

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service Station
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Longmire

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Mount Rainier National Park

VICINITY OF

3rd

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Washington

33

Pierce

053

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED (Partially)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Gov't Residence and Gas Station

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Park Service - Pacific Northwest Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

83 S. King Street, Suite 212

CITY, TOWN

Seattle

STATE

Washington 98104

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

National Park Service - Pacific Northwest Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

83 S. King Street, Suite 212

CITY, TOWN

Seattle

STATE

Washington 98104

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE 1) List of Classified Structures Inventory

2) Historic Building Inventory, Mount Rainier National Park

DATE 1) 1976

2) 1983

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

1) National Park Service

2) National Park Service

CITY, TOWN

1) Washington

2) Seattle

STATE

D. C.

Washington

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The three key buildings that create the outstanding architectural character of Longmire, the early development and administrative center of Mount Rainier National Park, are the former (third) administration building, the community building, and the service station. The design and siting of these three buildings has such a strong architectural intent that all of the other buildings in the vicinity recede into village fabric. The two largest structures--the administration building and the community building--were designed by staff of the National Park Service's Landscape Division under the direction of landscape architect Thomas Vint. Plans for the service station were prepared outside the park service but were reviewed by the Landscape Division in San Francisco prior to construction. The station's construction was overseen by the onsite park service landscape architect, Ernest A. Davidson.

First of these buildings to be constructed was the Longmire community building, completed in 1927. The building has changed little since construction. Generally T-shaped in plan the building has a concrete foundation finished with a stone veneer and a wood-frame superstructure. The wood-frame walls of the main wing are finished with a thick log-slab veneer on the interior and exterior. The front elevation, divided into four bays, has an entrance porch in the third bay. The corners of this wing and the bay divisions are articulated by pairs of peeled log posts, giving the building the appearance of massive timber framing. Small portions of the lower sections of these logs have rotted and have been replaced with circular (non-historic) concrete pads. The walls of the rear wing are finished with board-and-batten siding. The intersecting gable roofs are steeply pitched and finished with wood shingles. Most of the windows in the structure are paired, multi-light casements with transoms above. The paired casements on the front elevation are clustered in groups of two and three. The multi-light French doors at the front entrance are flanked by additional casements.

The most important interior space is the community room. The room, little changed since construction, has an impressive exposed roof structure. The scissors truss, rafters, and purlins are all peeled logs that support a decking of cedar tongue-and-groove boards. Original wrought-iron chandeliers and sconces light the interior. One gable-end wall contains the massive stone fireplace and chimney. Stones in the lowest portion are coursed, roughly squared stones, while those of the upper portion, including the central niche in the chimney, are glacial boulders. The opposite gable end contains a small stage set in a

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projecting bay. Three massive wood tables of rustic design remain in the community room. These are similar in design to some in the lobby of Paradise Inn, a few miles away. Spotlights, speakers, and small fans have been added in this room with no visible damage to the historic fabric. Original wood floors throughout the structure are covered with linoleum.

The rear of the structure comprises the base of the "T." The first floor of the rear wing contains a kitchen area and restrooms. The upstairs contains two apartments, both remodelled in 1964. This rear wing contains little historic fabric of note, due to remodelling efforts through the years. Only the exterior of this wing is included in this nomination.

The most architecturally important structure at Longmire is the administration building. The building's foundation, first-story, and second-story walls up to sill height are composed of glacial boulders bonded with cement mortar. The stone walls of the first story are battered, and the smooth, rounded glacial boulders soften the building's edges even further. The largest boulders are in the lower wall sections. The second story above window-sill height has the appearance log and timber framing, although the fabric actually is wood framing covered with log-slab siding. Three logs edge the corners of the upper portion and serve as corner posts. They also continue the visual pattern established by the logs of the entrance porch. The gable roof is finished with wood shingles.

The main entrance into the building is through a porch constructed of massive logs with a shingle-covered shed roof. Corners of the porch have small planted islands made of glacial boulders and filled with low, native shrubs. The walkway up to the building and the porch floor are flagstone. The entrance consists of French doors flanked by paired casements. Casement windows throughout the rest of the structure are clustered in groups of two, three, and four. Windows and doors on the first floor are capped with huge log lintels. Axe-cut rafter tails and bracketed outlookers project out beyond the roof from the eaves and gable ends respectively. The rear entrance to the building is sheltered by a large porch. A concrete ramp provides wheelchair access into the structure. The rear entrance door is wood with heavy log slabs on the exterior. A small grotto outlined by massive boulders and containing a plaque commemorating Stephen T. Mather, first director of the National Park Service, is adjacent to the building and included within the

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boundaries of this nomination.

The room configuration on the interior has undergone a few slight changes, but basically remains intact. The main lobby area is a handsomely executed space and now contains the visitor contact desk. The highlight of the room is the fireplace constructed of oversized, smooth glacial boulders. Largest of the fireplace stones is the elongated mantle stone that spans the opening. Hanging above the mantle are crossed snowshoes, and ice-axe, and other glacial climbing equipment added in 1980 and not considered part of this nomination. The hardwood floors of this space are finished with a polyurethane varnish and covered with carpet in the high-traffic areas. Walls are log-slab siding laid horizontal, with a low wainscot of horizontal slabs. All the doors and windows in this room are surrounded by massive moldings of log slabs. The ceiling is not original and consists of sheetrock with a rough plaster finish. Recessed spotlights in this new ceiling augment the original wrought-iron chandeliers hanging from the ceiling. The new ceiling treatment and the spotlighting are not included in this nomination. The visitor-information desk is sheathed with log slabs, adding to the room's rustic character. A fluted bronze drinking fountain sits in one corner of the room. Other rooms on the first floor are offices and storage space.

The second-story spaces include a large conference room and additional offices. The basement contains mechanical equipment, storage spaces, and a jail cell. Original hardware appears on the doors and windows throughout the building. Most of the doors and windows are original. Modern partitions and cosmetic changes such as carpeting, fluorescent lighting, and paint finishes are not included in this nomination.

The last building of this group is the small service station (1929) adjacent to the National Park Inn. The first floor of this building up to sill height is of stone and concrete construction. The wood frame above is sheathed with log siding. The first floor of this building houses a small office for the service station. The roof stretches out to the gas-pump island providing shelter for one lane of the drive-through. The upper story of the building contains a small apartment under its steep gable roof. Access to the apartment is by way of an exterior staircase and door at the rear of the building. The gable roof is finished with wood shingles. The eave at the gable end has axe-cut bracketed outlookers adding to the building's rustic

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character. Windows on the first floor are multi-light casements. A single square casement appears in the gable end on the front elevation. The building has log corner posts at its corners that match the size of the log posts supporting the roof over the gas pumps. Lower portions of the island are of glacial boulders and concrete.

These three buildings--the community building, the administration building, and the service station--create the rustic image of Longmire and Mount Rainier National Park.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900--Present	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Three buildings at Longmire--the administration building, the community building and the service station--are a classic group of rustic structures that contributed substantially to the evolution of rustic design in the National Park Service. The service station, constructed in 1929 has additional regional significance as one of a diminishing category of rustic service stations constructed in the United States. The building's near-original condition makes it even more noteworthy.¹

During the early days of national parks no set theories of architecture appropriate to the awesome natural settings existed. The railroads, responsible for the early large developments in many park areas, experimented with several types of architectural design. Some railroad-constructed buildings closely followed European precedents, such as the chalets at Glacier National Park. In other instances they experimented with offshoots of indigenous American buildings, such as the pueblo replication of Hopi House at Grand Canyon. In a third and infrequently used type the railroad architects let the natural materials of the surrounding landscape dictate building forms--such as Lookout Studio at Grand Canyon. After the National Park Service was established in 1916 the federal experiments in compatible architecture began following all of those stylistic possibilities, but putting most emphasis on the third approach.

¹ The author has travelled extensively throughout the western United States over the past twelve years and has seen only a handful of service stations of rustic design. Some occur in areas administered by the U.S. Forest Service, such as the rustic station at Union, Oregon just south of Crater Lake National Park. Others occur in mountain resort areas. Most of the rustic stations have been altered, some beyond recognition, to accommodate larger vehicles or new equipment. Please note that the author's survey of rustic gas stations has been quite informal and cursory.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1 acre total.

UTM REFERENCES (Old Administration Building)

A	1,0	59,08,1,0	517,78,9,0	B	1,0	59,07,6,0	517,77,7,5
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,0	59,09,0,0	517,74,7,5	D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries for these three buildings are non-contiguous. The boundary line for the old administration building is 25 feet out from the walls of the building, and runs parallel to those walls. The boundary line for the service station is 15 feet from the walls of the building and runs parallel to all of those walls. The boundary line for the community building is 25 feet from the walls and runs parallel to all of those walls.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Laura Soulliere Harrison - Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

National Park Service - Southwest Regional Office

DATE

1986

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 728

TELEPHONE

505-988-6787

CITY OR TOWN

Santa Fe

STATE

New Mexico

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES___ NO___ NONE___

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is ___ National ___ State ___ Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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These buildings at Longmire are among the most successful experiments in the development of that rustic design ethic while possessing great architectural integrity.

