

THE HORSE RANCH, MILLARD RANGER
STATION PRIVY
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
Eagle Cap Wilderness Area
Joseph vicinity
Wallowa County
Oregon

HABS No. OR-165-AF

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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), Millard RS Privy

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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 Millard Ranger Station privy is located at the southwest end of the airstrip, south of the Millard Ranger Station cabin.

Significance: The Millard Ranger Station privy was an integral part of the operations of the National Forest. The cabin, constructed prior to 1917, was used by forest rangers in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The cabin and associated privy represent the presence of the Forest Service in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The station's name is linked to the Horse Ranch; the second owner of the ranch was named Millard.

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 Millard RS Privy is a contributing building within the Horse Ranch complex.

Description: The Millard privy is a small building measuring approximately 7' N.S and 4' E.W. The privy is constructed of peeled horizontal logs (probably lodgepole pine), butted and nailed to corner posts (not notched). The southern half of the structure, containing the privy, is covered with a gable roof sheathed with shingles. The privy has no door. An U-shaped entrance, on the northern side, shelters the interior space. The privy has a thick wooden plank floor.

Historical Context:

Edwin and Minnie Millard owned the Horse Ranch from 1901 to 1911. It is unclear whether this cabin and privy were built by the Millards or simply named this by the Forest Service because it was near the Millard property. The former is the most likely since the building has always been under USFS ownership. According to Bruce Womack, Forest Service Archeologist, "Although located in a state school land section, (36), the land on which the cabin lies was probably set aside as an administrative site shortly after the Wallowa Forest Reserve was withdrawn in 1902. A 1913 Forest Service map of the Minam National Forest identifies the site as the Millard Ranger Station." (Womack)

The privy was probably built after the construction of the Millard Ranger Station cabin. The construction methods are different and represent a more recent (1960s to 1980s) building technique.

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.

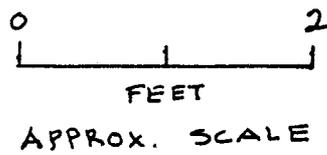
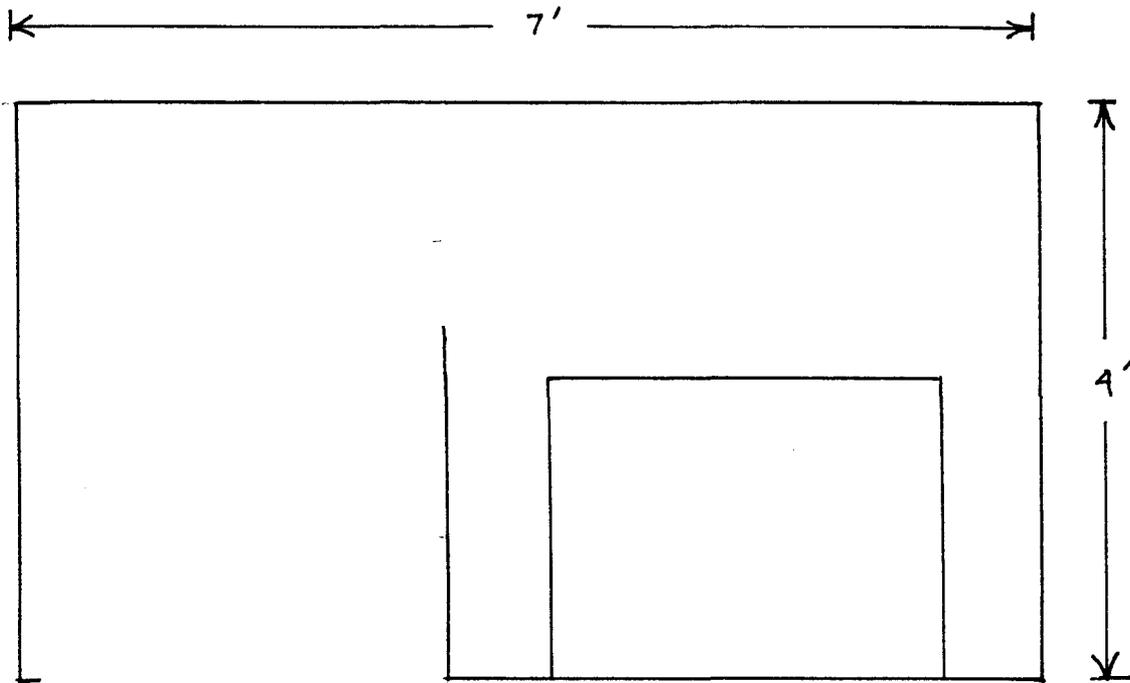
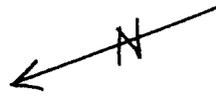
Project Information:

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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