and easier to build by dispensing with the second-story story and incorporating both living quarters and observatory within a roomier single floor. In 1929, the Forest Service switched to the new single-story "L-4" style, with a gabled roof. A two-pitch gabled roof, requiring fewer pieces and easier to build than a hipped roof, was seen as an increase in efficiency. The gable-roofed L-4s (or "grange halls") were built from 1929 until about 1932. However, the increased strength and stability of the hipped roof in comparison to the gable form, particularly under the heavy snowloads and winter winds of Northwest mountain tops, soon caused a redesign of the L-4: the hipped roof version built from about 1932 through the 1940s (and apparently still being built at a few locations as late as 1954).

The pre-cut hipped-roof L-4s—whether built as a tower lookout or a ground cab—soon became the most numerous kind of lookout in the Pacific Northwest. The bulk of these lookouts were built during the 1930s. The New Deal's Civilian Conservation Corps program provided the personnel and funding to erect over 220 L-4s in Oregon alone. Part of the national response to the Great Depression, the C.C.C.'s assistance permitted the Forest Service to achieve one of its ultimate goals in fixed-point fire detection: double-coverage of most seen-areas (i.e., two reporting lookouts would thereby provide their own fire
locations, which could be triangulated at the Ranger Station to give a more accurate map location).

The National Forests' road system began to expand significantly during the 1930s, and some of the new L-4 kits were brought to the construction site by truck. However, many of the L-4s (e.g., Squaw Peak) were built without aid of direct road access; packstrings and strenuous hikes continued to be a major part of lookout construction and ongoing supply until well after World War II.

Following the national trauma of Pearl Harbor, the fear of enemy aircraft attack led to establishment of the War Department's Aircraft Warning Service in 1942, with substantial Forest Service support and cooperation in the Pacific Coast area. AWS lookouts were concentrated in coastal and adjacent mountainous sections of the Northwest. Two-person teams (typically consisting of married couples) staffed the AWS lookouts on a 24-hour basis, reporting any aircraft sighted or heard, how many engines, direction of flight, altitude, and so on. By no means all lookouts within the AWS "filter" area were drafted into year-round service; the difficulties associated with winter-time supply made this impossible. (For example, within the Applegate Ranger District, out of eight lookout structures available, four--Dutchman, Tallowbox, Cinnabar, and Whisky Peak--served as year-round AWS lookouts.)

After the war, the rate of lookout construction slowed considerably; most of the post-war structures were replacements of older lookouts. With the arrival of the next and "final" lookout design, the "R-6 flat top," in the 1950s, the effect of improved road (and helicopter) access became apparent: The R-6 lookout used substantial-sized material that could not be packed by horse.

The 1950s and 1960s witnessed the ebb of the active fire lookout era in Oregon and elsewhere. Proliferating roads, associated with increased timber harvest levels from the National Forests, provided better access and brought more people into the forest who could report fires. Aerial patrol and improved radio communication in both aircraft and vehicles further lessened the need for fixed-point detection. Numerous lookouts were either abandoned or used only intermittently during this period. Maintenance schedules were reduced or ended, and many of the structures began to deteriorate. A number of Northwest lookout towers were blown down by the 1962 Columbus Day storm and were not replaced. Congressional action in 1965, which made federal agencies liable for personal injury accidents occurring at abandoned government facilities, further affected the fate of many lookouts: "Winter lightning" (i.e., District fire crews sent to burn down a structure) struck a number of them (e.g., on/adjacent to the Rogue River National Forest: Devil's Peak, Anderson Mountain, Windy Peak, Butler Butte, Huckleberry Mountain, Old Baldy, Wagner Butte). Vandalism and the effects of weather on unpainted walls and leaking shingle roofs also took a severe toll on many of the remaining lookout.

With the increased interest in historic preservation during the 1970s, aided by the Forest Service's legally mandated cultural resource management program,
Oregon's remaining lookouts gained appreciation as interesting and significant examples of regional history. Although funding sources were scarce, scattered rehabilitation efforts (often in concert with adaptive use of a lookout as a "recreational rental") took place during the 1970s and 1980s. The Forest Fire Lookout Association (a nation-wide preservation-oriented group) formed in the late 1980s, as did more local groups such as the Sand Mountain Society. The establishment of the privately supported "National Historic Lookout Register" gave further attention to preservation of lookouts.

Currently remaining D-6 and L-4 lookouts: Available inventory data for lookouts within Oregon and the Pacific Northwest tend to be incomplete, inconsistent, and somewhat out-of-date (i.e., some structures have been removed or restored since the last compilation of data). However, based on the best compilations at hand, the following conclusions can be made:

Between 1915 and 1929, over 200 D-6 style cupola lookouts were built in the Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and western Montana area. The total for Oregon alone is not known, but it was definitely in excess of 80 (Swift [1991a] lists 85 of them). Based on Williams (1991), the total number of D-6 (or very similar cupola style) lookouts within western Oregon was at least 45. (This list includes all National Forest, National Park, BLM, state, and local fire-protection district lookouts from the crest of the Cascades west to the coast.) The number of original cupola lookouts remaining in western Oregon is 6, and the total number extant within Oregon as a whole is thought to be currently no more than 8 cupola lookouts.

