

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Summit Creek Ranger Station

other names/site number Summit Creek Guard Station; 5RT.431

2. Location

street & number County Road 129 [N/A] not for publication

city or town Columbine [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Routt code 107 zip code 80428

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ State Historic Preservation Officer _____ Date _____

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- entered in the National Register
[] See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
[] See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register
- other, explain _____
[] See continuation sheet.

Summit Creek Ranger Station
Name of Property

Routt County/ Colorado
County/State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

3	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling
DOMESTIC/ secondary structure

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling
DOMESTIC/ secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/ Rustic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE
walls WOOD/ log

roof METAL
other _____

Narrative Description

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

Summit Creek Ranger Station
Name of Property

Routt County/ Colorado
County/State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

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

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

Property is:

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

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

CONSERVATION
ARCHITECTURE

Periods of Significance
1912-1954

Significant Dates
1912, 1921

Significant Person(s)
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
UNKNOWN

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:
Colorado Historical Society

Summit Creek Ranger Station
Name of Property

Routt County/ Colorado
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 333545 4527053
Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Burnett & Elicia Horth- Interns; Bridget Roth- Special Projects Archaeologist
organization USDA Forest Service- Rocky Mountain Region date February 26, 2004
street & number 740 Simms Ave. telephone (303) 275-5051
city or town Golden state CO zip code 80401

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name USDA Forest Service, Routt National Forest
street & number 925 Weiss Drive telephone (970) 870-2210
city or town Steamboat Springs state CO zip code 80428

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 7 Page 1**DESCRIPTION & ALTERATIONS**

The Summit Creek Ranger Station is located in a gentle north facing clearing surrounded by mature Lodgepole pines, aspen, and Gambrel oak trees, as well as serviceberry, currant, and wild raspberry bushes. At an elevation of 8,119 feet, the site is on the first terrace adjacent to the east bank of Summit Creek. Steamboat Springs is located 34.8 miles south of the Ranger Station on Colorado State Highway 129. The buildings are located approximately 155 feet west of the highway, with access provided by a 480-foot semi-circular driveway offering both north and south entrances to the Station.

There are three buildings at the site: a cabin, a garage, and an outhouse. The cabin faces east, on the south side of the Summit Creek valley. To the west is a striking view of City Mountain. The north-facing garage is 84 feet southeast of the cabin. The single stall garage constructed in 1921 is used today for the same purpose. Constructed in 1912, the dwelling was modified sometime prior to 1932 to house Forest Service employees and volunteers. A barn constructed in 1918 on the north end of the site was sold and removed from the site sometime after 1941. This barn was sold to Leonard Fisher in Columbine, Colorado where it was reassembled (Hurd, personal communication). An outhouse of possible Pre-CCC era construction is present to the southwest of the cabin. Construction dates are unknown but may be prior to 1932 based upon construction methods and materials. The outhouse is located in an area consistent with its description from 1941 (Hurd, personal communication). The property has been well maintained, and continues to function as a seasonal bunkhouse for employees and volunteers of the Forest Service.

Cabin

The one story, 5-room log cabin at the Summit Creek Ranger Station has undergone three periods of construction (Hartley and Schneck 1996). The original three-room Rustic style log dwelling was constructed in 1912 in a clearing adjacent to Summit Creek (Mehls 1988). This east facing side-gabled cabin was linear, measuring 37'-7" x 17'-3" (648 square feet) at the foundation with the axis running north/south. The interior living space was divided between a kitchen (south end), a living room (central), and a bedroom (north end). The front door is located on the east side of the building, facing the driveway and Highway 129.

The first addition to the cabin came sometime before 1932, according to the Pre-CCC design and materials. This addition currently contains bunk beds, a desk, a large closet, and a modern bathroom. It runs perpendicular to the original cabin, centrally placed on the west side (rear) of the original cabin. The addition measures 18'-3"x16'-6" for a total of 301 square feet. It is built upon a similar stone and mortar base-course foundation with walls constructed of round, saddle-notched logs, excepting the northeast corner of the addition where they are square-planed logs adjacent to the wall of the original cabin. The original cabin has a side gabled roof with a single ridgeline running from north to south and an intersecting gable on the west addition. Upon entering the addition from the cabin through the original back door, a closet lies to the south and the small modern bathroom lies to the north. Interior walls of the bathroom have received new paneling. The bathroom includes one small 24"x30" single-hung 6 pane window, a small porcelain lavatory, an enclosed plastic corner shower basin with glass door and a porcelain water closet. The main room of the addition has a double-hung window with 6/6 lights on each of the south, west and north walls. This pre-1932 addition changed the shape of the house from linear to T-shaped, although the view of the cabin from the highway has not significantly changed. The dwelling currently measures 37' 10" x 35'-4" at the top of the exterior foundation or 740 interior square feet.

The second addition, an enclosed porch on the southwest inside corner of the extant T-shaped cabin, was constructed sometime after 1963, according to Forest Service records. It measures 12'-5.5" x 5'-2"