At the time these buildings were constructed the Landscape Division of the National Park Service, headed up by landscape architect Thomas Vint, had just assembled a group of highly creative young men willing to seek out those design elements which made the buildings required for park development as harmonious as possible with their park settings. Vint's team of architects and landscape architects experimented with materials such as stone and logs, and with ways of shaping those materials into structures that "belonged" in the often scenic natural surroundings. The designers and onsite construction supervisors carefully studied the natural materials in the surroundings landscape--their scale, color, massing, and texture--and incorporated what they could into their designs. At Longmire an obvious building material was the rounded glacial boulder, smoothed by glacial action to a point where a matte sheen appeared on the rock. The architects and landscape architects often chose each stone and ensured that the masons created a soft, rounded batter to the walls of the administration building. The trees of the surrounding forests had thick trunks; the designers incorporated those trunks in the log framing and corner posts of the buildings. The overall result at Longmire was a group of structures that harmonized with the moraine landscape on the floodplain below the rugged slopes of Mount Rainier. The buildings acknowledged and emphasized the beauty of the landscape through use of native materials such as boulders and logs in a scale larger than those found in most building construction, but equivalent to the scale of those elements found in the buildings' immediate surroundings.

The three key buildings at Longmire were constructed under the able supervision of landscape architect Ernest A. Davidson, assigned to Mount Rainier National Park out of the park service's Landscape Division in San Francisco. Davidson's forte was fieldwork, particularly the onsite design of roadways and bridges. Although he did not have a degree in landscape architecture, he had taken courses in the subject at Washington State College at Pullman from a professor trained at the University of California in Berkeley. Immediately before joining the park service Davidson was a bank cashier. His drafting was excellent, so Thomas Vint, the chief landscape architect of the service hired him. Under Vint's guidance and through years of

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fieldwork Davidson became one of the best landscape architects in the Landscape Division, later known as the Branch of Plans and Design. Davidson was also designer and construction supervisor on the Yakima Park stockade development on the east side of the park.

Although the Longmire buildings were not the first of their kind in terms of style, they are among the best remaining examples. Some of the design features for the administration building, such as the use of heavy stone masonry on the first floor and the wood-frame construction mimicking timber-frame for the second story, are borrowed from the 1924 design of the Yosemite administration building.²

Longmire's administration building retains considerably more architectural integrity in terms of fabric than does the Yosemite administration building, but more importantly retains its approach vista. After driving along the entrance road through the thick, northwest forest, the visitor comes to Longmire, an open area on a slight grade. At the upper end of the open area, the administration building commands attention against a background of tall fir, cedar, and spruce. The approach vista lines up directly with the administration building; the road veers to the left past the building continuing up and around the mountain's flank. This vista of the administration building presents the rustic, yet slightly formal image the park service designers strove to create.

The community building and the service station reinforce that frontier, forested image. The service station, on the right side of the approach road before the administration building, is so well designed and sited back in the trees that it is barely noticeable. Even its function does not seem incongruous with the rugged setting. The community building next to the old campground is again overshadowed by the towering trees around it. It, too, is in harmony with its setting.

Both the administration building and the community building were

² Considerable changes to the interior and exterior of the Yosemite administration building have substantially altered its integrity. The author considered that structure in this study but judged it not to be of national significance because of those changes.

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featured in the 1938 publication Park and Recreation Structures-- a three-volume compendium of "successful natural park structures" designed in a variety of styles and with a variety of materials. All of the structures presented were designed to modify the landscape as little as possible and to "appear to belong to and be part of their settings." The three volumes showed the best efforts and most successful experiments of Vint's Landscape Division and the later Branch of Plans and Design. These structures--particularly the early ones such as these Longmire buildings--served as the basis of most of the design done during the work relief programs of the 1930s. The Longmire buildings are among the few in the nation retaining high levels of architectural integrity.

The Longmire service station is of regional architectural significance as one of a diminishing category of gas stations of rustic design. During the 1920s and 1930s service-station architects took considerable creative license in designing their buildings. Most often the architects selected styles befitting the surrounding architectural environment. Chinatown in San Francisco received a pagoda-styled station. Suburban areas were graced with stations recalling the quaint, picturesque design of English cottages. Some urban areas in the northeast and mid-Atlantic areas had gas stations with colonial designs resembling miniature Mount Vernons. Longmire, bordering the edge of the wilderness, received a rustic station of glacial boulders and peeled logs. The building retains considerable integrity.



Rear Elevation, Longmire Administration
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
8/85



South Elevation, Longmire Administration
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
8/85



South Elevation, Longmire Administration
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Entrance Porch, Longmire Administration
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Longmire Administration Building, Front
Elevation

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
8/85



Lobby Fireplace of Glacial Boulders,
Longmire Administration Building

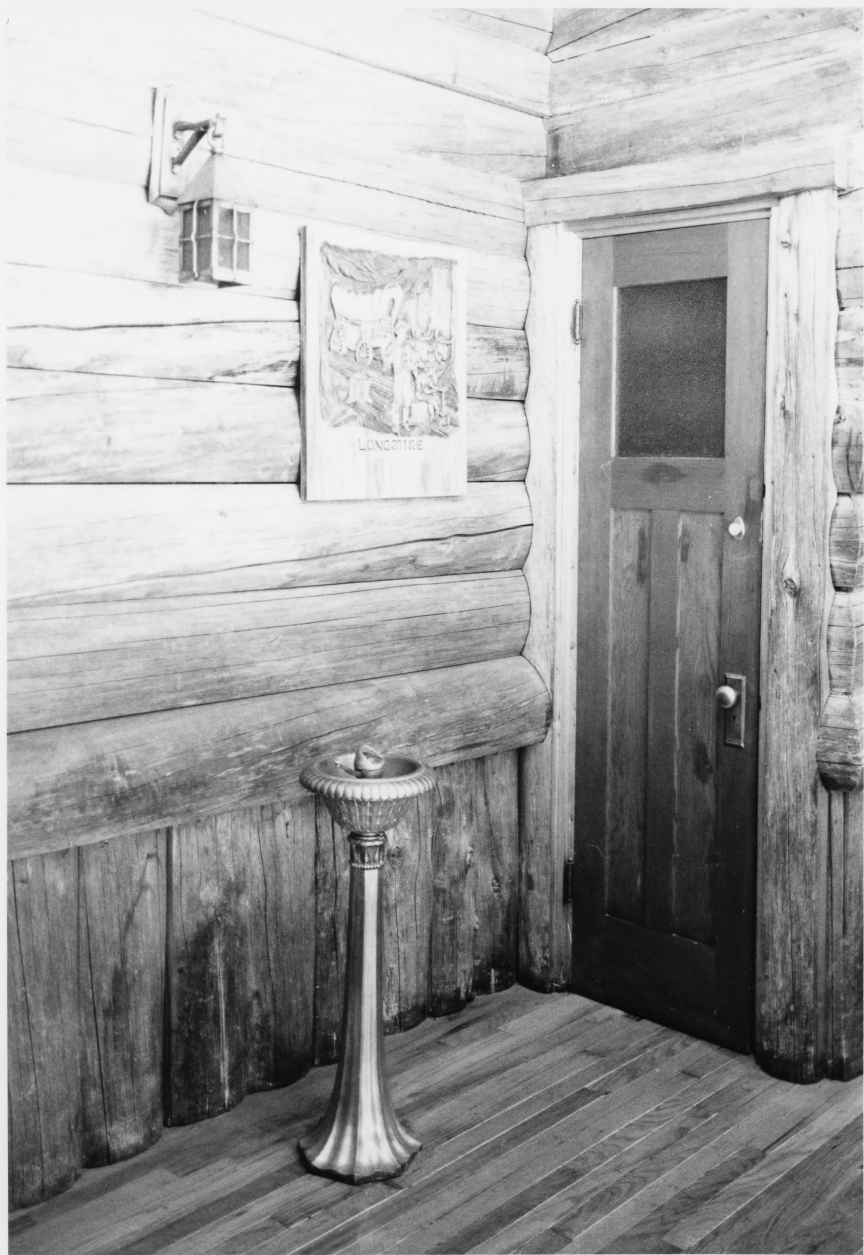
Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Lobby Fireplace and log-slab panelling,
Longmire Administration Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Fluted Pedestal Drinking Fountain, carved
Plaque and Wrought-iron Lamp, Lobby of
Longmire Administration Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Fireplace details, Longmire Administration
Building Lobby

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Front door, Longmire Administration
Building Lobby

Mount Rainier National Park

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Front Elevation, Longmire Community
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Longmire Community Building from the West

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
8/85



Front Elevation, Longmire Community
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Entrance Porch Details, Longmire
Community Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Longmire Administration Building,
front Elevation
Mount Rainier National Park

