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# Lookouts, Latrines, and Lodgepole Cabins

Administrative Facilities of Wyoming's Bridger-Teton National Forest, 1904-1955

# **Volume Two: Evaluations**





Forest Service Report No. BT-02-637

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*Cover:* Monument Ridge Fire Lookout, Big Piney Ranger District. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

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# CHAPTER ONE: RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

The historic context statement provided in Volume One of this report is the basis for evaluating the administrative sites of the Bridger-Teton National Forest. It identifies periods and places, and is tied directly to the significant themes of Conservation, Politics/Government, and Architecture. These themes are referred to as Areas of Significance in *National Register Bulletin 16A*. Pertinent themes and the types of resources that may have significance under them are discussed below. It must be noted that the evaluation's focus is on *administrative* buildings and structures.

# **THEMES AND RESOURCE TYPES**

#### **PRIMARY THEME**

The primary theme, or area of significance, is **Conservation**, which is defined as "the preservation, maintenance, and management of natural or manmade resources" in *National Register Bulletin 16A*. This is supplemented by the Wyoming SHPO themes of **Recreation and Tourism** and **Ranching**; these themes have been detailed in research drafts by SHPO Planning Coordinator Rheba Massey.

Properties developed or used by the Forest Service for the purposes of administering and managing National Forest lands represent these themes. Often referred to generically (and sometimes formally) as administrative sites, these properties are the subject of this evaluation. Periods of significance for these themes fall into four categories:

- 1891-1907: Early Conservation of Western Lands
- 1908-1929: Progressive Era, WWI, early Interwar
- 1930-1942: Later Interwar, Depression, New Deal
- 1943-1955: WWII, early Postwar

A variety of potential resource types is associated with B-T forest administration and, consequently, the theme of **Conservation**. Those considered significant will usually be so under Criterion A. The following list expands and clarifies identified resource types:

- *Dwelling Site*: A site developed for the sole purpose of providing housing for Forest Service employees, especially in small towns that lacked adequate housing.
- *Fire Lookout*: Numerous fire lookouts were developed on the Bridger-Teton National Forest. None are currently manned.

- *Guard Station*: Guard Station sites were historically occupied by Forest Guards and rangers during the summer. They were comprised of dwellings that often had secondary uses such as offices. Other outbuildings such as barns, latrines, garages, and cellars were often constructed. The term is sometimes used interchangeably with "ranger station."
- *Ranger Station*: The ranger station was historically the headquarters and home of the District Ranger. Typical buildings included the dwelling and garage, sometimes a second dwelling for other staff, an office, and barn. Other buildings might include a cellar, pump house, a gas/oil house, and a warehouse. The term is sometimes used interchangeably with "guard station."
- *Supervisor's Office*: As forest headquarters, the Supervisor's Office, or SO, had the most distinctive and often the greatest number of buildings. It usually had the same types of buildings found at ranger stations, although often more numerous and larger.
- *Work Center*: Archival information reveals that this term appeared during or after the New Deal when CCC camps were developed. It often refers to a site that is occupied by seasonal or temporary staff in bunkhouses. It also includes support structures such as warehouses, garages, shops, gas/oil houses, and fire caches. It can also include shelter for horses and mules and related structures like corrals and pens. Presently, some historic ranger or guard stations are referred to as work centers.
- *Patrol Cabin*: These structures are designed to house wilderness rangers and other Forest Service personnel when working and traveling through wilderness lands. Most are small log cabins reinforced to withstand heavy snow loads and wildlife, such as with shutters or rebar on windows and bear doors on entrances.

Buildings and structures found on the sites defined above include:

Agricultural: Barn, Hay Barn, Hay Shed, Tack Shed, Fly Shed

**Office:** District of Supervisor's Office, Visitor Information Center (VIC)

Fire-Related: Fire Cache, Fire Lookout, Fire Prevention Office

**Residential/Domestic:** Barracks, Bunkhouse, Shower or Bath House, Cabin, Dwelling, Cellar, Patrol Cabin, Latrine

**Utilitarian:** Blacksmith Shop, Carpentry Shop, garage, Gas or Oil House, Generator Shed, Paint Shed, Pesticide Shed, Pump House, Power House, Shop, Sign Shop, Storage Shed, Tool Shed, Warehouse, Woodshed

Landscape Features: Corral, Loading Ramp, Pasture, Fencing, Pens, Water Tanks

#### **SUB-THEMES**

In addition to the primary theme of Conservation, there are a couple sub-themes related to Bridger-Teton administrative sites. These are:

**Architecture.** As documented in Volume One, the historic context statement, there were distinct periods of architectural development in Forest Service history. These administrative sites that clearly illustrate the features common to these periods or the evolution, transition, and variation between periods may be National Register eligible under Criterion C.

**Politics/Government: Depression-Era Relief Programs**. Volume One documented the extensive work carried out on National Forest lands with the help of these programs. The availability of relief funds and labor led Forest Service architects and landscape architects to develop standard designs for the construction of new administrative sites along with the improvement of existing sites. The Civilian Conservation Corps, Works Progress Administration, and local employment programs carried out most of the work.

Resources considered significant under this sub-theme will usually be so under Criterion A. In addition to those described above, resource types related to this sub-theme include:

- *Camp*: A camp for relief workers such as those in the CCC could be quite extensive with barracks, tent platforms, mess halls, offices, etc. It could also be a temporary tent site, or "spike camp," used by workers in more remote locations. No buildings of this type remain on the B-T.
- *Landscape Features*: Relief workers constructed a wide range of landscape features such as roads, trails, telephone lines, and range improvements. These features are outside the scope of this evaluation.

#### NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTY DEFINITIONS

Each recorded property has been classified by property type as defined in National Register Bulletin 15. Small groups of properties are listed under a single category, using the primary resource. For example, a guard station cabin, garage, and latrine as classified as *buildings*. A larger compound of buildings and structures is considered a *district*, which "derives its importance from being a unified entity, even though it is often composed of a wide variety of resources." Buildings or structures in a district may lack individual distinction, but a district may still be eligible if the grouping achieves distinction and significance as a whole.

#### **EVALUATION METHODOLOGY: CRITERIA**

The evaluation of the recorded historic administrative sites is based on the standard model instituted by the National Register. As guided by *National Register Bulletins 15, 16A*, and *16B*, the sites must be historically significant under one of four established criteria and must

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retain integrity. Historic properties may be significant at the local, state, or national levels under any of the following criteria:

# Criterion A: They are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

As noted previously, those resources associated with the primary theme of *Conservation* may be eligible under this criterion. Although all of the surveyed resources are associated with this theme, not every one is "important in illustrating the historic context," or "represents the context through specific historic associations." Most B-T administrative buildings are eligible under Criterion A.

#### Criterion B: They are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

Only one B-T site, the Old Blackrock Station, was nominated under Criterion B, with first District Ranger Rudolph Rosencrans listed as the significant individual (see Volume One).

# Criterion C: They embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Those resources that embody the distinctive characteristics of Forest Service architecture and site planning may be eligible under Criterion C. They may also be eligible if they represent the technical or aesthetic achievements of Forest Service architects and landscape architects identified in Volume One, such as Region Four architect George L. Nichols. Most B-T administrative buildings eligible under Criterion A are also eligible under Criterion C.

# Criterion D: They have yielded, or may likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history.

No B-T historic administrative sites are eligible under this criterion. It must be reiterated that the purpose of this evaluation was to determine eligibility of administrative buildings and structures. While some reconnaissance surveys were carried out by forest archeologists, most sites were not examined for *archeological* significance, which typically falls under this Criterion.

## **CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS**

Certain types of properties are not considered eligible to the National Register. These include religious properties, moved properties, birthplaces and graves, cemeteries, reconstructed properties, and commemorative properties.

Recent research has proved that moving and reconfiguring buildings is a significant historical trend for Forest Service administrative sites. These actions, carried out since the first years of the agency, were important in accommodating changing administrative needs and

management of public lands. For that reason, the relocations of Forest Service buildings are considered part of a historically important pattern or trend. Consequently, relocation should not be the sole reason for a determination of ineligibility. In addition, many moved buildings meet Criterion Consideration B.

Criterion Consideration B warrants detailed discussion because of the number of moved administrative buildings on Forest Service sites. Normally, moved buildings are not considered eligible because the move negates historical relationships between property and surroundings. The move may also destroy associations with historic events and person. Historic features such as landscaping, foundations, and chimneys may also be lost. Criterion Consideration B states:

A property removed from its original or historically significant location can be eligible if it is significant primarily for architectural value or it is the surviving property most importantly associated with a historic person or event.

Properties that must meet this criterion consideration include:

- A resource moved from one location on its original site to another location on the property, during or after its Period of Significance.
- A district in which a significant number of resources have been moved from their original locations.
- A district that has one moved building that makes an especially significant contribution to the district.
- A portable resource, such as a ship or railroad car, that is relocation to a place incompatible with its original function.
- A portable resource whose importance is critically linked to its historic location or route and that is moved.

Properties that *do not* need to meet this criterion include:

- A property moved prior to its Period of Significance.
- A district in which only a small percentage of typical buildings in a district are moved.
- A portable resource that is eligible under Criterion C and is moved within its natural setting.
- A property that is raised or lowered on its foundation.

Those properties that are significant under Criterion C must retain enough historic features to convey its architectural values and must retain integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

# **CONTRIBUTING AND NONCONTRIBUTING RESOURCES**

According to *National Register Bulletin 16A*, "the physical characteristics and historic significance of the overall property provide the basis for evaluating component resources." Each building, structure, or object on site should be evaluated for its contribution to the site's significance. Those that are considered "contributing" add to the historic associations, historic architectural qualities, or archeological values for which a property is significant because:

- it was present during the period of significance, relates to the documented significance of the property, and possesses historic integrity or is capable of yielding important information about the period; or
- it independently meets National Register criteria.

A resource is considered "noncontributing" if it does not add to the historic associations, historic architectural qualities, or archeological values for which a property is significant because:

- it was not present during the period of significance or does not relate to the documented significance of the property;
- due to alterations, disturbances, additions, or other changes it no longer posses historic integrity or is capable of yielding important information about the period; or
- it does not independently meet the National Register criteria.

## FEATURES AND ASPECTS OF INTEGRITY, RARITY, AND UNIQUENESS

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance. The level of integrity is based on the degree of preservation and the amount of disturbance caused by alterations or loss of materials. In determining if a property has adequate integrity, it must retain "essential physical features," which define both *why* a property is significant (criteria and themes) and *when* it was significant (period of significance). There are seven aspects of integrity (location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association) and a property must retain several of these to convey its significance. The essential physical features and relevant aspects of integrity required for eligibility (according to *National Register Bulletin 15*, p.48) are as follows:

• **Criterion A:** Resources significant under this criterion are eligible if they retain features from its period of association with Forest Service administration of public lands or Depression-era relief programs. The resource should retain some aspects of integrity, although design and workmanship may not be as important as the others.

- Criterion B: Resources significant under this criterion are eligible if they retain features from its period of association with an *important individual*. The resource should retain some aspects of integrity, although design and workmanship may not be as important as the others.
- **Criterion C:** Resources significant under this criterion are eligible if they retain most or all physical features that constitute the construction technique or architectural style. It is not eligible if it conveys massing but has lost the majority of the features that characterized it. The most important aspects of integrity are design, workmanship and materials. Location and setting will also be important for those resources whose design is a reflection of their immediate environment (e.g., a bridge over a river).
- **Criterion D:** Resources significant under this criterion may not have the type of integrity described under the other criteria. They are considered eligible, however, if the property's potential to yield specific data addresses important research questions. Of the seven aspects, location, design, materials and possibly workmanship are the most important.

# **B-T SITES EVALUATED: FIELD SEASON 2001, BY DISTRICTS**

Region Four Architectural Historians James Bailey and Richa Wilson, as part of the National Historic Preservation Act's Section 110 review process, evaluated the following 32 sites during the 2001 field season. These are listed first. The 7 sites not reviewed by Bailey and Wilson were previously evaluated by B-T Archeologist Jamie Schoen. Those interested in his findings should consult his evaluations.

## **D-1: Kemmerer Ranger District**

Elk Creek Ranger Station Kemmerer Warehouse LaBarge Guard Station Scaler Guard Station

Schoen: Kelly (a.k.a. Kelley) Guard Station

## **D-2: Big Piney Ranger District**

Big Piney 440 Nichols Big Piney Barn Deadline Ridge Lookout Hoback Guard Station Monument Ridge Lookout Prospect Peak Lookout Sherman Guard Station Wyoming Peak Lookout

Schoen: Snider Basin Guard Station

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#### **D-3: Greys River Ranger District**

Afton Complex Cabin Creek Lookout Deadman Lookout (w/Bill Shields) Cazier Guard Station Deer Creek Guard Station McCain Guard Station Meadows Guard Station Osmond Barn

Schoen: Elk Mountain Lookout

#### **D-4: Jackson Ranger District**

Bryan Flat Guard Station Goosewing Guard Station

Schoen: Supervisor's Office Complex

#### **D-6: Buffalo Ranger District**

Blackrock Work Center Old Blackrock/Rosie's Office Hawks Rest Patrol Cabin

<u>Schoen</u>: Enos Lake Patrol Cabin Nowlin Meadows Patrol Cabin

#### **D-7: Pinedale Ranger District**

Pinedale: 243 W. Pine Pinedale: 332 N. Franklin Pinedale Barn Dutch Joe Guard Station Elkhart Park Guard Station Kendall Guard Station Willow Creek Guard Station

Schoen: South Fork Patrol Cabin

#### SITES NOT EVALUATED

A few administrative sites were not evaluated by either Bailey/Wilson or Schoen, due to logistic problems or questions as to whether the buildings were historic. These

evaluations of sites in this document should provide the framework for future evaluations of these following sites:

Cottonwood Work Center Cabins (D-4) Hatchet Cabins (D-6) Big Piney 240 Smith (D-2) Nelson Shed (D-4) Cross Lake Patrol Cabin (D-7)

#### **ELIGIBILTY PERCENTAGES**

Of the 75 B-T historic buildings surveyed in 2001, 77% were determined as contributing/ eligible, while 23% were determined non-contributing/not eligible.

# CHAPTER TWO: EVALUATION SUMMARIES, BRIDGER DIVISION

Of the 27 Bridger Division administrative sites surveyed in 2001, seven (25%) are eligible to the National Register as districts. Most or all of the buildings in an eligible district are contributing resources, sometimes because they independently meet National Register criteria. Administrative sites that are not eligible as districts may have individually eligible buildings.