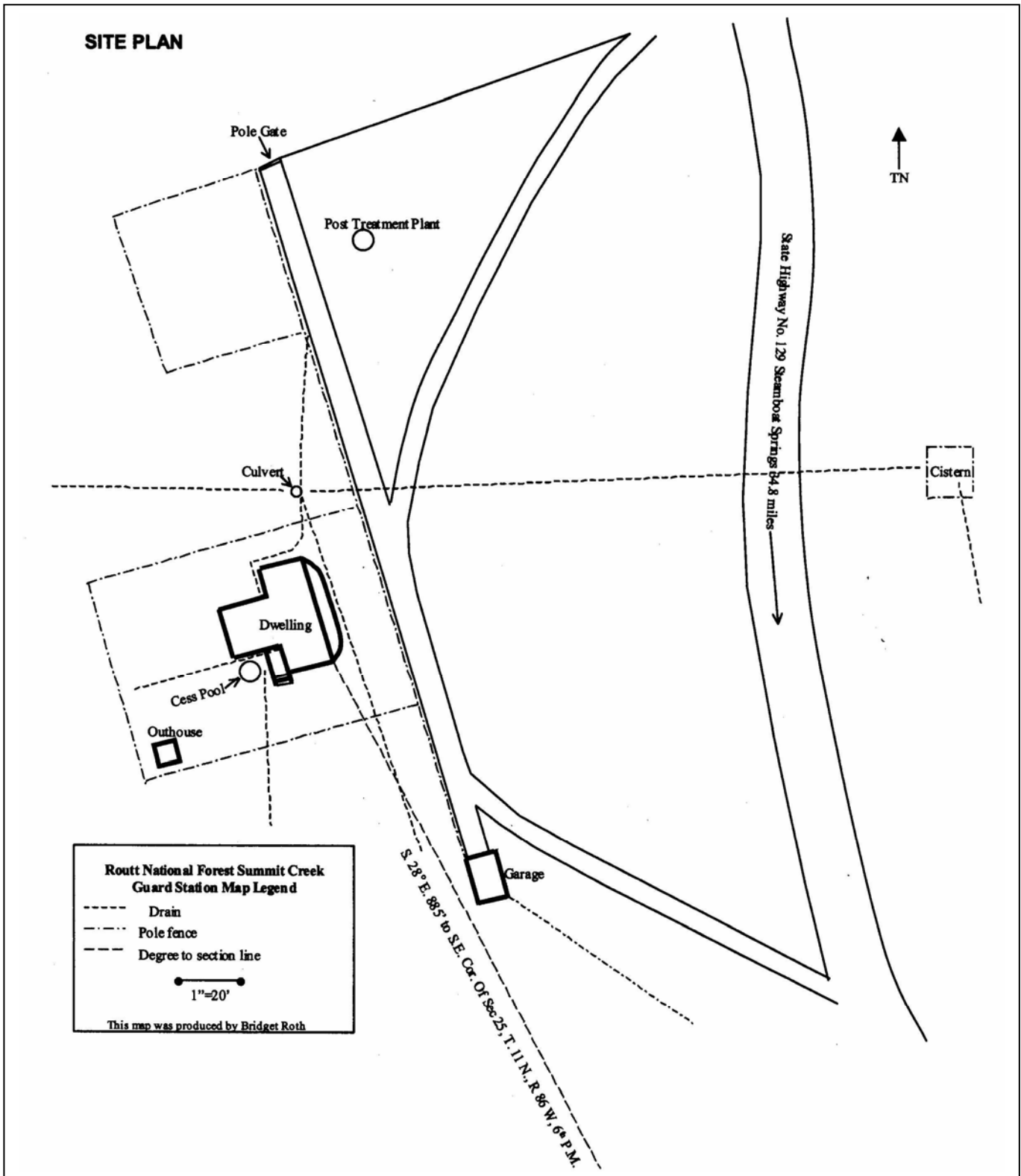
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ Colorado

Section number 7 Page 2

SITE PLAN



**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 7 Page 3

on the exterior, with 55.25' interior square footage. The enclosed porch hangs approximately 1' – 3' above natural grade and is supported by 6"x6" posts. It has a metal shed roof that is attached to the original cabin and has a shallower slope than the roof of the original cabin. The porch has frame construction with 1"x4" panel siding, no insulation, and includes a series of single-hung, fixed 2'x2' 4 pane windows along the west side. The floor of the porch is constructed of wood panels that are loosely fitted together and nailed down to the floor joists. There is an additional simple wood batten door constructed on the south end of the porch that leads to the outdoors via three wood steps on the exterior.

The extant cabin roof is cross gabled with metal Pro-Panel roofing. This new metal roof covers the original roofing material. The roof is supported by rough cut 2"x2" square lumber on top of the roof trusses spaced on 2' centers, layered by rough-cut planking of various sizes and untreated plywood under the metal roofing. Square cut wood shingles cover the gable ends. The rafter system is common with 2" x 2" exposed rafters shielded by slightly overhanging eaves. An attic under the steeply pitched gable is accessed through a wooden panel door in the ceiling of the central room. The regular and irregular sawn logs used for the walls are saddle notched with 6" crowns and smooth sawn ends. These were chinked with concrete and supported with nails at the corners. The logs are square-sawn to allow fenestration except on the east side at the front door and around the central window where they are chamfered for aesthetic purposes.

The cabin foundation is a mortared uncut, uncoursed stone base course with a two foot tall stone and concrete foundation wall added on the east side (front of cabin) sometime after 1963. This addition to the foundation is attached to a small concrete porch and walkway along the front of the building. In addition, there is a rough-sawn round log beam imbedded in the foundation running from north to south beneath the center of the cabin. The foundation wall on the east side is notched in the center to provide a space for the front door and access to the building. It is also attached to a small front concrete pad and sill lip added in the modern era. This pad spans the length of the original building. A small vented crawl space under the building is accessed through a wooden panel beneath the enclosed porch addition on the rear of the cabin. There is no basement. Two interior ridgeline chimneys are composed of brick. One is at the south end and the other on the west wall of the original building in the living room, opposite the front door. The wood stoves were removed after the introduction of electricity and propane to the cabin.

All 11 windows appear to have been installed during the initial phases of construction. The window glass appears original, and has irregular thicknesses and textures common to early 20th century glass. Seven of the windows measure 34" x 52.5" and are 6/6 double-hungs with milled wood frames. There is a 52.5" x 24" sliding window in the living room adjacent to the front door, a 34" x 50.75" window in the east wall of the kitchen, a 24" x 30" bathroom window (north wall of addition) and another 18" x 18" attic window on the north gable face. All windows have 1" x 4" casings.

The exterior front door is wood paneled with a single light in the upper half of the door, while the original back door (opposite the front door on the west wall) is a solid paneled door that now opens into the addition from the central room. The other three interior doors are solid wood paneled. These are original to their associated phases of construction. One of these doors connects the kitchen on the south side to the central room, while another connects the central room to the bedroom on the north side of the cabin. The third interior door exits from the kitchen into the enclosed porch addition on the southwest corner of the dwelling. All of these doors exhibit original hardware. The date of the front screen door is not documented but appears to have been made on-site using purchased lumber and hardware, and may be original to the 1912 construction.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 7 Page 4

The floors are finished hardwood flooring and have been damaged by wear and water in several places. A building inventory conducted by the Forest Service in 1963 recorded indoor plumbing including a shower, gas-fired water heater, and a septic tank with leach field. Painted sheet rock covered the interior walls by this time. A tall metal structure, triangular in cross-section, was attached to the cabin on the center of the north end in the modern era, probably for the support of an antenna or weather gauges.

