

THE HORSE RANCH, GENERATOR SHED
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
Joseph vicinity *Eagle Cap Wilderness Area*
Wallowa County
Oregon

HABS No. OR-165-G

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Columbia Cascades Support Office
National Park Service
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Seattle, Washington 98104-1060

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
THE HORSE RANCH (Red's Horse Ranch), Generator Shed

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Location: The Horse Ranch is located within the Eagle Cap Wilderness Area, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The ranch lies in a valley along the Wild and Scenic Minam River in Wallowa County. It is approximately nine air miles northeast of Cove, Oregon and thirteen air miles southwest of Enterprise, Oregon. SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 and the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 36, Township 2S, Range 41E, Willamette Meridian.

The generator shed is more specifically located north of the tack shed in the lawn area and is in the central part of the building complex.

Significance: The generator shed is significant as it relates to the building complex and for representing the introduction of electricity to the Horse Ranch in 1946. Being the only source of electricity in such a remote area, the gas generator provided lighting for guests to read and socialize in the evenings. The small frame building housed the generator. It is currently (1996) used for storage.

According to the Determination of Eligibility for the National Register (letter dated, May 1, 1996) between the State Historic Preservation Office and the U.S. Forest Service, the generator shed is a non-contributing building within the Horse Ranch complex.

Description: Approximately 5' x 8', this pole frame building is sheathed with hand-split shakes. The roof structure, covered with hand-split shakes, is a simple open truss system which is supported with small log purlins. The eave projecting over the front (east) elevation is deeper than on the rear (west) elevation. The building has no foundation and has a dirt floor. An off-center door opening is on the front (east) elevation, a large window opening is on the north elevation, and a small slatted vent is on the south elevation. The building is in fair condition.

Historical Context:

The structure houses a defunct gas generator and currently serves as a storage facility. According to Richard Cason (former resident), the shed was built in 1946-47 to house the gas generator. The gas generator supplied only electricity to power lights. The construction of this building marks the beginning of electricity at the ranch.

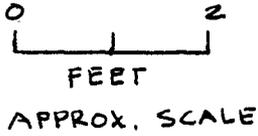
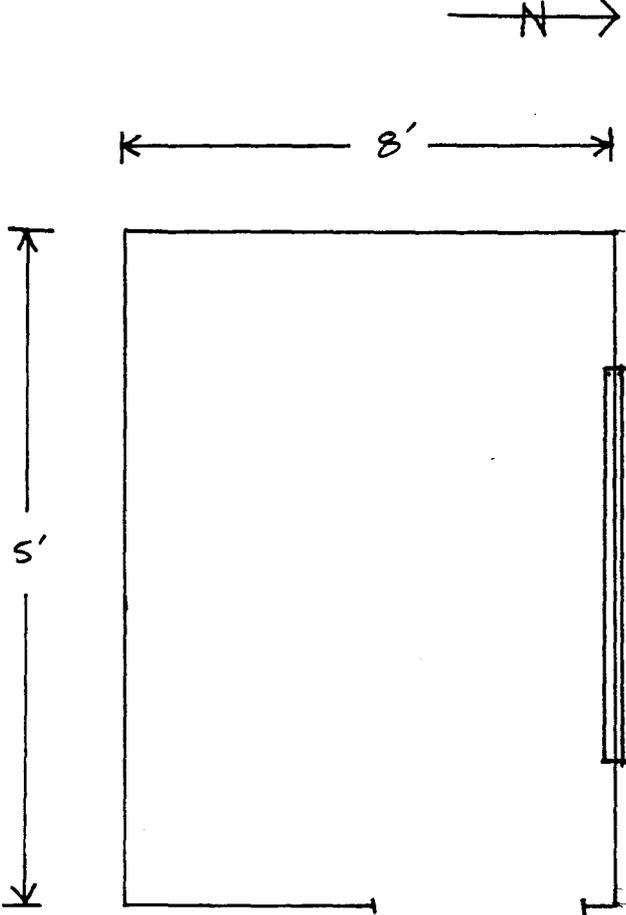
Sources: Cason, Richard, 8/12/96, Elgin, Oregon, former wrangler and pilot for Red's Horse Ranch, interviewed by Kimberly Lakin. Womack, Bruce, 8/96 and 10/96, Enterprise, Oregon, Eagle Cap Wilderness Area, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, National Register Determination of Eligibility. Site analysis by Kimberly Lakin and Sally Donovan, August 1996.

Project Information:

In 1994, the Horse Ranch (Red's Horse Ranch) was acquired for inclusion in the National Wilderness System by the USDA Forest Service. As a result of the property acquisition, the USDA Forest Service is preparing an Environmental Analysis Report and Future Use Determination for the site. This process will enable the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest to establish management direction and priorities for the property. As part of the environmental analysis, a Determination of Eligibility report was completed in the spring of 1996.

Project Supervisors: Contracting Officer R.A. Cunningham, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and Bruce Womack, Contracting Officer's Representative, Eagle Cap Wilderness Area, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

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