Administrative Unit	Sites Eligible as Districts
D-1: Kemmerer Ranger District	0
D-2: Big Piney Ranger District	2
D-3: Greys River Ranger District	3
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
D-7: Pinedale Ranger District	2
Total	7
Total	/

## HISTORIC SITE AND BUILDING SUMMARIES

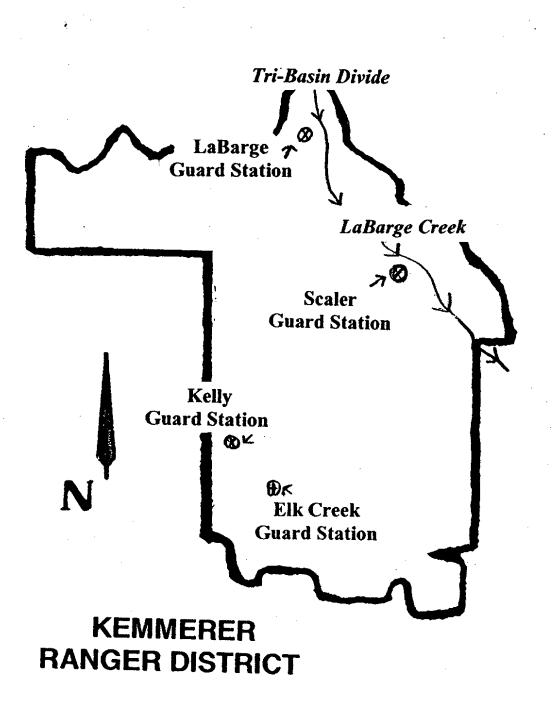
Administrative Unit	Contributing and/or Individually Eligible Buildings	Non-Contributing* or Ineligible Buildings
D-1: Kemmerer Ranger District	5	2
	5	2
D-2: Big Piney Ranger District	13	4
D-3: Greys River Ranger District	15	2
D-7: Pinedale Ranger District	14	5
Total	47	13

\*This count consists of historic buildings. Buildings that are not historic but are located in an eligible district are considered non-contributing. They are not included in this table. The following pages narrate the eligibility of each recorded administrative site and historic building. They are organized by district within the Bridger Division. Summary tables include each property's eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. If evaluated as eligible, themes and areas of significance are included.

## All buildings listed are Contributing/Eligible, unless otherwise noted.

# **KEMMERER RANGER DISTRICT D-1**

(Construction dates in parentheses)



#### ELK CREEK GUARD STATION

#### Smithsonian #48-LN-229



Elk Creek Guard Station is the oldest surviving administrative building on the Bridger Division. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Elk Creek Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1914. Significant under the themes of architecture and conservation, it is a fine example of a log cabin-style, pre-New Deal Forest Service administrative building. Elk Creek Guard Station is also associated with the Wyoming/Bridger National Forest's early history, as it is the oldest surviving building on this forest's southern reaches.

There is no record of any formal land withdrawal, nor who constructed the cabin. Built in 1914, the station's rangers monitored livestock numbers, regulated timber activity, and performed fire control. Timber control was especially crucial, for in the early 1900's large-scale logging operations dominated the Hams Fork region. Tie hacks cut and milled railroad ties and mine props to be floated down the Hams Fork River to the railhead at Kemmerer. Elk Creek Guard Station was instrumental in monitoring these activities.

Currently, the station is used as an interpretive site. The structure is enclosed within a buck and pole fence to repel cows, and an interpretive sign details the building's role in early forest history. Evaluations in 1985 and 1995 recommended Elk Creek Guard Station as eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C. This evaluation supports previous recommendations.

#### Elk Creek Guard Station, Facility #BT-KE-4020 (1914)

Because of its continued association with pre-New Deal Wyoming/Bridger National Forest history, the Elk Creek Guard Station rates high in all integrity categories. It well represents the small, log-cabin vernacular ranger station common in the Forest Service's early years, and despite some minor structural upgrades, has retained its historic integrity over the last 90 years. Not many of these cabins exist, and Elk Creek Guard Station is the oldest surviving administrative/interpretive site still in its original location on the Bridger-Teton National Forest.

#### **KEMMERER GARAGE**

#### Smithsonian #48-LN-3888



The Kemmerer Garage, a modified R4 Plan 21 with rear oil room. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the Kemmerer Garage is not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. Although constructed from a special Region Four plan as a flammables storage/garage facility, the building is not special enough to be considered under the National Register's Criterion C, that of Design and Construction. There are other Plan 21 Garages on the forest that are better representatives of this particular floor plan. Additionally, the loss of the garage's companion warehouse in a 1969 fire substantially altered the historic character of this in-town administrative site.

The Bridger National Forest found it difficult to lease adequate warehouse space in Kemmerer so when CCC labor and funds became available in 1935 the forest proposed constructing a warehouse/work center facility. Regional Architect George L. Nichols designed two buildings: a large warehouse and a smaller combination garage/oil house. Although Nichols devised a special plan for the warehouse, the garage followed the standard Region 4 Plan 21 Two-Car Garage and Storeroom floor plan. Considered a versatile floor plan, the Plan 21's smaller rear storeroom would be designed and built from the ground up as a fireproof flammables storage area – one isolated from the main garage section.

In 1935, local citizens E.L. Smith and J.R. Marquis donated two of the 40' x 140' lots for the proposed complex; the next year, the Forest Service paid Smith \$150 for two more lots. CCC workers constructed both buildings in 1936. The huge, two-floor warehouse, which cost just under \$9,000 to build, had a frost-proof basement, storerooms, and an extensive vehicle repair shop. It was also wired for electricity, had sewage and water systems installed, and was equipped with a sprinkler system for fire safety.

Thirty-three years later, on September 29, 1969, a fire erupted among old mattresses in the warehouse's basement. The intense blaze spread upward and through the first floor, then quickly burned its way through the roof. Fearing the fire might spread into the adjoining residential area,

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Kemmerer police and Lincoln County deputies evacuated nearby homes. After 6 hours, the fire was contained by weary volunteer firefighters who had to fight two other blazes earlier the same day. Although part of the warehouse escaped being destroyed, it was still a total loss, and was soon torn down. Remnants of the warehouse's concrete foundation still exist. The smaller garage, however, escaped serious damage and still serves its purpose as a storage facility for the Kemmerer Ranger District.

#### Kemmerer Garage, Facility # BT-KE-7016 (1936)

#### \*non-contributing/not eligible

The Kemmerer Garage rates low to medium in all aspects of integrity. Although the building follows a special plan, it is not the best representative of its specific floor plan on the forest. Plan 21 garages at Afton and Meadows Guard Station better represent administrative building design trends of the 1930s. Additionally, the loss of its companion warehouse negatively affected the site's overall integrity. The multi-building compound is an important characteristic of Forest Service New Deal-era administrative sites, and with the loss of the warehouse, there is no longer a compound.

#### LABARGE GUARD STATION

#### Smithsonian #48-LN-3027



The Lander Cutoff of the Oregon Trail runs directly behind LaBarge Guard Station's bunkhouse. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that LaBarge Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1933. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation, and politics/government, it is a highly intact example of a remote Forest Service administrative site designed and constructed during the New Deal. Contributing elements include the bunkhouse and a small storage shed. A modern outhouse is considered non-contributing/not eligible.

The site is also significant in regional history, as the Lander Cutoff of the Oregon Trail runs adjacent to guard station land. Although the statewide theme of Transportation/Trails is not within the context of this evaluation, the site has significance in this area for its proximity to the cutoff. Named after engineer Frederick West Lander and constructed in the late 1850s, the cutoff was one of the last established westward trails. Intended as a faster route for California-bound mail and emigrants, the Lander Cutoff stretched 354 miles from South Pass to where it rejoined the main Oregon Trail west of Fort Hall, Idaho. Sections of the trail and wagon ruts are still visible today in the southern reaches of the Bridger-Teton National Forest and adjoining public lands.

Just after the turn-of-the-century, tie-hacking activity reached its zenith in the southern Wyoming forests, with the area around the LaBarge Creek drainage receiving heavy activity. To monitor these operations, in 1912 the Forest Service constructed a small log cabin on this site-one similar (verified through historic photos) to the one that still stands at nearby Elk Creek Guard Station. Forest rangers used this cabin as a temporary way station while performing their duties. In1933, the cabin was dismantled, and in its place the CCC constructed a bunkhouse, latrine, and shed. The first two followed standard plans designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols, while the small shed did not follow any regional floor plan. Although site improvement plans from the

1930s do not show the shed, Forest Service building records list it as being built there in 1933. Small landscape improvements were made to the site in 1935: corrals, fences, driveway, and walkways. In the early 1990s, the Forest Service removed the old latrine when they constructed the new one, which is sympathetic with the historic buildings. With the exception of the old latrine's removal, LaBarge Guard Station has not changed much over the last seven decades.

#### LaBarge Bunkhouse, Facility # BT-KE-4006 (1933)

The LaBarge bunkhouse rates high in all integrity aspects except materials, which rates medium due to minor alterations and replacements like the front porch floor and posts, the flush wood exterior doors, the metal roof sheeting, and the vinyl bathroom window. Although unsympathetic, they do not significantly impact the building's historic character. Thus, it is one of the better examples of its particular regional floor plan (#5) on the forest. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation and politics/government.

#### LaBarge Shed, Facility # BT-KE-9007 (1933)

As LaBarge Guard Station's other contributing element, the shed rates high in all aspects of integrity. Although somewhat hidden in a grove of lodgepole pines, it fits in well with its surrounding environment. A good example of a vernacular utilitarian structure, the shed appears to have been built from scrap materials obtained elsewhere, yet the workmanship is good. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### SCALER GUARD STATION

#### Smithsonian #48-LN-1689



This unique lodgepole cabin at Scaler Guard Station is the only R4 Plan 7A on the B-T. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the Scaler Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1937. Significant under themes of architecture, conservation, and politics/government, this CCC-era guard station is associated with early Forest Service management of timberlands. Scaler was especially important, for rangers working out of this remote guard station monitored extensive tie-hacking activities in the South LaBarge Creek and other adjoining drainages during the 1930s and 1940s. Two historic buildings are considered contributing/eligible: a dwelling and outhouse. The guard station dwelling is the primary resource, while its associated outhouse contributes to the building's eligibility, as do site features such as the fencing and stone walk. Another historic building, a small wood shed, is considered non-contributing/not eligible, because it does not represent a strong association with the dwelling and outhouse, is not of a standard plan, nor is there any information connecting it to the CCC or early Forest Service administration. Two other buildings, a generator shed and pump house, are modern and considered non-contributing/not eligible.

Although previous surveys questioned Scaler's construction date, newly discovered photographic evidence indicates it was built later than other similar New Deal-era administrative sites. 1985 surveys completed by district personnel mentioned that the guard station was built in 1933--yet it appears on no facilities improvement plans or maps from that time. This assertion proved wrong, for a picture dated January 1938 of workers standing in front of the main dwelling note that it was built between September and November 1937. This seems accurate, because another factor in Scaler's establishment was the 1937 creation of the huge South LaBarge Creek tie hack village, located near the guard station. Although long dismantled, some debris remnants of this camp are still evident.

Scaler itself has not changed much over the last six decades. A two-car garage/barn once existed here, but sometime after 1985 it collapsed under the weight of too many heavy winters. Two

newer buildings, a small generator house and pump house, were built in the late 1980s, while the dwelling received a major renovation in the early 1990s. It is unknown as to when the small wood shed was built, but construction materials and techniques, as well as speculation based on other similar regional buildings, point to the early 1950s. Kemmerer Ranger District personnel use the guard station for field housing in the summer, while it is rented to recreationists in the winter.

#### Scaler Cabin, Facility #BT-KE-4009 (1937)

The dwelling at Scaler Guard Station rates medium to high in all integrity aspects. As the only standard Plan 7A on the forest, it associates well with the surrounding built and natural landscape. Workmanship rates high, for the building's log construction is unique, and showcases unusual corner work. Materials, however, rate somewhat lower, due to some modifications and alterations--like the metal roof and doors--that slightly distract from the building's historic nature. Period of significance is 1937, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

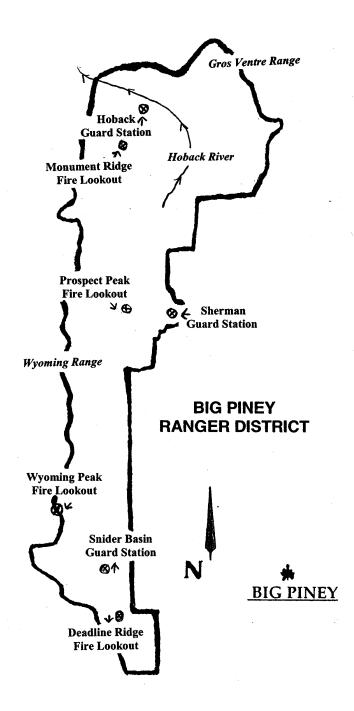
#### Scaler Cabin Shed, Facility #BT-KE-9010 (c.1950) \*non-contributing/not eligible

Scaler's wood shed does not represent a strong association with the guard station's primary resource (the dwelling), is not built from a standard plan, nor is there any information that could tie it in with early Forest Service administration or the CCC. There is also the possibility that it is not even historic.

#### Scaler Outhouse, Facility #BT-KE-1011 (1937)

The Scaler Guard Station outhouse rates medium to high in location and setting aspects. Construction materials and workmanship, however, rate medium at best. As a result, since it does not match up well with its companion dwelling, association and feeling is somewhat lessened. However, it is still a representative example of a 1930s guard station latrine, a truly popular structure. Period of significance is 1937, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# **BIG PINEY RANGER DISTRICT D-2**



#### **BIG PINEY BARN**

#### Smithsonian #48-SU-4360



The barn at Big Piney Work Center south of town. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the Big Piney Barn is not eligible to the National Register of Historic *Places*. Although associated with Forest Service administrative structures constructed during the New Deal, it has been moved from its original site approximately three-quarter of a mile west of town. It now sits at the rear of a modern work center south of Big Piney among newer mobile homes and a modern warehouse. For this reason, historical relationships between structure and site have been compromised.

The original Big Piney barn, an old log structure, sat behind the old ranger dwelling at 240 Smith Street. In 1934, Forest Service and CCC workers dismantled the barn and used its logs to construct a Region 4 Plan 11 4-horse barn on a half-acre site donated by Josephine Budd west of town next to North Piney Creek. However, shortly after completion, on June 29, 1935, lightning struck and destroyed the barn. In its place, in 1936 the CCC built a standard Region 4 Plan 12 6-horse barn in its place.

In 1964 and again in 1979, the Forest Service purchased 8-acre (1964) and 1.99-acre (1979) plots from Fear Ranches for a new, expanded new work center 1.5 miles south of town. Research did not produce a specific date--or reason--the agency removed the barn from its original site and moved it to the new work center. Based on forest-wide trends, the barn could have been moved right after the 1964 purchase, because barn-shuffling from urban to rural areas by the Bridger National Forest was common practice during this time. And although moving barns is a historic Forest Service trend, not only is the site incompatible, Big Piney's barn is not unique. Two other Plan 12 barns (Pinedale and Goosewing Guard Station) still stand, with the Goosewing barn still in its original location.

