**United States Department of the Interior**

**National Park Service**

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**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.

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### 1. Name of Property

**historic name** Fifteen Mile Shelter

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### 2. Location

**street & number** Approx. 12.4 miles from NPS boundary on N. Fork Bogachiel River Trail; 19 miles east of Highway 101, Hoh Sub-district.

**city or town** Olympic National Park Headquarters, Port Angeles

**state** Washington  
**code** WA  
**county** Clallam  
**code** 009  
**zip code** 98362

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### 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 statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

**signature of certifying official/title**  
**date**

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### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>box</th>
<th>action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| x   | entered in the National Register.  
|     | (See continuation sheet. |

**signature of the Keeper**  
**date**

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### Other

- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

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Fifteen Mile Shelter
Name of Property

Clallam County, WA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- □ private
- □ public-local
- □ public-State
- □ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- □ building(s)
- □ district
- □ site
- □ structure
- □ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing   Noncontributing

- 1 establishments
- 1 sites
- 1 structures
- 1 objects

Total

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)

Domestic: Camp; Government: Fire Station;
Recreation: Outdoor Recreation

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Camp; Recreation: Outdoor Recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Rustic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation: Stone
- walls: Woodshake
- roof: Woodshake
- other: Wood

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

Summary: Fifteen Mile Shelter is a rectangular, 1-story, wood building with a wood-shaked, modified gabled-roof set on a stone foundation. The shelter is located in a forested setting, on a sloping, wooded hillside approx. 200 feet above the North Fork of the Bogachiel River, within Olympic National Park. There are no alterations that have occurred to it other than replacement of materials in-kind as deterioration occurred over time. The current condition of this shelter is fair. This shelter is an example of two property types identified in the Multiple Property Documentation form for the Historic Resources of Olympic National Park: Government (Forest Service) and Architecture (Log, Pole, and Shake). The building has integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and meets the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation form.
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.)

- [x] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

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

- [ ] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [ ] G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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

Period of Significance
circa 1928 - 1933

Significant Dates
circa 1928

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

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
United States Forest Service

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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
- [X] designated a National Historic Landmark
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey 
  #
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record 
  #

Primary location of additional data:

- [ ] State Historic Preservation Office
- [ ] Other State Agency
- [X] 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.)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>zone</th>
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<tr>
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<td>5305779</td>
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<td></td>
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See continuation sheet

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

Boundary Justification
The boundary includes the structure itself and the immediate surrounding natural environment to convey a sense of the historic setting.

11. Form Prepared By


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.
Narrative Description: Fifteen Mile Shelter was constructed by the United States Forest Service circa 1928. It is sited in a forested area along the North Fork of the Bogachiel River, on a wooded slope about 200 feet above the river. This building is square in shape, measuring 14' x 14' in size. It is 1-story in height, built of rough split timber wall construction with cedar shake siding, and is three-sided. The front of the shelter and front third of the side walls do not have sheathing, but are open to the elements, creating a porch and providing easy access to a fire pit. The gable roof is modified and appears as two shed roofs put together with the back (rear) side extended above or overlapping the other; it, too, is sheathed in cedar shakes. The building sits on a stone foundation. The interior space has no finished floor and the two bunk beds along the rear wall have been removed. The only recent alteration to the building appears to be the replacement of the roof shakes and rear wall shakes in 1982.

The current condition of this shelter is fair. Fifteen Mile remains a significant and integral element of a USFS trail/shelter system. The shelter continues to exhibit the qualities of its original design and method of construction as built by the United States Forest Service in its effort to complete an extensive trail and shelter network across national forest lands on the peninsula in order to protect valuable stands of timber. It is a representative example of the types of buildings and structures built in the backcountry by the United States Forest Service. Using local, natural materials in a straightforward, functional manner, the Forest Service designed and built dozens of these backcountry trail shelters for the purpose of assisting rangers in their fire fighting and timber management efforts. Later, these shelters were used by travelers in the backcountry for their overnight stays. It retains a high degree of integrity in its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and exhibits the registration requirements identified in the Multiple Property Documentation form for the Historic Resources of Olympic National Park.

SEE ATTACHED INVENTORY CARD PREPARED IN 1982 FOR PROPERTY.