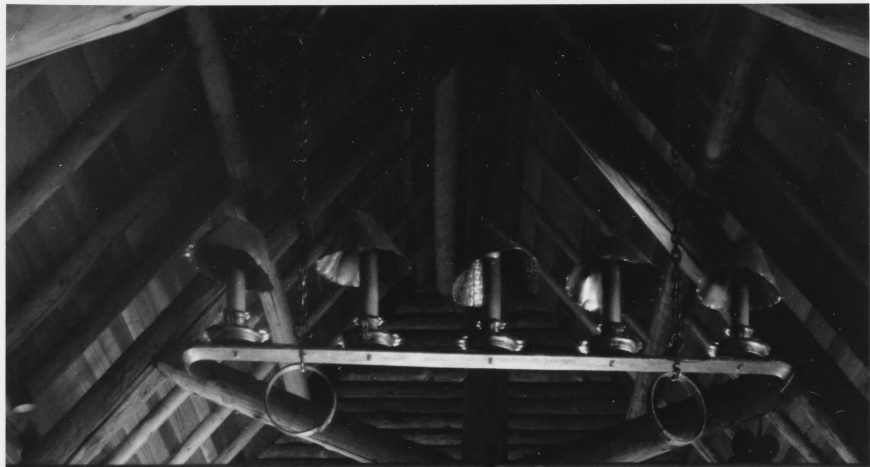
NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Entrance Doors, Longmire Community
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Interior, Longmire Community Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Corner Posts, Longmire Community Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison'

8/85



Window Details, Front Elevation, Longmire
Community Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Window Details, Front Elevation, Longmire
Community Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Interior, Longmire Community Building

Mount Rainier National Park

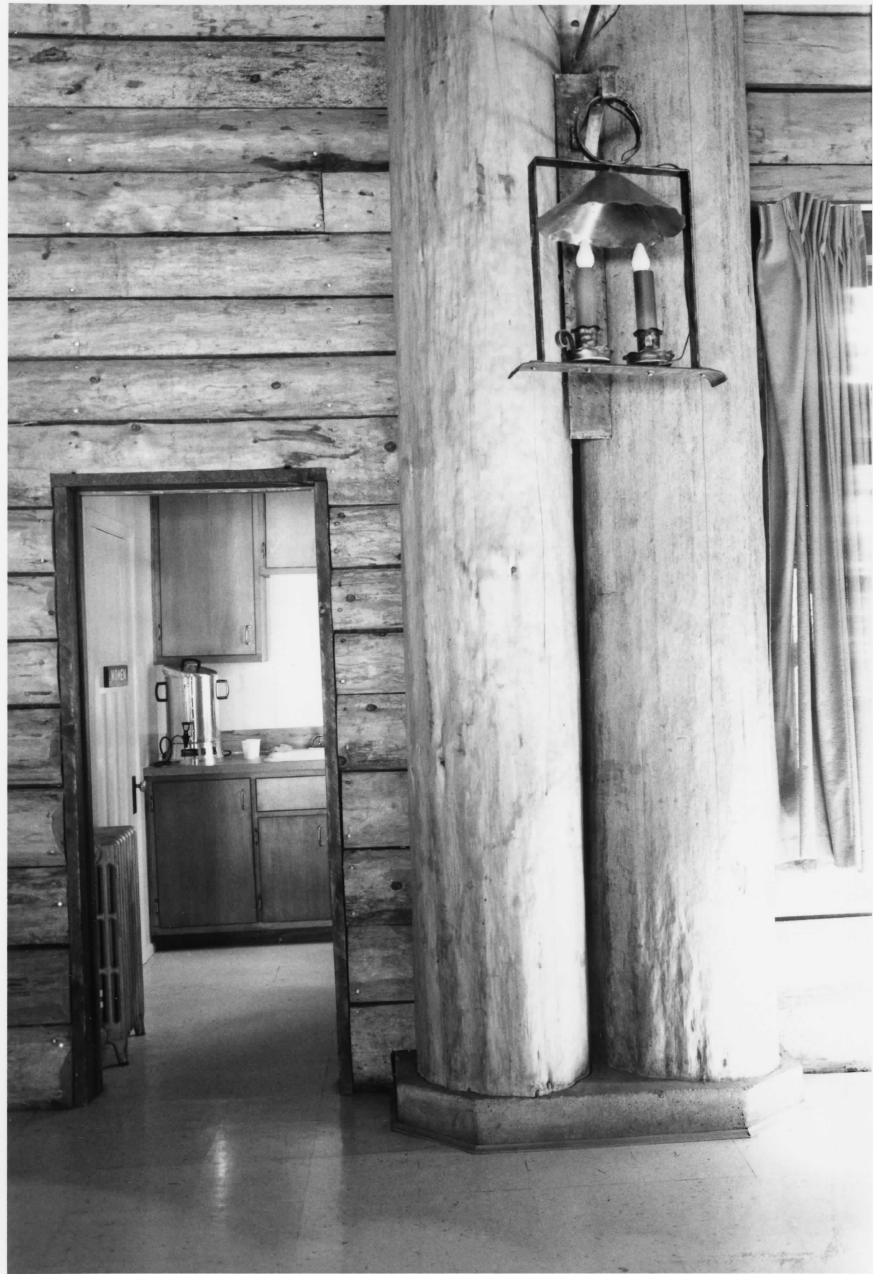
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Corner Post Details, Longmire Community
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Interior peeled-log posts and wrought-
iron sconce, Longmire Community Building

Mount Rainier National Park

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Front Entrance Porch, Longmire Community
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Longmire Community Building, from the
North

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
8/85



Interior of Main Room with Cut-Stone and
Stream-cobble Fireplace and Chimney,
Longmire Community Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison

8/85



Stephen T. Mather Grotto, adjacent to
Longmire Administration Building

Mount Rainier National Park

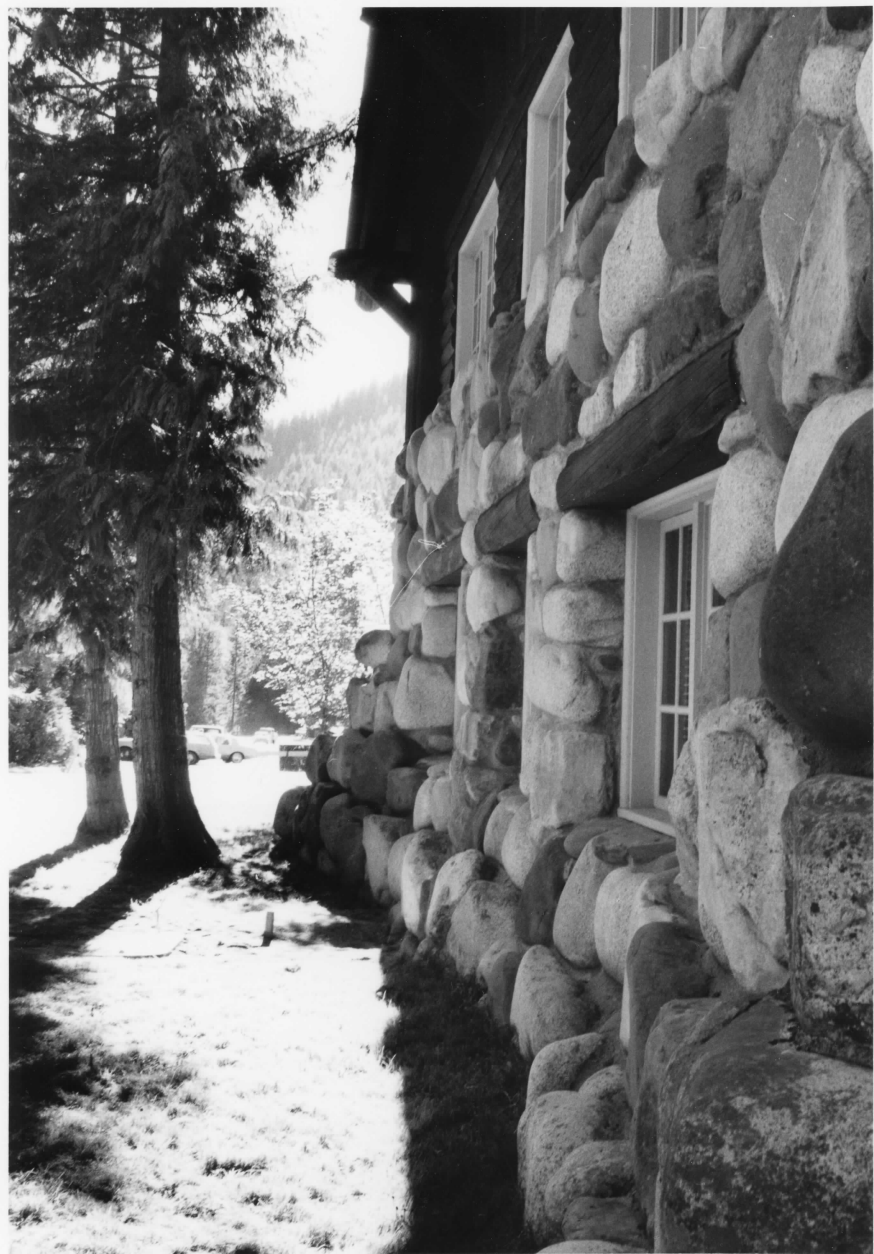
NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Front Entrance, Longmire Administration
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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South wall, Longmire Administration
Building. Note concavity and battering
of stone wall

