United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and area of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use typewriter, word processor or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Altair Campground Community Kitchen

other name/site number Altairie Campground Community Kitchen (USGS name spelling correction 2004)

2. Location

street & number Altair Campground is roughly 12 miles S.W. of Port Angeles, 4 miles south of Highway 101: Elwha Sub-district
city or town Olympic National Park Headquarters, Port Angeles

state Washington code WA county Clallam code 009

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

WASHINGTON STATE HERITAGE OFFICE
State of Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

✓ entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.

See continuation Sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

7/13/2007
5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)</th>
<th>Category of Property (Check only one box)</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ private</td>
<td>□ building(s)</td>
<td>Contributing buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ public-local</td>
<td>□ district</td>
<td>Noncontributing sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ public-State</td>
<td>□ site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ public-Federal</td>
<td>□ structure</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ object</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter N/A if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Historic Resources of Olympic National Park

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Recreation: Outdoor recreation:
Other: Outdoor kitchen-shelter

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Recreation: Outdoor recreation:
Other: Outdoor kitchen-shelter

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
OTHER: Rustic

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundations Concrete
walls N/A
roof Wood Shake
other Wood Log

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Summary: The Altair Campground Community Kitchen is a rectangular, 1-story, log, Rustic Style open-air shelter with a hip roof. The wood shake hip roof is supported by peeled logs, set on a concrete foundation. An end chimney is built of coursed stone set in mortar. The kitchen is located in the Olympic National Park Altair Campground, a forested area approximately 4 miles south of Highway 101, and approximately 12 miles southwest of Port Angeles. The kitchen is in good condition and has had very little alteration (other than the concrete piers) since constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935. The building has integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.
Altair Campground Community Kitchen
Name of Property
Clallam County, WA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance
Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark “x” in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Criterion A: Politics/Government

Criterion C: Architecture

Period of Significance
circa 1935 - 1942

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Significant Dates
1935

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
Civilian Conservation Corps

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References
Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Primary location of additional data:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Other State Agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of Repository:
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Northing</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>UTM References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>455876</td>
<td>5317540</td>
<td>1, 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2, 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
The boundary is formed by lines completing a rectangle 100 feet out from the sides of the building.

Boundary Justification
The boundary includes the structure, a portion of the campground (with which the kitchen has been historically associated), and a section of dense forest and hillside to the south, to convey a sense of the historic setting.

11. Form Prepared By


organization National Park Service, Columbia Cascade Support Office
date 1986/1998

street & number 909 1st Avenue
telephone (206) 220-4138

city or town Seattle State Washington zip code 98104-1060

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets
Maps
A 7.5 minute USGS map indicating the property’s location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Altair Campground Community Kitchen: Clallam County, WA

**Narrative Description:** The Altair Campground Community Kitchen was constructed by CCC corpsmen (company 946) based at the Elwha CCC Camp, presumably in the opening months of 1935. Sited in a wooded setting about 100 feet from the Elwha River and within the Altair Campground (named after the destroyer tender, USS Altair, whose crewmen came here for R and R in the 1920s or early 30s). The community kitchen is approximately 27' x 17' and 1-story in height with a concrete pier foundation. The structure has a wood shaked hipped roof that has slight overhangs and exposed rafters. A stone and mortar fireplace and chimney for cooking was set in the central area of the shelter; the chimney rises up through the wood roof. There are two stoves for cooking in this shelter/kitchen. The Altair Kitchen is a simple, functional structure of a straightforward design. The rustic design ethic was applied to produce a structure that blends well with its surroundings.

The roof was originally supported with peeled logs. Because of deterioration, the lower portion of the logs were removed (the bases) and replaced with round concrete piers set on the concrete slab. The cement repair was completed to mitigate an ongoing moisture problem due to the structure’s siting in a wet and shady area. The only alterations to the building include the replacement of the lower sections of the log supports with concrete piers to address the extreme moisture conditions found here, and the removal of peeled pole railings between the major supporting log posts, both occurring at an unknown date. The roof on the structure was replaced in-kind in 2002.

This kitchen shelter, along with the Elwha kitchen shelter, are the only two extant CCC kitchen structures in the park. Despite its changes, the Altair Kitchen continues to exhibit the qualities of the Rustic Style through the use of local materials (wood and stone), simple yet functional design, sensitive siting, and scale. It retains a high degree of integrity in its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

**Statement of Significance:**

**Summary:** The Altair Campground Community Kitchen is significant for its association with politics and government activities within what is today Olympic National Park (criterion A) and as an example of Rustic Style architecture within the park (criterion C). Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935, this building is representative of the types of activities that the CCC accomplished on behalf of first, the United States Forest Service, and later, the National Park Service, on federal lands on the Olympic Peninsula. These activities had a tremendous impact on federal lands and greatly enhanced the work of the USFS and the NPS. In addition, the building exemplifies the Rustic Style of architecture in the use of indigenous materials (wood shakes, logs, and stone) applied in a manner that is harmonious with the surrounding environment. The kitchen is indicative of two property types identified in the Multiple Property Documentation form for the Historic Resources of Olympic National Park: Government and Architecture (NPS Rustic). It has integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association, and meets the registration requirements set forth for these properties in the Multiple Property Documentation form.