Garage

According to Forest Service records, the functioning Rustic style garage was constructed in 1921. The garage is 84 feet south/southeast of the dwelling. This front-gabled, one-story single stall garage is rectangular, measuring 18'-3"x12'-9" or 233.69 square feet. The layering of roofing materials matches that of the cabin, and the steeply pitched roof is currently covered with painted metal Pro-Panel roofing. Overhanging eaves shelter exposed wood rafters. The gable faces have vertical butt-jointed plank siding. Concrete-chinked log walls extend to the eave line. Logs used for the walls are saddle-notched with square sawn ends and 6" crowns. The rough-cut stone and mortar base-course foundation includes irregular coursed stone. There is no basement and no chimney. The wood plank floor sits on 2" x 6" beams situated between the foundation and the first log course. A four light paired sliding window measures 53 1/2" x 34" on the west wall. Double doors, located on the north, measure 7'-8 1/4" across, are batten with metal hinges, and swing outward. A 2' x 2' plank loft door is located in the gable immediately above the garage door. These are the only entrances to the garage. The unfinished loft was used for storage purposes. Interior walls are completely exposed with no insulation or interior wall covering. The garage is supplied with electricity and contains shelves along the west, south, and east walls and numerous storage hooks for tools and equipment. A plank runway extends from the grade to the doorsill. The only modification to this building is a new metal roof that covers the original roof (Hartley and Schneck 1993). Other than the metal roof, the garage appears as it did upon construction in 1921.

Outhouse

The outhouse lies to the west of the cabin and garage and is typical frame construction measuring 3'-6" square or 12.25 square feet. It is front gabled with overhanging eaves and is covered with shingles (unknown material). There is no foundation present and no windows excepting a screened ventilation hole. Walls are horizontal plank siding attached to a milled lumber frame. The privy door is simple wood batten construction. The construction method and technique of the privy indicate that it may have been constructed around the same time as the extant buildings built before 1932.

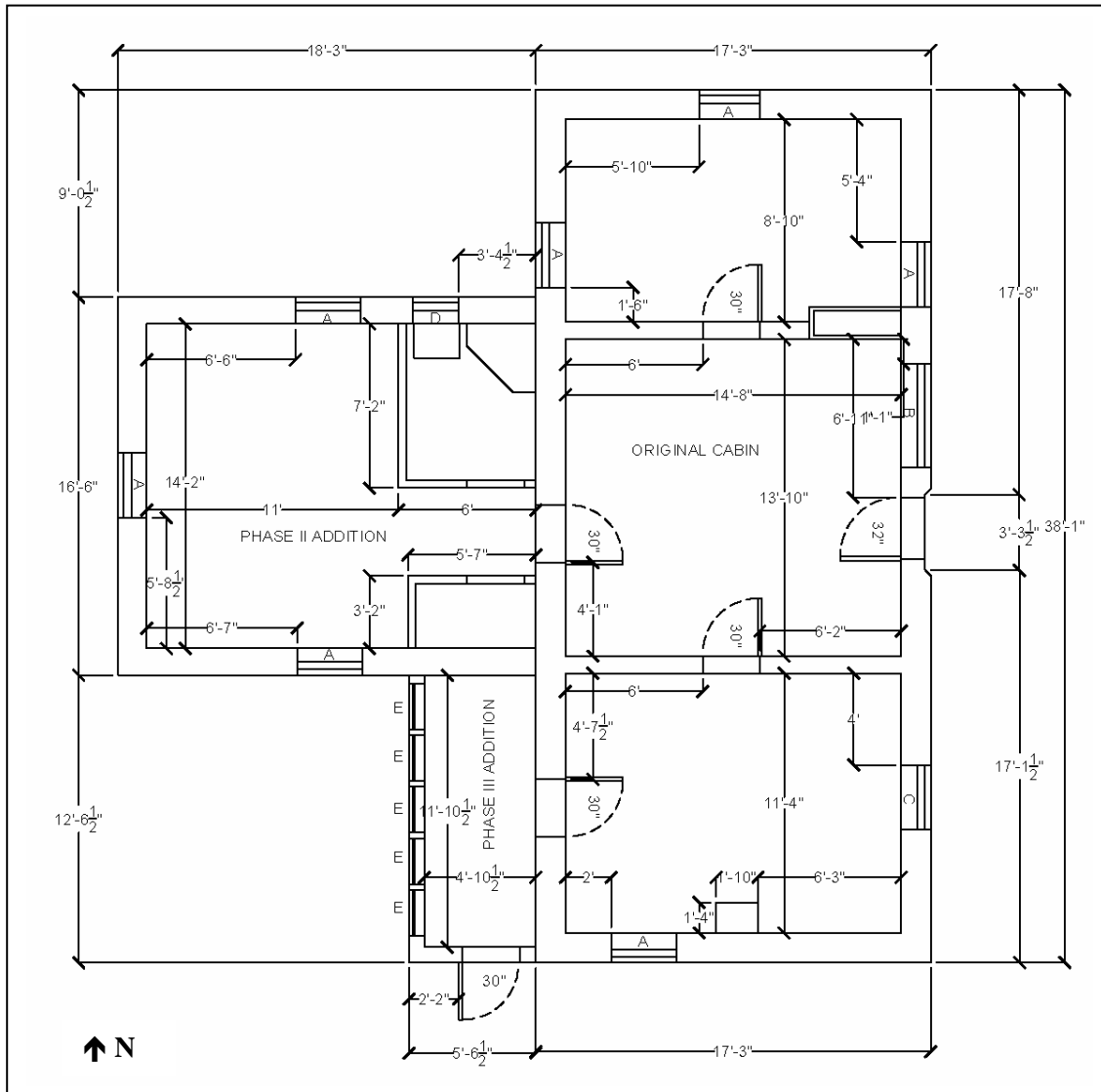
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ Colorado