Mount Rainier National Park

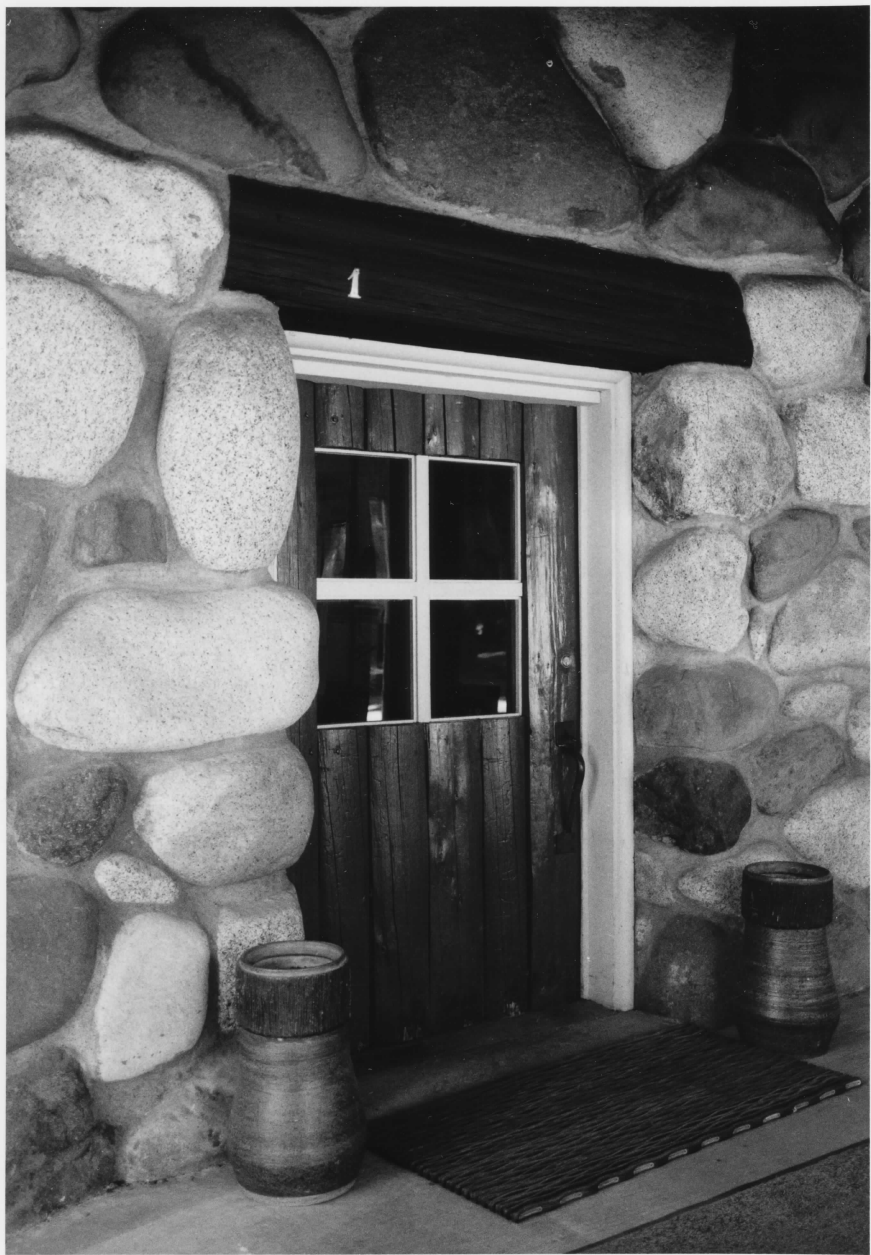
NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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North Elevation, Longmire Administration
Building

Mount Rainier National park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Log slab door and glacial stream boulders
rear elevation, Longmire Administration
Building

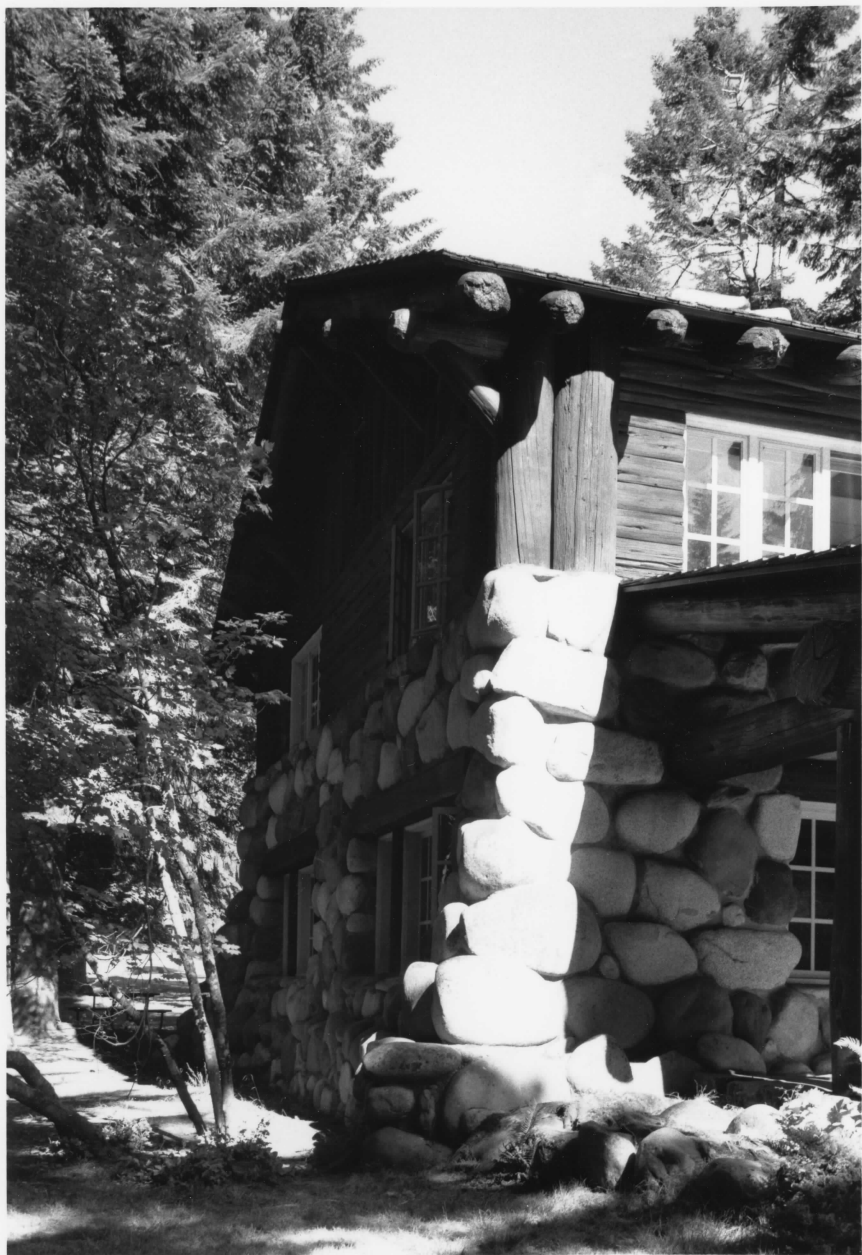
Mount Rainier National Park
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Front Elevation, Longmire Administration
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
8/85



Corner Detail, Longmire Administration
Building

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
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Log-slab panelling and lobby desk,
Longmire Administration Building lobby