SEE ATTACHED INVENTORY CARD PREPARED IN 1982 FOR PROPERTY.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 and 9  Altair Campground Community Kitchen: Clallam County, WA  Page 2

Narrative: Among the most active CCC camps within the present Olympic National Park was Camp Elwha, located on a gently sloping hillside several hundred yards south of the present Elwha Ranger Station. It was one of the first CCC camps established on the north Olympic Peninsula, and the arrival of the "forest army" on the Elwha River aroused great interest among local residents. The work program outlined for both the main Elwha Camp, and the side camp at Slab Camp in the foothills southeast of Port Angeles, included the construction of roads, the widening and straightening of existing roads, and the improvement of several campgrounds. This CCC camp was transferred from the Forest Service to the National Park Service in the winter of 1938, becoming NP-9. The camp was transferred to the US Army on August 11, 1942—then vacated in March of 1943.

In the spring of 1935 "improvements" were made to both the Elwha and Altair public campgrounds. Improvements at these two campgrounds included work on roads, trails, camping spots, playground equipment, horse-shoe courts for adults, the installation of water pipes, and the construction of sturdy, open-sided community kitchens. The local paper exuded enthusiasm in its description of the improvements, noting the splendid kitchens of rustic design, complete with 54-inch stoves built of rock and cement with long tables nearby.

The Altair and Elwha community kitchens are the only remaining CCC structures of this type within the park. It is believed that these are the only extant CCC-built kitchen shelters left on the Olympic Peninsula. Built of natural peeled logs, shakes, and masonry, these structures with their rustic materials and careful proportions blend well with their immediate surroundings. The Altair and Elwha community kitchens are representative examples of Rustic Style architecture, which became the hallmark of the CCC throughout the country. The work of the Elwha CCC camps is not unique but is representative of the kinds of projects pursued by several other work camps supervised by the USFS on the Olympic Peninsula, bringing design continuity to areas "improved" for use by the visiting public. The significance of these properties increases when it is recognized that the exact locations of many Camp Elwha projects are not always readily identifiable. In fact, much of their work has been obliterated over the years. The overall effect of the various CCC projects undertaken by the Elwha Camp, however, is very much a part of the overall development of recreational use in certain areas in the northern part of Olympic National Park.

The Altaire Campground Community Kitchen is a product of a nationwide Depression-era work relief program. CCC corpsmen based at the Elwha CCC Camp erected the structure in the winter of 1934-35, as part of a plan to improve the already existing Altaire Camp. The local Port Angeles Evening News described the CCC activity in a 27 March 1935 issue of the newspaper: "Roads, stoves, a community kitchen, recreation trails, camping spots, and various other betterments are included in the planned improvements. There's a splendid community kitchen, of rustic design, with a concrete floor and two 54-inch stoves built of rock and cement." Over the years the campground itself evolved as various improvements were made to accommodate changing needs and technologies in transportation modes and camping equipment. At an unknown date the Altaire Community Kitchen incurred some alterations, including the placement of a metal protective sleeve on the lower portion of the supporting heavy posts, the removal of some wood railings between the supporting posts, and the minor modification of the stone fireplace.

Rectangular in shape; measures 27' x 17'; 1 story; large peeled log wall posts supporting a hip roof with cedar shakes; exposed peeled log rafters; poured concrete floor; lower portion of bench and table legs concrete. Alterations: addition of metal sleeve on lower portion of porch posts; change in fireplace; removal of some wood railings between posts. Siting: located in forested campground 100' from the Elwha River.

Altaire Campground Community Kitchen is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Historically, the Altaire Kitchen is significant for its association with the nationwide work relief program of the CCC, which throughout the Depression years of the 1930s, spurred recreational development and use of publically owned, undeveloped lands in the U.S. Shelter kitchens are a visible expression of the CCC's efforts to advance recreational development in Northwest forests. In the Pacific Northwest, the U.S. Forest Service was the largest employer of CCC enrollees. In 1984 there are fewer than 50 remaining community kitchens on National Forest land in the Northwest. Of the extant community kitchens, no two are exactly alike; although there are two basic plans for these structures (octangular and rectangular) the details of each is unique. Architecturally, there are no known duplicates of the Altaire Kitchen in the Pacific Northwest. Although minor alterations have occurred to the Altaire structure, the essential design elements and materials are unchanged. The structure successfully embodies the philosophy and physical characteristics of Rustic (continued)
The Altaire Community Kitchen possesses integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association.


Throop, E. Gail. 1984. Phone communication with Gail Evans, 4 May.
ALTAIRE CAMPGROUND COMMUNITY KITCHEN
CLALLAM COUNTY, WA
1 of 1