

The Faiview Lookout Tower

Newton County Arkansas

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This photograph was taken in 1948

The old lookout tower at Fairview, on the west side of state highway 7, was built by 1936, probably by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The tower location shows on both the 1939 and 1948 Ozark National Forest recreation maps. The Fairview tower is no longer listed by the time of the 1965-1969 Ozark Master Fire Summary of Primary, Secondary and Emergency Towers.

Most of the lookout towers on the Ozark National Forest were 7 foot by 7 foot metal cabs on metal towers made by the Aermotor Company of Oklahoma. The tower man (or tower woman) usually lived in a house close to, or at, the tower. Fairview is highly unusual in Arkansas being built in the western “live-in” style. The site of the former tower has been recorded as an historical archaeological site with the Arkansas Archeological Survey and assigned the number 3NW1161. The concrete foundations to the tower, well house, cistern, and a drilled well can still be seen at the south end of the Fairview Campground.



Interior photo with CCC enrollee on duty. Published in *For The Trees*-pg. 77
Ozark Historical photo **335365** by J.M. Wait, 1936



Fairview fireguard sighting fire through the alidade and calling in directions
Ozark Historical photo **371134**



Well house at Fairview Observatory. Planted shortleaf pine on the left. 1937.
Ozark Historical photo **343640**



Looking through the pines at Fairview planting site,
Lookout Tower in background, 1936.
Ozark Historical photo **335364**.



Looking north from Fairview Fire Tower showing shortleaf pine plantation, planted in 1930.
1938 Ozark Historical photo **371059**