Mount Rainier National Park

NPS Photo by Laura Soullière Harrison
8/85

Longmire Service Station

UTM 10 590760 517775

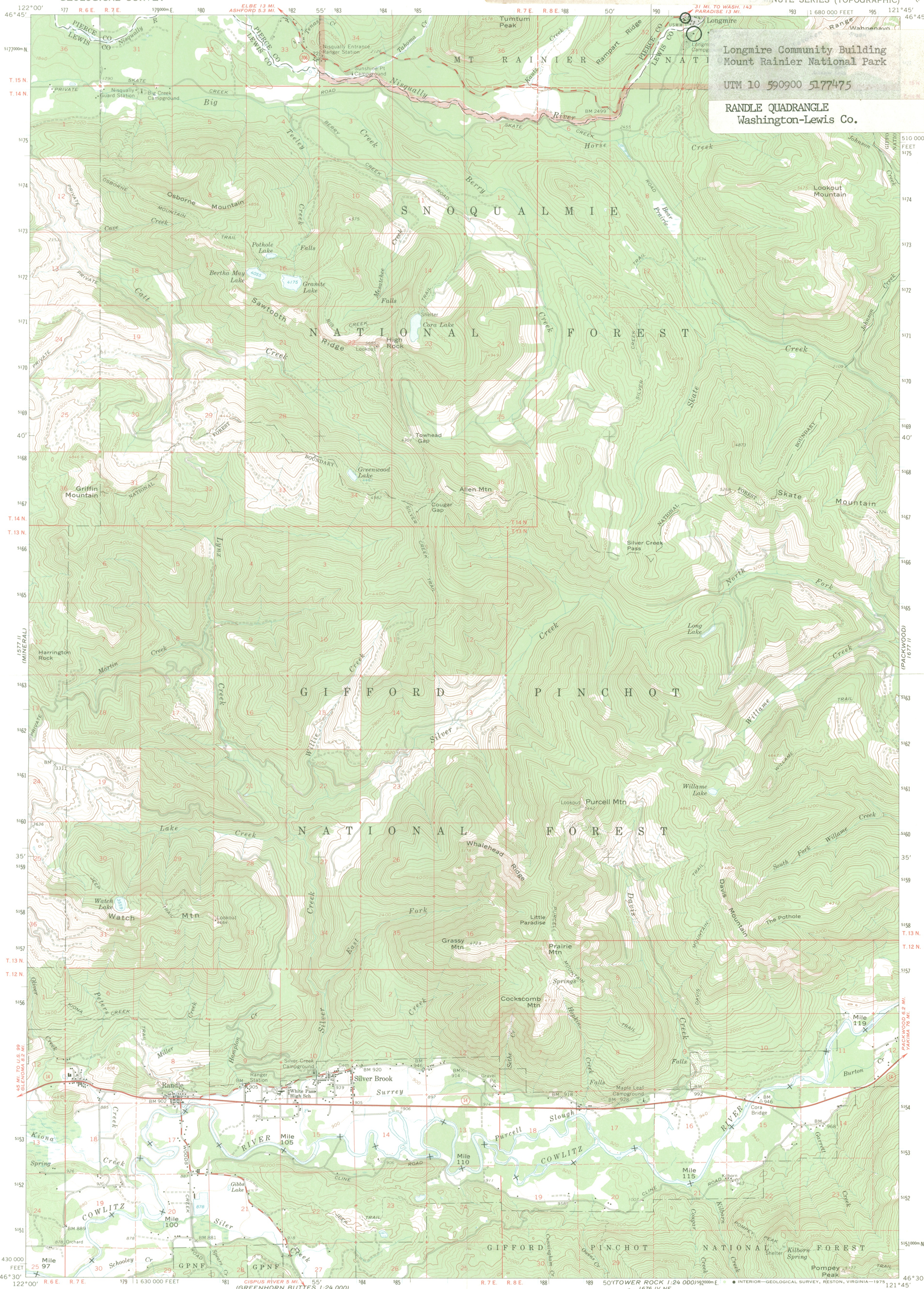
RANDLE QUADRANGLE
WASHINGTON
MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Longmire Community Building
Mount Rainier National Park
UTM 10 590900 5177475

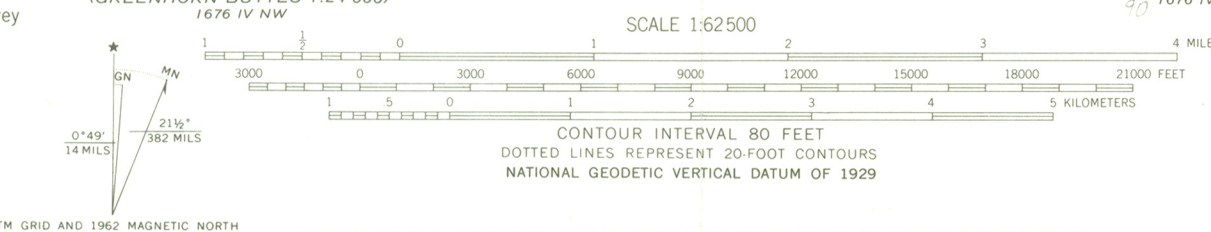
RANDLE QUADRANGLE
Washington-Lewis Co.

1977 II
MINERAL

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



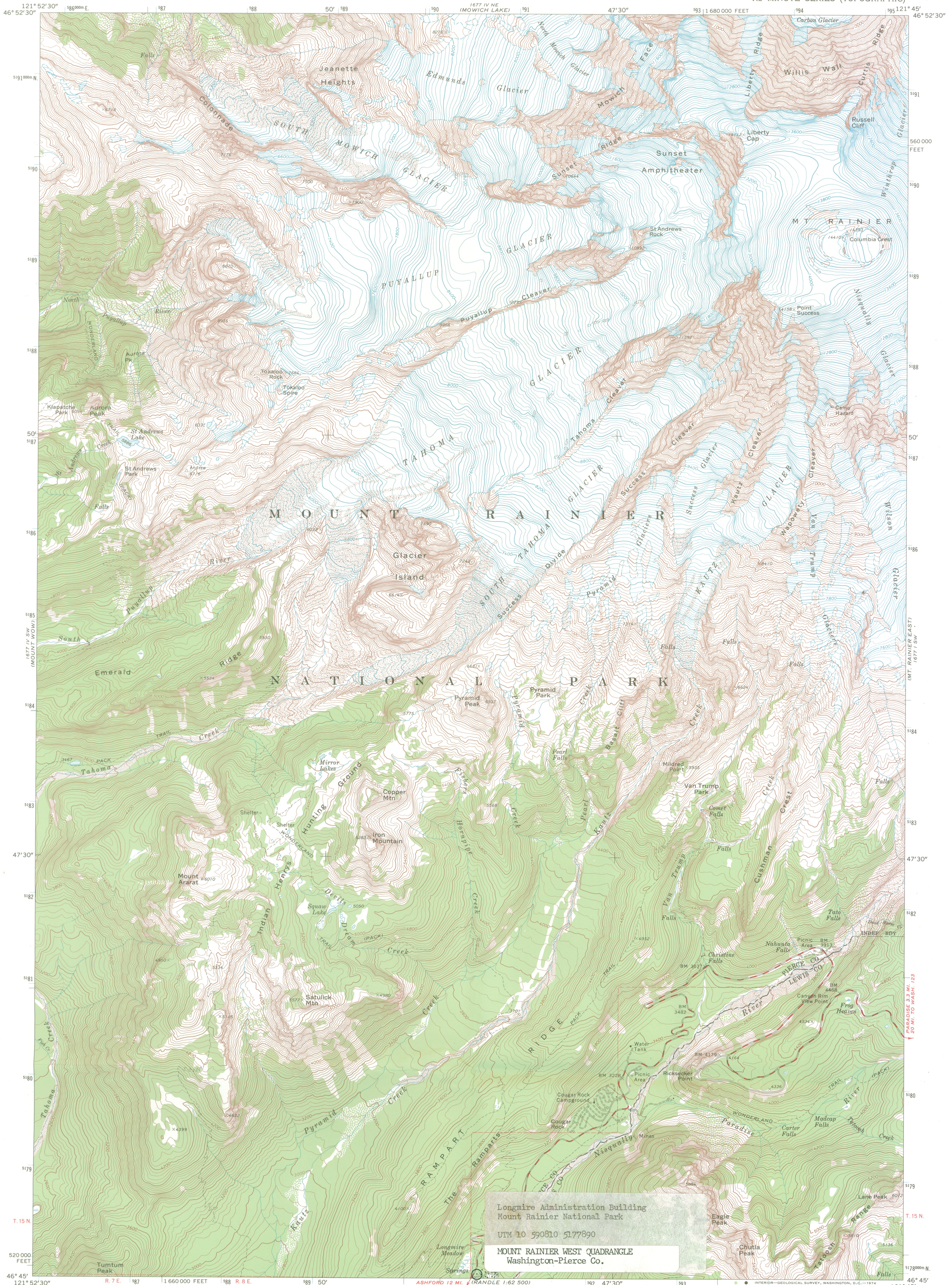
Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1959. Field checked 1962
Polyconic projection 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Washington coordinate system,
south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 10, shown in blue
Where omitted, land lines have not been established



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty _____ Light-duty _____
Medium-duty _____ Unimproved dirt _____
State Route _____

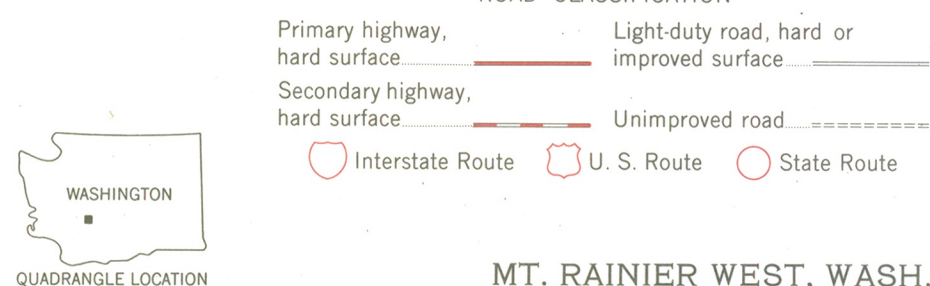
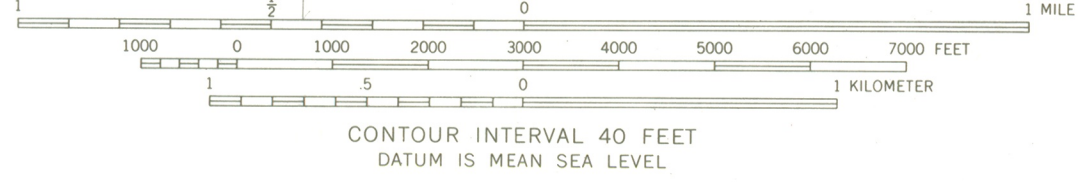
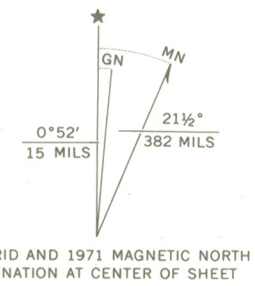
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

RANDLE, WASH.
N4630-W12145/15
1962
AMS 1677 III—SERIES V791



Longmire Administration Building
Mount Rainier National Park
UTM 10 590810 5177890
MOUNT RAINIER WEST QUADRANGLE
Washington-Pierce Co.