Right after the 1979 purchase, the Forest Service constructed a modern warehouse and a number of mobile home pads on this site (currently with mobile homes attached). These improvements have negatively affected the setting's integrity, which severely diminishes the property's historical relationship with this barn. The district still uses the barn for tack and feed storage.

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#### Big Piney Barn, Facility #BT-BP-8003 (1936)

#### \*non-contributing/not eligible

The Big Piney Barn is one of three barns on the forest moved from towns to rural sites. This, along with the presence of modern buildings and trailer houses, result in low location and setting integrity and somewhat diminish the aspects of feeling and association. While the exterior is fairly intact, the interior has been significantly modified and has lost several important features, including stalls and grain bins. A better example of this specific standardized floor plan (#12) remains at Goosewing Guard Station. For these reasons, it is recommended that the Big Piney Barn is not eligible.

#### **BIG PINEY 440 SMITH**

#### Smithsonian #48-SU-1784



The 440 Smith Complex, Big Piney, right after construction. Note the "Temple Front" porch, which reflects Regional Architect George L. Nichols vernacular interpretation of the Classical Revival style. USFS Photo



440 Smith bunkhouse today. Note the partially enclosed front porch. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the former Big Piney Ranger District Office compound (440 Smith Street, Big Piney) is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1933. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation, and politics/government, it is a good example of a standardized Forest Service in-town administrative site designed and developed during this era and constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). It is also significant in that with the exception of a couple utilitarian modifications to the bunkhouse, the site has retained a high degree of integrity from the original site plan developed in the mid-1930s.

Before 1933, rangers patrolling the vast Big Piney Ranger District worked out of remote ranger stations like Snider Basin, Sherman, and North Cottonwood. This worked well in warm weather, for the rangers were closer to patrolling timber and range allotments. When the brutal winter weather hit this remote, barren section of Wyoming, however, rangers retreated to Big Piney and rented office space. When District Ranger Ed Cazier cited the need for permanent, year-round office space, in 1933 the town of Big Piney donated the .15-acre lot on the southeast corner of Smith and Nichols streets. The same year, the Forest Service and CCC built a Plan 51 Office and Plan 23 Single Car Garage from standard plans developed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols (below). Both buildings were painted Color Scheme One: white with light green and Nile green trim, common for in-town administrative sites. Following a site improvement plan, the agency landscaped the new administrative site a few years later, planting flowering bushes, installing a flagpole, and constructing cut-stone sidewalks and a semi-circular, stone-lined gravel drive between office and garage. Except for the flagpole, most improvements remain, and contribute well to the site's aesthetics and overall historic character.

A 1995 Forest Service report sent to the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) stated that the compound's bunkhouse and garage were not eligible to the National Register because others exist on the forest. The other argument against eligibility was that because the site is in-town and not on forest lands proper, the site lacked "historic feeling." At that time, the SHPO concurred. Further detailed historic research and analysis, however, revealed valuable

contextual connections that must be considered. Urban Forest Service administrative sites increased in the 1920s and 1930s as the finance, education, and service infrastructures of small, isolated Wyoming towns like Big Piney improved. Rangers and their families needed banks to manage their finances, schools for their children, and stores for their personal and work needs. Therefore, an urban Forest Service site, if overall integrity remains intact, can retain as much "historic feeling" as an on-forest site. Furthermore, in-town CCC-era administrative sites still in use by this forest are rare, for many like the Cokeville and Pinedale district complexes have been sold to the private sector. Afton's is the only other in-town, multi-building CCC-era site still in use by the Forest Service.

So while it is true that four other Plan 51s and 7 other Plan 23s do exist on Bridger-Teton National Forest lands, the Big Piney administrative site at 440 Smith Street is the only in-town, CCC-era Bridger-Teton administrative site where the two plans exist together and complement each other with such a high degree of overall site integrity. Additionally, the broader historic context of the CCC and increased urban administrative activity by the Forest Service during this era must be considered. The Big Piney complex illustrates well this contextual association with forest history and the management of public lands.

#### Big Piney: 440 Smith Bunkhouse, Facility #BT-BP-2013 (1933)

Overall, this structure rates high integrity. Location and setting all work well because it is a good example of a former in-town ranger station that still serves the district well as housing and storage. Feeling and association also rate high because the building and its companion garage complement each other, both aesthetically and architecturally. Materials and workmanship, with the exception of workers not matching the original drop siding when half of the front porch was enclosed in 1959-1960, rate high as well. Most original windows, doors, and hardware remain intact. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Big Piney: 440 Smith Garage, Facility #BT-BP-7014 (1933)

Like its companion bunkhouse/office, the garage at 440 Smith Street, Big Piney, retains a high degree of integrity in all aspects. Location, setting, feeling and association all work very well, for it complements the other structure nicely with regard to in-town Forest Service administrative sites built during the New Deal. Materials and workmanship also rate high, because with the exception of one door and window reversed to fit to the narrow city lot, it is built to plan, and has retained all of its historic architectural features. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### **DEADLINE RIDGE FIRE LOOKOUT**

#### Smithsonian #48-SU-1738



Deadline Ridge Lookout/Radio Repeater/Battery Shelter. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Deadline Ridge Fire Lookout is not eligible to the National Register of *Historic Places*. Although associated with Bridger National Forest fire lookout network expansion during the later years of the New Deal--and that it has retained some architectural features--it has since been converted to a radio repeater support structure. Another factor affecting historical association: the lookout was moved sometime before 1955 from an unknown location.

Not much is known about Deadline Ridge Fire Lookout, except it used to be known as Castle Fire Lookout. No tabular records list land withdrawals, nor are there detailed building records. It is unknown as to whether the CCC was involved in its construction. It is also unknown as to how long it was staffed, but since all Bridger National Forest fire lookouts were abandoned by the early 1970s, it is safe to assume the lookout has not been used since that time. Currently, the structure houses solar batteries and other electronic apparatus for a metal, prefabricated radio repeater housing located immediately to the east.

#### Deadline Ridge Lookout, Facility #BT-BP-4036 (1941) \*non-contributing/not eligible

Deadline Ridge Fire Lookout rates low to medium in most aspects of integrity. One affecting factor is the placement of a  $10 \times 10$ -foot metal prefabricated radio repeater shack immediately adjacent to the east. The former fire lookout now serves as a solar panel and battery shelter for the repeater. Electric poles and antennae are also attached to the building, which has been moved from its original (unknown) location. Additionally, there are other fire lookouts of this type on the Bridger-Teton National Forest with higher historic integrity.

#### HOBACK GUARD STATION

#### Smithsonian #48-SU-1545



The Hoback Dwelling/Bunkhouse. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Hoback Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places as a contiguous district under Criteria A and C, with period of significance of 1935. Significant under themes of architecture, conservation and politics/government, it is a fine example of a standardized, Forest Service field administrative compound designed and implemented during the New Deal and built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Three contributing buildings--office/dwelling, garage/workshop, and barn--associate well with each other and the surrounding natural landscape. While the storage shed might be the oldest building, there are no records that confirm its age; guard station expansion proposals from the 1960s do not even mention this shed. The gas house dates from the 1960s as one of the only buildings constructed from the work center expansion proposal. Both the shed and gas house are considered non-contributing/not eligible.

There are very few written records on Hoback Guard Station. On November 11, 1922, 160 acres were approved for withdrawal, but this acreage was never formally withdrawn. Historic investment and depreciation records indicate the CCC constructed the office/dwelling, garage, and two fly sheds in 1935 (one fly shed is the current barn, while the other was torn down). No records exist of the other two buildings, a small storage shed and a newer gas house. In 1947, Hoback District Ranger Gray Reynolds requested another 160-acre withdrawal to expand Hoback Guard Station, then considered "too small." Although Regional Forester Edward Cliff approved Reynolds' request, the land was never formally withdrawn.

During the 1960s, the Teton National Forest harbored grand designs for a new "Hoback Work Center," one specifically designed to "upgrade the administration of the [Hoback Ranger] district and better serve the public and Forest user." This proposed ambitious expansion included the construction of a new water system, warehouse, trailer spaces, gas house, barn, office, and dwellings, along with a visitor information center. The proposal also called for upgraded fences,

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improved roads, and a sewage system. For reasons unknown, however, this expansion never manifested. Instead, the Forest Service constructed (or moved?) the gas house, expanded the office into a larger bunkhouse, and improved the water system. The only material evidence of these grandiose expansion plans are trailer space hookups near the entry, but they are not being used. The Forest Service currently uses Hoback Guard Station for seasonal housing, a worker tent camp, and general storage.

#### Hoback Barn, Facility #BT-BP-2030 (1935)

The Hoback Guard Station Barn rates high in all integrity aspects. It associates well with the guard station's other CCC-era buildings and the surrounding natural landscape. Materials and workmanship are top-notch. In addition, with the exception of a wood floor, exterior door, and electricity, this building has not been structurally or cosmetically altered over time. Period of significance is 1935, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Hoback Dwelling, Facility #BT-BP-4027 (1935)

The Hoback Guard Station Office/Dwelling rates medium in the materials and workmanship categories, mostly due to room modifications for more space. However, it rates high in feeling and association due to matching up well with the compound's other historic buildings, and with the exception of the front porch enclosure, it is virtually unchanged since construction. And although modified, it is somewhat unique in that it is also one of only two Plan 7 floor plans that still exist on the Bridger-Teton. Period of significance is 1935, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Hoback Garage/Workshop, Facility #BT-BP-7028 (1935)

Much like its companion barn located directly to the west, the Hoback Guard Station Garage/Workshop rates high in all aspects. It contributes well to the guard station's historic character. Not only is it built exactly to plan, other than utilitarian retrofits like electricity and plumbing, it has never been structurally or cosmetically altered. As such, it is one of the forest's better examples of this popular floor plan. Period of significance is 1935, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Hoback Storage Shed, Facility # N/A (c.1947)

#### \*non-contributing/not eligible

The Hoback Guard Station Storage Shed rates low to medium in all categories. The construction date is unknown, for it was built sometime after the 1935 buildings and does not add to the guard station's historic architectural qualities. Consequently, it is a non-contributing resource.

#### MONUMENT RIDGE FIRE LOOKOUT

#### Smithsonian #48-SU-1544



Monument Ridge Fire Lookout. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the Monument Ridge Fire Lookout is eligible to the National Register of *Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1941*. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation, and politics/government, it is a fine example of pre-WWII fire lookout vernacular constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. It is also associated with the Forest Service's quest for expanded fire reconnaissance and suppression during this era. Monument Ridge is also unique in that it is the only remaining lookout on the forest that appears to have been constructed through precut methods, and the only one constructed with logs.

Not much is known about Monument Ridge Lookout, for few written records have been found. Although relatively low in elevation (compared to others on the forest) for a fire lookout site, the Forest Service picked the site back in the 1930s because they thought it was the best location to gain full view of the entire Hoback Ranger District, plus a road could easily be built to Monument Ridge's summit. As such, Monument Ridge lookout is one of only two lookouts on the forest (the other is Deadline Ridge) that does not require a long hike or horseback ride to visit.

#### Monument Ridge Fire Lookout, Facility # BT-BP-4035 (1941)

Monument Ridge Lookout rates high in all integrity aspects. It has retained its historic integrity nicely over the last six decades, and exhibits stellar workmanship and materials in its precut log construction. It associates well with the surrounding environment: the setting is spectacular, with a 360-degree view of the Wyoming, Gros Ventre, and Wind River ranges. Although some windows are boarded up, this does not alter the building's integrity, as this is easily reversible. Period of significance is 1941, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### PROSPECT PEAK FIRE LOOKOUT

#### Smithsonian #48-SU-1770



Big Piney District Ranger Greg Clark inspects Prospect Peak Lookout. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Prospect Peak Fire Lookout is eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1941. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation, and politics/government, the lookout is associated with the Bridger National Forest's early attempts at devising a network of strategically placed lookout towers for fire reporting and suppression purposes. While most of these small lookout towers have collapsed, transformed into radio repeaters, been torched to prevent squatters, or are in very poor condition due to neglect, exposure, or vandalism, Prospect Peak is one of the most intact. It has retained high levels of historic and architectural integrity over the past 60 years, and is one of the best representatives of its particular floor plan on the forest.

Although records indicate a couple of wood frame lookouts were built on the Bridger and Teton National Forests in the 1930s, the early 1940s witnessed the feverish construction of fire lookouts on both forests. Available records list at least 8 lookouts constructed in 1941 alone, many of which still stand today. Among these lookouts is Prospect Peak. Derived from the Region One Plan L-4 floor plan, Region Four Architect George L. Nichols developed what is known as the Region 4 Plan 80 Lookout House, a small, square, wood-frame, hipped roof structure whose construction materials were easy to pack to remote locations. This worked well for isolated Bridger and Teton fire lookouts accessible only via long hike or horseback.

Yet other than year constructed and costs, not many records exist in Forest Service files on Prospect Peak (a.k.a. Prospect Hill). It is unknown precisely how long it was staffed, but forest-wide trends point to the possibility that it was abandoned sometime in the late 1960s or early 1970s as airplane patrols became more commonplace.

#### Prospect Peak Fire Lookout, Facility #BT-BP-4038 (1941)

Prospect Peak Fire Lookout rates high in all integrity aspects. Nearly unchanged over the last 60 years (and somewhat worn due to exposure), it has nonetheless retained most of its unique architectural features, including some of its original paint scheme. Workmanship and materials are excellent. The lookout associates well with the surrounding natural landscape, and is one of the forest's best representatives of its specific floor plan and style. Period of significance is 1941, with themes in architecture and conservation.

#### SHERMAN GUARD STATION

#### Smithsonian #48-SU-1769



Although not threatened, Sherman Guard Station was the staging point for the 2001 Mule Fire. The fruit cellar is located left of the outhouse. Greg Clark/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Sherman Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places as a district under Criteria A and C, with periods of significance of c1929 and 1931-34. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation, and politics/government, Sherman Guard Station is associated with early Forest Service management of timber and rangelands. Rangers working out of Sherman monitored extensive timber sale and grazing activities around Horse and North Cottonwood Creeks and other adjoining drainages during the 1920s and 1930s. Sherman Guard Station also represents an architectural shift from traditional Forest Service vernacular to the era of standardized building plans. While a couple buildings have been removed, Sherman now consists of six buildings, all of which are historic and contribute to the district's historic character: an office, barn, generator shed, bunkhouse, outhouse, and fruit cellar.

