

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

HABS No. OR-165-Q

HABS  
ORE  
32-JOSV,  
1Q-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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

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

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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 smokehouse sits north of the sauna.

**Significance:** The smokehouse, built ca. 1947, is significant as it relates to the building complex. A smokehouse is an essential support structure to a ranch facility. The smokehouse is one of the accessory buildings that were used in the preservation of food at the ranch.

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 smokehouse is a non-contributing building within the Horse Ranch complex.

**Description:** This wood frame structure measures 4' x 4' and is 5' high. It is sheathed with horizontal wood planks and has a low-pitched gable roof which is covered with hand-split wood shingles. The front door is made of vertical wood planks. On the rear (west) elevation and underneath the building is a small cast iron stove door which opens into a wood burning area, big enough to slide logs into. As the smoke rises into the building, it smokes the meat. The structure is in good condition.

**Historical Context:**

Constructed ca. 1947, the smokehouse was used to smoke primarily fish, although meats and sausage was also smoked (Cason). The smokehouse was referred to in the 1947 *Oregonian* article about the Horse 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.

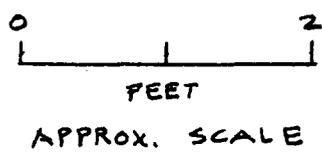
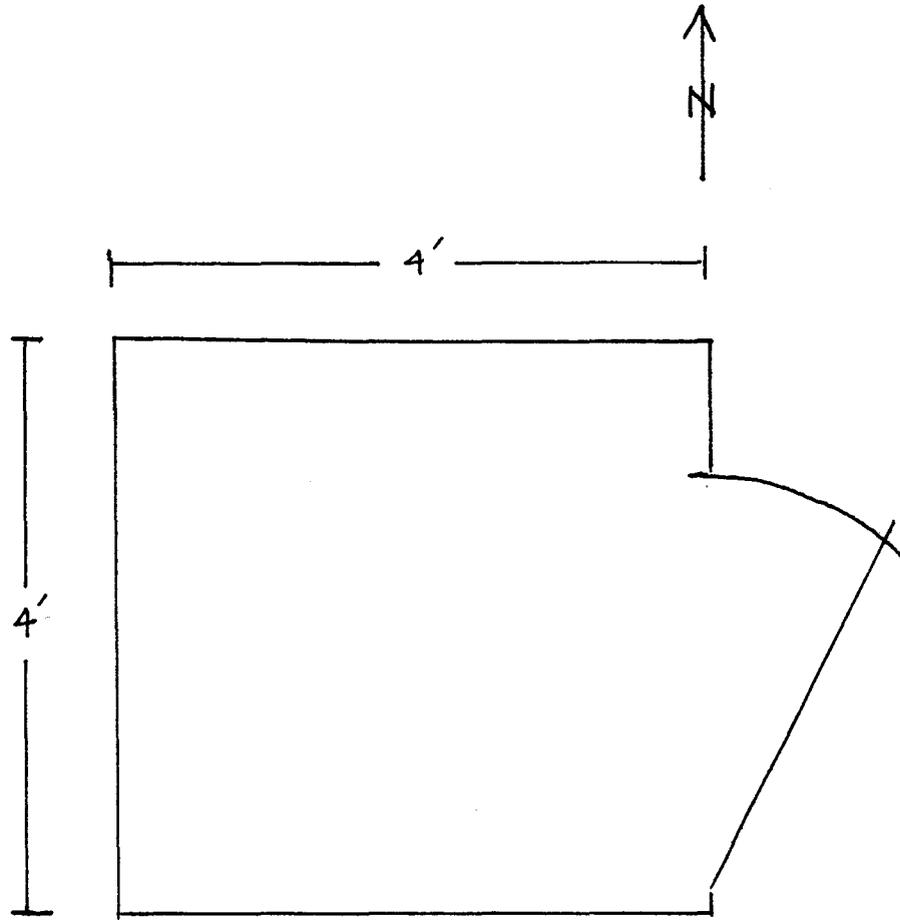
**Project Information:**

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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SMOKEHOUSE