

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

727

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 Pelton Creek Shelter

other name/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Approximately 15.5 miles up the Queets River Trail: Kalaloch Sub-district

☐ not for publication

city or town Olympic National Park Headquarters, Port Angeles

☒ vicinity

state Washington

code WA

county Jefferson

code 031

zip code 98362

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]
Signature of certifying official/Title

Y-25-07
Date

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title

6-8-07
Date

National Park Service
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

[Signature]

7/13/2007

Pelton Creek Shelter
Name of Property

Jefferson 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	
	buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter N/A if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

Historic Resources of Olympic National Park

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

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

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	<u>Stone</u>
walls	<u>Wood Shake</u>
roof	<u>Wood Shake</u>
other	<u>Wood Log</u>

Narrative Description

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

Summary: Pelton Creek Shelter is a square, 1-story building of peeled-pole wall construction, with a wood-shaked, modified gable roof and set on a stone foundation. The shelter is located in a wooded area at the end of the trail and near the Queets River, within Olympic National Park. The shelter is in good condition and there are only minor alterations that have occurred to it. This shelter appears much the same as it did after construction by the United States Forest Service. It 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.)

- ☒ **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.
- ☒ **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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Criterion A: Politics/Government

Criterion C: Architecture

Period of Significance

circa 1930-1933

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- ☐ **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.

Significant Dates

circa 1930

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

United States Forest Service

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.)

- ☐ **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 #

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of Repository:

Pelton Creek Shelter
Name of Property

Jefferson County, WA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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	zone	easting	northing	
2				4

____ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is formed by lines completing a rectangle 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

name/title Gail E.H. Evans, Historian / Stephanie Toothman, Regional Historian (1986), Gretchen Luxenberg, Historian (1998), and Jacilee Wray, Anthropologist (2005).

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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 and 8

Pelton Creek Shelter: Jefferson County, WA

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Narrative Description: Pelton Creek Shelter was constructed by the United States Forest Service in the early 1930s. It is sited in a wooded area at the end of the Queets River Trail, near the Queets River in the southwest portion of Olympic National Park. This building is square in shape, measuring 14' x 14' in size. It is 1-story in height, built of peeled-pole, log-frame wall construction sheathed in shakes. It is three-sided, with the front of the shelter open to the elements. The gable roof is modified and appears as two shed roofs put together with the back (rear) side extended above or overlapping the other, and sheathed in cedar shakes. Pole rafters and purlins are exposed. The building's sills sit on a stone foundation. There is no interior floor or bunk beds in the shelter. Known alterations to the building include the replacement, in-kind, of the original roof shakes in 1981.

Pelton Creek 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 USFS. Using local, natural materials in a straightforward, functional manner, the USFS designed and built dozens of these backcountry log, pole, and shake trail shelters for the purpose of assisting forest rangers in their firefighting 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 for Log, Pole, and Shake buildings 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: Pelton Creek 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 in the early 1930s, 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 their forest rangers in undertaking their work. Later, the USFS 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 USFS 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.

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Section number 8

Pelton Creek Shelter: Jefferson County, WA

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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 USFS 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 USFS 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 rangers 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 USFS 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.

The United States Forest Service maintained a traditional pattern of shelter distribution along the trails, in accordance with the USFS'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. Pelton Creek Shelter is one of ten being proposed for listing in the National Register.

Pelton Creek Shelter is significant for its association with USFS 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 (criterion A). 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. This

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Pelton Creek Shelter: Jefferson County, WA

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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.

Bibliography: Evans, Gail. Historic Resource Study. NPS. 1983.

