

WIND RIVER ADMINISTRATIVE SITE  
Gifford Pinchot National Forest  
Near Lookout Mountain Road  
Carson Vicinity  
Skamania County  
Washington

HABS WA-232

HABS  
WA-232

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
909 First Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## **Historic American Buildings Survey**

### **Wind River Administrative Site**

**HABS No. WA-232**

- Location:** Northeast  $\frac{1}{4}$   $\frac{1}{4}$  Section of the Southwest  $\frac{1}{4}$  Section of Section 27, Township 4 North, Range 7 East. U.S.G.S. Stabler 7.5' Quadrangle, 1983 Provisional Edition.
- Present Owners:** United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest; Skamania County.
- Present Occupants:** USDA Forest Service; Wind River Public Development Authority (Skamania Co.); multiple rental tenants.
- Present Use:** Mixed Use, including residential, administration, storage and maintenance facilities, former tree nursery fields, and arboretum.
- Significance:** The Wind River Administrative Site, involved in a 186-acre land conveyance to Skamania County in March 2002, is representative of the importance of the federal land management within the Pacific Northwest Region. It contains structures and sites that represent the development of the Forest Service from its beginning, including early Forest Service structures and sites, CCC era structures, an 11-acre Arboretum, and the original Wind River Nursery fields. Forestry practices were developed and refined as a result of experiments at the Administrative Site, practices that have shaped present-day forestry and silviculture operations.

## **PART I. PHYSICAL SETTING**

The components of the Wind River Administrative Site are both diverse and multifaceted. Its use for a variety of purposes over a long period have resulted in a layered fabric of building stock. Buildings have come and gone at the Administrative Site, and the remnants of past activities are often built upon or disturbed by those that followed. However, the site contains representative structural examples from throughout the development of the site from its inception, mirroring the development of the Forest Service as an agency from its beginnings to the present day.

The Administrative Site is on the banks of Trout Creek, an easterly flowing tributary of the Wind River. The Wind River valley is wide and flat, heavily forested where the land has not been cleared. The area is reached by way of the Wind River Highway from Carson, Washington, then west on Hemlock Road from the unincorporated community of Stabler. About one mile from Stabler, Hemlock Road bends to the south and after it crosses the Trout Creek bridge and enters the Administrative Site it becomes Chapman Avenue. The Wind River Administrative Site is bounded to the north by Trout Creek and Hemlock Lake, Lookout Mountain Road (Forest Road #41) to the west, and the line of trees at the eastern edge of the former nursery fields forms the east boundary. The southern boundary includes the nursery fields, running east-west just south of the 11-acre Arboretum between the former nursery fields and Lookout Mountain Road.

## **PART II. HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

The earliest non-native settlement of the lower Wind River area began as a result of the 1850 Donation Land Act. These early settlers engaged in stock raising over the bottom land near the Columbia River as well as timber harvesting (Bloomquist 1985:3). Timber has played a vital role in the local economy ever since, and timber harvest and forestry practice improvement played a critical role in the development of the Wind River complex.

A water-powered sawmill was completed in the late 1870s near present-day Carson, Washington (Sinclair 2004:79). By 1880 a larger steam-powered sawmill was in operation. Henry Metzger, an early settler in the area, reported that the mill harvested timber from more than a thousand acres in the surrounding area (Bloomquist 1985:4). The early logging strategy in the area for procuring timber stands was to place settlers on the land until the timber was cut, a strategy which was a direct result of the Donation Land Act. By 1886 over 1200 acres had been logged using this strategy, and the mill left the valley. Families once employed in the mill now settled on the logged over land in the valley flats.

The area in the middle and upper valley was made more accessible in 1890 with the completion of a bridge across the Wind River, originally located one-half mile upstream of the current bridge. This original bridge washed out, however, and for a time the only

access to the “middle flats” and upper valley was by way of a cable crossing. Several pioneers were present in the “middle flats” across the river from Carson by 1899, with settlers’ cabins reaching as far up the valley as Soda Springs (McClure and Mack 1999b:25). Early settlers in the middle and upper valley included a group of millworkers from Bridal Veil, Oregon, including Frank Howard, George Warren, and John Hollis. Bernard Erickson filed a Homestead Claim in 1898 on the parcel of land that would eventually become the Wind River Administrative site.

Many of these early residents of the middle and upper Wind River valley filed homestead claims with timber speculation in mind, as logging formed the basis of the local economy. However, some farmers remained in the valley, growing crops and raising stock. All but Elias J. Wigal sold out to either the Storey and Keeler Lumber Company or the Skamania Boom Company between 1900 and 1902. Between these two companies, which may have been jointly owned, much of the valley was devoted to timber harvesting.

In early 1902 the Storey and Keeler Lumber Company changed its name to Wind River Lumber Company, and the Skamania Boom Company became a subsidiary corporation of the Wind River Lumber Co. in the same year. The Wind River Lumber Co. continued to purchase private land in the upper valley, and by 1910 the Skamania Boom Co. had sold them its holdings. The Wind River Lumber Co. now owned the majority of the private land in the upper valley and had control over the primary means of transporting timber out of the valley, resulting in a virtual monopoly on timber harvesting in the Wind River drainage (McClure and Mack 1999b:26).

The Wind River Lumber Company focused its efforts on their recently acquired lands, making improvements in the most practical method of transporting the logs out of the valley. This method employed a series of splash dams, used under the state permit granted to the Skamania Boom Company and now owned by the Wind River Lumber Company (Tolfree 1984:4-5). The largest of the dams was located on the Wind River at the site of Logging Camp 1 in Section 15 of T4N R7E. The Panther Creek dam was located just below the confluence of Panther and Cedar creeks, and the Trout Creek dam was located at the site of Camp 3 on what is now the site of the Wind River Administrative complex.

The Camp 3 splash dam was placed at a natural constriction in Trout Creek. According to Jurgen Thomsen (1974), the builder employed to construct the first nursery structures in 1911 and 1912, the dam logs were “adzed and hewed to fit snug” with gates on the upstream side. The windlass mechanism at this set of gates had a 16 foot sweep to reel in the cable and open the gates. Thomsen estimated that approximately 65,000 board feet of timber was used to construct the splash dam at Trout Creek. A bridge was constructed over this dam using full length logs that ran between the two banks of the creek. Accompanying the dam on the north bank of Trout Creek was the fully equipped Camp 3. The camp consisted of at least eleven buildings, including an office, cookhouse, two bunkhouses, a filing shed, and a barn. This camp was abandoned in 1910, and the camp buildings had all been either demolished or burned by 1920.

Settlement in the upper Wind River valley was limited in 1897 by the creation of the Mt. Rainier Forest Reserve. Set aside by President Grover Cleveland, this area was administered by the Department of the Interior until 1905, when jurisdiction was transferred to the Forest Service under the Department of Agriculture. The Forest Service, headed by Gifford Pinchot, designated the lower portion of the Mt. Rainier Forest Reserve as the Columbia National Forest (renamed the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in 1949). Proper timber management was a priority under the Forest Service, and included sale of timber ready for harvesting.

The Wind River Lumber Company was awarded an early contract on the national forest lands in 1906, which included a portion of the 1902 Yaacolt Burn. This fire burned over much of the Wind River drainage, and the company expanded its operations to include salvage logging of the fire-damaged timber areas. The 1906 sale was the first large timber sale on national forest lands in the Pacific Northwest, and was guided by Forest Supervisor H.O. Stabler. He described the sale in a 1910 Special Fire Report as follows:

On May 10, 1906, a timber sale was made to the Wind River Lumber Company involving the sale of timber in T4N R7E. The sale was finally closed in September, 1909, with a total cut of 14,626,520 board feet, with a total value of \$12,921.89. The sale of November 21, 1906 made also to the Wind River Lumber Company in the above mentioned township is now in operation, and the report of timber cut up to and including October 29, [1910] shows a total cut of 9,054,920 board feet, with a total value of \$13,248.39. There is a large amount of mature timber adjacent to the present sale area, and it is hoped that another sale can be made to the same company in the near future (Stabler 1910:13).