As for the L-4 hipped-roof lookouts, far more of these were built than previous or later styles. Swift (1991b) lists a total of 305 Oregon L-4s of all kinds (i.e., including the gable-roofed "grange hall" type of 1929-32). Analysis of Williams's (1991) list yields an approximate total of 180 hipped-roof L-4s built in western Oregon. For the entire state, a figure of at least 240 hipped roof structures seems reasonable. Johnson (personal communication) indicates that about 40 of these remain standing in Oregon and retain at least minimum physical integrity; however, most of these structures are (a) tower lookouts, and/or (b) are in very poor condition or have been heavily modified. Approximately 13 ground-cab L-4s (including Squaw Peak) remain in the state.

Whatever the actual numbers, it is quite apparent that the once-common cupola lookouts have become extremely rare. The somewhat more plentiful L-4 hipped-roof lookouts popularized in the CCC era, while not suffering the attrition of the D-6 cupola structures, are also now uncommon.

VI. Evaluation of Significance

NRHP significance criteria for Oregon lookouts: The National Register regulations (36 CFR 60.6) include four main significance criteria for evaluating a property's eligibility to the Register. These can be summarized
as: (a) association with significant patterns and events of history; (b) association with persons of significance in history; (c) representative of the distinctive characteristics of a particular type, period, and method of construction; or (d) has the potential to yield information significant to the study of prehistory or history. In general, Forest Service fire lookouts most appropriately are evaluated according to criteria "a" and "c":

For criterion "a," the specific themes include: (1) historical development of natural resource conservation (in particular, early forest fire protection efforts in the American West); (2) early development of the USDA Forest Service as a major government agency; (3) the New Deal response to the economic emergency of the Great Depression (specifically, the work accomplished by the Civilian Conservation Corps on National Forest System lands); and (4) "home front" activities during World War II (i.e., the Aircraft Warning Service as a security measure taken prior to the development of radar surveillance for enemy aircraft). These four themes comprise patterns and events of the first half of the twentieth century that were of major national, regional, and local significance.

For criterion "c," the general type, period, and method of construction is: standard Forest Service fire lookouts. In this case, the specific types are the "D-6" cupola lookout of ca. 1915-1929 and the "L-4" hipped-roof lookout of ca. 1932-54. Built according to standardized plans and from pre-cut kits, these two lookout types embody the distinctive style, location, appearance, and construction methods of Forest Service fire lookout built during the "lookout era": 1910s-1940s. These kind of extant structures, when of sufficient age and retaining sufficient physical integrity, are distinctively characteristic examples of the history of the American West in general and the National Forests in particular.

Significance Statements for Dutchman Peak Lookout and Squaw Peak Lookout:

Dutchman Peak Lookout is approximately seventy years old. The structure retains its physical integrity; the addition of asbestos siding apparently covers the original siding, and other modifications are minor and few. The lookout site also retains its integrity of association, appearance, location, feeling, etc.: it has been used as a lookout every year since it was built, and the vista from the structure remains an outstanding natural feature. It is associated with criterion "a" themes of natural resource conservation/early forest fire protection, development of the USDA Forest Service, and the World War II "home front" activities of the Aircraft Warning Service. Under criterion "c," Dutchman Peak Lookout is representative of a particularly significant type, period, and construction method of fire lookout: it is one of the last eight remaining D-6 cupola lookouts within Oregon (and one of very few remnant within the wider Pacific Northwest and California region). Dutchman Peak is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places.
Squaw Peak Lookout is a little over fifty years old. The structure retains its physical integrity; the addition of asbestos siding apparently covers the original siding, and other modifications are minor and few. The lookout site also retains its integrity of association, appearance, location, feeling, etc.: although used only intermittently over the past three decades, it is still quite historically recognizable as a fire lookout. It is associated with criterion "a" themes of natural resource conservation/forest fire protection, development of the USDA Forest Service, and the New Deal response to the Great Depression (i.e. as a 1930s-style structure). Under criterion "c," Squaw Peak Lookout is representative of a particularly significant type, period, and construction period of fire lookout; out of well over two-hundred built, it is one of the last forty remaining L-4 hipped-roof lookouts (and the last 12 remaining "ground cabs" of that style) in Oregon. And of these remaining forty structures, Squaw Peak is one of those in better condition. Squaw Peak is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places.

The boundary of the National Register-eligible property at each lookout would include: the lookout structure itself and the immediately surrounding area, encompassing approximately one acre in each case. At Dutchman Peak, the property would include the area of the AWS cabin and privy; although neither of these structures are NR-eligible themselves, any future exterior modifications to or replacements of these two buildings would have to be visually compatible with the historic values of the lookout. Any new Forest Service radio or other communications facilities at the two sites would need to be carefully designed and placed so as not to conflict with the properties' integrity of setting and appearance (36 CFR 60.6 and 36 CFR 800). Non-Forest Service communication facilities placed at or within close sight of these two properties would be inappropriate; they would likely be considered an "adverse effect" under 36 CFR 800.