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1970. Field checked 1971
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Washington coordinate
system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 10, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum
Where omitted, land lines have not been established
No attempt made to show crevasses in glaciers



MT. RAINIER WEST, WASH.
N4645-W12145/7.5

West
quad
2.50

H34(418)

APR 17 1986

Honorable Joseph Sortini
Pierce County Executive
930 Tacoma Avenue
535 County/City Building
Tacoma, Washington 98402

Dear Mr. Sortini:

We wish to inform you that the National Park Service is studying the properties identified on the enclosed sheet to determine their potential for designation as National Historic Landmarks. The National Historic Landmarks Program recognizes sites of national significance in the Nation's history, architecture, archeology, and culture. Each Landmark receives a certificate of designation; owners may also apply for a bronze plaque.

National Historic Landmark designation follows three steps: study, which requires visiting the properties and preparing nominations; review of the nominations by the National Park System Advisory Board; and a decision by the Secretary of the Interior on the Board's recommendations.

When we complete our studies of the subject properties, you will receive copies of them. At that time you will have 60 days to submit your views in writing if you so desire. After the 60-day period, we will submit the nominations and your comments to the Advisory Board and inform the Secretary of the Board's recommendations.

To assist you in considering this matter, we have enclosed a copy of the regulations that govern the National Historic Landmarks Program. They describe the effects of designation (Sec. 65.2) and specify how you may comment on a proposed designation (Sec. 65.5(d)(4-5)). We also call your attention to the supplemental information that appears on the enclosed sheet.

Sincerely,

s/Edwin C. Bearss

Edwin C. Bearss
Chief Historian

Enclosures

PROPERTIES TO BE STUDIED FOR NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION

Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service
Station, Mount Rainier National Park
Paradise Inn, Mount Rainier National Park
Yakima Park Stockade Group, Mount Rainier National Park

As a private owner of the properties identified above you may concur in or object to designation. Your comments may govern whether or not the properties will be designated. You can find guidance for your comments in Section 65.5(d)(4-5) of the enclosed regulations.

In commenting on the possible designation of the properties identified above you can find guidance in Section 65.5(d)(4) of the enclosed regulations.

While you may comment at this time, you may wish to wait until the studies are completed and transmitted to you. You are, of course, welcome to consult us at any time. If you wish to respond at this time, please address your comments to Mr. Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian, National Park Service, History Division (418), P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

If you have general questions regarding the National Historic Landmarks Program you may contact Ben Levy at the History Division address given above, (202) 343-8164 or FTS: 343-8164. Historian Laura Soulliere Harrison will prepare the nominations of these properties. If you have questions concerning the studies, you may contact her at P.O. Box 65-Lodgepole, Sequoia National Park, California 93262, (209)565-3419.

H34(418)

APR 18 1986

Honorable Slade Gorton
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Gorton:

We wish to inform you that the National Park Service is studying the properties identified on the enclosed sheet to determine their potential for designation as National Historic Landmarks. The National Historic Landmarks Program recognizes sites of national significance in the Nation's history, architecture, archeology, and culture. Each Landmark receives a certificate of designation; owners may also apply for a bronze plaque.

National Historic Landmark designation follows three steps: study, which requires visiting the properties and preparing nominations; review of the nominations by the National Park System Advisory Board; and a decision by the Secretary of the Interior on the Board's recommendations.

When we complete our studies of the subject properties, you will receive copies of them. At that time you will have 60 days to submit your views in writing if you so desire. After the 60-day period, we will submit the nominations and your comments to the Advisory Board and inform the Secretary of the Board's recommendations.

To assist you in considering this matter, we have enclosed a copy of the regulations that govern the National Historic Landmarks Program. They describe the effects of designation (Sec. 65.2) and specify how you may comment on a proposed designation (Sec. 65.5(d)(4-5)). We also call your attention to the supplemental information that appears on the enclosed sheet.

Sincerely,

/Sgd/Jerry L. Rogers

Associate Director

Enclosures



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. BOX 37127

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H34(418)

APR 18 1986

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region

From: ^{Acting} Director

Subject: National Historic Landmark Nomination Studies on National Park System Architecture

As part of a National Historic Landmarks Program survey of architecture in the National Park System, Laura Soulliere Harrison is studying the following properties to determine their potential for designation as National Historic Landmarks:

Superintendent's Residence, Crater Lake National Park
Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service Station,
Mount Rainier National Park
Paradise Inn, Mount Rainier National Park
Yakima Park Stockade Group, Mount Rainier National Park
Oregon Caves Chateau, Oregon Caves National Monument.

As you know, National Historic Landmark designation follows three steps: study, which requires visiting the properties and preparing nominations; review of the nominations by the National Park System Advisory Board; and a decision by the Secretary of the Interior on the Board's recommendations.

When the studies of the above properties are completed, copies will be sent to you. At that time, you may wish to comment on the studies. After a 60-day period, we will submit the nominations to the Advisory Board and inform the Secretary of the Board's recommendations.

Should you have any questions about the National Historic Landmarks Program, please contact Ben Levy of the WASO History Division, FTS 343-8164. If you have questions concerning the studies, you may reach Ms. Soulliere Harrison at P.O. Box 65-Lodgepole, Sequoia National Park, California 93262 or at (209)565-3419.

s/ Denis P. Galvin

Aleen

cc: Superintendent, Oregon Caves National Monument
Superintendent, Crater Lake National Park
Superintendent, Mount Rainier National Park
Regional Director (WRO) (8000)
Margaret Pepin-Donat (WRO) (8000)
Stephanie Toothman (PNWRO) (9000)
001 Mott
001 Reading File
400 Reading File
418-Superintendent's Residence, Crater Lake NP (NHL Pending)
418-Longmire Administration Building....., Mount Rainier NP (NHL Pending)
418-Paradise Inn, Mount Rainier NP (NHL Pending)
418-Yakima Park Stockade Group, Mount Rainier NP (NHL Pending)
418-Oregon Caves Chateau, Oregon Caves NM (NHL Pending)
LFeller:pt:4/ /86



PIERCE COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
535 County-City Building, Tacoma, Washington 98402
Telephone: (206) 591-7477

JOE STORTINI
Pierce County Executive

May 6, 1986

Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

File No. H34(418)

Dear Mr. Bearss:

Thank you for your letter requesting comment on your National Historic Landmark study of Mount Rainier National Park. As a Certified Local Government, I would like to reserve comment until the study is completed, and we receive copies of the nominations. At that time, I will submit them to the Pierce County Landmarks Commission for review and comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Stortini".

JOE STORTINI
Pierce County Executive

JS/cg/dlp
EEW:860505:1

MAY 13 1986



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SOUTHWEST REGION
P.O. BOX 728
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-0728

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H34 (SWR-PCH)

DEC 5 1986

DEC 1 1986

Memorandum

To: Associate Director, Cultural Resources, WASO
Attention: Chief, History Division

From: Regional Director, Southwest Region

Subject: Transmittal of Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service Station NHL

Enclosed is the final National Historic Landmark Nomination for Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service Station. Included within the package is a duplicate set of photographs which should be sent to the park with a copy of the landmark nomination after the Advisory Board meeting.

Enclosures

cc:
Superintendent, Mount Rainier, w/o enclosures
Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region, w/o enclosures



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SOUTHWEST REGION
P.O. BOX 728
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-0728

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H34 (SWR-PCH)

DEC 22 REC'D

DEC 16 1988

Memorandum

To: Associate Director, Cultural Resources, WASO
Attention: Chief, History Division

From: ^{Acting} Regional Director, Southwest Region

Subject: Revised National Landmark Nomination for Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service Station

Enclosed is a revised copy of the National Landmark Nomination for the Longmire Buildings at Mount Rainier National Park, based on additional comments from the Pacific Northwest Regional Office. Please remove the maps, photographs, and continuation sheets from the original nomination, attach them to this revision, and destroy the original form.

All 30 landmark nominations with accompanying maps and photographs should be in your possession. Please contact our office immediately if you are missing any nomination forms.