The establishment of the Mt. Rainier Forest Reserve, encompassing 80% of the land in Skamania County, led to the appointment of local men as Forest Rangers. Horace Wetherell, one of the early settlers of the middle flats in the Wind River valley, was appointed Assistant Forest Ranger in June of 1902. His duties primarily included suppression of forest fires and the prevention of illegal timber harvesting on public lands, but essentially he served as a custodian, working out of his home (McClure and Mack 1999b:32). Wetherell resigned in 1904 as Forest Ranger, and was replaced by another early homesteader in the area, Elias Wigal. Wigal, like Wetherell, initially worked out of his home as there were no Ranger Station offices at the time. Wigal established the Hemlock Ranger Station to effectively administer the 1906 timber sale to the Wind River Lumber Company, and built a small one-room structure covered with shakes to serve as the first Ranger Station (Mack and McClure 1999b:6). The name "Hemlock" was given to the station due to an abundance of that species in the immediate area. The station was located on the south side of Trout Creek, near the site of the Wind River Lumber Company's splash dam. In 1908 a more substantial structure of large, split cedar logs covered with shingles had been constructed for use as a Ranger Station, and the original building was delegated to serve as the log scaler's office.

The 1909 inspection report for the Columbia National Forest included a detailed description of the second Ranger Station built by Wigal at Hemlock. It was two stories high, constructed entirely of hewn cedar logs four inches thick and from 14 to 26 inches wide (McClure and Mack 1999a:20). It had a cedar shake roof, brick chimney, and split and shaved shingles served as cladding for the exterior walls. There were three rooms on each level, with office space as well as living accommodations. This report also describes the preparations for a new barn at the Ranger Station to house tools, horse feed, and the rangers' horses.

In the fall of 1909 plans were laid for the development of a nursery on level ground just south of the Hemlock Ranger Station. It was proposed by Julius Kummel, the Planting Assistant in the Forest Service District Office in Portland. The nursery was to be located within the 160 acres allotted for the Hemlock Ranger Station administrative site. The primary objective for this nursery would be the reforestation of areas denuded by the 1902 Yacolt Fire and the Bull Run fire of the 1890's in the Mt. Hood National Forest. The conceptual plan for the nursery stated:

While the reforestation of the denuded areas on the Bull Run watershed for the conservation of Portland's water supply will be given first consideration, there are other areas of large extent upon the Columbia National Forest which are badly denuded, and which should be given early attention. (Kummel 1909)

The nursery fields were to be prepared in areas which had been previously burned in the Yacolt Fire and then logged by the Wind River Lumber Company to ease the effort in clearing the land. The Hemlock Ranger Station site was considered ideal because of its close proximity to the two forests of greatest concern, its suitable soil and climatic conditions, and its accessibility to nearby towns and shipping points including the recently completed Northern Pacific Railroad on the Washington side of the Columbia River.

Reforestation, at the time of the establishment of the nursery, was in its infancy and experimental in nature. With the primary objective to assist in the recovery of burned areas, it was also beginning to be realized that logged areas needed to be restocked if timber was to succeed as a renewable resource. This second objective was a result of just over thirty years of rapid growth in the logging industry of the Pacific Northwest, as the 1882 completion of the Northern Pacific transcontinental railroad made it possible for Pacific Northwest lumber to be shipped to eastern markets in great quantities, filling the void left by the depletion of timber in the Great Lakes region. The San Francisco earthquake of 1906 also accelerated demand for Pacific Northwest timber, and as a result of these two increases in demand vast tracts of land were stripped of their timber, much of it on National Forest lands. The nursery's experiments and sapling stock were hoped to make reforestation efforts economically feasible throughout the region.

As the local Forest Ranger, Wigal was responsible for implementing Kummel's nursery plans. On November 29, 1909 he was authorized to hire three men to begin grubbing the nursery site, which was to encompass five acres (Wigal 1909). Assistant Forest Ranger

Charles Miner was placed in charge of the nursery in April of 1910, working closely with other rangers assigned locally within the district (McClure and Mack 1999a:23). Ties between the District and the Nursery remained close in the early years. There were at the time only three Rangers on the Columbia National Forest, and one of those Rangers (Miner) was devoted full time to the Nursery operation.

The five acres were cleared by the middle of 1910. This had required blasting and clearing out stumps, filling the holes left behind, and plowing and leveling the land. The first seeds were planted that year, according to Kummel's plan that a rotation of two years in a seed bed and one year in a transplant bed would be required. The five acres were planted with a wide variety of species, including black walnut, hickory, white ash, box elder, red oak, European larch, western white pine, Douglas fir, noble fir, red cedar, and Norway spruce among other varieties (McClure and Mack 1999a:23). The initial capacity of the Nursery was limited to one million coniferous trees, considered to be enough to plant 570 to 800 acres per year. Initially it was hoped that the hardwood species could be successfully introduced into the Pacific Northwest, but this endeavor was very unsuccessful and it became readily apparent that expertise in nursery practice and knowledge of the suitability of species was necessary.

1911 saw the first of the seedlings shipped from the Nursery, as well as a replacement for Miner (McClure and Mack 1999a:24). Forest Assistant Arthur Wilcox was placed in charge, and under him a new office/residence was constructed for the Nursery, as well as a warehouse building in the nursery field. Jurgen Thomsen was hired to frame these two structures, and beyond this all the work was completed by the Rangers and Guards working at the Nursery (Thomsen 1974). The next year a large storehouse was completed to replace the original 1911 structure which had collapsed during the previous winter due to snow loads, as well as a mess hall capable of serving 30 to 40 men. An additional 5 acres was cleared in 1912 as well, allowing the nursery to increase its output to two million seedlings by 1914.

The nursery effort was experimental, and in May of 1912 C.R. Tillotson was sent to the Nursery from the main Forest Service office in Washington, D.C. to begin a study program (McClure and Mack 1999a:25). This program was aimed at improving the nursery techniques, and was turned over to C.P. Willis of the Portland office later that same year. The experimental nature of the Nursery work resulted in the establishment of the Wind River Experiment Station on July 1, 1913. Under the supervision of Thornton Munger and J.V. Hoffman (in charge on site), the Experiment Station and Nursery worked closely together to develop a basic body of knowledge on which modern reforestation and tree growing practices are based. Early experiments and research focused on improved nursery techniques, tests on methods of reforestation by seeding and planting, experiments on the best season for planting, and a Douglas fir seed source study (Herring and Greene 2001:42-43). Additional research was completed on controlling rodents, seed storage, a study of regeneration plots on cutover land, and the development of the arboretum.

The Wind River Arboretum was officially established in 1913, yet it had its roots in 1912 just before the Experiment Station was established. Trees planted adjacent to the Nursery in 1912 and 1913 were moved to the present Arboretum location in 1914. According to T.T. Munger, the Arboretum was established with a threefold purpose, including:

- 1) To test the behavior of the arborescent species of the world in this locality under natural conditions, where soil and climate is typical of much of the lower altitudes of the western slopes of the Cascade Range in Oregon and Washington, in the hope that the suitability or unsuitability of exotic species for forest purposes may be demonstrated;
- 2) To create a museum of living trees where the student of dendrology could observe them and make collections;
- 3) To have at this important center of forestry activity an exhibit of many kinds of trees which would be of interest and educational value to the general public and visiting foresters. (Munger 1932)

The first plantings in the Arboretum were not made according to any particular taxonomic arrangement. The current system was implemented in 1925, in which the area is organized according to genera with between 16 and 25 specimens of each species planted 12 to 15 feet apart, not in rows (Silen and Woike 1959). As noted in the early work of the Nursery, hardwood species fared so poorly in the local climate that only conifers were added to the Arboretum collection after 1928. The Arboretum's needled pines were seriously damaged by white pine blister rust between 1928 and 1931, and 1939 and 1941. Many of these trees were killed or deformed by the disease, and these as well as those that were stunted due to their unsuitability to the climate have been left standing to provide contrast to the more successful species. The trees remain as visible evidence to the visitor of the suitability of particular tree species to local climatic conditions. The trees are left to fend for themselves in the local climate, and are not protected or helped in any way. They are left to develop naturally.

The Wind River Arboretum is the oldest in the Pacific Northwest, and the only one established by the Forest Service in Oregon and Washington. From its establishment in 1913 to the present it has grown from less than an acre to over 11 acres, and presently contains 620 different species of trees from around the world. It houses one of the largest collections of spruce species in the world, and for many years had the largest collection of true firs.

