

Commemorating 50 Years of the National Historic Preservation Act; Renovating Louella Cabin

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Louella Cabin History



The Louella Guard Station was built in 1912 by Forest Service employee E. M. Cheney, who dedicated the structure to his wife, Louella. A fireguard was stationed here during the summer and fall, and then the buildings were closed for the winter. During the Great Depression, a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was built in the lower part of the meadow below the cabin and consisted of barracks, bathhouse, and mess

hall. The CCC worked on many projects including fire lookouts, trails, bridges, roads, and they planted trees after forest fires in the late 1800s and early 1900s. After the CCC camp closed in 1939, the cabin was used by other agencies such as the U.S. Army until 1976. It was unoccupied until it was repaired and made available for public lodging.

Current Louella Cabin Use

Louella Cabin is part of the nationwide [recreation rental program](#). The unique cabin offers visitors a turn-of-the-century retreat in an open forested meadow landscape. With its white walls and inviting covered porch, sitting on a gentle slope flanked by towering Douglas-firs and looks out over the valley. It has two bedrooms and sleeps up to 6 people for the current price of \$60/night. Annually the cabin is rented about 60% of the time.



Louella Cabin Restoration Project

The Forest Service is committed to protecting cultural resources on national forestlands & making them accessible for the public to enjoy. In partnership with the Student Conservation Association (SCA), and in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act the Olympic National Forest hosted a major cabin restoration project the summer of 2016. See video of the work completed: [Louella Cabin Restoration; Celebrating the Preservation Act.](#)



This July and August an enthusiastic crew of eight high school students from across the country, in combination with 3 crew leaders and Forest Service personnel, rebuilt the porches and pathways to the cabin, painted the entire cabin inside and out, and installed a French drain to help prevent future water damage, along with several smaller projects at the cabin.



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