Kent E. Miller

Enclosure

cc:
Superintendent, Mount Rainier, w/c enclosure
Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region, w/c enclosure

H34(418)

DEC 24 1986

Honorable Joseph Stortini
Pierce County Executive
930 Tacoma Avenue
535 County/City Building
Tacoma, Washington 98402

Dear Mr. Stortini:

We are pleased to inform you that the National Park Service has completed the studies of the properties identified on the enclosed sheet for the purpose of nominating them for possible designation as National Historic Landmarks. We enclose copies of the study reports. The National Park System Advisory Board will consider the nominations during its next meeting at the time and place indicated on the enclosure. The Board will make its recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior based upon the criteria of the National Historic Landmarks Program.

You have 60 days before the meeting of the Advisory Board to submit your views in writing if you so desire. After the 60-day period, we will submit the nominations and your comments to the Advisory Board and then inform the Secretary of the Board's recommendations for his final action.

To assist you in considering this matter, we have enclosed a copy of the regulations that govern the National Historic Landmarks Program. They describe the criteria for designation (Sec. 65.4), the effects of designation (Sec. 65.2), and specify how you may comment on a proposed designation (Sec. 65.5(d)(4-5)). Should you wish to comment, please send your comments to me at the National Park Service, History Division (418), P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

Sincerely,

/s/ Benjamin Levy

for
Edwin C. Bearss
Chief Historian

Enclosures

PROPERTIES STUDIED FOR NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION

- (1) Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service Station, Mount Rainier National Park
- (2) Paradise Inn, Mount Rainier National Park
- (3) Yakima Park Stockade Group, Mount Rainier National Park

As a private owner of the properties identified above you may concur in or object to designation. Your comments may govern whether or not the properties will be designated. You can find guidance for your comments in Section 65.5(d)(4-5) of the enclosed regulations.

In commenting on the possible designation of the above indicated properties you can find guidance in Section 65.5(d)(4) of the enclosed regulations.

The above properties will be considered for possible designation as National Historic Landmarks by the National Park System Advisory Board at its meeting on April 9, 1987, beginning at 8:00 AM, at the Port of the Islands Resort in Marco, Florida. Should you wish to obtain information about the meeting, or about the National Historic Landmarks Program, please contact Ben Levy at the National Park Service, History Division (418), P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127, 202-343-8164 or FTS-343-8164.

If you have questions about the study reports, you may contact Ms. Laura Soulliere Harrison at P.O. Box 65-Lodgepole, Sequoia National Park, California 93262, 209-565-3419.

JAN 2 1987

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region

From: ^{Acting} Director /Sgd/Jerry L. Rogers

Subject: National Historic Landmark nomination studies of Architecture in the National Park System

I am pleased to inform you that Ms. Laura Soulliere Harrison has completed National Historic Landmark nomination studies of the following properties:

- (1) Superintendent's Residence, Crater Lake National Park, ~~Crater Lake~~
- (2) Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service Station, Mount Rainier National Park
- (3) Paradise Inn, Mount Rainier National Park
- (4) Yakima Park Stockade Group, Mount Rainier National Park
- (5) Oregon Caves Chateau, Oregon Caves National Monument

Copies of the nomination studies of each of these properties are attached.

As you know, National Historic Landmark nomination follows three steps: study, which requires visiting properties and preparing nominations; review of the nominations by the National Park System Advisory Board; and a decision by the Secretary of the Interior on the Board's recommendations.

The National Park System Advisory Board will review the nominations at a meeting on April 9, 1987, beginning at 8:00 AM, at the Port of the Islands Resort in Marco, Florida. Should you have any questions about the meeting or comments about the attached studies, please contact Chief Historian Edwin C. Bearss (FIS-343-8163), or Senior Historian Ben Levy (FIS-343-8164) of the WASO History Division.

Attachment

cc: Regional Director (WRO) (8000) ATTENTION: M. Pepin-Donat
 Superintendent, Crater Lake National Park (9320)
 Superintendent, Mount Rainier National Park (9450)
 Superintendent, Oregon Caves National Monument (9340)
 S. Toothman (PNWRO) (9000)
 001 Mott
 001 Reading File
 400 Reading File
 418 SUPERINTENDENT'S RESIDENCE (NHL Pending)
 418 LONGMIRE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, COMMUNITY BUILDING, AND SERVICE STATION (NHL Pending)
 418 PARADISE INN (NHL Pending)
 418 YAKIMA PARK STOCKADE GROUP (NHL Pending)
 418 OREGON CAVES CHATEAU (NHL Pending)

LFeller:sd:12-16-86

(33b)

JAN - 7 1987

H34(418)

Honorable ~~Slade Corten~~ ^{Brock Adams}
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator ^{Adams} ~~Corten~~:

We are pleased to inform you that the National Park Service has completed the studies of the properties identified on the enclosed sheet for the purpose of nominating them for possible designation as National Historic Landmarks. We enclose copies of the study reports. The National Park System Advisory Board will consider the nominations during its next meeting at the time and place indicated on the enclosure. The Board will make its recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior based upon the criteria of the National Historic Landmarks Program.

You have 60 days before the meeting of the Advisory Board to submit your views in writing if you so desire. After the 60-day period, we will submit the nominations and your comments to the Advisory Board and then inform the Secretary of the Board's recommendations for his final action.

To assist you in considering this matter, we have enclosed a copy of the regulations that govern the National Historic Landmarks Program. They describe the criteria for designation (Sec. 65.4), the effects of designation (Sec. 65.2), and specify how you may comment on a proposed designation (Sec. 65.5(d)(4-5)). Should you wish to comment, please send your comments to Mr. Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian, National Park Service, History Division (418), P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

Sincerely,

/Sgd/Jerry L. Rogers

~~For~~ William Penn Mott, Jr.
Director

Enclosures

RICHARD J. THOMPSON
Director



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

111 West Twenty-First Avenue, KL-11 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5411 • (206) 753-4011 • SCAN 234-4011

March 23, 1987

Mr. Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian
National Park Service
History Division (418)
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Mr. Bearss:

Thank you for allowing us to review the National Historic Landmark nominations for the Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service Station; Paradise Inn; and the Yakima Park Stockade group in the Mount Rainier National Park. The properties have been recognized for their significant association with the development of the National Park system and specifically the evolution of a distinctive architectural style for National Park buildings.

The nominations have been reviewed by our office and by the State Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The following comments reflect that review.

Longmire Complex: The nomination places the property in the context of the Mount Rainier Park, the National Park system, and the evolution of the rustic idiom among National Park buildings to substantiate the statement of significance. It should be noted, however, that the complex appears to fulfill the National Park Service definition of "district;" the nomination should identify potential district boundaries and modify the nomination as necessary.

Paradise: The nomination addresses the national significance of the lodge as an example of National Park Service rustic style architecture. The architectural firm responsible for the design was Heath, Gove, and Bell (misspelled on the nomination form), a prominent Tacoma firm. Frederick Heath, the principal, was born in Wisconsin in 1861, moved to Tacoma in 1893, and began his practice in 1901. In 1911, he entered a partnership with George Gove and in 1914 the firm became associated with Herbert Bell. The nomination should include substantive information on the firm.

The nomination notes that "only the exterior of the (1924) annex is included in the nomination." This statement creates an inappropriate dichotomy between the exterior and interior of the annex and runs counter to National Register guidelines which require evaluation of complete buildings.


Mr. Edwin C. Bearss
March 23, 1987
Page 2

Yakima Park Stockade Group: The nomination does not adequately address the national significance of the architecture of the group or discuss the buildings in relation to other structures in the park or park system. The nomination does not address the "outstanding" significance required of buildings less than 50 years old. The nomination does not describe the 1954 remodeling. The nomination does not assess the potential for a historic district.

The nomination should be revised to include this information in order to substantiate the claim to national significance.

I hope these comments will be helpful in recognizing and evaluating the great historic resources of Mount Rainier National Park. If you have any questions about our comments, please call me at (206) 586-2901.

Sincerely,


Leonard Garfield
Architectural Historian

LG

- (21) Yakima Park Stockade Group, Mount Rainier National Park
- (22) Crater Lake Superintendent's Residence, Crater Lake National Park
- (23) Bandelier CCC Historic District, Bandelier National Monument
- (24) Oregon Caves Chateau, Oregon Caves National Monument
- (25) Northeast Entrance Station, Yellowstone National Park
- (26) National Park Service Region III Headquarters Building, Santa Fe,
New Mexico
- (27) Tumacacori Museum, Tumacacori National Monument
- (28) Painted Desert Inn, Petrified Forest National Park
- (29) Aquatic Park, Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- (30) Gateway Arch, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

C. WORLD WAR II IN THE PACIFIC THEME STUDY, PART II

ALASKA SITE

- (1) Cape Field at Fort Glenn (Umnak Airport), Umnak Island, Aleutian
Islands

HAWAII SITES

- (2) Wheeler Field, Honolulu County
- (3) Kaneohe Naval Air Station, vicinity of Kailua, Honolulu County
- (4) CINCPAC Headquarters (Headquarters, Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet),
Pearl Harbor Naval Base, Honolulu County
- (5) Palm Circle, 100 Area, Fort Shafter, Honolulu

OTHER PACIFIC SITES

- (6) Blunts Point Battery, American Samoa's Defenses, Matautu Ridge, Tutuila
Island
- (7) World War II Facilities at Midway

In accordance with National Historic Landmarks Program regulations, the Board reviewed the studies nominating these properties for Landmark status, and found that the properties meet National Historic Landmarks Program criteria. The Board therefore voted to recommend that they be designated as National Historic Landmarks. None of the parties required to be notified of Landmark nomination proposals objects to these nominations, except that the Utah State Historic Preservation Officer did not concur in the Bryce Canyon Lodge and Deluxe Cabins nomination. He took this action because many of the non-deluxe cabins that were designed and built in association with that Lodge have been removed, raising questions about the integrity of the lodge complex. The Board members discussed this issue, and voted nonetheless for Landmark designation of the Lodge and Deluxe Cabins.