The building stock that remains from this early development includes the two residences constructed in 1912 and 1913, buildings #1054 and #1053, respectively. These two structures, originally constructed to serve as housing for the Wind River Experiment Station, remain occupied to this day and serve their historic function. Building #1054 served as an office and laboratory, with the upstairs used as a residence during its first year. Its construction was funded and directed by T.T. Munger, and it was completed prior to the official establishment of the Experiment Station. Building #1053 was initially the Director's Residence, first occupied by J.V. Hoffman. Both have been determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as they retain

integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association with the early development of the complex. Stylistically, they embody the feeling of the Arts and Crafts movement, common in residential construction of the time. Although they are not of the highest design, they possess elements that reveal the ideals of the period. They were intended to be more modest versions of the style, with symmetrical massing on a smaller scale. These buildings fit well within the physical context of the site as they do not stand out as significant intrusions upon the landscape due to their simplified forms and limited scale. These structures were officially transferred to the Wind River Ranger District in 1957.

Prior to 1915, a number of buildings were constructed for the Ranger District, Nursery, and Experiment Station. The Ranger District constructed two buildings in 1906 and 1908 that served as administrative buildings, a third administrative building in 1912, a Ranger's Residence in that same year, a blacksmith shop in 1914, and a log cabin in 1915. The blacksmith shop was shared with the Nursery operation, which also constructed a combination office and residence in 1911, a woodshed that was later used as a garage, and a combination storehouse and bunkhouse in 1911, as well. A storage and packing shed was added by the nursery in 1913, a bath house, meat house, and toilet in the nursery fields in 1914, and three residences in 1914. The residences began as tent platforms or sheds in 1914, but by 1921 were referred to as bunk cabins and by the 1940s were called residences. A barn constructed in 1912 served all three divisions at the Administrative Site. The Experiment Station added to the building fabric from before its official establishment, constructing a greenhouse and garage/woodshed structure in 1912. These early buildings no longer exist at the Administrative Site, resulting in a limited and valuable few resources from the initial period of site development. Table 1 lists these structures in chronological order of construction, and notes their date of removal or destruction if known.

Three separate entities were now officially present at the Wind River Administrative Site: the Ranger District, the Nursery, and the Experiment Station. The Nursery and Ranger District were separate Forest Service units on the Columbia National Forest from 1910 on (after the hiring of Miner to direct the Nursery operation), and the Experiment Station was managed by the District Office (now the Regional Office) in Portland. After 1924 the Experiment Station was administered by the Washington Office. These three distinct entities co-existed on the site, sharing some structures while having other unit specific buildings. All three agencies had their own budgets, and for the most part their own facilities, even though there were some crossover structures such as the barn, mess hall, and power plant.

A storage cellar built as one of the original Nursery buildings, also remains from this era, typical of coolhouses of the day. Nestled into a low rise, the building (#1527) was once part of a complex forming a single residence but is now all that remains, with the exception of the sequoias that mark the location of the original approach to the main house.

The importance of the Nursery continued to be realized by the Forest Service. By 1914 the Forest Service realized that the commercial seed used by the Nursery was not faring well, because commercial seed companies collected their seed at low altitudes. That year marked the start of a change in the Nursery operation, as the Forest Service now collected the majority of the seed used at the Nursery from higher elevations, where most of the nursery stock was planted. The irrigation system, established in 1910, continued to be expanded as water was diverted from nearby Martha Creek. This system was critical to the success of the Nursery operation as the summers could produce extended periods of drought in the Wind River valley.

The Forest Service building campaign continued throughout the 1910s and into the 1920s, with the addition of many utilitarian structures to assist the Nursery and Ranger District operation. These structures, now lost with the exception of the lower lunch room (#2325) and the battery house (#1552), included storehouses, woodsheds, a tree storage building, a manure shed and cistern, a bath house, a packing shed, a log bunkhouse (built in 1915), tool house, wagon shed, cone kiln, three tent platforms, and a machine shed (Mack and McClure 1999:10, 12-13). A filing shed was constructed behind the Ranger Station office in the mid-1920s. This building was salvaged from the recently abandoned Wind River Lumber Company's Camp 9. It was loaded on a flat car and taken to Camp 8, where the splash dam on the Wind River was located. The building was dismantled at Camp 8 and hauled to the Hemlock Ranger Station, where it was reassembled. About this time, approximately 1926, the Ranger Station office was moved away from the Ranger's residence about 30 feet to the south, giving it a prominent position on Chapman Avenue. While the lower lunch room and battery house remain, many other buildings were lost. See Table 1 for a complete list of structures no longer present at the Administrative Site.

All of the Nursery buildings were wired to have electric lights in 1924, fed by the hydroelectric plant at Trout Creek that was started in 1923 (Mack and McClure 1999:13). Electrification was complete by the spring of 1925, and the three component parts present at the complex shared the responsibility of operating the plant. The Ranger Station, Experiment Station, and Nursery were each responsible for operating the plant for four months out of the year. By this time the Nursery operation had grown to include 14 acres.

One of the most prominent landscape features of the Nursery complex, besides the fields and Arboretum, also had its start in this early stage of development. In 1915 a row of broad leaf maple trees was planted on each side of Chapman Avenue, the main transportation artery of the complex. The road was laid out in 1910, and named for C.S. Chapman, the District Forester for Oregon and Washington from 1909 to 1911. The 72 trees used were about 8 years old at the time of the planting, and were topped to about nine feet tall (Mack and McClure 1999:45). Five of the trees died the first year, but the remainder survived. These trees still exist today, framing the streetscape of Chapman Avenue and giving the Nursery a residential feel. The planting of the maples followed the 1912 planting of a Norway spruce hedge along the west side of the nursery fields along the south end of Chapman Avenue. Also in 1912, a trimmed hedge of giant

sequoias was begun in front of the Experiment Station residences and the giant sequoias that flank the entrance to these structures' walkways were planted as well.

A major change at the complex in the 1920s was the absorption of the Wind River Experiment Station by the Pacific Northwest Forest Experiment Station in 1924. The experimental facilities at the Nursery were designated a field work center with Leo Isaac placed in charge. Under Isaac, the earlier long term experiments were continued and several new studies, including work on Douglas fir crop spacing, regional races of Ponderosa pine and seed storage, were instituted. The Nursery continued to benefit greatly from the presence and early work of the Experiment Station. As the Experiment Station grew, it became oriented more toward the planting, growing, and harvesting of trees in the forest rather than at the Nursery itself. The Nursery operation continued to refine and expand their practices through experimentation as the Experiment Station's focus shifted to the forest setting. The main goal of the Nursery experimentation was to increase seedling survival and growth (Herring and Greene 2001:42-43). The techniques developed by the Nursery's experiments were responses to specific problems encountered in the operation of the Nursery, such as damage by heat and frost, survivability of stored seed, pest control, fertilization, and removal and packing of seedlings for transplanting. By solving many of the problems inherent to the growth of large quantities of tree seedlings for reforestation, the Wind River Nursery's leadership in the field was continuous and distinctive throughout the life of the operation.

The decade of the 1920s also saw the mechanization of the Nursery. The first motorized equipment was used at the Nursery in 1921, with a total of four vehicles. A GMC truck was received from the War Department, as well as a Moreland tractor. The Forest Service purchased a Reo Speedwagon that same year, the first motorized acquisition for the Nursery. These machines, and others from road crews, were used in the nursery work, eventually replacing the horse teams in use (Misner 1978, 1980). The Nursery's horse team was sold in 1927 after a Cletrac W tractor was purchased for the nursery. Horses were still used for some time to cultivate between the seed beds, but the new lifter designed at the Nursery in 1927 proved to heavy for the team to pull effectively.

In the early 1930s, the Ranger Station was the only one of the three Forest Service divisions at the complex that continued to expand. The Great Depression stunted the expansion of the Nursery and the Experiment Station prior to the creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Early federal work relief funds allowed the Ranger Station to continue to build at the site. Three structures were built in 1931 and 1932, including the Bachelor's Quarters (building #1316), Tin Shed (building #2115), and a blacksmith shop (Mack and McClure 1999:14). These were all constructed west of the barn and general warehouse. The Bachelor's Quarters and Tin Shed both survive at the complex. The Tin Shed is still in use as a utility structure, and the Bachelor's Quarters have been converted from a residence into a small laboratory for Forest Service use. Two additional structures built by the Ranger District during this time period were a new Ranger's Residence and a new Ranger Station Office. These were built to replace structures constructed in 1912, although the previous Ranger's Residence remained as quarters for the Assistant Ranger. A woodshed and garage (building #1515) were constructed behind the "new" Assistant

Ranger's Residence the next year. Woodsheds were built for the Bachelor's Quarters and Residence #1045 in 1932-1933, but were removed in the 1960s.