Statement of Significance:
Summary: Fifteen Mile Shelter is significant for its association with politics and government activities within what is today Olympic National Park (criterion A) and as an example of the distinctive type of Log, Pole, and Shake architecture as executed by the United States Forest Service (criterion C). Built circa 1928, this building is representative of the types of buildings that the United States Forest Service constructed to accomplish one of its objectives on the Olympic Peninsula--protecting the valuable stands of timber the agency was charged with managing on these federal lands, and providing safe havens for forest rangers in undertaking their work. Later, the Forest Service recognized the value and importance of these structures to recreationists visiting the backcountry of the Olympics, and advertised the shelters to this growing population of forest users to ensure their safety. The building exemplifies United States Forest Service architectural design and style through its use of local, natural materials applied in a manner that is functional and straightforward to address an immediate need, but which is also sensitive to the surrounding environment so as not to have an obtrusive visual impact. The shelter is indicative of two property types identified in the Multiple Property Documentation form for the Historic Resources of Olympic National Park: Government (Forest Service) and Architecture (Log, Pole, and
Shake). 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.

Narrative: As road construction and recreational development invited a broader public to venture to the Olympic Peninsula, its earlier reputation as an untamed wilderness diminished. Accessibility provided by the loop highway encircling Mount Olympus National Monument was only one agent in the opening of the interior wilderness to recreational pursuits. Beginning in 1905 and continuing for 33 years, lands now included in the inland portion of the national park were under the administrative jurisdiction of the United States Forest Service. Although multiple resource management was, and is today, the underpinning of the Forest Service's administrative policies, timber management received particular emphasis in the Olympics. Following the appointment of Rudo L. Fromme as Olympic Forest Supervisor in 1911, plans were initiated to develop a comprehensive trail system to facilitate management of timber and other resources, with the specific concern of forest fire prevention and suppression. This trail system would include shelters, cabins, sheds, and phone lines to assist the forest rangers in their fire suppression work.

Although most trails and shelters were not built with the visitor in mind, the expanding network of the United States Forest Service trails provided the growing number of hikers, hunters, and fishermen with access to the interior mountainous sections of the Olympic Peninsula. Under the leadership of the forest supervisors, many miles of trails and numerous shelters were built on federal lands. Trail construction accelerated over the years and by 1930 approximately 110 miles of trails were in place to protect the resources of the federal lands and to insure safety for the traveling public. Shelters augmented trails; before 1933, when Mount Olympus National Monument was administered by the Forest Service, it was estimated that approximately 90 shelters were built. Although they were primarily for use by forest officers who maintained trails and telephone lines, shelters were left open for use by the traveling public. By the mid-1930s, after hundreds of miles of trails and numerous shelters were constructed, the Forest Service actively promoted the trails' recreational use. Specifically placed 4 to 5 miles apart from each other, these buildings came to the aid of many individuals in the backcountry.

Constructed prior to 1933 by the United States Forest Service, Fifteen Mile Shelter is one of three on the Bogachiel River (Fifteen Mile, Hyak, and Twenty-one Mile shelters) spaced from 4-1/2 to 5-1/2 miles apart (except where a shelter no longer stands), thus maintaining the traditional pattern of shelter distribution along the trails in accordance with the United States Forest Service's plans for the backcountry. By the time the national monument was transferred to the administration of the National Park Service in 1933, the Forest Service had spent nearly $12,000 on recreational improvements in the region. Many of the late 1920s and early 1930s Forest Service-type shelters were removed by the National Park Service in the mid-1970s because of changing management philosophy with regard to structures in the backcountry and safety issues due to deteriorated structures. Fifteen Mile Shelter is one of ten historic shelters being proposed for listing in the National Register.

Fifteen Mile Shelter is significant for its association with Forest Service efforts to protect the valuable stands of timber under its stewardship by creating a vast network of trails, shelters, and other buildings and structures to
assist forest rangers in getting access and supplies into the backcountry. This was a tremendous effort in terms of human and fiscal resources. Later, the Forest Service advertised the value and importance of these backcountry shelters for visitor safety and enjoyment but this was not their original intent and purpose (criterion A). This building is also a noteworthy example of a type, style, and method of construction incorporating logs, poles, and wood shakes, reflecting United States Forest Service design used throughout the national forests of the Pacific Northwest (criterion C). It is a functional building with a specific purpose, and its design and method of construction reflects this purpose and function, yet the result is a building that is sensitive to its natural surroundings. The use of natural materials requiring only limited manipulation, and its siting, scale, and massing all represent aspects of Forest Service design and construction techniques for these simple, straightforward functional structures found in the backcountry. It is an example of two property types identified in the Multiple Property Documentation form for the Historic Resources of Olympic National Park: Government and Architecture. It retains a high degree of integrity in its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and meets the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Documentation form.