42

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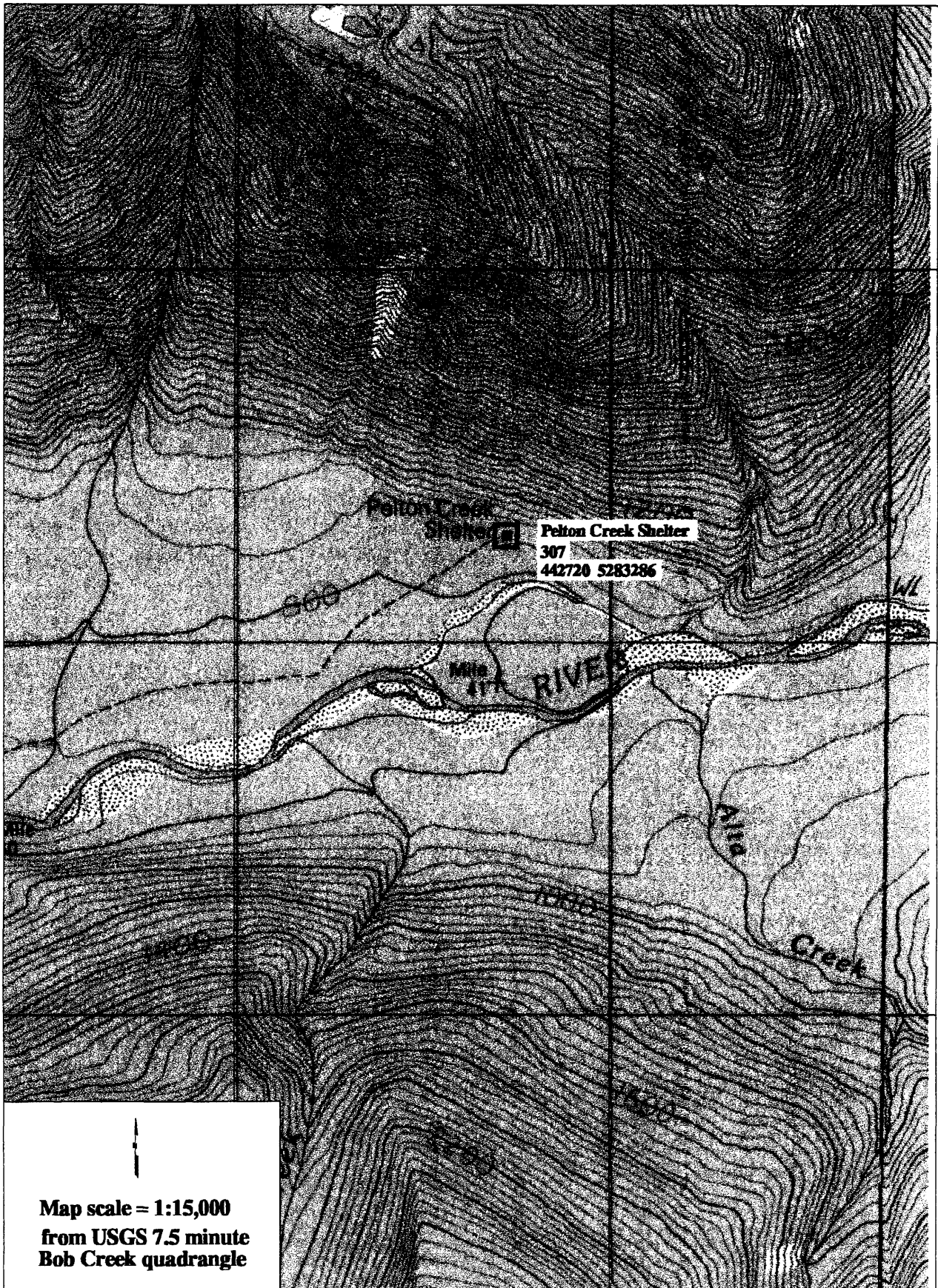
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Map scale = 1:15,000
from USGS 7.5 minute
Bob Creek quadrangle

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PNRO INVENTORY

National Park Service
Pacific Northwest Region
Cultural Resources Division

Westin Building, Room 1920
2001 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98121

1. SITE I.D. NO

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2. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

307

PELTON CREEK SHELTER

5. ORIGINAL USE

Shelter

7. CLASSIFICATION

9. RATING

3. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO)

Queets River Trail; approx. 15.5 miles
from trailhead at end of Queets River Road

6. PRESENT USE

Shelter

10. DATE

early
1930s

4. CITY/VICINITY

COUNTY

STATE

Kalaloch District, OLYM,

Jefferson,

Washington

SCALE

1:24

(1:82.5)

QUAD

Kloochman Rock

2. OWNER/ADMIN ADDRESS

Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Olympic National Park, 600 East Park Ave., Port Angeles, WA 98362

13. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, MAJOR ALTERATIONS, EXISTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