Nineteen Thirty-Three brought a great deal of change to the Wind River Nursery with the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). This was a result of President Roosevelt's New Deal, a policy intended to relieve unemployment problems and aid in conservation efforts. Roosevelt, in his proposal to the seventy-third Congress that was in emergency session in March of 1933, stated "I propose to create a civilian conservation corps to be used in simple work, not interfering with normal employment, and confining itself to forestry, the prevention of soil erosion, flood control, and similar projects." (McClure and Mack 1999a:48). Congress moved swiftly on the proposal, and by the end of the month the Emergency Conservation Work Act (ECW) was on FDR's desk to be signed.

The CCC was to be supervised by personnel from the National Park Service, Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service, and other state and federal agencies while working on various projects. In the evenings and off-duty hours, however, U.S. military personnel from the Army would take charge of the CCC enrollees. The military officers in charge gained valuable leadership experience while guiding the enrollees, but military training was strictly forbidden in the CCC camps. Enrollment quotas were issued for each state, with requirements that the enrollees be male, between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five, single, unemployed, from families on "relief", and in good physical condition (Merrill 1981:11). Physical fitness was required, as the labor was strenuous. It was not, however, superfluous or unnecessary. Roosevelt had said "I call your attention to the fact that this type of work is of definite, practical value, not only through the prevention of great present financial loss, but also as a means of creating future national wealth." (Hill 1990:xvi). FDR had the foresight to see that the CCC, while preserving and upgrading the nation's natural and cultural resources, would also serve to enrich another of the nation's valuable resources – its youth.

The CCC effect on the Wind River Nursery followed the passage of the ECW Act closely. Company 944, based at Camp Hemlock, F-40, was organized on May 15, 1933 at Fort Lewis, Washington (Hill 1990:108). The company was assigned to work on projects in the Columbia National Forest. The company set to work after arriving at Camp Hemlock constructing permanent buildings, which were ready for occupation on June 12, 1933. After the initial construction at the camp, located north of Trout Creek outside the boundary of the Administrative Site, the enrollees were turned over to the Forest Service for work on various projects in the national forest and within the Nursery itself. The projects included felling snags, planting trees, constructing and repairing roads, trails, and telephone lines, maintaining trucks and equipment, performing lookout and fire guard duty, and fighting forest fires when the need arose (Sinclair and McClure 2003).

During 1933, the first year of the CCC at Camp Hemlock, the CCC enrollees were used within the nursery for weeding the planting beds. However, William Will, in charge of the Nursery from 1920 until his retirement in 1944, was dissatisfied with the work of the

CCC crews. He felt that the men injured the transplants by attempting to use implements to aid in the weeding (Mack and McClure 1999:32). In fact, Will did not use CCC labor in the fields during the 1934 season because of this damage. The enrollees were also put to work clearing more land for the Nursery operation, clearing approximately 7 acres on the north side of the Nursery, bringing the field acreage to over 20. The water system was also expanded by the CCC in the early years of Camp Hemlock. The Martha Creek system was supplemented by a system taking water from Trout Creek, constructed by the CCC in 1933. The new system was a gravity system, sending water through over 13,000 feet of wood pipe through the center and north end of the fields for fire hydrants.

In addition to the conservation projects conducted by the CCC, a major building campaign was also initiated. Local Experienced Men (LEM) were hired to help supervise the enrollees and teach them the skills necessary to carry out their work. The Emergency Relief Act made it possible to hire local unemployed skilled workmen to work with the CCC crews on larger construction projects. Supplies for constructing the camps and materials required for the construction projects also helped the local economy, keeping businesses afloat.

The CCC construction projects and forest improvements are the most recognizable evidence of this valuable program. Individually and collectively these sites that include both administrative and recreational sites and structures reflect a high level of comprehensive site planning and represent a distinctive architectural style. Gail Throop, an authority on CCC construction in the Pacific Northwest, notes that durability of construction, attention to detail and quality of workmanship are exemplified in the improvements of the Civilian Conservation Corps. But beyond this, an ethic of non-intrusiveness is embodied in the sites and structures. Whether rugged as typified by recreational facilities, or refined as found in the administrative structures and their support buildings, the improvements harmonize with their environment, becoming almost a part of it (Throop 1979).

Developing work projects and construction schedules for the CCC enrollees involved a deliberate effort to include anticipated needs as well as immediate requirements when facilities were constructed. Administrative sites, ranger stations, and service compounds reflect the new attention to comprehensive planning within the Forest Service, with a continued attention to the potential for expansion. Planning was done not only on the local level, but also with guidance from the Washington, D.C. office. Significant planning efforts allowed the CCC to realize its goal of creating harmonious structures, blending not only with the environment but also with nearby buildings.

The Washington Office supplied the local crews with a good deal of planning assistance through their Improvement Handbook. This guide to construction and materials was prepared by the Forest Service's Division of Engineering to assist field personnel. It contained preliminary planning guidelines for building development, material specifications, sample construction schedules and guidance for creating work plans. The Improvement Handbook addressed all issues and phases of construction, including excavation, foundation work, wood preservation techniques, concrete, masonry, and brick

construction methods, light wood framing, heavy timber construction, mechanical and electrical systems, log construction, and roofing materials. No facet of planning, scheduling, construction, or finish work was ignored, and preferred techniques and materials were outlined. These standards were the foundation for all construction in all Forest Service Regions, as they were general specifications and instructions for any building procedure.

Native materials were favored in all cases throughout the country. The use of wood was particularly endorsed by the Forest Service, as seen in the Handbook:

The Forest Service in its own construction work should use wood to the fullest practicable degree. The use of other materials in lieu of wood should be considered and authorized only when their suitability and durability clearly exceed that of wood, or where the use of such substitute materials is made necessary by the general type or design of the structure, or where the first cost plus maintenance cost of wood would so greatly exceed the first cost plus maintenance of other materials that it cannot be justified on any demonstrational or economical basis or where the use of lumber is at variance with City, County, and State building codes. (USDA-FS 1937:71)

Initial planning in the National Forests was done in the Regional Offices, where site plans, landscape plans, and individual structures were designed. The individual regions were responsible for choosing appropriate sites for development, with emphasis placed on proximity to utilities, transportation, and development costs. The Wind River Nursery had already seen improvements in transportation and utility infrastructure, making it ripe for further development. The early success of the Nursery and the inventiveness of the Rangers made it a valuable commodity within the Pacific Northwest Region, worthy of further development.

The architectural style associated with the Civilian Conservation Corps work for the Forest Service during the Depression has been termed "rustic". This uniquely American style evolved slowly over time, as design ideals from Europe were transformed into resort structures in harmony with the surrounding landscape. The style was a natural result of the late nineteenth century romanticism surrounding the natural world, and the structures were seen as accessory pieces within the natural setting. They were to complement the surrounding beauty, not compete with it. The architectural style was closely integrated with the landscape through both the design and the use of native materials. The design was to harmonize with the landscape through the use of appropriate regional building forms for the particular site and climate. The Forest Service paralleled the building campaigns of the National Park Service by subscribing to this ideal of constructing non-intrusive structures based only on regional prototypes (Throop 1979:32). There emerged, in the Pacific Northwest Region, an architectural style particularly suited to the climate, topography, and vegetation that is distinctive and unique among the varying sites within the region.

The development at the Wind River Administrative Site was no exception to these ideals. At the same time, the site was laid out for maximum efficiency and separation of uses that still allowed complete control and ease of supervision. By direct observation, full knowledge of the efficiency of the site and personnel could be attained. The separation of public, semi-public, and service portions of the Nursery complex were subtle, but these areas were arranged in such a way as to allow the operation to function smoothly.

The design ideals of the Forest Service were implemented through the CCC work at Wind River in all building forms. While they were utilitarian and straightforward structures using native materials and having no obtrusive details, they achieved a harmony as a cohesive group within the landscape. The foundations were kept low, and faced with local stone to root the structure solidly to the ground. Balanced relationships between wall planes, window and door openings, and roof forms were achieved with clean lines and simple surface treatments. The building massing was to be interesting, yet economical and practical. The inclusion of integral porches and simple roof forms are prime examples of this ideal, emphasizing practicality and utility in construction and maintenance.