Section number 7 Page 5

FOOTPRINT- CABIN



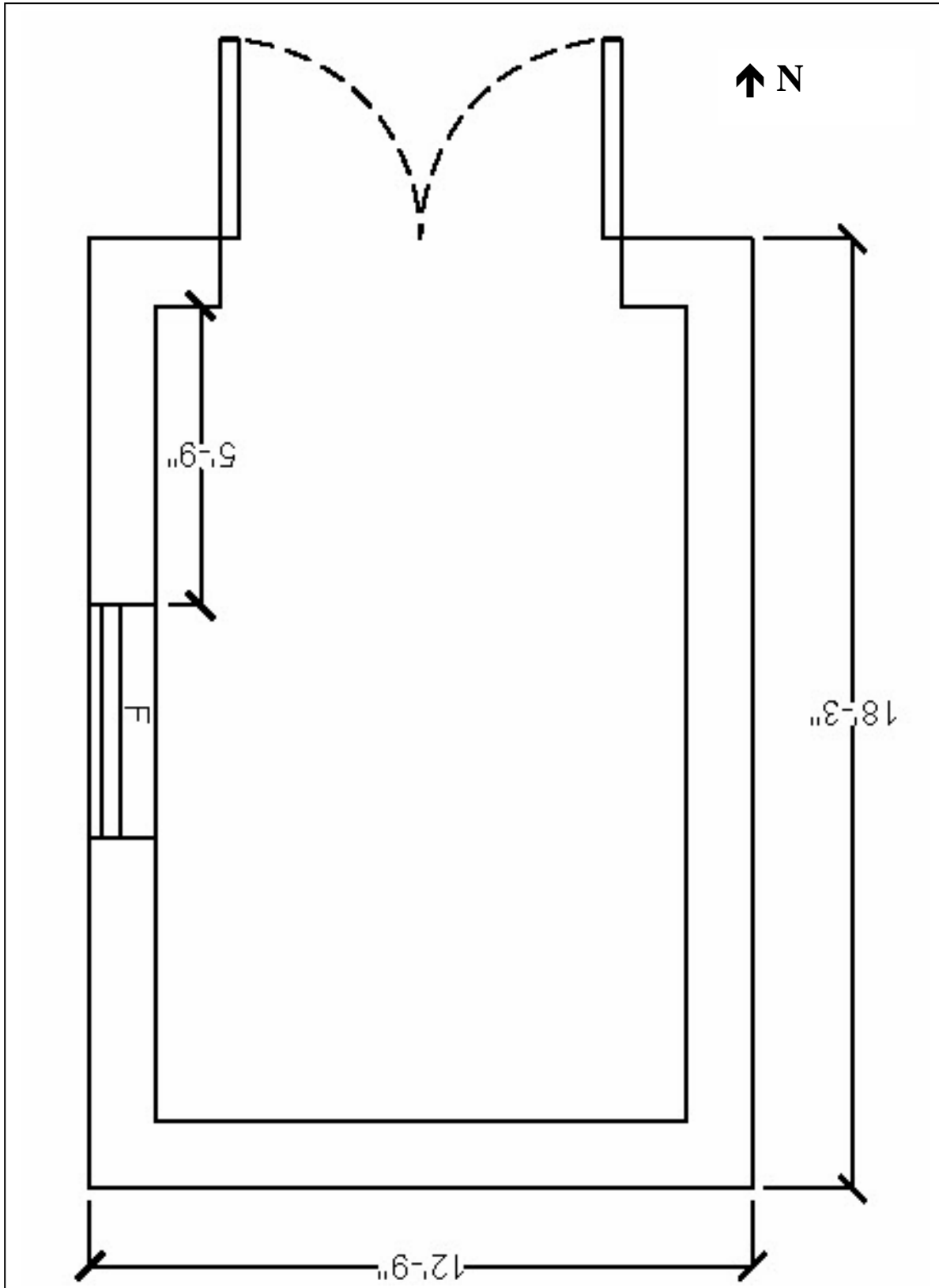
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ Colorado

Section number 7 Page 6

FOOTPRINT- GARAGE



**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 7**SIGNIFICANCE**

The Summit Creek Ranger Station is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion A in the area of Conservation. It is associated with federal activity and conservation during the early development of the National Forest System and the Routt National Forest. The Forest Service shifted from an early philosophy of custodianship of resources to one of conservation of resources. This shift is represented by the placement of Ranger/Guard Stations within the forest in order to allow rangers to react quickly to threats, thereby conserving the resources entrusted to their care.

The Ranger Station is also being nominated under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. These buildings are a good example of Forest Service dwellings constructed and modified from 1912 to sometime prior to 1932. The buildings, including subsequent additions, were constructed without the use of standardized Forest Service architectural plans that were becoming common at this time. A typology of historic phases of Forest Service construction (Hartley and Schneck 1996) generally associates the Pre-Design phase with the period from 1890-1910 and the Pre-CCC Phase from 1911-1932. With a 1912 construction date, the Ranger Station represents the transition between these two phases and exhibits details and methods of both. The cabin, garage, and privy have been well maintained while retaining the original Rustic style construction. All buildings retain integrity, in spite of the Pre-CCC and more recent modifications.

Criterion A Significance

The Ranger Station is significant to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Conservation because of its association with the administrative development of the National Forest System and the Rocky Mountain Region (also known as Region 2) of the United States Forest Service (USFS). As a federal land managing agency, the policies of the USDA Forest Service are rooted in the conservation ethic and its administrative functions are representative of conservation laws, policy, and regulation.

Historical Significance of the Summit Creek Ranger Station

Summit Creek Ranger Station has played an important role in the historic Hahn's Peak Ranger District area. The Ranger Station was an interface between the public and the Forest Service. Rangers maintained a friendly relationship with those in the surrounding community while carrying out the administrative needs of the Forest Service. Summit Creek Ranger Station was constructed at a time when Forest Service administration was first gaining a presence in the area. Since its construction, the Ranger Station has maintained a prominent and respectable presence on rural Colorado Highway 129, connecting Steamboat Springs and Columbine, Colorado to Baggs, Wyoming. Summit Creek Ranger Station connects this scenic area of montane northern Colorado to the history of the nation's administrative development of the Forest Service.

Historic Background

The American Forestry Association, established in 1875 via a resolution supporting timber conservation, urged Congressmen to establish a National Forest policy. The result of studies by the Department of Agriculture resulted in the creation of the Division of Forestry in 1881. In 1891 the Forest Reserve Act, a bill that repealed the Timber Culture Act of 1873, was passed. Prior to the end of President Harrison's administration in 1873, Forest Reserves had been established throughout the United States. The primary role of these Reserves was conservation and management of forest resources – namely timber, but including mining, grazing, and water resources. Rapidly increasing populations and resource extraction in the nation's forests required that these resources be actively

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 8

managed to avoid the deleterious impacts of increasing resource use. Creation of the Forest Reserves put in place a nation-wide administrative structure and management protocol that would have an influence on the nation as a whole, and but especially in the western states, where management of the vast government-owned property was previously at a minimum.