Sherman Ranger/Guard Station was a yearlong headquarters for the Teton Division of the Yellowstone Forest Reserve from 1905 until the Wyoming National Forest's creation on July 1, 1908. From 1912 to 1930 Sherman was the yearlong headquarters for the Sherman Ranger District. During this time, the two buildings that were eventually removed were built: a shop in 1926 and a large four-room log dwelling in 1929. (In 1940, the Forest Service sold and moved the dwelling to Big Piney; it is unknown when they removed the shop). From 1930 to 1937, Sherman was used as a summer headquarters, until the 1937 absorption of the smaller Sherman Ranger District by the larger Big Piney Ranger District. It was during this time that three of the older historic buildings that still stand were built, the fruit cellar c.1929, the barn in 1931, and the generator shed one year later.

In 1933 and 1934, Civilian Conservation Corps workers constructed the other three historic buildings, the office, the garage/shop (modified into a bunkhouse in the late 1970s), and the outhouse, from standard plans developed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols. In 1934, the Regional Office devised a landscaping plan, with walkways, flowering bushes, gates, and fencing; other than the fences, few of these improvements remain. Sherman is still used by the Big Piney Ranger District as a seasonal work center.

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#### Sherman Barn, Facility # BT-BP-8017 (1931)

The Sherman Guard Station Barn rates high in all integrity aspects. As a good example of pre-CCC era Forest Service vernacular architecture, workmanship and materials are very good. Other than a metal roof, has not been significantly altered inside or out since built. Period of significance is 1931, with themes in architecture and conservation.

#### Sherman Bunkhouse, Facility #BT-BP-5016 (1934)

The Sherman Bunkhouse rates medium to high in all aspects of integrity. Although it lacks distinction due to a rear shed roof addition, the bunkhouse retains several character-defining features, including the siding, windows, and exposed rafter tails. Attempts were made to blend in any alterations as seamlessly as possible as seen in the use of Shevlin siding. This contributes to the historical associations and overall architectural character of the district. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Sherman Dwelling, Facility # BT-BP-4015 (1933)

Despite a retrofitted bathroom enclosure to the front porch, the office at Sherman Guard Station rates medium to high in all integrity aspects. In location and setting, it associates well with the surrounding natural environment and the other buildings. Despite the front porch being half enclosed, the rear elevation still suggests a strong Classical Revival influence. Workmanship and materials on the alterations are very sympathetic. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Sherman Fruit Cellar, No facility # (c.1929)

Although there is no written record of the Sherman Fruit Cellar, it nonetheless rates high in all aspects of integrity. It is a good example of rustic, pre-CCC Forest Service architectural vernacular, a log and earthen structure seemingly designed for a specific use: to keep perishable provisions cool. Period of significance is c.1929, with themes in architecture and conservation.

#### Sherman Outhouse, Facility #BT-BP-1018 (1934)

The Sherman Guard Station outhouse rates high in all aspects of integrity. It is a fine example of a CCC-era latrine common to most rural guard and ranger stations, and associates well with the guard station's other historic buildings. The outhouse has also retained many of its character-defining features, such as the original wood bench, seat, and lid. There is the possibility that it was moved to Sherman from elsewhere, but this has not been ascertained. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Sherman Generator Shed, Facility # BT-BP-2019 (1932)

Like the barn, Sherman Guard Station's Generator Shed rates high in all aspects of integrity. It is another fine example of pre-CCC Forest Service administrative vernacular. Workmanship and materials rate high, and with the exception of electricity, there are no alterations. The log structure associates well with the surrounding district. Period of significance is 1932, with themes in architecture and conservation.

# WYOMING PEAK FIRE LOOKOUT

## Smithsonian #48-LN-3029



The skeletal remains of Wyoming Peak Fire Lookout, Wyoming's highest lookout. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Wyoming Peak Fire Lookout is not eligible to the National Register of *Historic Places*. Although it is one of the first standard plan fire lookouts constructed in the Wyoming/Bridger National Forest, it is such advanced stages of structural decay that many defining architectural features no longer exist. There are other fire lookout cabins on the Bridger-Teton National Forest that are not only in much better condition, but are better representatives of this particular floor plan.

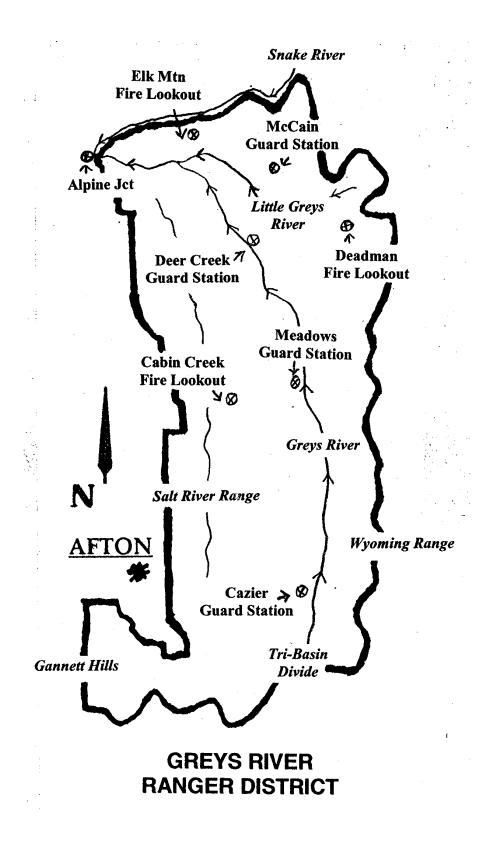
There is a long history of "lookouts" atop 11,383-foot Wyoming Peak, the highest point in the Wyoming Range. Former Big Piney District Ranger Ed Cazier frequently referred to stone observation "towers" and tent structures used to shelter hardy fire lookouts. Before the current lookout cabin, the Wyoming Peak lookout had to live in a small canvas tent and haul his water five miles up a steep trail from the closest spring. Yet it is understandable why Wyoming Peak was chosen, for the panorama sweeps 360 degrees into every area of the Bridger National Forest's west section.

To provide the lookout with a little more protection from lightning and the elements, in the early 1930s the Forest Service decided to build what Regional Architect George L. Nichols called a Plan 80 Lookout Cabin. Wyoming Peak lookout served its purpose for 23 years, but was abandoned in 1957 as the agency relied more on air patrols for fire detection.

### Wyoming Peak Lookout, Facility #BT-BP-4037 (1934) \*non-contributing/not eligible

As Wyoming's highest fire lookout, Wyoming Peak rates high in location, feeling, and association aspects. Decades of high altitude alpine exposure and neglect, however, have taken their toll on this structure. Because it has lost so many of its architectural features and structural integrity it is not a good representative of its particular floor plan. Other cabins at Deadman Mountain, Monument Ridge, and Prospect Peak illustrate better this building style.

# **GREYS RIVER RANGER DISTRICT D-3**



# AFTON COMPLEX

# Smithsonian #48-LN-3886



The Afton Complex, 1937. USFS Photo



The Afton House today. Note the sun porch enclosure on the left, a popular retrofit on the Plan 1. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the Afton Complex is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places as a contiguous district under Criteria A and C, with period of significance of 1933-1942 and 1952-1953. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation, and politics/government, it is a fine example of a standardized, Forest Service in-town administrative compound designed, developed and implemented during the New Deal and built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). It is also unique in that it is the only remaining intact, in-town, New Deal era multistructure compound of its kind still in administrative use by the Bridger-Teton National Forest.

The town of Afton was the supervisor's headquarters for the old Wyoming National Forest from 1908 until the 1923 consolidation of the Wyoming and Bridger National Forests. The supervisor's office then moved to Kemmerer, a more centralized, less isolated locale. Afton continued to serve as the yearlong headquarters for the Afton Ranger District from 1907 until the 1972 consolidation of the Bedford-Thayne and Afton districts into the present Greys River district.

Prior to 1933, the District Ranger rented a dwelling and house. The current compound's development began in 1933 with the construction of a dwelling and office/storeroom with Emergency Conservation Fund (ECF) money and CCC labor on donated land. On February 6, 1934 the Forest Service purchased the entire front half-acre of the site from the city of Afton for \$1. With more space, a garage and barn were built in 1934 with Forest Service funds and CCC labor. On March 6, 1937, the Forest Service purchased the rear section of land (.019-acre) from one Samuel Roberts for \$250. This parcel contains the warehouse, built sometime between 1939-1942. Citing the need by the District Ranger in 1948 for safer flammables storage, the gas house was built in 1953 after numerous appropriations delays. One non-contributing element, a small storage shed adjacent to the gas house, was built sometime after 1955.

All contributing buildings are standard Region 4 plans developed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols, and were painted Color Scheme 1 (white with Nile green trim and roof), one designated as appropriate for in-town administrative sites. In 1935, the Regional Office developed a landscape plan, implemented one year later. This included stone walks, juniper and

conifer trees, flower bushes, lath fencing, and the removal of overgrown cottonwood trees; much of this original landscaping remains. In 1964, the barn was moved to a new site two miles south of town, then sometime shortly thereafter the gas house was moved about 75 feet to the east as the east side right-of-way easement closed and the west side was opened. Despite this and other building/site modifications, the overall site retains a high degree of integrity. It is recommended that district boundaries follow the current property/fence line. The site is still used by the Greys River district for utilitarian and housing purposes.

#### Afton Bunkhouse, Facility # BT-GR-5020 (1933)

The Afton Bunkhouse retains a high degree of location, design, setting, and association. Materials and workmanship, however, rate medium because of utilitarian building modifications over time, e.g., the aluminum single hung windows that replaced the original wood double hung windows, the T1-11 vertical siding on the back porch enclosure that does not match the building's shiplap siding, the metal roof, and the aluminum front storm door. Despite these modifications, the bunkhouse contributes to the site's overall significance, and associates well with the other historic buildings. Period of significance is 1933-1942, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Afton Garage, Facility #BT-GR-7019 (1934)

As the third CCC-built building in the Afton Complex, the garage rates high in every category of integrity. It is built almost exactly to plan, and with the exception of a metal roof upgrade, the exterior has not been altered over time. In an aesthetic sense, it fits well as part of the complex's original site plan in every way, and is a model example of a structure that has retained high historic integrity over seven decades. Period of significance is 1933-1942, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

### Afton House, Facility #BT-GR-2018 (1933)

Because of its continuing role as an integral part of the complex's master plan, the Afton Complex ranger dwelling rates high in the location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling and association categories. Workmanship on room additions and other structural modifications were skillfully done, blending almost seamlessly with the original building; these room additions faithfully follow standard Region 4 designs. Materials used for window and other minor upgrades, however, do not match the original materials. Overall, the structure rates medium to high in overall integrity. Period of significance is 1933-1942, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

### Afton Shed/Fire Cache, Facility #BT-GR-9022 (1952-53)

Not part of the original site plan – and the last historic structure built on the complex – the gas house retains a high degree of integrity in all aspects despite minor alterations. Set at a 90-degree angle north of the two-car garage, its diminutive size and high workmanship complements the other larger historic buildings, and associates well with the entire site. Although constructed after the site's general period of significance (1933-1942), it nonetheless relates to the documented significance of the property because it follows New Deal-era standardized architecture. Period of significance is 1953, with themes in architecture and conservation.

#### Afton Warehouse, Facility #BT-GR-7021 (1940)

Location, feeling and setting for this building rate high because they are unchanged since this intown administrative site was developed. It also rates high in design because it is a good example of a Plan 35 warehouse shortened to fit a narrow city lot, and that it is the only Plan 35 on the forest. However, it rates medium at best for materials and workmanship, due to unsympathetic construction materials and methods: the use of T1-11 siding on the far west bay enclosure and a flush steel exterior door. Period of significance is 1933-1942, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# **CABIN CREEK LOOKOUT**

# Smithsonian #48-LN-3887



Cabin Creek Lookout. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Cabin Creek Fire Lookout is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1941. Significant under themes of architecture, conservation and politics/government, it is associated with the management of public lands and the expansion of the Bridger National Forest's fire lookout network in the late 1930s and early 1940s. It was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corp and, although in very poor structural condition due to neglect, exposure, and vandalism, it has retained many of its character-defining architectural features. Furthermore, although it is currently not the best representative of its specific floor plan on the forest (identical cabins at Prospect Peak and Deadman Mountain are in better condition) the Greys River Ranger District is committed to its accurate restoration for possible future restaffing purposes.

Little is known about Cabin Creek Fire Lookout. No tabular records list land withdrawals, nor are there detailed building records. It is also unknown as to how long it was staffed, but since all B-T fire lookouts were abandoned by the early 1970s – and considering the building's advanced level of structural decay, along with tree growth that has obscured views to the west and north – it is safe to assume the lookout has not been used since that time.

# Cabin Creek Fire Lookout, Facility #BT-GR-4038 (1941)

Cabin Creek Lookout rates high in all aspects of integrity. Although in poor structural condition, historic integrity is high, for it has retained many character-defining architectural features. It is also associated with the forest's quest during the 1930s and 1940s to improve their fire detection network via a series of mountaintop lookout cabins developed from standard plans. Period of significance is 1941, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# **CAZIER GUARD STATION**

# Smithsonian #48-LN-3024



Cazier Bunkhouse. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Cazier (Kuh-ZEER) Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places as a contiguous district under Criteria A and C, with periods of significance of 1933 and 1942. It is historically significant in the early administration of the Wyoming/Bridger National Forest under the themes of architecture, conservation and politics/government. Cazier Guard Station is a fine example of a standardized Forest Service administrative compound designed, developed, and constructed during the New Deal, and associates well with the forest's historic context.

On November 13, 1906, 127 acres were withdrawn for an administrative site that could provide a centralized patrol headquarters for the upper Greys River drainage. Originally named Corral Creek (for a small creek that flows into the nearby Greys River), in 1912 the Forest Service constructed the original Guard Station, a 10' x 12' one-room log cabin. This cabin was located about 1/4 mile north of the present guard station on the east side of Greys River road. Various Wyoming National Forest ranger districts used this cabin to patrol remote grazing allotments and logging operations.

As it was believed the cabin was rotting and unsafe, in 1933 the forest service sold it to one J.D. Gardner for \$5.00. The same year, the Forest Service selected the current site for a new guard station. The original site plan depicts two buildings, the office and outhouse, which were constructed in 1933 by the CCC. Nine years later, in 1942, the garage was constructed. It is unknown whether the CCC built this structure.

With the exception of the name change, and the office's near-seamless expansion into a bunkhouse, the site has not changed over time. In 1984, Corral Creek was renamed to honor Afton native and Big Piney District Ranger Sam Cazier, the first ranger on the old Wyoming National Forest to use an automobile for patrol. Cazier also constructed part of the three-pole wood timber fence that still circles the guard station. It is recommended that district boundaries

should follow the property's immediate fence line. The Greys River Ranger District still uses the guard station for field worker housing and general storage.