The Regional Office advised against excessive ornamentation, urging that caution be taken if it was to be incorporated. Visual variety was achieved through the materials used for building finishes, such as a change in siding type above the first floor. The contrast between the drop or lap siding of the first story and the board and batt siding in the gable ends provided this variety. The most prominent decorative feature of the CCC buildings constructed for the Forest Service is the pine tree cutout, present in a variety of locations on these structures. This emblem was a hallmark of the CCC, visible in shutters and the board and batt siding portions of the buildings (Grosvenor 1999:43; Throop 1979:42-44). This embellishment is limited to CCC buildings constructed for the Forest Service, and specifications for its design, size, and placement do appear on various working drawings. The pine tree symbol appears in all Regions of the Forest Service (1999:42), but often the number and placement of the symbol exceed the specifications. In this allowed decorative feature, the CCC crews found a vehicle to express themselves, varying the design from building to building and from compound to compound.

Decoration was also achieved through building elements. Porch supports, incorporating heavy timbers and simple brackets, served a definitively functional purpose, but also achieved a decorative purpose when arranged in groups of two or three (Throop 1979:45-46). The wood windows common to the structures also served as decoration, with continuity achieved through the use of similar surrounds and window proportions from building to building. Continuity between the facades of a single building was achieved through the use of identical trim and design, with the number of panes kept the same throughout a structure. The Wind River CCC buildings incorporate these decorative ideas as well, to varying degrees depending on the nature of the structure.

The first building constructed by the CCC enrollees of Camp Hemlock was a new mess hall west of Chapman Avenue. Designed by Lester Moncrief, Assistant Supervisor of the Columbia National Forest at the time, the building incorporates many of the typical CCC

stylistic moves at the Nursery. The simple U-shaped layout, gabled roofs, decorative pine tree cutouts in the shutters, and incorporated porch demonstrate the design ideals within the Region. The new Mess Hall could seat 96 people, and served all three divisions present at the Administrative Site. The garage for the Assistant Ranger's house followed closely thereafter, along with a new Nursery office. These buildings were all completed by 1936, in addition to a large warehouse.

One of the most "rustic" structures completed by the CCC is the small building marking the entrance to the Arboretum. A great deal of work had been done in the Arboretum area, including stump removal and the layout of a network of gravel trails (Mack and McClure 1999:41). The small pole and log structure blends harmoniously with the surrounding landscape, and serves two functions. It not only marks the entrance to the Arboretum trail system, but also houses a section of the largest known Douglas fir tree in the country. The tree is known as the Mineral Tree due to its proximity to the town of Mineral, Washington. The nine foot section on display was a substantial distance off the ground, as the tree's diameter at breast height was measured to be 15.4 feet. It was calculated that the original height of the tree, before it was broken off to a height of 225 feet, was 385 feet. This figure was recorded by Leo Isaac, who reportedly measured the broken off section that was nearby on the ground. The tree contained over 103,000 board feet of timber, and was 1,020 years old. It blew down in a storm during the winter of 1929-1930, and was logged out by the Pacific National Lumber Company in 1935, when the section was put on display at the Arboretum.

Late in 1936, plans were finalized for the construction of a training center and bunkhouse at the Nursery complex (McClure and Mack 1999a:20). These were primarily intended for use as a ranger training facility, but were also to be used as a regional meeting and training facility. Wind River had been chosen as a location for Ranger Training School in 1931 due to its central location within the Pacific Northwest Region, its accessibility to both the east and west sides of the Cascades and the timber types associated with each side of the mountains, and its proximity to lookouts, campgrounds, logging operations and road construction work. All of these factors made a wide variety of training possible at this single site. The Nursery itself and the closeness to the Regional Office in Portland were also seen as additional benefits.

Work on the Hodgson-Lindberg Training Center was carried out in 1937, with the final touches put on late in the year. The G.F. Allen Dormitory was also completed that year, completing the two-building complex. Classes were taught by a wide variety of people with expertise in many areas, led by Allen Hodgson, the Assistant Regional Forester in charge of the Division of Personnel Management. Raymond Lindberg joined Hodgson in 1935 as a specialist in training methods and procedures (Mack and McClure 1999:15). The Training Center was named in honor of these Forest Service educators, while the dormitory was named for the first Supervisor of the Columbia National Forest, G.F. Allen.

From their conception, the Training Center and Dormitory were intended to be showcases for the region. They provided a gathering point to be seen by many Forest Service

personnel, and were completed in the unique rustic style of the CCC. They have a higher level of decorative embellishment than the other structures built at the Nursery, and are exemplary specimens of the CCC and Forest Service design ideals. The importance of the two buildings continues to be realized today. Gail Throop, the Pacific Northwest Region Historian for the Forest Service, has recognized these two buildings as two of the most significant CCC era administrative buildings within the region. Of the 666 Depression era administrative buildings still standing on national forest lands in the Region, the Training Center has been rated the best with the Dormitory a close sixth. The Training Center achieved a score of 199 out of 200, with the Dormitory scoring 192. The two buildings, taken as a unit, retain a high level of integrity of design, feeling, workmanship, location, and association with CCC era administrative structures.

Two warehouses were constructed in 1937, referred to as the Carpenter Shop and the Lumber Shed (Mack and McClure 1999:15). This formed the basis of the current three-building service group west of Chapman Avenue, in close proximity to the Tin Shed already in existence. The Carpenter Shop had originally been erected at the Rock Creek Work Center near Stevenson, where there was a smaller CCC camp. The building became expendable that year, and its structural members were disassembled and brought to Wind River for reassembly. It was reconstructed at the Nursery in essentially the same configuration as at Rock Creek, but with new siding and exterior finishes to match the other buildings in the compound.

The next year saw the addition of a small gas and oil house, near the Lumber Shed (Mack and McClure 1999:17). In 1969 this small structure was moved as a precaution against fire, and now sits on a new foundation approximately 100 feet north of the Carpenter Shop. That year, a new Protective Assistant's residence and matching garage were constructed. Built on the site of a previous residence that had been erected in the 1920s, this new home was built as a "reconstruction" because money for new construction was tight and it was easier to obtain funding for reconstruction work. Only two interior walls were integrated into the new construction from the existing structure, which was completed around them. Stylistically, the residence is a classic example of CCC era residential architecture both at the Wind River Nursery and within the region, blending rock work and a rustic wood exterior with interesting, yet simple, rooflines and detail work.

Two other structures completed in the 1930s no longer remain at the Administrative Site. These two residences for the Ranger District housed Forest Guards, and were removed in the 1960s. The first, A Dispatcher's Residence built in the 1930s, was removed in 1962 and replaced by a modern residence in the immediate area near Hemlock Lake. The second, a 1938 Guard Cabin, also near Hemlock Lake, was removed sometime after 1968 (see Table 1).

The utility compound containing the Carpenter Shop and Lumber Shed was completed in 1940 with the addition of the combination Machine Shed and Fire Cache building (Mack and McClure 1999:17). The style closely matches those of the other two buildings in the compound, and the structure frames and encloses the utility courtyard.

Aside from service, utility, and residential structures, the enrollees at Camp Hemlock made one other major improvement at the Wind River Nursery. The Wind River Lumber Company's splash dam, besides floating logs down to the Columbia River, served as a source of electricity for the Nursery. In 1934 it was reported that the power plant could not handle the additional demand for electricity from Camp Hemlock and the new structures within the Nursery complex, and the generating machinery was in poor condition and very noisy. The dam itself was also in poor condition and in need of extensive repair. As a result, a new power house was constructed and rather than overhaul the existing wood splash dam it was decided that a new concrete structure was needed. This arch dam, spanning 183 feet, was one of the first to include a fish ladder. It was one of the largest hydroelectric projects ever completed solely by a CCC company. In this effort, Forest Supervisor Kirk Cecil was the driving force and may have served as the designer for the project. After the acquisition of a three-yard cement mixer, work started on the dam below the existing splash dam early in 1935. The magnitude of the project was noted by the Vancouver Evening Columbian in their May 6, 1936 edition, stating:

In the immediate vicinity of the nursery is located the largest CCC construction project undertaken in the United States. It resulted in the erection of a concrete dam to provide water storage and water power for the Forest Service. The lake behind the dam is to be stocked with fish and will be of service for public recreation.

Recreation was a secondary purpose of the dam, which provided ample electricity to the Nursery and improved the irrigation system. The recreation potential of the artificial lake was developed soon after the dam's completion, with a picnic area, boat dock, swimming area, and beach facilities. A new arched wooden bridge was constructed over the dam, blending harmoniously with the surrounding landscape. This bridge was replaced in 1975 by a concrete bridge, but the dam and fish ladder remain in use to this day.