I recommend that you approve the Board's recommendations and designate as National Historic Landmarks all the properties listed above.

Approve Donald Paul Hodel Disapprove _____

Date MAY 28 1987 Date _____

Prepared by: Laura Feller ext.: 343-8167

cc: ES (8) FW (2) 040 Berklacy
 040 Clevenger 418 Levy
 418 Feller 418 Milner
 418 Bearss 001 Mott
 001 Reading File 400 Reading File
 418 DESIGNATIONS (NHL General)
 418 COPY SHOULD GO IN EACH OF THE NHL FILES LISTED ABOVE
 LFeller:04-27-87:JHCharleton:sd:05-01-87 (2)

H34(418)

JUL 24 1987

Honorable Brock Adams
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Adams:

I am pleased to inform you that the properties identified on the enclosed sheet have been found to possess national significance in the history of the United States. As a result, the Secretary of the Interior has designated them National Historic Landmarks.

The purpose of landmark designation is to identify and recognize nationally significant sites and to encourage their owners to preserve them. Landmarks are chosen after careful study by the National Park Service. They are evaluated by the National Park System Advisory Board and designated by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Historic Sites Act of 1935 and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Designation as a National Historic Landmark automatically places a property in the National Register of Historic Places, if it is not already so listed, and extends to it the safeguards and benefits provided by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and other Federal laws protecting historic properties.

We are pleased to include these properties on the roll of National Historic Landmarks as significant representatives of our nation's heritage.

Sincerely,
/s/Jerry L. Rogers

For

William Penn Mott, Jr.
Director

Enclosure

The Secretary of the Interior recently designated the following properties National Historic Landmarks:

- (1) Longmire Administration Building, Community Building, and Service Station, Mount Rainier National Park
- (2) Paradise Inn, Mount Rainier National Park
- (3) Yakima Park Stockade Group, Mount Rainier National Park

Certificates attesting to the national significance of the properties and the Secretary's designation of them as National Historic Landmarks will be sent to you, as the owner of the properties. You are also eligible to receive bronze plaques to commemorate their designation. Copies of the plaque application form are enclosed. If you wish to request the plaques, please complete the forms in triplicate for each property and return two copies to the National Park Service, History Division (418), P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127. You may retain the third copies for your records. Each certificate and plaque will bear the name of each property as it appears above. If you have questions about the certificates or plaques, please contact James Charleton at the above address, or by telephone (202)343-8165 or FTS: 343-8165.

Owners of Landmarks receive certificates of designation, and, upon application, will also be awarded bronze plaques. We are notifying the owners of the designations and providing the appropriate forms.

H34(418)
SEP 26 1987

Honorable Joseph Stortini
Pierce County Executive
930 Tacoma Avenue
535 County/City Building
Tacoma, Washington 98402

Dear Mr. Stortini:


I am pleased to inform you that the properties identified on the enclosed sheet have been found to possess national significance in the history of the United States. As a result, the Secretary of the Interior has designated them National Historic Landmarks.

The purpose of landmark designation is to identify and recognize nationally significant sites and to encourage their owners to preserve them. Landmarks are chosen after careful study by the National Park Service. They are evaluated by the National Park System Advisory Board and designated by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Historic Sites Act of 1935 and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Designation as a National Historic Landmark automatically places a property in the National Register of Historic Places, if it is not already so listed, and extends to it the safeguards and benefits provided by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and other Federal laws protecting historic properties.

We are pleased to include these properties on the roll of National Historic Landmarks as significant representatives of our nation's heritage.

Sincerely,

 **Edwin C. Bearss**
Edwin C. Bearss
Chief Historian

Enclosure

NBA

Historic Mount Rainier inn

71-year-old Longmire landmark will be closed for year

By Leslie Brown

LONGMIRE — Huge snowfalls, thousands of people and the wear of 71 years have taken their toll on the historic National Park Inn at the southern base of Mount Rainier.

The oak floors are pale and worn. The plumbing fails on occasion, leaving water stains as proof. The electricity is faulty.

One Thanksgiving, in the middle of the cooking of turkeys, the kitchen lost all its power, and workers frantically transferred the birds to gas stoves scattered through the camp.

But such stories soon will fade into history.

The National Park Inn — a rustic, wooden structure nestled in firs 2,700 feet above sea level in Mount Rainier National Park — is about to undergo a major facelift.

With more than \$1 million from the National Park Service, it will get a new main entrance, a stone fireplace like one taken out years ago, new oak floors, oak wainscoting and accessibility for the handicapped.

Its kitchen will be expanded and modernized. All 16 rooms will be remodeled, and nine more will be created. A new parking lot will be built at what is now the back of the building, and a new entrance — a log portico — will be created where now there is solid wall.

Elizabeth Marzano, the inn's ebullient manager, is delighted.

"Oh, it's going to be gorgeous," she said, "It should become the showcase of Mount Rainier."

The project has been on the drawing board for more than three years and has been postponed once. But Marzano and National Park Service officials say it is now close to being launched.

Last week, potential bidders for a contract that could go as high as \$2.5 million had a chance to view the inn. Acceptance of bids will close June 23. Renovations, the park service said, will begin this fall.

The project will close the inn for more than a year — longer than this simple, sturdy structure ever has been shut down. It will close after Labor Day and open for the winter

1988 season, said Cy Hentges, management assistant for the Mount Rainier National Park.

"Since 1926, the inn has not ever been closed down to my knowledge," Marzano said.

The hotel, built in 1916, is owned by the National Park Service and leased to a Virginia-based concessionaire.

Initially, the building housed offices and served as an annex to the original and more splendid National Park Inn, a 36-room structure built in 1906. Fire leveled the larger inn in 1926, and the annex shifted to

Oh, it's going to be gorgeous. It should become the showcase of Mount Rainier.

— Elizabeth Marzano, manager National Park Inn

center stage. Besides Paradise Inn farther up the mountain, it now offers the only accommodations in Mount Rainier National Park.

The inn was part of a much larger and more luxurious complex built at the turn of the century by descendants of the pioneering James Longmire, who discovered the hot mineral springs in the area during an ascent of the mountain in 1883. According to a short history of the area written by the National Park Service, Longmire filed a claim for the 20 acres surrounding the springs in 1887, and by 1890 he had built a small, two-story hotel with five guest rooms and some cabins.

The small mountainside resort slowly began to grow. By 1911, the complex included two hotels, a tent area that could accommodate 160 people, a livery, a photography gallery, a barber shop, a gas station and a clubhouse.

During the Depression, owners of the complex — a group of Seattle and Tacoma businessmen who formed the Rainier National Park Co. — ran into financial difficulties from which they never fully recov-

ered. In 1950, they sold their holdings to the federal government.

Today, the dark brown, clapboard inn — a National Historic Register building — sees nearly 3,500 guests a year. Its rooms are unadorned. Photographs of Mount Rainier hang on nearly every wall. It has a small restaurant that serves pancakes and hamburgers and a crowded gift shop filled with postcards and ceramic knickknacks.

Robert Simmonds, a National Park Service architect spearheading the rehabilitation project, said the renovations will restore much of the building to its original appearance.

But it also will include new touches — like the oak wainscoting and a new front entrance that he feels will provide more safety from the steady stream of cars headed up to Paradise. What's more, those new touches will differentiate the old from the new, he said.

"We want to respect the historic architecture and be complementary, but we also want the visitor to be able to determine what was built in 1987 and what was built in 1920," he said. "If you made it all blend, it would be discourteous to the historical structure."

The project will include the creation of two new guest rooms on the first floor that will be accessible to handicapped people. The gift shop will move to a small log cabin next door, and the front area that is now the gift shop will become what Marzano described as a small, cozy living room — complete with couches, a fireplace and a formal front desk.

The National Park Service cannot say how much the total project will cost until a bid is accepted, Simmonds said. But in a legal notice announcing the bids, it recommends a range of offers between \$1 million and \$2.5 million.

Marzano, who started working at the inn in 1974, said the project will work to maintain the historical integrity of the building. An unabashed fan of the inn, she said the project will restore an important Mount Rainier landmark for future generations.

"It's our heritage, so we have to try to maintain that," she said.