

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

HABS No. OR-165-E

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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

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

HABS NO. OR-165-E

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

The chicken house is more specifically located northwest of the barn in southern end of the ranch complex.

Significance: The chicken house is significant as it relates to the operations of the ranch. A chicken house is a typical support structure for a ranch. It is one of the accessory buildings which provided the means for sustaining a food source at the ranch.

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

Description: The chicken house, measuring approximately 8' N.S. x 7' E.W., is a pole frame structure covered with a shed roof. The roof is supported by small peeled logs. The walls are sheathed with wide machine-sawn vertical and horizontal wood planks. A hinged door is on the east elevation and an off-centered window, covered with chicken wire, is on the north elevation. A small opening is located at the base of the building on the west elevation. The shed roof is comprised of three sapling purlins covered with corrugated metal. The foundation system consists of three small logs extending north-south that support the structure. The chicken house has a wood floor. The building is in fair condition.

Historical Context:

The exact construction date for this building is unknown. According to Richard Cason, however, the building was there in 1947. The building housed chicken which were a source of fresh eggs and poultry. The chicken house may have been resided at one time because of the use of machine-cut sawn plank siding on the exterior.

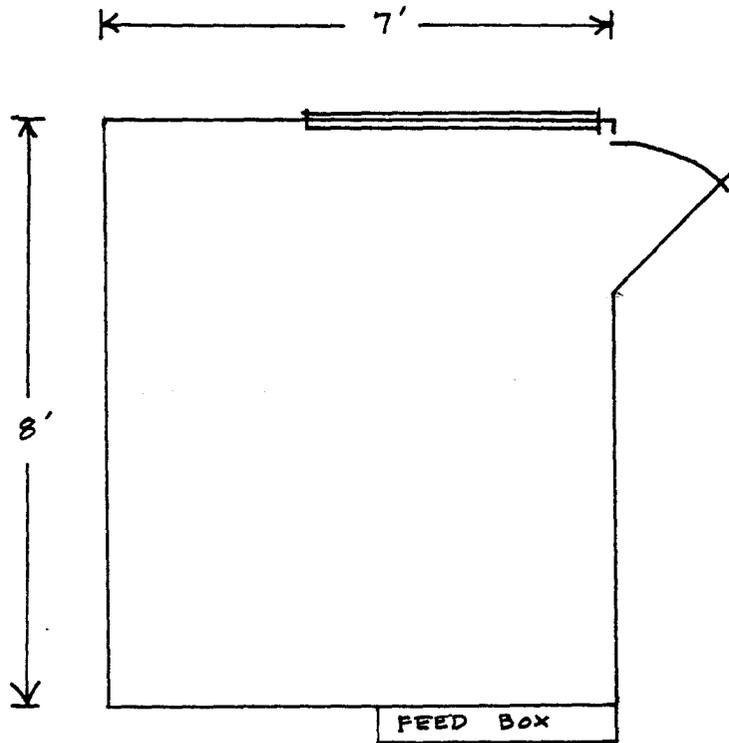
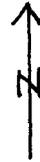
Sources: Cason, Richard, 8/12/96, Elgin, Oregon, former wrangler and pilot for Red's Horse Ranch, interviewed by Kimberly Lakin. Womack, Bruce, 8/96 and 10/96, Enterprise, Oregon, Eagle Cap Wilderness Area, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, National Register Determination of Eligibility. Site analysis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

Project Information:

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

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

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APPROX. SCALE

CHICKEN HOUSE