The end of the CCC construction era occurred in 1942. The final new structure completed by the enrollees of Camp Hemlock was a Pole Shed in the nursery fields, built to store the protective frames used in the operation at Wind River (Mack and McClure 1999:34). The building is open on two sides for ease of access, and is constructed of peeled logs in a truss configuration. Two other construction projects, or reconstructions, were also completed that year. The first involved an early Experiment Station residence originally built in 1917 that had fallen into great disrepair. The structure caught fire on June 4, 1941, and was substantially damaged in the blaze. Plans were drawn up for an essentially new structure at the same location, very similar in style to the original residence (1999:41). The second reconstruction involved the former Assistant Ranger's Residence. The building was demolished, and a new structure was completed in accordance with plan number 206 of the Acceptable Plans publication of the Forest Service (USDA-FS 1938). A building following the same plan had been constructed several years earlier at the Tyee Springs Fish Hatchery as a director's residence. Both of

these “reconstructions” were actually new construction, not showing any indication that portions of the original structures were used in the reconstruction effort.

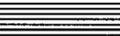
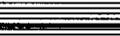
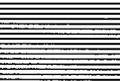
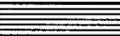
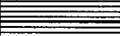
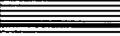
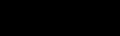
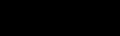
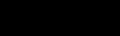
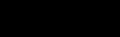
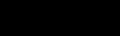
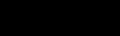
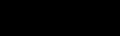
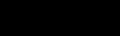
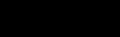
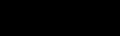
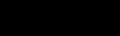
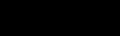
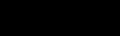
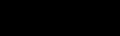
Camp Hemlock was a notable example of CCC work camps for a number of reasons. It was one of the few camps occupied by the same company, Company 944, from its inception through the end of the CCC era. The wide variety of forest, nursery, construction, and engineering projects completed by Company 944 mark it as one of the most versatile of any of the CCC camps in the region (Hill 1990:109). The camp had a lasting and pronounced impact on the Wind River Nursery, and the impact of this era and the early Forest Service structures is still apparent today. The Wind River Administrative Site is unique in that it contains a vast array of structures representing the growth of the Forest Service from soon after its establishment, including the significant contributions of the CCC enrollees of Camp Hemlock.

In addition to the historic building stock constructed by the three Forest Service divisions, a number of modern structures exist at the Administrative Site. A feed shed, located near the barn, was constructed in 1948, but no longer survives. The other modern structures still exist at the site, and include two residences (1953 and 1962), a garage (1952), a cooler and stratification cooler (both built in 1956), a 1958 seed freezer, a packing shed, Nursery Office, and warehouse (all built in 1959), an oil house (1961), a toilet facility (1963), an equipment storage building (1965), a carpenter shop (1980), a telephone building (1983), and a hazardous materials building (1994). These structures are interspersed within the historic buildings at the site, but are focused on the west side of Chapman Avenue in a small complex. Table 1 provides a complete list of these modern structures.

The survey of the historic resources, including twenty-four buildings and three landscape features, is summarized in Table 2. Six of the historic structures were included in the land conveyance to Skamania County, listed in bold-face type, and are documented in the form Architectural Data Forms that follow Table 2. All twenty-four buildings and the three landscape features are documented in the form of Washington State Historic Property Inventory Forms, a separate yet integral component of the survey of the Wind River Administrative Site.

**Table 1**  
**Master List of Buildings - Wind River Administrative Site Historic District**  
*in chronological order*

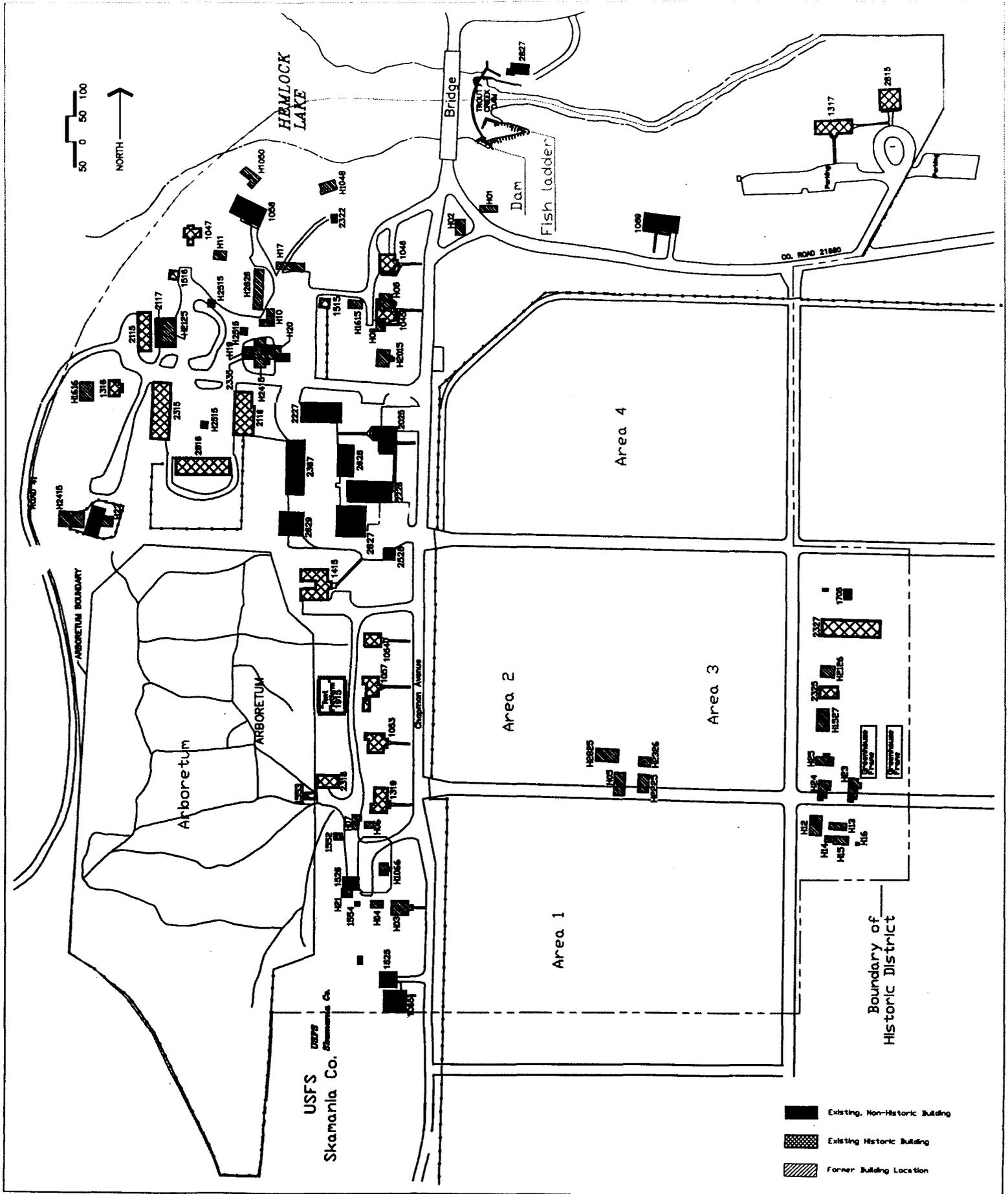
Number	Unit	Initial Function	Constructed	Removed	Status
H01	D	Ranger Station (later Scaler's Office)	1906		
H02	D	Ranger Station	1908		
H03	N	Nursery Office and Residence	1911	1950's	
H04	N	Woodshed (later used as a garage)	1911		
H05	N	Storehouse/Bunkhouse (Area 3)	1911/12	1960's	
H06	E	Greenhouse	1912	post 1951	
H07	E	Garage/wood shed	1912		
H08	D	Ranger's Residence (under #1045)	1911	"rec." 1942	
H09	D	Ranger Station (moved 1926)	1912	1933	
H12	A	Mess House (in Area 5)	1912	1934	
H2415	D, A	Barn (moved in 1933)	1912	post '64	
1054	E	Experiment Station Lab/Office	1912	existing	
H2225	N	Frame/Store/Packing Shed (in Field Area 3)	1913	sold 1970	
1554	N	Root Cellar	1914	existing	
H10	D, N	Shed/blacksmith shop	1914	gone by 1933	
H13	N	Bath House (in Area 5)	1914		
H14	N	Meat House (in Area 5)	1914		
H15	N	Wood Shed (in Field Area 5)	1912/1915		
H16	N	Toilet (in Area 5)	1914		
1053	E	Experiment Station Director's Residence	1914	existing	
H23	N	Residence (Area 5) - built as tent shed in 1914, by 1921 referred to as "bunk cabin", by 1930's referred to as "residence"	1914/1921		
H24	N	Residence (Area 5) - ditto	1914/1921		
H25	N	Residence (Area 5) - ditto	1914/1921		
H11	D	Log Cabin	1915	gone by 1956	
H2825	N	Nursery Storage Cellar (in Area 3) (walls raised in 1932)	1917	1960's	
H18	D, N	Wagon Shed	1919	gone by 1947	
H19	N	Manure Shed	1920	gone by 1933	
H21	N	Nursery Garage (still there in '62)	1923	gone by 1964	
H17	D	Filing Shed (moved from WRL Co. Camp 9)	1925	gone by '56	
H2626	D	"old storage shed" or warehouse	1925	gone by '56	
1552	E	Battery House	1925	existing	
H2126	N	Cone Kiln (in Field Area 5)	1927		
H2326	N	Machine shed/Workshop (Area 3)	1927	sold post-'64	
2325	N	Machine Shed (later called "Lower Lunchroom")	1928	existing	
H2125	D	Blacksmith Shop (later is Sandblast Shop)	1931	sold 10/20/67	
H1616	D	Wood Shed (with Bunkhouse 1316)	1932	1960's	
H1615	D	Wood Shed (with Residence 1045)	1933	1960's	
1316	D	Bunkhouse (Batchelor's Quarters)	1932	existing	
2115	D	Storage Shed (Tin Shed)	1932	existing	
1515	D	Garage	1933	existing	
1046	D	Ranger's Residence (later Assistant Ranger's residence)	1933	existing	