# Cazier Bunkhouse, Facility #BT-GR-4015 (1933)

The Cazier Office/Bunkhouse rates medium in all categories of integrity. Although it sits in its original spot as depicted in a mid-1930s site plan, and associates well with the surrounding natural and built environment, it has been compromised by a porch enclosure designed to provide more interior living space, a full bathroom retrofit, and a metal roof. Yet the alterations and modifications were skillfully done, using matching materials, and are not extensive enough to make it ineligible. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# Cazier Garage, Facility #BT-GR-7016 (1942)

Although the Cazier Garage was not included in the original site plan, it still rates high in all categories of integrity. Constructed nine years after the other two buildings, workers were careful to closely match the style and materials used for the office and outhouse. Thus, it fits in well with the site's overall levels of feeling and association, both in an architectural and environmental sense. It also has retained high historic integrity over the last sixty years. Period of significance is 1942, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# Cazier Outhouse, Facility #BT-GR-1017 (1933)

Due to extensive door modifications and reinforcements that do match well with the rest of the building or site, this built-to-plan outhouse rates medium in all categories. It sits directly behind the office/bunkhouse, and is compatible with the guard station's overall architectural and landscape character. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# **DEADMAN MOUNTAIN FIRE LOOKOUT**

# Smithsonian #48-LN-2865



Deadman Fire Lookout. Bill Shields/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Deadman Fire Lookout is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1941. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation and politics/government, it is associated with the expansion of the Bridger National Forest fire lookout network during the late 1930s and early 1940s. Although the lookout has been compromised over time, mostly due to neglect, exposure, and some vandalism, it has retained many of its character-defining architectural features. Thus, of the forest's six existing Plan 80 lookout cabins, Deadman rates among the poorest in structural integrity, yet among the highest in historic integrity. It was also constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Not much is known about Deadman Fire Lookout, except it used to be known as Greyfall Fire Lookout. No tabular records list land withdrawals, nor are there detailed building records. It is also unknown as to how long it was staffed, but since all Bridger National Forest fire lookouts were abandoned by the early 1970s, it is safe to assume the lookout has not been used since that time. There are no plans for restoration and renovation, mostly due to its very remote location that literally straddles a 10,000-foot knife ridge. The topography is so narrow and steep on all sides that helicopters cannot safely land to deliver personnel and equipment. The lookout almost burned in 2000 when a fire raced up and over the west ridge, passing right over the structure.

#### Deadman Fire Lookout, Facility #BT-GR-4309 (1941)

Deadman Fire Lookout rates high in all aspects of integrity. The lookout's association with fire prevention, a nationally significant development in early forest conservation, is supplemented by the structure's architectural qualities that are unique to fire lookouts. Although in poor structural condition, Deadman has nonetheless retained many of its character defining architectural features. Feeling and association also rate high because of its setting atop Deadman Mountain, a site unchanged since the building's construction. Period of significance is 1941, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# DEER CREEK GUARD STATION

#### Smithsonian #48-LN-3020



Deer Creek Dwelling. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the two historic buildings at Deer Creek Guard Station are individually eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1933. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation and politics/government, Deer Creek is representative of Forest Service field offices designed during the New Deal and constructed by the CCC. The guard station consists of three buildings, two historic, and one modern. The two contributing/eligible buildings are the dwelling and storage shed, while the third is a modern latrine, a non-contributing resource.

Other than a site improvement plan from 1934, no land or historic documents have been found that detail the site's history. No records were located that detail any site withdrawals before 1956, when 80 adjoining acres were withdrawn for pasturage. The primary reason the Forest Service chose Deer Creek were the extensive meadows suitable for stock pasture in the middle of the Bridger's Bedford Ranger District In 1930, the Forest Service enclosed part of this small pasture for use as a temporary stop-over for the Bedford District Ranger and guard for the Bridger National Forest, then maintained a tent camp as rangers checked nearby grazing allotments and monitored timber operations.

In 1933, workers from the Greys River CCC camp, located a few miles south, constructed the historic office, the original latrine, associated corrals and fences, and landscaped the grounds. It is unknown when the shed was moved to the site, for it is not listed on the station's 1934 improvement plan. The Greys River Ranger District still uses the guard station as a bunkhouse for summer field workers and as a rental cabin for winter recreationists.

### Deer Creek Dwelling, Facility #BT-GR-4012 (1933)

The Deer Creek Dwelling rates medium to high in all aspects of integrity. It is a fine example of a built-to-plan Region Four Plan 5 two-room office that has retained historic integrity over seven decades. With the exception of the collapsed brick chimney, all architectural features that define a New Deal Forest Service administrative structure remain intact. Most exterior modifications

and alterations have been performed sympathetically in association with the building's historic character. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

### Deer Creek Shed, Facility #BT-GR-9013 (1935)

The small shed at Deer Creek Guard Station rates medium to high in all integrity aspects. It is eligible as a building associated directly with the Deer Creek Dwelling, the primary resource. Although it has minor exterior alterations, most are sympathetic and the building contributes to the site's historic character. A question exists as to whether it was built on-site or moved from elsewhere, but this is not enough to negatively affect overall integrity. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# MCCAIN GUARD STATION

# Smithsonian #48-LN-2866



The McCain Bunkhouse. Note the eave brackets. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that McCain Guard Station is not eligible to the National Register. It does not strongly demonstrate an important association with the historic themes, including those of conservation and architecture, identified with Forest Service administrative facilities. Compared to other guard stations built before the New Deal, it has few features that define the character of pre-New Deal Forest Service architecture. Other sites on the forest like Bryan Flat and Elk Creek Guard Stations, along with the Rosencrans Cabin National Historic District, better illustrate Forest Service administrative compounds and buildings of this time, and are more strongly associated with the Forest Service administration of public lands.

Not much is known about McCain Guard Station, or whether any buildings existed before the present building's construction. Named after former Teton National Forest supervisor Arthur C. McCain (1873-1956), the guard station is not in its original location. Because the well dried up at the original McCain Guard Station site, located a half-mile southeast, the Forest Service in 1978 and 1979 moved the bunkhouse near a year-round active spring. Over the next ten to fifteen years, two non-historic structures were added: a metal storage shed and a replacement outhouse. The district still uses it as a field bunkhouse and as a winter recreation rental cabin.

### McCain Bunkhouse, Facility #BT-GR-4006 (1932) \*non-contributing/not eligible

Because it is not a good representative of pre-New Deal Forest Service architecture – and the fact that it was moved in the late 1970s from its original site – the McCain Guard Station Bunkhouse rates low to medium in all aspects of integrity. Other Bridger and Teton National Forest guard and ranger stations built in the 1910s and 1920s better represent the era of Forest Service vernacular architecture that preceded standard building plans.

# MEADOWS GUARD STATION

# Smithsonian #48-LN-3021



Meadows Bunkhouse, the only R4 Plan 6 on the forest. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Meadows Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places as a district under criteria A and C, with period of significance of 1933-1934 and 1941. Significant under themes of architecture, conservation, and politics/government, it is a fine example of a Forest Service field administrative site designed and constructed during the New Deal. Contributing elements include a bunkhouse, a dwelling, and a barn/garage. While the dwelling and barn/garage were built on-site, the smaller bunkhouse was moved to Meadows from the former Greys River Forks Guard Station in the 1960s. A latrine built in the 1990s is considered non-contributing/not eligible.

Meadows Guard Station history goes back to 1912, when a small, one-room cabin with a dirt roof was built about 200 yards southeast of the present guard station. In 1924, the cabin was moved to the site of the present barn and reconstructed as a larger building. Rangers from the Bedford Ranger District of the Wyoming/Bridger National Forest used Meadows as a way station while checking grazing and timber allotments. In the early 1930s, the Regional Office decided to expand Meadows Guard Station, and developed a site/landscape plan. In 1933, CCC workers constructed the office (now the dwelling) from a standard plan developed by Region Four Architect George L. Nichols (in 1934 the CCC also constructed the small building at Greys River Forks Guard Station that was eventually moved to Meadows).

In 1941, the CCC tore down the old log cabin and built the barn/garage, which appears to be follow a modified Two Car Garage/Storeroom floor plan (the barn/garage is not on the original site development plan). Meadows remained mostly unchanged until the 1960s, when the Forest Service closed Greys River Forks Guard Station (located 20 miles north at the confluence of the Little Greys and Greys River) and moved its only building to Meadows. Although it is of a standard plan, this building is somewhat rare: few Plan 6s were constructed in the region, and it is the only Plan 6 on the forest.

With the exception of a few utilitarian modifications--and the new outhouse--the site remains unchanged from the 1960s. The Greys River Ranger District, in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, still uses Meadows Guard Station as a work center. Its centralized location also serves as a heliport support site for southern zone aerial fire operations.

#### Meadows Barn, Facility #BT-GR-8043 (1941)

The Meadows Guard Station barn/garage rates high in all integrity aspects. A model of stellar workmanship, it is a highly intact building that associates very nicely with the surrounding environment and the other guard station buildings. Another factor is its uniqueness: there are no other Forest Service administrative barns like it on the forest. Period of significance is 1941, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Meadows Bunkhouse, Facility #BT-GR-5009 (1934)

Although moved, the bunkhouse at Meadows Guard Station bunkhouse rates high in all integrity aspects. It is considered a contributing resource because it relates directly to the site's significance. Like the other buildings, it was constructed by the CCC to support Forest Service administration of public lands and is representative of Forest Service architecture from that period. The bunkhouse is also rare: few Plan 6s were constructed in the Intermountain region and it is the only one of its kind on the Bridger-Teton. Other than a flue/cricket for the wood stove (and a metal roof for the heavy snow loads) it is in near original condition. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

### Meadows Dwelling, Facility #BT-GR-4008 (1933)

Although three other Region Four Plan 5 floor plans exist on the forest, the Meadows Guard Station version is the least altered with the highest historical integrity. Because it has not been significantly modified over time, and is in its original location, it also rates high in aspects of feeling, setting and association. It blends in almost seamlessly with the surrounding natural and built landscape. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

### **OSMOND BARN**

#### Smithsonian #48-LN-3889



The Osmond Barn provides shelter for district stock Cody (L) and Chester (R). Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the Osmond Barn is not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. Osmond Barn is one of three barns moved from towns to rural sites. Once known as the Afton Barn, it is now the only historic building on its new site south of Afton (there is a non-historic hay shed and metal corrals). Originally constructed as part of the Afton Complex (see 48-LN-3886), it follows the standard Four-Horse Barn floor plan as designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols. It sat next to the Afton Complex's Gas House until the early 1960s when, for sanitation and public health reasons, the City of Afton pressured the Forest Service to remove barns and corral networks from their downtown administrative site.

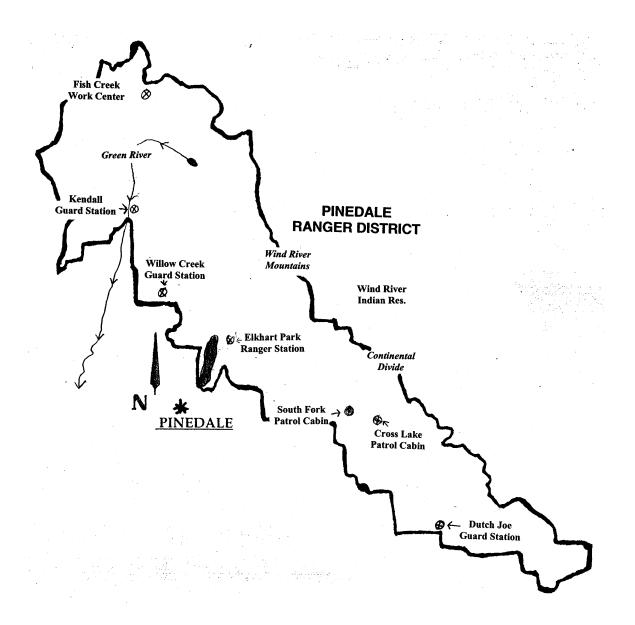
Once the Forest Service obtained a lot about 2.5 miles south of Afton, in 1964 they picked up the barn, transported it to the new site, and set it upon a new foundation (the old site was cleaned up, with all traces of the former barn site removed). The barn has been sitting out in rural Osmond ever since, and with the exception of a new roof and foundation, the exterior is otherwise unaltered. The interior, however, has been extensively altered for more efficient storage access. The Greys River Ranger District still uses the barn for tack and feed storage, as well as horse shelter during inclement weather.

#### Osmond Barn, Facility #BT-GR-8004 (1934)

#### \*non-contributing/not eligible

Because it was moved from its original location in downtown Afton to rural Osmond, the Osmond Barn rates low in most integrity aspects, including feeling, association, and location. It rates higher in workmanship and materials because the exterior is essentially unaltered. However, all stalls and grain bins in the interior have been removed, with both halves partitioned off by an interior cross wall. Additionally, the Plan 11 Barn at Kendall Guard Station is a better representative of this floor plan and it is in its original location.

# **PINEDALE RANGER DISTRICT D-7**



# **DUTCH JOE GUARD STATION**

### Smithsonian #48-SU-1758



Dutch Joe Dwelling, one of two R4 Plan 8s on the forest. Note the boxed eaves and rake boards. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Dutch Joe Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places as a contiguous district under Criteria A and C, with periods of significance of 1933-35 and 1944. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation and politics/government, it is a fine example of a Forest Service administrative compound designed and constructed during the New Deal. Dutch Joe is also associated with the forest's early history, as it was one of the first sites withdrawn for administrative purposes on the forest's remote southeastern reaches.

Named after Joseph Himmersback, a Dutch immigrant who came to this area in the late 1800s to trap and raise livestock, Dutch Joe Guard Station history predates the forest's formal 1908 creation. On December 4, 1906, the Secretary of Interior approved a 185-acre land withdrawal for administrative purposes. Four years later, in 1910, the new Dutch Joe Ranger Station was established; it served as a yearlong headquarters for the Dutch Joe Ranger District of the Washakie National Forest until July 1, 1916, when the Washakie National Forest consolidated with the Bridger National Forest. Upon the 1923 consolidation of the Bridger and Wyoming National forests, Dutch Joe became a summer station for the Wind River District of the Wyoming National Forest until 1925. The same year, the Wind River and Fremont Ranger Districts were combined, and until 1934 the site served as the summer headquarters for the assistant ranger of the Fremont Ranger District of the Wyoming National Forest.

Historic pre-New Deal Forest Service photos of Dutch Joe Ranger Station (above) reveal various log structures used for housing, offices, and storage. From 1933 to 1935, Dutch Joe received a major overhaul courtesy of CCC and Emergency Conservation Fund (ECF) labor. Workers removed the old dilapidated log structures and replaced them with three new buildings designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols, all contributing resources. One cabin was replaced

with a two-story, Plan 8 Colonial-Revival-style dwelling, a Plan 23 garage replaced a log storage structure, and a Plan 14 fly shed was built. The CCC and ECF also improved the fence and corral network and constructed stone sidewalks and retaining walls. For the most part, Dutch Joe has remained true to this era. With the exception of a historic hay/creosote shed constructed in 1944 (contributing) and a modern shower house (non-contributing)--and some utility upgrades--the site has changed little over time.