Five Forest Reserves had been originally established in Colorado: the White River, Battlement Mesa, Pike's Peak Timberland, Plum Creek Timberland, and the South Platte. Of these Reserves, the last three were established primarily for watershed protection. Timber harvesting and sawmills, cattle grazing, and the construction of the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad combined to jeopardize the drainage system in a part of Colorado that had a high population density relative to the rest of the state. The conservation intent of the Forest Reserves largely failed, however. Timber cutting and overgrazing continued mostly unchecked through the turn of the 20th century. The local communities often disliked rangers, in part because most were from the east, but also because they were rarely effective in protecting the Reserves from fire (Dana 1956:81-84. 100-107; McCarthy 1976).

The year after the Organic Act of 1897 was passed, authorizing an administrative system for the Division of Forestry; Gifford Pinchot became its leader. That year, eleven Districts (now called Regions) were established. The headquarters for Colorado and Utah was located in Denver. Each District was divided into supervisor districts of one or more Reserves, and each Reserve divided into ranger subdivisions. By design, the organization of this administrative structure involved local Rangers who were autonomous, independent, and networked into the local community. Rangers were generally furloughed for the winter (e.g. Cayton 1925). Supervisors were demoted to rangers for the winter and occasionally also furloughed. Rangers often lacked basic necessities. "At this time practically no tools were furnished the rangers, there not being more than six shovels and six axes on the whole Battlement Forest Reserve, these being about the extent of the tools furnished for all of the rangers" (Cayton 1925:3-4).

In 1905, when the United States Forest Service was formalized, fifteen Reserves had been established in District No.2 (Region 2), six of which were in Colorado. Two years later, when the designation of National Forest replaced that of Reserve, sixteen Forests were delineated in the state. Arguments supporting the creation of Forests in southern and western Colorado focused on watershed protection. Following severe water shortages during the summers of 1880 and 1889, irrigation farmers and some cattlemen supported the protection of forests at the heads of streams forming in the mountains. For example, in 1903 Louis Paquin, a ranger near Mancos initiated a petition that was forwarded to the Bureau of Forestry requesting a Reserve be established to help protect farms and ranges from an anticipated water shortage. The result of this action was the withdrawal of over 760,000. Two years later this land was designated as the Montezuma National Forest (Reini 1931:28). However, Colorado soon became recognized as a "hotbed" of opposition to Forests by cattlemen who favored preservation of the unrestricted grazing privileges they had enjoyed up to this point (Hinton 1988:111-122). As Reini notes, "...the forests are so closely interwoven with the story of mining and grazing of our state that it is very difficult to separate them" (1931:30).

An extensive administrative reorganization of the Forest Service took place in 1908, resulting in the present regional organization (Shoemaker 1944:183; Dana 1956:393). In District No.2 (Region 2) six field headquarters under the direction of a district forester were established that year. The headquarters remained in Denver. Also that same year, reconfiguration and consolidation of the Forests in District No.2 resulted in many of the named Forests that exist today.

In 1907, the Department of Agriculture published a booklet entitled *The Use of the National Forests* by Gifford Pinchot. The intent of this document was "to explain just what they [Forests] mean, what they

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 9

are for, and how to use them" (Pinchot 1907:5). Pinchot described the internal organization of the Forests. "The Supervisor has direct charge of all the business. His office is located at some town convenient to the users. The Rangers are his field force. They live at the central points throughout the Forests and carry out the business on the ground" (1907:26). Prior to that time many of the supervisors' headquarters in District No.2 were located at the rear of the residences. Gradually headquarters were established at local banks or Post Offices (Hinton 1988:111-133). Some rangers, residents of the Districts or Forests to which they applied, worked out of their ranches for the duration of their careers (e.g. Al Hoffman in Hinton 1988:111-128). As J. H. Ratliff, future Forest Supervisor of the Routt National Forest, noted in 1906, "I furnished my own horses, paid my own expenses, left my wife to run the range and started to ride. I had about twenty-five arguments a day and lost about half of them." A short time later Ratliff was directed to take the Ranger examination. He was then formally appointed a "Forest Guard" and paid \$720 per year (Ratliff 1948).

Early Ranger Stations were often one-room log cabins with a dirt roof, but sometimes were only a tent (Cayton 1925:3; Philips 1910). Ranger Tibo Gallegos used a tent as his headquarters from September of 1906 till the spring of 1908, at which time a cabin for him, his wife, and two children was completed (Hinton 1988:111-131). Early dwellings were small and functional; for example, an early residence for a ranger and his family on the Montezuma National Forest was described as "a 2 room log house, log stable 16 X 24, a 100 barrel cistern, and an eighty acre pasture. The house is small, and not altogether satisfactory (U.S. Forest Service 1911:17). Adequate housing for rangers in Colorado was a common problem for the Service.

H.K. Porter, Forest Supervisor for the Uncompahgre National Forest, wrote to Chief Forester Clyde Leavitt in 1908 recommending that a "community location ... for several rangers" be established for each district. Rangers at these "Stations" would have the "responsibility for the farming of this ranch and the distribution of the feed ... barns and storage of all features that could be used advantageously in common." Porter reasoned that this "Station" idea would be economical for the subsistence of the ranger and for telephone costs and rent, that an "office" could be a part of the establishment to "meet all the needs of the rangers," and that someone would consistently occupy the site. He also acknowledged that to get "a good class of men" with families they would need to have access to "good schools." Leavitt (1908) answered that "with regard to year-long Ranger Stations [you] are exactly right and that we should work toward that idea as rapidly as we possibly can. These functions were evident in *The Use Book* published that year, a handbook for rangers outlining their duties and the philosophy under which they were to be evaluated:

Eventually all the rangers who serve the year round will be furnished with comfortable headquarters. It is the intention of the Forest Service to erect the necessary buildings as rapidly as funds will permit. Usually they should be built of logs with shingle or shake roofs (Pinchot 1908:179).

