

THE HORSE RANCH, PRIVY NO. 2
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
Eagle Cap Wilderness Area
Joseph vicinity
Wallowa County
Oregon

HABS No. OR-165-AB

HABS
ORE
32-JOS.V,
IAB-

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), Privy #2

HABS NO. OR-165-AB

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 privy #2 is located in the center of the hay field away from the other buildings, closest to cabins (OR-165-Z and OR-165-AA).

Significance: Privy #2 has significance as it relates to the building complex. Privies provided the only means of sanitation to the ranch until 1946 when indoor plumbing was introduced. Only two privies remain on the site. This privy has been resided or rebuilt since 1946-47.

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, privy #2 is a non-contributing building within the Horse Ranch complex.

Description: The privy, measuring approximately 4' x 4', is a small wood frame structure covered with plywood. The shed roof is covered with corrugated metal. A narrow door is on the north elevation decorated with a half-moon raised cut-out. The door handle is wood. The building is in fair-good condition.

Historical Context:

Although a privy has been in this location since 1947, it has probably been resided or rebuilt several times since the building materials are recent. As the cabins in the hay field were used to house boys in the summer, a privy in this location would be logical. Originally, the indoor plumbing was only in the guest cabins (built by Higgins) and not available to the boys. When plumbing was added to the kitchen/dining hall in building in 1964-65, the privy was still more conveniently located for boys staying in the cabins.

According to Richard Cason, this privy has been here since at least 1948 when he first started coming to the ranch. The privy, however, has probably been rebuilt several times since the exterior sheathing materials appear to be newer than 1948. Donna Case, former resident, and Cason both remember another privy south of the main building complex which is no longer extant.

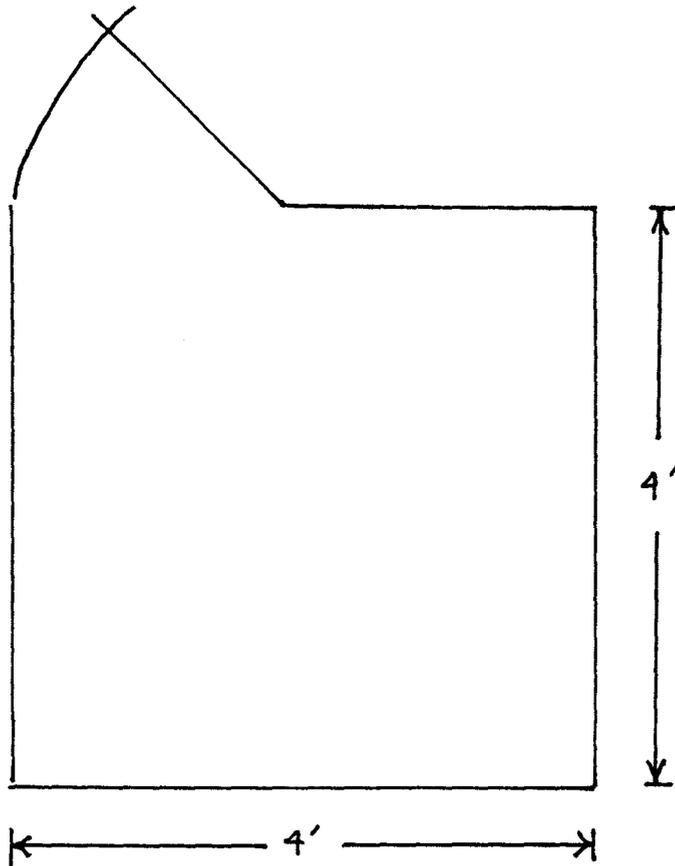
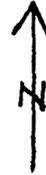
Sources: Cason, Richard, 8/12/96, Elgin, Oregon, former wrangler and pilot for Red's Horse Ranch, interviewed by Kimberly Lakin. Case, Donna, former resident, phone interview by Kimberly Lakin, December 1996. Womack, Bruce, 8/96 and 10/96, Enterprise, Oregon, Eagle Cap Wilderness Area, Wallowa-Whitman 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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Date: December 1996



APPROX. SCALE

PRIVY