VII. Rehabilitation Projects and Determination of Effect

Currently, only Dutchman Peak Lookout is formally scheduled for a major rehabilitation effort (FY 1999). Rehabilitation efforts at Squaw Peak could possibly occur within the next few years, either as "piece-meal" projects by Forest Service employees or volunteers, or a part of a comprehensive, funded rehabilitation effort.

Although detailed structural-needs assessments have not yet been done (assessment of Dutchman Peak Lookout is scheduled for July of this year), enough information is available now to present the basic rehabilitation tasks. Following rehabilitation, Dutchman will almost certainly continue to serve as an active Forest Service lookout. Squaw Peak may become a "recreation rental" lookout, with visitors paying a fee to stay overnight; the majority of fees received would go into a maintenance and repair fund for Squaw Peak Lookout. Looking ahead, it is conceivable that Dutchman Peak Lookout could also become a recreation rental property sometime in the future. The Pacific Northwest
Region of the Forest Service has been engaged in a recreational rental program for over ten years; most of the structures involved are historic lookouts and guard stations.

Specific rehabilitation actions will include:

- Removal of existing roofing; replacement with identical size and pattern of cut-wood shingles (Dutchman and Squaw);
- Removal and repair of rotted/damaged sections of original floor; replacement where necessary with identical dimension tongue-in-groove flooring (Dutchman);
- Removal of T-1-11 panelling; replacement with a modern material that, when painted, will give an appearance more similar to celotex.
- Removal of rotted celotex interior wall covering; replacement with a modern material that, when painted, will closely match the original in appearance (Dutchman);
- Removal of 1950s asbestos siding from exterior walls; either exposing original horizontal wood siding (which would be reconditioned/repair and repainted) or (if the original siding is absent or unrepairable) involving full or partial replacement to match the original (Dutchman and Squaw);
- Repair of crumbling mortared-rock foundation/footings (Dutchman and Squaw);
- Repair and partial replacement as-needed of damaged window frames, door frames, and cornices (Dutchman and Squaw);
- Removal of historically incompatible decorative screen door; replacement with a screen door that is purely functional and architecturally compatible (Dutchman);
- Removal or painting of current half-brick protective woodstove insulation in southwest corner and floor (Dutchman);
- Replacement of miscellaneous hardware, interior furnishings, and other items (Dutchman and Squaw);
- Repair of catwalk floor and railing as needed;
- Reinstallation of Osborne fire-finder in cupola story, while retaining current fire-finder in lower story (Dutchman);
- Repainting of exterior in the standard gray, in use since at least the 1940s (Dutchman and Squaw).
All work will be done in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings." These actions will serve to rehabilitate and restore Dutchman Peak Lookout and Squaw Peak Lookout to their historic appearance, internally and externally, while ensuring that they attain safety code requirements for ongoing public use and enjoyment. Any rental program would be implemented in such a way as to preserve the historic values and integrity of the structure.

**Determination of Effect:** The proposed actions---rehabilitation according to the Secretary of Interior's Standards and possible public rental---will not result in alteration to the properties' original historic appearance; nor will it result in incompatible visual, audible, atmospheric, or other intrusions to their setting. It will not result in the neglect of the properties or their transfer out of government ownership. The proposed actions will be of long-term benefit to the properties.

The proposed rehabilitation/restoration of Dutchman Peak Lookout and Squaw Peak Lookout, as well as possible future inclusion in the Region's well-established recreational rental program for historic Forest Service structures, are determined to be "no adverse effect" undertakings relative to 36 CFR 800.

**VIII. References Cited**

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**BROWN, Carroll A.**

**COX, James B.**

**HARTMANS, Donna Marie**

**JOHNSON, Ronald R.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Publisher/Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Lookouts: Firewatchers of the Cascades and Olympics.</td>
<td>Ira and Byron Fish</td>
<td>The Mountaineers. Seattle, WA.</td>
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<td>1991b</td>
<td>&quot;L-4 Style Lookout Inventories for Oregon and Washington.&quot;</td>
<td>USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Deschutes National Forest, Sisters Ranger District.</td>
<td>Sisters, OR.</td>
</tr>
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SQUAW PEAK LOOKOUT

Squaw Lakes 7.5' USGS Quad
**SECTION**
Scale, 1/8" = 1'-0"

**ELEVATION**
Scale, 1/8" = 1'-0"

**JOIST FRAMING PLAN**
Scale, 1/8" = 1'-0"

**FOUNDATION & SILL PLAN**
For Types G-TM & GHP
Except where catwalk is used
(See Note on this sheet)
Scale, 1/8" = 1'-0"

**NOTE**
See detail sheet B-4203
For Sill plan of ground
Type L.O. House with Catwalk.

From: Original plans,
L-L Lookout
USDA FS R-6
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<td>1</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot;, view of west/south</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot;, view of east and south sides (note screen door).</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot;, view of south/west walls, showing asbestos siding.</td>
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<td>Squaw Peak Lookout, view of south and west sides.</td>
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<td>&quot; &quot;, view of east and north sides.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;, view of east and north sides.</td>
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