The kinds of uses the Forest was being subjected to largely determined the general location of Ranger Stations. For example, Philips asked for a "one room log cabin, with a floor and good shingle roof for the North Mesa Station on the Montezuma Forest because "it will be impractical for a ranger to supervise a [timber] sale from another Station, on the account of the deep canyons which separate it from the Norwood Station" (1910:16). Likewise he requested a Ranger Station be located in the town of Telluride "since the work consists principally of the examination of mining claims and Telluride is the center of operations" (Philips 1910:7). The mobility of rangers was also a consideration in the placement of cabins. Philips' rationale for cabin construction at the Alta Park Station exemplifies the needs and constraints of this period in Colorado:

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 10

This is necessary for effective fire patrol, and is also of considerable value as a camping place when crossing the country. The house should be of two rooms, 14 X 24 feet. It should be built of logs, peeled but not hewn, with shake or shingle roof. The cabin must be very strongly built to hold the unusually heavy snows that fall in the winter. The total cost should not exceed \$250.00, since the necessary timber is near the building site (Philips 1910:3).

Some rangers were less enthusiastic about building construction in their Districts. Ranger Loring, San Juan National Forest, voiced his opinion at a Regional Rangers Meeting in 1921:

As for cabins, I am afraid of a stove. Birch tents will turn two feet of snow as easily as two inches of rain. I don't need any cabin, stove, pasture, or minor. I don't want any pastures scattered over my District. I want the country to remain as it is (Loring 1921).

The public use of buildings constructed for fire protection was permitted, at least in the early part of the century (Riley 1915 cited in Price 1991:60). Shoemaker (1944) warned that rangers would initially be equipped with only a tent, a telephone, field glasses, compass and maps, and basic drafting equipment. Loneliness and the monotonous viewing will limit the work to a "few men" who "are capable of doing the work" and fewer that are "willing to undertake it."

By 1911, the Weeks Law established cooperative activities in forest fire protection between Federal management and states (reinforced by the Clarke-McNary Act of 1924) (Dana 1956:183-184, 221-223; Steen 1976:130, 173). Within twenty years it was estimated that 75 percent of Colorado fires were the result of human activities and "Every able-bodied man living in or near the National Forests is listed in his most useful capacity in the local cooperative fire-protection organization under a definite agreement with the Forest Service" (U.S. Forest Service 1928:3).

Forest Service Design, Construction, and Location of Administrative Buildings

Prior to and including 1910, Forest Reserve administrative buildings were largely reflective of the rangers' personal preferences, as well as the materials, tools, and amount of time available to them. Probably in 1901, what is believed to be the first Ranger Station was built in Montana at the Alta Ranger Station on the Bitter Root Forest Reserve. Little is known about its construction, except that the Station was constructed using the ranger's personal funds (Joslin: 1994:1). By 1903 Ranger William Kreutzer was constructing ranger cabins on the Grand Mesa National Forest of Colorado, then known as the Battlement Forest Reserve. Kreutzer enlisted the help of nearby rangers in the construction, a common practice during this time. It was also during 1903 that the nation's first officially funded Ranger Station was constructed, appropriately enough, on the nation's first National Forest, Shoshone, located in northwestern Wyoming.

In 1906, the Reserve Engineering Section was formed by the USFS. This division, consisting of civil engineers and draftsmen, supervised all engineering work done by the Reserves or private interests on system land (U.S. Department of Agriculture 1990:3). In *Light vs. USFS*, settled that year, the court established once and for all the Forest Service's obligation to govern the use of Forest resources. The resultant increase in supervision of grazing and other activities on the Forests intensified the need for administrative buildings.

In 1908, Gifford Pinchot established a set of values for guiding the administration of the newly designated National Forests. These included utility, conservation, and respect for the land, and they were to guide all aspects of Forest Service development, including its architecture. They were outlined in *The Use Book* (Pinchot 1908), which also contained the first official guidelines for the development of administrative sites:

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ Colorado

Section number 8 Page 11

Eventually all the rangers who serve the year round will be furnished with comfortable headquarters. It is the intention of the Forest Service to erect the necessary buildings as rapidly as funds will permit. Usually they should be built of logs with shingle or shake roofs. Dwellings should be of sufficient size to afford comfortable living accommodations to the family of the officer. He will be held responsible for the proper care of the buildings and the grounds surrounding them. It is impossible to insist on proper care of camps if the Forest officers themselves do not keep their homes as models of neatness (Pinchot 1908:179).

An early Ranger, C. B. Mack, describes the state of administrative buildings prior to these guidelines:

One instance comes to mind wherein a herder had been trespassing on cattle range and we had considerable difficulty with him. He came to the summer Ranger Station where I was camped, and this Station by the way was an old purchased relinquishment, *the cabin having been built from old ties cut years before and left in the woods by an outfit that had attempted to drive the San Juan River without success. The ties had been set on end and gave the building the appearance of an old Mexican picket house. Underneath one room was dug a pit approximately 5 X 5 X 6 ft. in depth, presumably used by the former occupant as a root cellar. The opening was covered by a trap door and descent made down a ladder. It was intensely dark in this hole and harbored nothing but mice and mountain rats.* The sheep herder was invited into the house and in talking with him concerning his delinquency he was informed that the next time he encroached on cattle territory I intended to bring him to the Station and put him in that hole... Suffice to say that we had no further trouble... (Mack 1940:5).

The Washington Division of Engineering was created in 1908, the same year that Forest administration was decentralized into eight Districts, each with its own Engineering Division (Steen 1976:333). The decentralized administration suggests that the National influence upon Divisional architecture was for the most part limited to design regulations, publications containing tips and instructions for design and construction, and improvement funding. Later, design assistance became available through the office of the USFS consulting architect. Despite the establishment of the Engineering Divisions in 1908, "comfortable living accommodations" in the Rocky Mountain Region were not yet a reality for the most part. Rangers typically used their own skills with axe and adze to construct Ranger Stations. This practice continued throughout what has been termed the "custodial era" of the Forest Service. Administrative buildings from this time predominantly reflect the pioneer traditions of their builders.

Forest Supervisor H. K. Porter initiated discussion on the establishment of Ranger Stations in his 1908 letter to the Chief Forester. Though not all of Porter's ideas were adopted, the correspondence set several design precedents in the District. Among these were the placement of Ranger Stations near "good schools" and "the people who use the range," the efficiency of site layout for "a minimum expense to the Forest Service," and the design of "individuality in every home..." which Porter considered "essential to the retaining of good and efficient men" (Porter 1908:3).