Seasonal workers patrolling the forest's remote southeastern reaches use the Dutch Joe Guard Station. It is also used as a base camp for southern Bridger Wilderness ranger patrols.

### Dutch Joe Dwelling, Facility #BT-PD-4031 (1933)

One of only two Region 4 Plan 8 dwellings on the Bridger-Teton, the Dutch Joe Guard Station Dwelling rates high in all aspects of historic integrity. It has minor modifications (e.g., vinyl kitchen floor, new screen doors and front porch supports) that do not detract from its historic character. The dwelling fits in well with the site's natural and built environment. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Dutch Joe Garage, Facility #BT-PD-7032 (1933)

The Dutch Joe Guard Station Garage rates high in all aspects of integrity. Built to (reversed) plan, the garage fits in well with the guard station's natural and built environment, and represents well the Forest Service's trend toward building modernization and standardization common during the New Deal years, especially structures specifically designed to house the increasingly common form of ranger patrol: the automobile. That it has not been drastically altered or changed over time reinforces its high overall integrity. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Dutch Joe Gas House, Facility #BT-PD-0034 (1935)

Constructed from the Region Four Plan 14 Fly Shed floor plan, Dutch Joe's Gas House rates high in all aspects of historic integrity. The only exception to this high rating is the replacement exterior door, which appears old but is unsympathetic to the rest of the building. Nonetheless, the gas house is representative of a standardized, New Deal-era storage building essential to guard station operations. Period of significance is 1935, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Dutch Joe Hay Barn, Facility #BT-PD-8033 (1944)

The Dutch Joe Hay/Creosote shed is the only building of its kind in administrative use by the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Although a decade younger than the rest of Dutch Joe's contributing structures, it nonetheless rates high in historic integrity as a good example of local vernacular architecture. Additionally, no alterations have been performed that would distract from its historical character. Period of significance is 1944, with architecture as primary theme.

# **ELKHART PARK GUARD STATION**

# Smithsonian #48-SU-4361



Elkhart Park Barn, a modified R4 Plan 21. Jim Bailey/USFS photo

It is recommended that Elkhart Park Guard Station is not eligible to the National Register of *Historic Places*. With the 1968 addition of a modern, A-frame Visitor Information Center (VIC) and the removal of assorted fences and corrals, the site no longer possess the defined characteristics required to strongly represent the historic context of a CCC-era guard station. Although there are two historic buildings on-site, a garage built as a combination bunkhouse/storage area and a willow-overgrown outhouse, both do not represent well their respective standard plans. There are other Region Four Plan 21 garages and Plan 70 outhouses on the Bridger-Teton that are much better examples of their respective building plans than the Elkhart versions.

In a letter dated March 5, 1937, Wyoming National Forest Supervisor James O. Stewart cited the need for an administrative site close to heavily used stock ranges and recreation areas within the Fremont Ranger District and Bridger Primitive Area, established in 1931. Stewart asked for a formal withdrawal of 120 acres for the site, but this was not official until 1956. According to Forest Service investment records, in 1938 the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the combination bunkhouse/garage and outhouse from standard plans developed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols. Elkhart Park Guard Station remained unchanged until 1968, when the Forest Service constructed the modern VIC approximately 1/4 mile north of the older site. The bunkhouse/garage is currently used for storage, while the unused outhouse has been severely compromised by unchecked vegetation growth.

### Elkhart Park Barn, Facility #BT-PD-5030 (1938)

### \*non-contributing/not eligible

Constructed specifically as an off-duty residence for horseback wilderness rangers patrolling Unit 3 of the Fremont Ranger District, the Elkhart Park Garage/Bunkhouse rates low to medium in all

categories. Derived from the Region Four Plan 21 Two-Car Garage floor plan, it was constructed with the rear storage room converted to a small bunkhouse. The garage/bunkhouse is not the best representative of this floor plan; other Plan 21s at Meadows Guard Station and in Afton better represent this particular design and floor plan.

#### Elkhart Park Outhouse, Facility # N/A (1938)

#### \*non-contributing/not eligible

The Elkhart Park Outhouse is a good example of how decades of neglect can compromise a simple wood-frame building. Hidden within a thick stand of willows, this outhouse is not one of the better examples of its building type on the forest. For this reason, the outhouse should be considered non-contributing/not eligible.

# KENDALL GUARD STATION

# Smithsonian #48-SU-63



Kendall Guard Station, the oldest building on site. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

Due to high levels of redevelopment over the past 80 years, the Kendall Guard Station site has lost some integrity. *It is recommended, however, that the four historic buildings that remain are eligible under Criteria C in the area of architecture.* The shed and gashouse are two of few remaining buildings from the era preceding the New Deal and retain high integrity. The bunkhouse and barn are fine examples of New Deal-era standardized Forest Service architecture. Since the CCC constructed them, the bunkhouse and barn are also eligible under Criteria A in the area of politics/government. Periods of significance for these buildings are 1924, 1929, and 1933-34.

The Kendall site history predates the Forest Service. In the late 1860s, the site housed the Brigham Young tie-hack camp; this huge camp supplied hand-hewn railroad ties for the Union Pacific railroad as it made its way across Wyoming Territory's southern reaches. In the 1890s, Kendall Tie Camp, named after Rock Springs banker Augustine Kendall, was a major center of regional tie hacking activities. A multi-building complex that consisted of a warehouse, office, bunkhouses, store, and sawmill, Kendall Tie Camp supplied railroads and mines with lodgepole pines cut in satellite camps, hewn into ties at the main camp, and floated down the adjoining Green River to Kemmerer. The camp lasted until 1904, with remnants of this camp—and its cemetery—can be found southeast of the present guard station.

Because of it central location, in 1904 Kendall was chosen as headquarters for the Teton Division of the Yellowstone Forest Reserve. On December 4, 1906, 160 acres were withdrawn for an administrative site. Historic photos show a log cabin that served as a dwelling and office. After the Bridger National Forest's 1908 establishment, Kendall continued as a district headquarters until this office was moved to less-isolated Pinedale in 1909. Kendall continued to serve as

headquarters for the Kendall and Green River Ranger Districts of the Bridger/Wyoming National Forests. It is during this time (1920s) that the blacksmith shop and outhouse that still exist were built.

From 1933 to 1936, Kendall Ranger Station received a makeover courtesy of the CCC. Older log structures were torn down, and in their places the CCC erected a house, garage, barn, and office, and landscaped the site with walkways and stone-lined drives. Nearby Pinedale's growth during the postwar era, however, created an acute housing shortage. To address this problem, the Forest Service in 1952 lifted Kendall's main house and garage and transported them to Pinedale, where they now sit at 332 N. Franklin Street. Thus, Kendall Guard Station is the only Bridger-Teton National Forest administrative site where two generations of buildings, Progressive and New Deal-eras, were torn down or moved as needs dictated.

Due to its important role as a work center for the forest's central regions, Kendall Guard Station continued to be modified over the next 30 years. A modern manufactured bunkhouse was erected in the 1980s, along with a replacement generator shed. The old, pre-CCC outhouse received a major makeover and was converted to a gas house. Remnants of old building foundations still remain, as do some of the walkways and stone-lined drives.

#### Kendall Barn, Facility #BT-PD-8014 (1934)

Much like the bunkhouse, the Kendall Guard Station Barn is a fine example of a CCC-era Forest Service administrative building that has retained high integrity over the last 70 years. Although the setting has been somewhat compromised by redevelopment of the site, the barn rates high in all other aspects of integrity. It is the only Plan 11 Barn, a Region Four standard plan, on the Bridger-Teton in its original location and retains its use as an agricultural facility. It is significant under Criteria A and C with themes in architecture and conservation with 1934 as the period of significance.

#### Kendall Gashouse, Facility #BT-PD-1018 (1924)

The oldest building on the site, this former outhouse was constructed in 1924 from one of the earliest known standard plans used in Region Four. Only a handful of these buildings are found throughout the region, and no others are known to exist on the Bridger-Teton. It also represents the historic Forest Service trend of moving and adapting buildings, especially outhouses, to new uses. It retains all of its character-defining features and is eligible under Criterion C in the area of architecture, with 1924 as the period of significance.

### Kendall Old Bunkhouse, Facility #BT-PD-4012 (1933)

The Kendall Guard Station Bunkhouse is a representative example of a CCC-era Forest Service administrative building that has retained high integrity over seven decades. Although the setting has been compromised by redevelopment on the site, this former office rates high in all other aspects of integrity. It is the best example of its specific floor plan (Region 4 Plan 51) still on the forest. The old bunkhouse is significant under Criterion A and C, with themes in architecture and politics/government and 1933 as the period of significance.

#### Kendall Shed, Facility #BT-PD-2017 (1929)

The Kendall Shed is one of the few remaining buildings on the Bridger-Teton that reflect the Forest Service's use of pioneer construction techniques. This unaltered log building is the second oldest on the Kendall site, and demonstrates vernacular building traditions of the pre-CCC era. It retains all of its character-defining features and is eligible under Criterion C in the area of architecture, with 1929 as the period of significance.

#### **PINEDALE BARN**

#### Smithsonian #48-SU-4362



Pinedale Barn. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the Pinedale Barn is not eligible to the National Register of Historic *Places*. The barn has been moved to a new site in a suburban work/housing center and is situated among newer buildings; there is no historic site-to-building association. Additionally, Pinedale's barn is not the best example of this specific floor plan; another identical barn at Goosewing Guard Station (in the Jackson Ranger District) has not only retained a higher degree of historic integrity, it still sits in its original location.

Constructed in 1934-1935 on a lot donated by the city of Pinedale, the barn originally sat near the southeast corner of Wilson Street and Lincoln Avenue. Research did not produce reasons why nor an exact date when this Plan 12 barn was lifted and moved to a larger parcel in suburban Pinedale. Although speculation, the barn could have been relocated in a pattern similar to other western Wyoming Forest Service towns. In Afton and Big Piney, Forest Service barns were shuffled away from town to rural locations in the mid-1960s over sanitation and public health concerns. It is possible that Pinedale's Barn might have been caught up in the public health issue.

Currently, the barn sits at the rear of a modern work center about 1.5 miles north of town in a modern subdivision. Newer mobile home pads sit at the entrance to the work center. The Pinedale Ranger District uses the barn for general tack and feed storage.

#### Pinedale Barn, Facility #BT-PD-8010 (1934-35)

#### \*non-contributing/not eligible

The Pinedale Barn is one of three barns on the Bridger-Teton moved from towns to rural sites. Over recent years, the area around the site has been significantly developed with suburban housing. These two factors, along with the presence of a modern shed and new trailer pads, result in low integrity of setting, location, and feeling. And while the exterior is fairly intact, like the other two barns the interior has been extensively modified. The Plan 12 barn at Goosewing Guard Station is a more complete representative of this specific floor plan and it is in its original location.

# **PINEDALE: 243 WEST PINE**

### Smithsonian #48-SU-4363



243 West Pine Street today. Note the pine tree logo cutouts on the shutters. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the dwelling and garage at 243 W. Pine, City of Pinedale, are eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1933 and c.1935. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation and politics/government, the dwelling is associated with the early Federal management of public lands, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and standard Forest Service New Deal-era architecture. It is also associated with Forest Service policy during this era of situating more year-round ranger dwellings within Wyoming's towns, so rangers and their families could take better advantage of the rapidly improving service, education, and communication infrastructures. The dwelling's companion garage, while modified, is also contributing/eligible resource because it relates to the documented significance of the dwelling.

The site at 243 West Pine Street has a long history. Tired of living in isolation at Kendall Guard Station – and wishing to be closer to the services Pinedale offered – in 1909 ranger Zeph Jones purchased with government funds a 0.13-acre lot for \$212, then secured it six years later through a Warranty Deed. On this site the Forest Service constructed a small dwelling, shed and outhouse; none of these buildings exist. From 1911 to 1933, the compound was used by various supervisors, assistant supervisors, and district rangers for the Bridger National Forest's Fremont Ranger District.

In 1933, the Forest Service razed the old dwelling and outhouse, and replaced them with a Plan 1 Colonial Revival-style dwelling designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols. Rangers used this building both as an office and a dwelling to administer the vast Fremont and Pinedale Ranger Districts of the Bridger National Forest. In the late 1950s, the upstairs was remodeled with a permanent stairwell at the rear to provide more sleeping space; most Plan 1 modifications of this nature place the new stairwell at the front of the house. In addition, the west side sun porch was fully enclosed to provide more living space, a common alteration for the versatile Plan 1. Thus, the Plan 1 at 243 West Pine Street is the only one of its kind on the forest.

Unlike the dwelling, the garage is a mystery. While there are virtually no records that describe its history, it retains many features typical of New Deal-era standard plans. A 1935 site improvement plan does not make mention of a garage, so speculation can go two directions: it

was moved to Pinedale from one of the many smaller guard station sites that closed or were abandoned during the 1950s, like Boulder or Fremont Lakes, or it was built on site following a modified standard plan. The closest it comes in dimensions and style to a standard plan is a Plan 23 Single-Car Garage, so chances are good that a Plan 23 was either moved from somewhere else or constructed on-site, then modified to fit the needs and limitations of the narrow city lot. The Pinedale Ranger District uses 243 West Pine for employee housing and storage.

#### 243 West Pine Garage, Facility #BT-PD-7003 (1935)

The garage at 243 West Pine has medium integrity. The garage's history is unknown, and the Region Four standard plan it resembles most is the Plan 23 Single-Car Garage. Although most likely moved from an undisclosed location, the garage must be considered eligible as a secondary resource, because it relates to the house's documented association with Forest Service administration and New Deal programs. Although the doors and roof have been modified, the garage retains many architectural features typical of this style that match well with the house like exposed rafter tails, cove siding, etc. Period of significance is c.1935, with themes in architecture and conservation.

#### 243 West Pine House, Facility #BT-PD-2002 (1933)

As one of the best representatives of the standard Plan 1 Colonial Revival style, the dwelling at 243 West Pine rates medium to high in all integrity aspects. Although modified, workmanship is stellar, plus it still retains many historic architectural features like the wood window shutters with pine tree cutouts that define a Plan 1. Yet some modifications and materials have affected the integrity of design, such as the metal roof and the aluminum storm windows and doors. These materials, however, are common in this part of Wyoming with its long, cold winters. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# PINEDALE: 332 NORTH FRANKLIN

# Smithsonian #48-SU-4364



332 North Franklin Street, the former Kendall Guard Station Main Dwelling and Garage (1934-1952). Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the garage and dwelling at 332 North Franklin Street, City of Pinedale, are not eligible to the National Register. Although the site has two buildings, it actually consists of four buildings, three of which were conjoined to expand the dwelling. All were built during the New Deal and moved from elsewhere in the Pinedale Ranger District in the mid-1950s. Because they have been lifted from their historic context then so extensively altered, the buildings, a heavily modified Region 4 Plan 1 Dwelling and a Plan 23 Single-Car Garage, do not strongly demonstrate an important association with historic themes of Forest Service administrative sites. The two buildings also are poor representatives of their style. Other similar buildings in Afton, Big Piney, Snider Basin, and Pinedale better represent their respective styles.