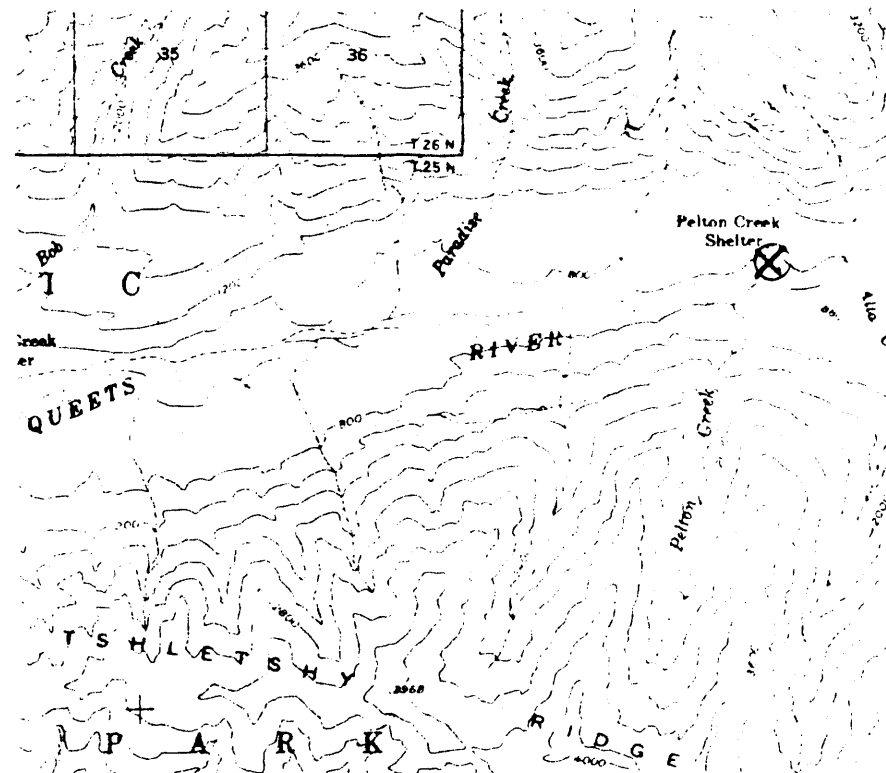
Constructed near the confluence of Pelton Creek and the Queets River, Pelton Creek Shelter was one of dozens of shelters erected by the U.S. Forest Service in the 1930s on National Forest and National Monument land. Typical of shelter location patterns throughout the Olympic Peninsula, Pelton was constructed in a lowland valley, and spaced at regular intervals with other shelters and ranger/guard stations. Pelton Creek was furthest inland of all the Forest Service structures on the Queets River in the 1930s. The others included Bob Creek Shelter, Spruce Bottom (originally Harlow Bottom) Shelter, and Killea 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

14. CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS15. DANGER OF DEMOLITION?
(SPECIFY THREAT)☐ YES☐ NO☒ UNKNOWN

16. SIGNIFICANCE

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 peninsula. Significant numbers of the late 1920s and 1930s Forest Service-type shelters were taken down in the mid 1970s, and in 1984 fewer than twenty remain standing.



NEG. Kevin MacCartney, Kalaloch, WA.

T.25N., R.9W., SEC.-, W.M.

18. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?		☐ YES ☒ NO ☐ NAME		20. EXISTING SURVEYS		☐ NR ☐ NHL ☐ HABS ☐ HAER-1 ☐ HAER ☐ NPS ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL ☐ OTHER	
19. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY		☐ YES, LIMITED ☒ YES, UNLIMITED ☐ NO ☐ UNKNOWN					

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

Evans, Gail E. H. with T. Allan Comp. 1983. Historic Resource Study: Olympic National Park.
 Seattle: National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region.

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.

"Shelter Establishment Criteria: Olympic National Park." 1978. Typescript. Photocopy.
 (Located in OLYM history files.)

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 1941. "Olympic National Forest, Washington (map)."
 Photocopy. (Located in OLYM history files.)

22. INVENTORIED BY	Gail E.H. Evans	AFFILIATION	NPS	DATE	9/82, 1984
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PNRO INVENTORY

National Park Service
Pacific Northwest Region
Cultural Resources Division

Westin Building, Room 1920
2001 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98121

1. SITE I.D. NO		5. ORIGINAL USE		7. CLASSIFICATION		9. RATING	
2. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE 307 PELTON CREEK SHELTER							
3. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO)		6. PRESENT USE				10. DATE	
4. CITY/VICINITY		COUNTY		STATE		11. REGION	
12. OWNER/ADMIN ADDRESS							

13. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, MAJOR ALTERATIONS, EXISTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

(continued from page one)

Square in shape; measures 14' x 14'; 1 story; pole wall construction sheathed with cedar shakes; modified gable roof with cedar shakes; exposed pole rafters and purlins; open on one side; no window openings; interior dirt floor. Alterations: no substantial changes known; reroofed in 1981. Siting: in wooded area at end of trail; in the vicinity of Queets River.

14. CONDITION	☐ EXCELLENT	☐ GOOD	☐ FAIR	☐ DETERIORATED	☐ RUINS	15. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (SPECIFY THREAT)	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ UNKNOWN
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16. SIGNIFICANCE Pelton Creek Shelter is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Historically, it represents a period in the history of Forest Service land management when policy concerns and planning focused heavily on fire protection and recreational use. Trail and trail shelter construction facilitated both of these goals. Unlike many 1930s' Forest Service shelters on the Olympic Peninsula that have been destroyed or succumbed to severe deterioration or vandalism, Pelton Creek retains much of its original exterior fabric. In some instances, original materials have been replaced with like materials. Consequently, Pelton Creek Shelter 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
☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL ☐ OTHER

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

22. INVENTORIED BY

AFFILIATION

DATE



PELTON CREEK SHELTER
CLALLAM COUNTY, WA

1 of 1