1908 also saw a major reorganization effort at the Forest level. Many small Forests were consolidated, and the supervisors' offices were relocated. Washington Chief Forester Clyde Leavitt solicited Rangers for suitable locations (Leavitt 1908). District rangers were highly mobile and required accommodations near the primary type of workload, e.g., grazing, timber sales, or mining claims. The type of Station (permanent, summer, or temporary) required and its location were determined by the work the rangers would oversee. Stations served as staging areas for the resupply of backcountry rangers, seasonal forest guards and lookouts (Caywood 1961:24).

Temporary Ranger Stations were often established at intervals of one day's ride on horseback, approximately eleven miles. They were used for fire patrols and overnight camping (Philips 1909:3). Livestock pasturage was substantial in Region 2 (Otis et al. 1986:2); therefore, many administrative site

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 12

locations echoed seasonal grazing patterns. Some Ranger Stations were constructed exclusively for a timber sale (Philips 1909:6). Ranger D. E. Fitton constructed one such Station on what was then the San Juan National Forest in 1906-1907 (Fitton 1939:1).

Along with the building guidelines established by Gifford Pinchot in 1908, he also instituted a "Ranger Exam" to eliminate undesirable ranger candidates. Applicants were expected, among other things, to be able to handle an axe and were tested on their knowledge of cabin construction (Williams 1994). A good ranger could fell and prepare enough trees for a small cabin in three days. Rangers were resourceful with their materials, as moving them to the job site was often the hardest part of a project (Hartley and Schneck 1996).

From its inception in 1905 through approximately 1910, the mission of the Forest Service evolved from one of custodianship to one of conservation. This, and constant additions to the Forest system, would require ever increasing numbers of Forest personnel and buildings in which they would live and work. A major effort to subdivide large Forests was begun in 1910 (Williams 1991:2). This was the first national attempt to improve the newly reorganized Forests, and included a major effort to establish Ranger Stations that corresponded to the new Forest boundaries. Four hundred sixty-four cabins and other improvements were constructed throughout the nation during 1910 (U.S. Department of Agriculture 1990:3). At a regional level, 1910 marks the start of Theodore Norcross's career within the Rocky Mountain Region's Division of Engineering, and the Region's first documented use of "standardized" design.

History of the Summit Creek Ranger Station

The Summit Creek Ranger Station was constructed during the initial development of Region 2 of the Forest Service. President Theodore Roosevelt created the Park Range Forest Reserve in 1905 to protect watershed resources and to provide a facility for the government to manage the rangelands of montane northern Colorado. The name of the Forest was changed to Routt National Forest in 1908, honoring the first elected governor of Colorado. Original Forest headquarters were in Kremmling, but were moved to Steamboat Springs in 1907 as the Forest was significantly enlarged. President Taft reduced the size of the Routt National Forest in 1910 by over 100,000 acres. In 1948, the Forest occupied more than a million acres.

The Ranger Station was constructed in 1912 by an unknown builder at the behest of Paul Reddington from Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C. Reddington spent a summer in what was then the Park Range Forest Reserve in 1906. He recommended that more Ranger Stations be constructed in order to properly administer the business of the Reserve. In response, at least 12 Ranger and Guard Stations were constructed between 1906 and 1915. This effort was nearly as great as that of the CCC Phase of construction on the Routt. As part of this expansion, the Summit Creek Ranger Station is associated with significant events in the administration of the Forest Service. The cabin was built in a period of relatively rapid construction without the use of standardized plans.

Duties of the Rangers using the Summit Creek Ranger Station were to oversee part of the Hahn's Peak area on the Routt National Forest. Rangers used the Station for this purpose until 1916, when the site was officially withdrawn from continuous administrative use. Following this, the Station served as a residence for seasonal Forest Service employees and volunteers. Structural modifications to the dwelling and construction of the garage highlight the changing needs of those using the Summit Creek Ranger Station from 1912-1932.

Timber sales were the backbone of Ranger duties for those working out of Summit Creek Ranger

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 13

Station. Before World War II, Rangers would spend much of their time "cruising" timber sale areas, selectively marking trees with an axe slash and a Forest Service stamp that was imprinted on the blunt end of the axe blade. The loggers would cut only those selected by the Rangers. This practice changed as timber management shifted from selective cutting to clear cutting (Hurd, personal communication). Fire was always a concern in the forested area around Steamboat Springs. Rangers maintained a fire cache at Summit Creek Ranger Station. The now empty metal cache is still located next to the garage at the Guard Station.

Columbine, Colorado is the town nearest to Summit Creek Ranger Station. Before World War II, Rangers using Summit Creek would commonly leave Steamboat Springs and access additional supplies, such as gasoline, at Columbine. At this time, Columbine had several tents and wagons for sale to the sheep companies using the area (Hurd, personal communication). A telephone system, no longer extant, connected Summit Creek Ranger Station to Hahn's Peak Lookout, California Park Ranger Station, Hog Park Guard Station, Columbine, and Clark, Colorado. Clark housed the switchboard connecting these locations. A thick heavy wire connected these buildings, and was attached to poles and trees with insulators. The crank telephones would ring uniquely for each place being called. The Summit Creek ring was two longs and two shorts.

HISTORIC IMAGE OF SUMMIT CREEK RANGER STATION, CA. 1915

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 14**Criterion C Significance**

The Ranger Station is also significant under Criterion C as a good example of buildings that typify administrative buildings in the Rocky Mountain Region (Region 2) of the USDA Forest Service. Design and construction of the Summit Creek Ranger Station is consistent with historic Forest Service land management ethics. This Ranger Station is among the earliest of those constructed on the Routt National Forest that is still functioning today. The cabin and matching garage highlight an era of Forest Service construction when there were no formalized design templates. The Ranger Station is in good condition, having been maintained throughout the course of its occupation.