A lack of adequate housing within a small postwar Wyoming town was the driving factor behind the establishment of the 332 North Franklin site. As the Forest Service expanded its operations and personnel during the postwar boom, it found itself unable to provide new employees with adequate housing in a town with very little private housing opportunities. To address this deficiency, in the early 1950s forest officials secured a lot in what was then a new addition to Pinedale. Then, in 1952, the Plan 1 dwelling at Kendall Guard Station, its companion Plan 23 Garage, and another Plan 23 Garage at Fremont Lakes Guard Station were uprooted, transported, and then resituated on new foundations. The Forest Service spent nearly \$10,000 to create the Franklin complex.

Of the two buildings, the house was the most extensively altered. In order to provide an additional bedroom and utility room, the Kendall garage was placed directly abutting the rear of the main house then conjoined to provide this additional space. Another small building (from an unknown location) was then added directly behind the garage to serve as a coal room. The garage from Fremont Lakes was then placed at a right angle to the rear of the main building; improvement plans called for connector between house and garage, but this never materialized. Much like the main house, the garage has also been altered to the point that it no longer represents well its specific plan and style. The Pinedale Ranger District uses these buildings for employee housing and storage.

#### **332** North Franklin Garage, Facility #BT-PD-7006 (1934) \*non-contributing/not eligible

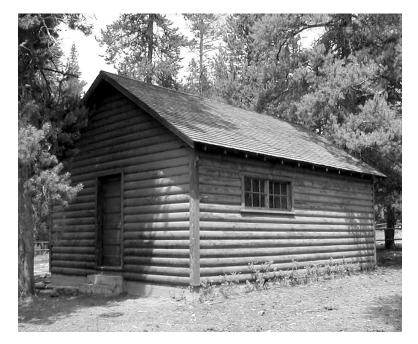
Much like its companion house, the garage at 332 North Franklin Street rates low to medium in all integrity aspects. Because it was moved, it retains no historical feeling or building-to-site historical associations. Numerous extensive alterations have also transformed this standard plan single-car garage into something almost unrecognizable, at least from the street. There are many other similar garages on the Bridger-Teton that are not only much better representatives of this standard plan, but are still in their original location(s).

#### 332 North Franklin House, Facility #BT-PD-2005 (1934) \*non-contributing/not eligible

Because it has been moved from its original location and altered so extensively over time, the 332 North Franklin dwelling rates low to medium in every integrity aspect. Due to major additions, it is the least intact representative of its specific floor plan on the forest; much better examples exist in Afton, Snider Basin, and a few blocks away in Pinedale. While the workmanship and most of the materials on the additions exhibit fairly high quality of integrity, its relocation to a different setting in a configuration inconsistent with historic site planning principles is an adverse effect.

# WILLOW CREEK GUARD STATION

### Smithsonian #48-SU-481



The Willow Creek Garage. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Willow Creek Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of *Historic Places as a district under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1933 to1935.* Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation and government/politics, Willow Creek is associated with early Forest Service management of timber and rangelands plus assorted mining claims on the south slope of the central Wind River Mountains. Willow Creek Guard Station is also the finest representative of a CCC-era Forest Service administrative compound remaining on the forest. With the exception of the latrine being moved from one spot to another, the site and its four contributing buildings are nearly unchanged from the mid-1930s.

On December 4, 1906, 20 acres that would become the Willow Creek administrative site were officially withdrawn from the public domain. Until 1926, Willow Creek Guard Station served as yearlong headquarters for the old Willow Creek Ranger District of the Bridger/Wyoming National Forests. In 1926, the Willow Creek Ranger District consolidated with the adjacent Kendall Ranger District, with new headquarters at Kendall Guard Station. There is no information on or photos of any buildings that existed here before the CCC's 1933 arrival.

Over the next three years, CCC workers built a new guard station that could comfortably house rangers and other workers. Working from detailed standard plans developed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols, the CCC built four buildings: a dwelling, garage, barn/fly shed, and latrine. Agency workers also planted shrubs, built fences and corrals, constructed walkways and driveways, and cleared away excess trees. Save for shrubbery and tree growth – plus the outhouse shuffling about as the pit filled – Willow Creek is virtually the same place it was conceived of and constructed as nearly 70 years ago. This is a rare occurrence in Forest Service history.

Due to a bad water supply (and access issues with a local rancher), other than for general storage Willow Creek Guard Station has not been used for several years.

#### Willow Creek Barn, Facility #BT-PD-8021 (1934)

The Willow Creek barn/fly shed rates high in all aspects of integrity. Built exactly to plan, it is the finest example of its floor plan on the forest. Unaltered over the years, the barn/fly shed has retained all of its character-defining features. It also associates nicely with Willow Creek's other CCC-era buildings and the surrounding natural landscape. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Willow Creek Dwelling, Facility #BT-PD-4019 (1933)

The ranger dwelling at Willow Creek rates high in all aspects of integrity. One of only two on the forest (the other is at Dutch Joe GS) ever built with this specific floor plan, of the two it is the finest representative of the Forest Service's vernacular interpretation of the Colonial Revival style. Despite some minor alterations, the dwelling has retained its character-defining features. It associates strongly with the compound's other CCC-era buildings, and with the surrounding natural landscape. Period of significance is 1933, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Willow Creek Garage, Facility #BT-PD-7020 (1934)

The Willow Creek garage rates high in all aspects of integrity. Reversed yet built to plan, it is one of the finest representatives of its specific floor plan on the forest. Unaltered over the years, the garage has retained all of its character-defining features. It also associates nicely with Willow Creek's other CCC-era buildings and the surrounding natural landscape. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Willow Creek Outhouse, Facility #BT-PD-1090 (1935)

As the only building at Willow Creek Guard Station that has a history of being moved, the latrine nonetheless rates high in all integrity aspects. It is one of the finest examples of a CCC-era latrine on the forest. The small structure associates well with the guard station's other buildings and with the natural landscape. Period of significance is 1935, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# CHAPTER THREE: EVALUATION SUMMARIES, TETON DIVISION

Of the five Teton Division administrative sites surveyed in 2001, two are eligible to the National Register as districts. Most or all of the buildings in an eligible district are contributing resources, sometimes because they independently meet National Register criteria. Administrative sites that are not eligible as districts may have individually eligible buildings.

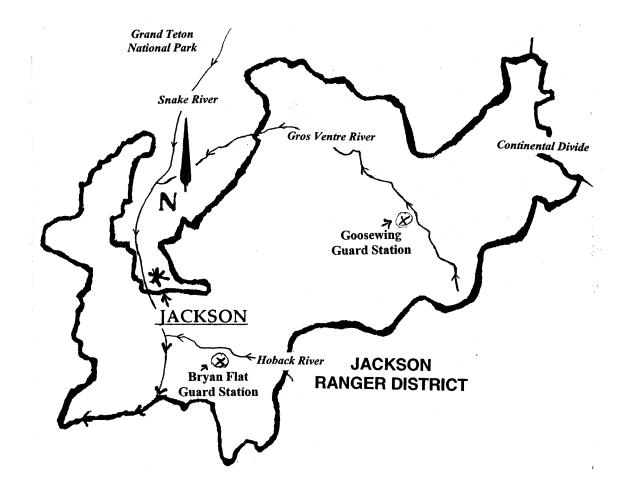
Administrative Unit	Sites Eligible as Districts
D-4: Jackson Ranger District	2
D-6: Buffalo Ranger District	0
Total	2

# HISTORIC DISTRICT AND BUILDING SUMMARIES

Administrative Unit	Contributing and/or Individually Eligible Buildings	Non- Contributing* or Ineligible Buildings
D-4: Jackson Ranger District	9	0
D-6: Buffalo Ranger District	2	4
Total	11	4

\*This count consists of historic buildings. Buildings that are not historic but are located in an eligible district are considered non-contributing. They are not included in this table. The following pages narrate the history and eligibility of each recorded administrative site and historic building. They are organized by district within the Teton Division. Summaries include each property's justification for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. If evaluated as eligible, themes and areas of significance are included. **All buildings are contributing/eligible, unless otherwise \*noted.** 

# **JACKSON RANGER DISTRICT D-4**



# **BRYAN FLAT GUARD STATION**

## Smithsonian #48-TE-938



Bryan Flat Main Dwelling. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Bryan Flat Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places as a contiguous district under Criteria A and C, with dual periods of significance: 1914-20 and 1928-34. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation and politics/government, it is a fine example of a Forest Service administrative compound designed, developed and initially constructed during the Forest Service's early years and expanded during the New Deal. It is also historically unique as the only remaining intact, multi-structure compound with a mixture of pre-World War I and New Deal-era buildings still in administrative use by the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Bryan Flat Guard Station associates well with Forest Service trends of upgrading early administrative sites immediately before and during the New Deal, as funds became available.

One of the oldest remaining guard stations on the forest, the Bryan Flat location has served as a district headquarters and guard station since the Teton National Forest's 1908 creation from the old Yellowstone Forest Reserve. On August 7 the same year, 120 acres on "Bryan Flats" were withdrawn for administrative use. In 1916, the withdrawal of another 325 acres for pasturage was approved, but this acreage was never officially withdrawn.

It is unknown as to precisely when the Bryan Flat Ranger District was created, but it was one of several small, horse-patrolled districts within the expansive Teton National Forest. Forest Service directories list a Bryan Flat Ranger District from 1920 to 1925, and then entries cease. Evidence suggests that Bryan Flat Ranger District was absorbed sometime in the mid-1920s into the adjoining Hoback Ranger District, for investment and depreciation records from the 1930s list Bryan Flat as part of the Hoback District, or D-4 of the old Teton National Forest. This fits in with forest-wide patterns of district consolidation in the mid-1920s as automobiles started replacing horses as the primary means of patrol.

According to photographic records on file at the Teton County Historic Society, a one-room log cabin served as the site's first building. This cabin, located about 100 yards west of the cookhouse, no longer exists. The oldest existing structures are the cookhouse's south wing, constructed in 1914, and the office/storeroom, constructed in 1919. In 1928, the barn was built; in 1931, the Forest Service added the north wing of the cookhouse, and in 1934, the Region Four Plan 23 garage was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Records also indicate a small log woodshed was part of the complex, but it is gone and no evidence of its whereabouts remain.

Other than electrical and water modifications, Bryan Flat Guard Station remained unchanged until 1975, when the Forest Service constructed a shower house and a series of (now collapsed) tent structures for Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) workers. These non-historic structures are situated away from the historic and are not included in this evaluation. It is recommended that district boundaries follow fence lines to include the shower house, considered non-contributing. The forest still uses Bryan Flat as pasturage and a small work center, as well as seasonal housing for employees and YCC workers.

# Bryan Flat Barn, Facility #BT-JA-8014 (1920)

Much like the rest of Bryan Flat Guard Station's historic buildings, the barn rates high in all categories. Materials and workmanship rate high, and the barn, with its associated corral network, associates well with the guard station's architectural and environmental features and aesthetics. The period of significance is 1920, with themes in architecture and conservation.

# Bryan Flat Bunkhouse, Facility #BT-JA-5011 (1934)

Although the last historic building constructed at the guard station, the Bryan Flat Garage rates high in all categories, especially materials and workmanship. Construction workers matched the building as closely matched as possible to the station's older structures. It is fine example of a Region Four Plan 23 single car garage whose exterior has not been altered extensively over time. It fits in nicely with the guard station's overall environmental and architectural aesthetics. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

### Bryan Flat Dwelling, Facility #BT-JA-4010 (1914, expanded 1931)

The Bryan Flat Dwelling/Cookhouse is an outstanding example of a Progressive Era Forest Service administrative structure built from native lodgepole pine materials. Materials and workmanship rate very high, and the various additions and modifications, including the 1931 north wing addition, are for the most part skillfully done and sympathetic to the original building's architectural aesthetics. Feeling and association also rate high because the building fits in nicely with its surrounding environment, as well as the complex's other historic structures. Periods of significance are 1914 and 1931, with themes in architecture and conservation.

### Bryan Flat Office/Storeroom, Facility #BT-JA-5012 (1919)

Much like the other three historic structures at Bryan Flat Guard Station, the office/storeroom has retained well its historic integrity over time. It rates high in all categories: workmanship and materials are stellar, and associates nicely with the surrounding buildings and landscape. It appears the office/storeroom was constructed as a companion to the larger cookhouse's south section, for it is almost identical. And much like the cookhouse, the office/storeroom is unique: there are no other buildings like it on the forest. Save for the batten-profile metal roof, it is near original. Period of significance is 1919-1920, with themes in architecture and conservation.

# **GOOSEWING GUARD STATION**

## Smithsonian #48-TE-1590



It is recommended that Goosewing Guard Station is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places as a contiguous district under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1934-1935. Significant under the themes of architecture, conservation and politics/government, it is a fine example of a standard Forest Service guard station constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the New Deal.

On December 31, 1921, the withdrawal of 80 acres for the Goosewing Administrative Site on the upper Gros Ventre River was approved. Teton National Forest Supervisor A.C McCain viewed it as a valuable shelter site for the winter monitoring of elk grazing range conditions. He wrote the same year that winter trips to monitor game conditions from Horsetail Ranger Station to the upper Gros Ventre River was too far on snowshoes, and that Goosewing would allow "more thorough investigations and better conduct of our winter work generally."

Historic site photos indicate a small log-cabin structure, of which no evidence remains. Although it is unknown when this structure was built, it is similar to the so-called "Rocky Mountain Cabin" vernacular, with the unsupported front gable roof extension over the main entry. Surrounded by a wood fence, it looks identical to the cabin at Elk Creek Guard Station on the forest's far southern reaches, and similar to the Old Blackrock Station that currently sits behind the Buffalo District Office east of Moran Junction.

In 1934 and 1935, the CCC constructed the five buildings that currently comprise Goosewing Guard Station: the barn, main dwelling, garage, and two gas houses, one of which was converted to a generator shed. The barn, dwelling, and garage follow standard plans designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols, while the two gas houses do not follow any kind of standard plan. A sixth building, an outhouse, was built around the same time but was removed sometime after

1984. In the 1940s and 1950s, the garage and main dwelling were modified and expanded. Although possibly not eligible to the National Register as individual buildings, both have merit as contributing elements to the district because they have retained many of their character-defining architectural features. The Jackson Ranger District currently uses the Goosewing Guard Station for seasonal employee housing and as a base for rangers patrolling the Gros Ventre Wilderness.