Map scale = 1:15,000
from USGS 7.5 minute
Hunger Mountain quadrangle
| 1. SITE ID NO | 281 |
| 2. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE | FIFTEEN MILE SHELTER |
| 3. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO) | Approx. 12.4 miles from NPS boundary on North Fork Bogachiel River Trail |
| 4. CITY/VICINITY | 19 miles east of Highway 101, Clallam, Washington |
| 5. ORIGINAL USE | Shelter |
| 6. PRESENT USE | Shelter |
| 8. UTM ZONE | 107237005305800 |
| 9. RATING | c. 1928 |
| 10. DATE | |
| 11. REGION | PNR |
| 12. OWNER/ADMIN ADDRESS | Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Olympic National Park, 600 East Park Ave., Port Angeles, WA 98362 |

The Fifteen Mile Shelter is one of four extant shelter structures along the Bogachiel River on the western slope of the Olympic Range. Constructed around 1928, it was among the earliest, still standing shelters, built by the Forest Service on the Olympic Peninsula. Peter Brandeberry, early Hoh, and later Bogachiel River settler, was seasonally employed by the Forest Service, and according to informant Jack Nattinger, may be the builder of all four Bogachiel shelters. Indeed, all four shelters share a somewhat unusual architectural feature: the major structural supports are of split cedar rather than peeled poles. Many Bogachiel River shelters were erected at or near back country guard stations: the Indian Creek Shelter stood near Indian Creek Guard Station; Flapjack Shelter stood near the Flapjack Guard Station (both non-extant); and the Hyak Shelter stood near the Hyak Guard Station. The U.S. Forest Service, which had jurisdiction over much of the area now included in Olympic National Park from 1905 to 1933, initiated shelter construction in the late 1920s and the 1930s. Shelter construction coincided with a period of active trail construction by the Forest Service. Shelters were at first intended for use by crews building and maintaining trails and laying telephone lines for fire protection purposes. As part of the Forest Service's multiple land use management policy, trails and shelters served to encourage back country recreational use in the interior Olympics. In the 1930s, CCC corpsmen under the supervision of the Forest Service, accelerated shelter and trail construction activity. By the late 1930s nearly 90 shelters stood on the Olympic Peninsula. The greatest abundance of shelters built in the 1930s occurred on the north and east facing slopes of the Olympic Range. During this initial period of construction, shelters were built primarily in lowland valleys along major rivers and creeks, and sited at locations where the fishing and scenery was attractive. In some instances (particularly along the Bogachiel River), shelters supplanted or augmented existing ranger or guard stations, or were constructed at existing popular hunting or fishing "camps" (especially along the Elwha River). Typically, shelters stood from three to five miles apart on established trails. Architecturally, these Forest Service-built shelters dating from the 1930s were made from local materials obtained from the building site, were constructed of peeled-pole or split-cedar lumber sheathed with cedar shakes, and were capped with gable or shed, cedar shake roofs. Shelters were three-sided, and roomy enough to provide several people protection from the inclement weather typical on the

Kaune, Robert. 1982. Interview with Gail Evans, 28 September.

Nattinger, Jack. 1982. Phone communication with Gail Evans, 4 October.

Olympic National Park, Port Angeles, Washington.


16. SIGNIFICANCE

The Fifteen Mile Shelter, along with the three other extant shelters on the Bogachiel River, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This structure represents an important historical era in the management of the Olympic Peninsula public lands by the Forest Service, whose primary concerns in the 1920s and 1930s centered on fire protection and the extensive timber stands and recreational development. This building is typical of the architectural type of shelter built by the Forest Service in the 1930s. Located approx. 5 miles distant from a neighboring shelter (or shelters), this shelter and its companions maintain the spatial distribution of shelters built by the Forest Service in the 1930s along lowland valleys of the interior mountains. This unbroken chain of shelters along the Bogachiel River, is not duplicated anywhere on the peninsula in 1984. Few, if any alterations have been made to the structure, thus it possesses integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.
17. PHOTOS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION

18. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?  □ YES  □ NO  □ NAME

19. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY  □ YES, LIMITED  □ YES, UNLIMITED  □ NO  □ UNKNOWN

20. EXISTING SURVEYS  □ NR  □ NHL  □ HABS  □ HAER-1  □ HAER  □ NPS  □ STATE

21. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

22. INVENTORIED BY  

AFFILIATION

DATE
15 MILE SHELTER
CLALLAM COUNTY, WA
1 of 1