Number	Unit	Initial Function	Constructed	Removed	Status
H2015	D	Ranger Station Office	1933	1958	
H20	D	Fire Warehouse	1933	gone by '56	
H1066	N	Nursery Office (later used as a residence)	1934	sold 10/20/71	
H1527	N	Four-Car Garage (in Area 5), converted to Seed Cooler #2625 in 1949?	1934	2/14/69 (snow)	
1415	A	Mess Hall	1934	existing	
1553	E	Arboretum Entrance	1935	existing	
2318	E	Experiment Station Garage/Warehouse	1935	existing	
H1050	D	Dispatcher's Residence/Guard Cabin (probably replaced by 1058)	1930's	1961	
H1617	D	Woodshed	1930's	1961	
1319	E	PNW Experiment Station Office	1936	existing	
2116	D	Carpenter Shop (current warehouse - originally built at Rock Creek CCC Camp in '33 and reassembled here)	1937	existing	
1317	D	G. F. Allen Dormitory (current bunkhouse)	1937	existing	
2816	D	Lumber Storage Shed	1937	existing	
2815	D	Hodgson-Linberg Training Center	1937	existing	
1047	D	Protective Assistant's Residence (built over a previous residence)	1920's/38	existing	
1516	D	Garage	1938	existing	
H1048	D	Guard Cabin	1938	post-1969	
2515	D	Gas and Oil House (location moved twice)	1938	existing	
2315	D	Fire Cache (Machine Storage)	1940	existing	
1045	D	District Ranger's Residence (built over a 1912 residence)	1942	existing	
2327	N	Pole Shed	1942	existing	
1057	E	Experiment Station Assistant's Residence (reconstr. of 1917 residence)	1942	existing	
H22	D	Feed Shed (adjacent to barn)	1948	post '57	
1526	N	Garage	1952	existing	
1065	N	Residence	1953	existing	
2627	N	Small cooler	1956	existing	
2628	N	Stratification cooler	1956	existing	
2629	N	Seed Freezer	1958	existing	
2226	N	Packing Shed	1956/59	existing	
1069	D	Residence	1959	existing	
2025	N	Nursery Office (closed 1997)	1959	existing	
2227	N	Warehouse and Shop	1959	existing	
2526	N	Oil House	1961	existing	
1058	D	Residence	1962	existing	
1705	N	Toilet	1963	existing	
2367	N	Equipment Storage	1965	existing	
2117	D	Carpenter Shop	1980	existing	
2322	A	Telephone Building	1983	existing	
2335	D	Hazmat Building	1994	existing	

Historic building - removed  
Historic building - existing  
Modern building



D - District      A - All  
N- Nursery  
E - Experiment Station



- Existing, Non-Historic Building
- Existing Historic Building
- Former Building Location

**Table 2**  
**Wind River Administrative Site**  
**List of Historic Buildings Included in Survey**

<b>Building # and Description</b>	<b>Constructed By</b>	<b>Date of Construction</b>	<b>NRHP Status</b>
Hodgson-Lindberg Training Center#2815	CCC	1937	Eligible (Primary)
G. F. Allen Dormitory #1317	CCC	1937	Eligible (Primary)
PNW Experiment Station #1319	CCC	1936	Eligible (Primary)
Residence #1045	CCC	rebuilt 1942	Eligible (Secondary)
Residence #1047	CCC	1938	Eligible (Secondary)
Garage #1516	CCC	1938	Eligible (Secondary)
<b>Residence #1057</b>	CCC (orig. PNW)	rebuilt 1942	Eligible (Secondary)
Lumber Shed #2816	CCC	1937	Eligible (Secondary)
Machine Shed/Fire Cache #2315	CCC	1940	Eligible (Secondary)
<b>Mess Hall #1415</b>	CCC	1934	Eligible (Secondary)
Gas/Oil House #2515	CCC	1938	Eligible (Tertiary)
PNW Warehouse #2318	CCC	1935	Eligible (Tertiary)
<b>Pole Shed #2327</b>	CCC	1942	Eligible (Tertiary)
Carpenter Shop/Warehouse #2116	CCC	1937	Eligible (Tertiary)
<b>Residence #1053</b>	PNW	1914	Eligible
<b>Residence #1054</b>	PNW	1912	Eligible
Garage #1515	USFS	1933	Eligible
Residence #1046	USFS	1933	Eligible
Bachelor's Quarters #1316	USFS	1932	Eligible
Tin Shed #2115	USFS	1932	Eligible
<b>Lower Lunch Room #2325</b>	USFS	1928	Eligible
Arboretum Entrance #1553	CCC	1935	Eligible
Battery House #1552	PNW	1925	Eligible
Storage Cellar #1554	USFS	1914	Eligible

\*Buildings in bold-face require detailed documentation

### **PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

#### **A. Architectural Drawings, Site Plans and Building Records**

The following atlases are housed in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest archives, located at Mt. Adams Ranger Station, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650.

Improvement Atlas, Wind River Ranger District. Includes site plans, utility plans, landscaping plans, and some building plans for individual buildings at the Wind River administrative site, 1936-1956.

Site Plans, Ranger & Guard Stations, Columbia National Forest (Atlas #36, H-9). Includes site plans and photographs from Wind River administrative site.

Ranger Station Site Plans Atlas, Columbia National Forest, 1941.

Project Inventory Atlas (Atlas #23, F-1), Columbia National Forest. Contains Project Work Budget and Inventory record sheets (Form 674-R-6), building lists, and maintenance records for the period 1946-1952.

#### **B. Historic Views**

1. - Official Forest Service photographs on file with the Gifford Pinchot National Forest archives, located at Mt. Adams Ranger Station, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650. Many of the photos are on official USDA Forest Service mount boards, with photographic data on reverse. Original negatives are on permanent record with Record Group 95, National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, Maryland. Permanent number also corresponds to image numbers in NARA collections:

11485A – “Wind River Nursery – Hemlock R.S. T. 4N R.7E. View of residence house and green house built for use of Forest Assistants station to do investigation work.” July 1912; T.T. Munger, photographer.

17238A – “Digging up trees at Wind River Nursery.” Oct. 1913; J.F. Kummel, photographer. (Col. No. 50 Pl-35).

25541A – “Sowing and covering seed in Wind River Nursery.” 1916; J.V. Hoffman, photographer. (Col. No. 50 Pl 40).