#### Goosewing Barn, Facility #BT-JA-8017 (1934)

The Goosewing Guard Station barn rates high in most aspects. It is a fine example of a Forest Service administrative building designed and constructed during the New Deal era. Built to plan, the exterior has changed very little over the last 70 years, and it is the best example of this particular floor plan on the forest. The only changes are extensive interior modifications, the only factors that might affect overall historic integrity. Nonetheless, that the building's exterior has remained unchanged over seven decades outweighs any utilitarian interior modifications. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

### Goosewing Bunkhouse, Facility #BT-JA-5016 (1935)

The Goosewing bunkhouse rates high in most justification aspects. Although modified to serve as an overflow bunkhouse for seasonal workers, most of the exterior modifications – albeit questionable in design – were performed with high levels of craftsmanship. While these alterations may have diminished the building's individual merit, it retains enough character-defining features to contribute to the site's significance. It is a good example of how sympathetic modifications to a standard plan can help maintain historic integrity. Period of significance is 1935, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

#### Goosewing Dwelling, Facility #BT-JA-4015 (1934)

Goosewing Guard Station's main dwelling is a good example of how additions and modifications over time can affect individual historic integrity. Because of this, the dwelling rates medium in all aspects, and has been altered to such an extent that it would not be individually eligible to the National Register. However, it has merit as a contributing element to the district. Even with the additions and modifications, the dwelling's association to the rest of the site is apparent because it retains many character-defining architectural features. Thus, the dwelling adds to the district's historic associations and architectural qualities. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

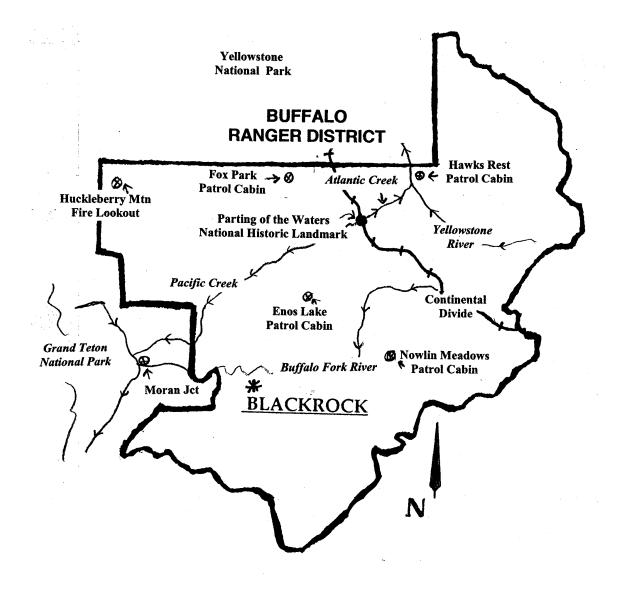
### Goosewing Gas House, Facility #BT-JA-0018 (1934)

Goosewing Guard Station's Gas House (below) rates high in all aspects of integrity. It is a fine example of a New Deal-era flammables storage structure, and associates well with the site's other historic buildings. Workmanship and materials used in exterior construction and modifications are sympathetic to the guard station's other buildings, including its companion generator shed. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

### Goosewing Generator Shed, Facility #BT-JA-2019 (1934)

Much like its companion gas/oil house, the Goosewing Generator Shed (below) rates high in all aspects of integrity. The modern, louvered metal vents installed on each gable elevations are minor distractions from the historic integrity. Period of significance is 1934, with themes in architecture, conservation, and politics/government.

# **BUFFALO RANGER DISTRICT D-6**



# **BUFFALO ADMINISTRATIVE SITE**

# Smithsonian #48-TE-1589



Blackrock Old Gas House. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the Buffalo Administrative Site, a.k.a. Blackrock Work Center, is not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. While 4 of the center's oldest buildings are already listed on the National Register as the Rosencrans Cabin National Historic District, the other 4 buildings old enough to qualify are of such disparate temporal and architectural nature that they do not contribute in any way to the site's overall historic integrity. Other factors are the work center's many modern structural additions – prefabricated log homes, metal warehouses, mobile homes – that negatively affect any historical relationships between buildings and property.

Although Rudolph Rosencrans, the first ranger of the Teton National Forest's Blackrock/Buffalo Ranger District, constructed the original buildings on this site in the 1900s and 1910s (4 are part of the historic district, while the other sits directly behind the Buffalo Ranger District office as an interpretive site), recorded history before 1906 is non-existent. On November 13 of that year, 61.4 acres were withdrawn for administrative purposes. Two years later, about the time the Teton National Forest was officially carved out of the old Yellowstone Forest Reserve, another 228 acres adjacent to the Buffalo Fork River were withdrawn. Citing need for hay land "for the maintenance of government horses," in 1912 Rosencrans requested withdrawal of another 40 acres. The request was approved, but the acreage never withdrawn. About this time, Rosencrans and his crew built the log structures – house with addition, garage, shed, and barn – that currently comprise the historic district.

On August 6, 1980, the **Rosencrans Cabin Historic District** (48-TE-971) was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Located within the boundaries of the Buffalo Administrative site (48-TE-1589), the district encompasses 4 contributing buildings (house, garage, barn and shed) and one non-contributing building (outhouse). According to the

nomination, the district is significant in the areas of architecture, conservation, and politics/government; this document, however, is sparse and does not specify periods of significance nor criteria. Other information, however, indicates it was significant for its association with early Forest Service administration of public lands (Criterion A, c.1915-1928), its association with ranger Rudolph Rosencrans (Criterion B, c.1915-1928) and its pre-New Deal era construction and design (Criterion C, c.1915).

Although the outhouse was mentioned in the district nomination form, at that time it was not deemed old enough for inclusion. One purpose of this evaluation is to determine if the latter has achieved contributing status and if the buildings in 48-TE-1589 have achieved historic significance. The other three buildings in 48-TE-1589 barely qualify as old enough for the register, for it is estimated that both were built from c.1935 to the early 1950s; again, no written records can confirm this assertion. A gashouse right on the boundary of the historic district may have been moved to the site. A bunkhouse approximately 100 yards south of the district is an interesting mixture of different building sections added on over time, while its adjacent shed was moved to Blackrock in 1996 from the old Hatchet Ranch a couple miles west to serve as guest quarters.

The problem with these buildings is they are situated among many newer structures, so there are no substantive building-to-site historic relationships. Unlisted historic buildings on the Buffalo Administrative Site – including the outhouse – do not represent a cohesive district, nor can they achieve individual eligibility.

# Blackrock Old Bunkhouse, Facility #BT-BU-5014 (1952) \*non-contributing/not eligible

The Blackrock Work Center Bunkhouse, if anything, is unique. No other building on the forest comes close in appearance or style (see photos and narrative below). On its own, it fits in and associates well in its location. Yet materials and workmanship rate low to medium at best, for many of the additions are incompatible to previous periods of construction with a mixture of older and modern materials, for example the windows, to illustrate any historic continuity.

# Old Bunkhouse Shed, Facility #BT-BU-2048 (c.1950) \*non-contributing/not eligible

According to Buffalo District Stock Manager Jack Hatch, in 1996 he physically uplifted and transported this surplus shed on wood skids from the Hatchet Ranch RV park one mile west of the work center to its present location For this, it rates low in location and setting. Design, workmanship and materials rate medium at best, for the building appears to have been thrown together using scrap lumber. There is also a question of when it was first built; the best estimate is in the early 1950s.

### Blackrock Old Gas House, Facility #BT-BU-0107 (1935) \*non-contributing/not eligible

Although the construction date is unknown, the gas house is estimated to be a CCC-era building. It rates high in design, workmanship, and materials. Integrity of setting is low as only the adjacent latrine also dates from that era. It is possible that it was moved to its existing location but this is also unknown. The gas house does not meet the definition of a contributing resource within the adjacent Rosencrans Cabin Historic District, nor not meet the criteria to warrant a determination of individual eligibility.

# Blackrock Outhouse, Facility #BT-BU-1018 (1935)

#### \*non-contributing/not eligible

Located within the boundaries of the Rosencrans Cabin Historic District, the latrine does not contribute to the district's historic significance because it was constructed after the periods of significance. It also does not meet the criteria to warrant a determination of individual eligibility. In addition, there are much more intact representative examples of this particular floor plan on the forest.

# HAWKS REST PATROL CABIN

# Smithsonian #48-TE-1274



Hawks Rest Patrol Cabin, one of the agency's most isolated administrative sites. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that Hawks Rest Patrol Cabin is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, with a period of significance of 1950. Significant under the themes of architecture and conservation, it is a fine example of recent, pure vernacular architecture – a handcrafted, remote wilderness patrol cabin reinforced to withstand the forces of weather and curious wildlife. Unique to the forest, this cabin has retained all of its rustic historic features since construction, and continues to play an important role in the housing of wilderness rangers at one of America's most remote locations. The site also contains a newer outhouse built in the 1990s, a non-contributing resource.

Named for the mountain that rises vertically just behind the cabin, this mountain's west exposure of this mountain is pock-marked with small holes and caves that provide a natural aviary habitat. Originally known as Bridger Lake Administrative site, an approval for withdrawal was granted on February 13, 1943, but the site was never formally withdrawn. There is record (but no pictures available) of a smaller log cabin built in the early 1930s for game administration, but it was abandoned in 1945. A couple years later, an irate grizzly bear severely damaged the old cabin, and it was subsequently dismantled.

Because of the huge increase in Teton Wilderness recreation traffic during the immediate postwar era, the Forest Service decided that it needed a new patrol cabin in the Yellowstone Meadows area, which is popular with outfitters, backpackers, big-game hunters, and anglers. In 1950, the Forest Service, with the assistance of Moran Junction contractors Bill Daniels and Pete Fuez, constructed the present cabin from local materials. Since then, the cabin has received numerous utilitarian interior upgrades to make it more comfortable for the regular wilderness patrol rangers and fire crews. These upgrades do not detract from the building's historic character. The cabin receives heavy administrative use from June to October.

## Hawks Rest Patrol Cabin, Facility #BT-BU-4032 (1950)

Despite exterior additions for building protection, the Hawks Rest Patrol cabin rates high in all aspects. Constructed during the postwar recreation boom, it is a fine example of pure vernacular architecture, a building constructed by local people not formally trained to do so. Workmanship and materials are top-notch, and although alterations/additions were performed to the interior, they do not compromise this cabin's wilderness character. It is a good example of a remote Forest Service administrative site small enough not to be intrusive upon the landscape, but substantial enough to comfortably accommodate multiple parties over time. Period of significance is 1950, with themes in architecture and conservation.

# **OLD BLACKROCK OFFICE**

# Smithsonian #48-TE-1221



The Old Blackrock Station. Jim Bailey/USFS Photo

It is recommended that the Old Blackrock Office, a.k.a. Rosie's Office, is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria B and C, with a period of significance of 1904-1924. Significant under themes of architecture and conservation, it is a good example of early ranger cabin vernacular. It is associated with Ranger Rudolph "Rosie" Rosencrans, hired in 1904 as the first ranger of the newly created Teton Division of the Yellowstone Forest Reserve. This small cabin has been moved at least twice: once in 1968 to the Teton National Forest Supervisor's Office in Jackson to serve as an interpretive exhibit on old ranger stations, then back again in August 1991 to the Buffalo Ranger District to serve in the same capacity. However, it is the only surviving example of a pre-Forest Service administrative structure, thus heightening its historical significance. It is also the oldest surviving Bridger-Teton administrative structure still in use.

Although little is known about this cabin, much is known about its builder. In his book on old Forest Service administrative buildings, Les Joslin claims the cabin was built in 1904 by Rudolph Rosencrans, a famous figure in Jackson Hole history. Born in Austria in 1875 to the country's chief forester and educated in mathematics and languages at the University of Vienna, "Rosie" came to America via San Francisco in the late 1890s. A skilled mountaineer, in the early 1900s he gravitated south to the Jackson Hole country. Recognizing his education and outdoor knowledge, in 1904 Yellowstone Forest Reserve Superintendent A.A. Anderson appointed Rosencrans as the first ranger of the reserve's Teton Division, which four years later became the Teton National Forest. The same year, Rosencrans (and John Alsop) constructed this cabin to serve as an office and dwelling (over the next two decades, Rosencrans would build the structures that comprise the Rosencrans Cabin National Historic District).

Rosencrans' contributions to Teton National Forest history are substantial. He personified Chief Forester Gifford Pinchot's quest for educated, yet dedicated, outdoors-wise professionals to staff the newly created Forest Service ranks. As the first District Ranger of the Buffalo/Blackrock District of the Teton National Forest, Rosencrans patrolled a radius of 25-50 miles in all directions by ski, snowshoe, or horseback. He counted game, issued grazing permits, constructed trails, culverts, and ditches, rescued the lost and recovered the dead, hosted famous dignitaries like Theodore Roosevelt and William "Buffalo Bill" Cody, and battled forest fires – all while surveying then drawing detailed maps of his expansive district. These maps, the first ever, are perhaps his greatest contribution. That he drew these maps under dim light may have contributed to his eventual blindness, which forced his 1924 retirement. Rosencrans died in Jackson in 1970, and is buried on ridge a mile northeast of the cabin.

The cabin's original location, however, remains a mystery. The forest archeologist believes it stood in the same area as the Rosencrans Cabin National Historic District, located about 3/4 mile north of where the cabin now sits. Since the four other buildings Ranger Rosencrans and his crew constructed comprise this district, it makes sense that the cabin could have been originally located near these buildings. Although shuffled to Jackson and back as a mobile interpretive exhibit, this small, rustic log cabin (one of the last two of its kind on the forest) it is nonetheless significant for its architectural value. Therefore, because the Old Blackrock Office is associated with an individual famous in Jackson Hole and early Teton National Forest history – and that it is this individual's oldest surviving building – it meets NRHP eligibility requirements under Criterion Consideration B.

### Old Blackrock Station, a.k.a. Rosie's Office, Facility #BT-BU-0026 (1904)

Although this small cabin has been moved from Buffalo District to Jackson and back again as an interpretive exhibit, it still rates medium to high in all aspects of integrity. As the oldest and only surviving pre-National Forest structure on the Bridger-Teton, it is associated with Ranger Rudolph Rosencrans, one of the first rangers in one of America's first national forests. Constructed by Rosencrans in 1904, the cabin has retained all of its primary architectural features. It is also one of only two pre-World War I, log single-cell ranger cabins still in administrative use by the forest (the other is Elk Creek Guard Station on the Kemmerer District). Period of significance is 1904-1924, with themes in architecture and conservation.