25543A – “Seedbed installation, Wind River Nursery. Spreading cover of soil over newly sown seedbed.” Date: probably 1916. Photographer: probably J.V. Hoffman.

35520A – “Wind River Nursery 1917. Mr. Cline leveling seed bed.” Photographer unknown.

- 44660A – “Cart utilized for transporting trees from field to packing shed.” 1917; C.J. Kraebel, photographer.
- 44657A – “Lifting seedlings for transplanting utilizing plow/horizontal blade.” 1916 or 1917; photographer unknown.
- 44665A – “Specimens of Nursery Equipment.” 1916; R.L. Cline, photographer (Col. No. 50-Pl.51).
- 73606 – “Made at the Hemlock Ranger Station to test camera, before starting spring field work.” Undated; L. Wernsted, photographer. (Col. No. 50 – H023).
- 89253 – “Hemlock Ranger Station 12 miles from Carson Skamania Co. Wash. West of Ranger Station Cabin. First view on the left in a panorama.” Sept. 12, 1909, Arthur P. Wilcox, photographer.
- 89254 – “Sec. 27, No. 4 N., R. 7 E., W.M. 12 miles from Carson Skamania Co. Wash. Hemlock R. Stn. Cabin To right at 89253 (2<sup>nd</sup> Panorama).” Sept. 12, 1909, Arthur P. Wilcox, photographer.
- 89255 – “Sec. 27, No. 4 N., R. 7 E., W.M. To east of Hemlock R. Stn. Cabin. (3<sup>rd</sup> in panorama).” Sept. 12, 1909, Arthur P. Wilcox, photographer.
- 92700 – “Illustrates use of hinged board for sowing seed in drills in seed bed.” 1911 Or 1912; photographer unknown
- 94944 – “Chapman Ave. From Wind River Nursery cabin. Camp 3 and Bunker Hill in distance.” July 26, 1911; A.G. Varela, photographer. (Col. No. L50– H04).
- 94947 - “Douglas fir transplant beds.” Date and photographer unknown. Probably taken 1911 by A.J. Varela.
- 94948 - Unlabeled. View of seedlings in nursery, Chapman Ave. in background. Date and photographer unknown. Probably taken 1911 by A.J. Varela.
- 94949 - Unlabeled. View of seed boxes in nursery, Chapman Ave. in background. Date and photographer unknown. Probably taken 1911 by A.J. Varela.
- 94950 - Unlabeled. Transplanting seedlings. Date and photographer unknown. Probably taken 1911 by A.J. Varela.
- 95526 – “View showing road through center of Nursery, arrangement of seed beds (winter) and gate in fence surrounding Nursery. Jan. 1, 1911; C.A. Miner, photographer (Col. No. 50 Pl 13).

- 96059 – “Transplanting with the board.” Date and photographer unknown.
- 151382 – “General view of Wind River Experiment Station and Nursery.” 1920; R.H. Weidman, photographer. (R – Experiment Station)
- 152498 – “Lifting trees, Wind River Nursery.” Date and photographer unknown.
- 208563 – “Weed burning torch used at Wind River Nursery.” May 10, 1926; J.F. Kummel photographer.
- 217169 – “Sifting shipping stock after being loosened by tree lifter –“ March 22, 1927; J.F. Kummel, photographer. (S – Nursery Operations, Distribution)
- 230997 – “Wind River Nursery 1928” Photographer unknown.
- 231001 – “Wind River Nursery 1928.” Photographer unknown.
- 231005 – “Wind River Nursery 1928.” Photographer unknown.
- 275243 – “Transplants – Wind River Nursery.” January 12, 1933, J.R. Bruckart, photographer.
- 275244 – Barn – Hemlock Ranger Station. January 12, 1933, J.R. Bruckart, photographer.
- 275248 – Hemlock Ranger Station Office. January 12, 1933, J.R. Bruckart, photographer.
- 279969 – Boys from Camp F-40 weeding tree beds – Wind River Nursery. August 1933, K.D. Swan, photographer.
- 279970 – Weeding – Wind River Nursery. August 1933, K.D. Swan, photographer.
- 279972 – Concrete work on dam for Wind River Nursery and Experiment Station water supply. Boys from Camp F-40. August 1933, K.D. Swan, photographer.
- 280400 – CCC men building the dam on Trout Creek August 1933, George A. Bright, photographer.
- 280401 – CCC men building the dam on Trout Creek August 1933, George A. Bright, photographer.
- 280405 – CCC men working in the Nursery at Wind River. August 1933, George A. Bright, photographer.

280406 – CCC men working in the Nursery at Wind River. August 1933, George A. Bright, photographer.

435981 – Trout Creek dam and bridge at Wind River Hemlock. Aug. 1937, Ray M. Filloon, photographer.

437219 – Ranger’s residence at Hemlock R.S. June-July 1945, Ray M. Filloon, photographer.

2. - “Wind River Nursery Album.” USDA Forest Service photograph album containing 70 individual photographs of nursery development and operations, 1914-1922. Some of the images individually listed above also appear in the album.

3. - USDA photograph album containing 139 individual photographs of nursery development and operations, 1910-1944. Some duplication of images in “Wind River Nursery Album.” Some of the images individually listed above also appear in the album.

### **C. Interviews**

Andrews, Lynn

1999 Oral history interview, June 1999. Original tape and transcript on file, Gifford Pinchot National Forest archives, located at Mt. Adams Ranger Station, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650.

Misner, George A.

1978 Oral history interview, July 1978. Original tape and transcript on file, Gifford Pinchot National Forest archives, located at Mt. Adams Ranger Station, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650.

1980 Oral history interview, March 12, 1980. Original tape and transcript on file, Gifford Pinchot National Forest archives, located at Mt. Adams Ranger Station, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650.

### **D. Bibliography**

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1932 The Wind River Arboretum from 1912 to 1932. USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station.

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2003 "No Goldbricking Here": Oral Histories of the CCC in the Columbia National Forest, 1933-1942. Heritage Program, Gifford Pinchot National Forest and History Department, Portland State University.

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Wigal, Elias J.

1904-1910 Diaries of Elias J. Wigal, Ranger, Mt. Rainier Forest Reserve and Columbia National Forest. Transcript of original diaries on file, Heritage Program, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mt. Adams Ranger Station, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650.

Wilcox, Arthur R.

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## **(2) Secondary Sources**

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Carroll, Robert. The Civilian Conservation Corps in Washington State 1933-1942. Master of Arts Thesis, Washington State University, 1973.

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McClure, Richard H. and Cheryl A. Mack

1999a "For the Greatest Good": Early History of Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Northwest Interpretive Association, Seattle.

1999b Data Recovery Excavations at the Trout Creek Archaeological Site (45SA222), Gifford Pinchot National Forest. USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Heritage Program, Vancouver, WA.

Merrill, Perry H.

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Silen, Roy and Leonard Woike

1959 The Wind River Arboretum from 1912 to 1956. USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Range and Experiment Station. Research Paper 33. Portland, OR.

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Thomsen, Jurgen

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1979 Utterly Visionary and Chimerical: A Federal Response to the Depression - An Examination of Civilian Conservation Corps Construction on National Forest System Lands in the Pacific Northwest. Unpublished MA thesis, History Department, Portland State University, Portland, OR.

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1984 History of the Wind River Lumber Company in the Upper Wind River Valley (Part 1). Skamania County Heritage 13(3):1-7.

## **E. Other Sources**

Administrative records of the Wind River Nursery, 1909-1949. Approximately 12 linear feet of original documents pertaining to the operations of the Wind River Nursery. The collection includes over 300 individual file folders containing letters, memos, reports, forms, and other types of paper documents. On file, Gifford Pinchot National Forest archives, Mt. Adams Ranger Station, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650.

RG-95 (Records of the USDA Forest Service), National Archives and Record Administration, College Park, Maryland. Civilian Conservation Corps, Camp Records, 1933-1942, Camp Hemlock., Washington. Entry 145, Boxes 438-448 include original documents from CCC Camp Hemlock, including work plans, correspondence, accomplishment records. Detailed descriptions of work performed by the CCC at the Wind River Ranger Station and Nursery are included.

RG-95 (Records of the USDA Forest Service), National Archives and Record Administration, College Park, Maryland. Diaries, 1906-1950, Region 6, Columbia National Forest, Ross B. Shepeard 1930-40. Entry 147, Boxes 95-97. The diaries of District Ranger Ross Shepeard provide details of day-to-day operations at the administrative site, including building construction projects.