Architectural Significance of the Summit Creek Ranger Station

The property is being nominated under Criterion C as it exhibits architectural features distinctive of both the Pre-Design and Pre-CCC phases of construction and modification. The early modifications highlight the changing administrative needs during the formative years of the Routt National Forest. The original 1912 Summit Creek Ranger Station had a linear three-room configuration. Its saddle-notched log walls reflect the pioneer abilities of its builders. Both regular and irregular-shaped logs used in the construction add to the rustic look of the cabin's exterior. These were gathered locally, enhancing the visual association of the cabin with the surrounding National Forest. Based on the design of the addition on the west side of the cabin, it was likely constructed sometime before 1932. This addition was constructed in the same style as the original cabin, thus preserving its Rustic style. The single stall garage, constructed in 1921, matches the style of the cabin. A log barn was constructed in 1918 but was later sold and removed to the town of Columbine. Both the dwelling and garage are in excellent condition.

Forest Service Architectural Typology

According to a study done in 1993 (Hartley and Schneck 1996), Forest Service architecture in the Rocky Mountain Region can be roughly divided into four phases: the Pre-Design Phase (ca. 1890-1910), the Pre-CCC Phase (ca. 1911-1932), the CCC Phase (1933-1942), and Phase IV (1943-present). The Pre-Design phase of Forest Service construction spans the years 1891-1910, and marks the period of Forest Service construction when formalized plans were not typically used in the building construction. Following this period is the Pre-CCC phase that spans the years between 1911 and 1933. During this period, standardized architectural plans were available to Ranger Station builders, even though designs may have only been formalized Pre-Design phase styles.

Built in 1912, the Summit Creek Ranger Station falls temporally into the Pre-CCC Phase, but stylistically into the Pre-Design Phase. Because the typology only approximates the actual trends in Forest Service construction, the Ranger Station is considered to be of Pre-Design Phase construction, though it exhibits methods and materials from the Pre-CCC Phase as well. Use of a formal building plan has not been documented for this Ranger Station. The addition to the Summit Creek dwelling was constructed during the Pre-CCC phase, but has Pre-Design characteristics. The Summit Creek Ranger Station is unusual in that it was built during the transition from informal to formal designs. Thus, the cabin can be viewed as one of the later Pre-Design phase Ranger Stations in the Forest Service within Colorado. The overlap in architectural phases adds to the significance of the Summit Creek Ranger Station.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 15***Pre-Design Phase of Forest Service Construction (1891-1910)***

The original cabin at the Summit Creek Ranger Station has many elements of the Pre-Design phase. The Pre-Design phase begins with the creation of the Forest Reserves in 1891 and ends with the start of the protection/custodial era and the development of standardized plans about 1910. Early rangers and supervisors were often political appointees or untrained local residents whose tenure was uncertain (Reini 1931:10). They found that the size of the area, the topography, and the absence of roads and trails made it impossible to cover their districts (Hinton 1988:11-42). Construction of administrative buildings began almost immediately after the Reserves were created in 1891. A one- or two-room cabin, barn, corral, and flagpole were considered all that early rangers needed. The spatial relationships between these buildings were similar to homestead layouts.

Administrative buildings were largely reflective of the Rangers' personal preferences, as well as the materials, tools, and amount of time available to them. Log construction was diverse, with local building tradition and ethnic influences adding to the variability with which the logs were cut, prepared, and laid up. One common element of Phase I log construction is defined by Wilson (1984). This includes single pen configurations, rock foundations, and low to moderately pitched gable roofs that overhung the entrance. Other cabins Wilson refers to as "pioneer" style exhibit gabled "L" or square configurations. Most buildings were heated with stoves or fireplaces.

This Phase incorporates buildings built from the inception of the Forest Reserves (now called USDA Forest Service) until the start of formal design and Regional engineering divisions. Utility, time, and the availability of materials were the principal forces behind their method of construction and appearance. Depending largely on the availability of milled lumber, houses were wood frame or log construction.

Construction Elements: Both wood frame and log building types were characterized by moderate- to steep-pitched gable roofs, deep overhangs, and minimal ornamentation. Many log cabins built in the mountains after the 1880s emulated the Rocky Mountain Cabin Style, which experienced its zenith in the 1920s (Wilson 1994). By 1905, the Rustic style was popular throughout the state (Pearce 1983:70). Construction methods varied widely. Foundations were stone, log, or slab concrete. Buildings were constructed of axe-cut or hand-sawn logs, or rough-milled lumber. Log buildings displayed a variety of notching systems. Finishes include both peeled and unpeeled surfaces, and hewn faces on one, two, or four sides. Joints included the square, saddle, "V," ½ dovetail, and full dovetail notches. Roofing systems were gabled, with log or milled wood rafters and ridge beams. Gables on log buildings were sometimes log also, though they were usually framed. Sheathing was frequently milled lumber. Roofing material included shakes, wood shingles, flat metal, and corrugated metal sheets. Fenestration ranged from single-pane windows with rough milled frames to commercially available sliding and double-hung windows. Operable plank shutters were occasionally present. Buildings of this Phase were influenced by the Rocky Mountain Cabin typology (e.g. Fitton Guard Station, Rio Grande National Forest) as well as vernacular traditions. Variations in this typology included the method of construction of the gable ends (some are framed, some are formed with logs), the method of corner notching and log finish, the type of bracing in the porch gable end (some are cantilevered, some are supported by log trusses and columns), the depth of the porch, the steepness of the roof pitch, and placement of entry and fenestration. Utility, time, and the availability of materials were significant forces behind the design and appearance of Phase I buildings (Hartley and Schneck 1996:283-284).

Materials: Construction materials included logs, stones, gravel, and other indigenous materials found on site, as well as rough-milled and dimensional lumber, wood stained or creosote shingles, and iron or tin roofs. Windows and shutters were fashioned on site if commercially produced windows were not

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 16

available. Logs were oiled, and trim was oiled, painted or varnished. Milled lumber was both rough-milled and commercially finished. Interior materials included processed wood products like Nu-Wood, Celotex, plywood, masonite or boards. Walls and ceilings were sometimes plastered.

Site Placement: Sites were often located on flat areas near springs or streams. Sites were usually in rural areas. Sites could include a log dwelling, bunkhouse, wood frame or log barn, and a wood frame or log privy. Associated features could include spring development, hitching posts, flagpoles, corrals, pasture fences and identifying sign, usually posted on the building or a nearby tree. Other important considerations for site placement included protection from the elements, accessibility to mail delivery, and existing or potential access to telephone lines, though established phone systems were rare (Philips 1909). As part of the Region's effort to link all Stations, many roads and phone lines in Colorado were originally established by the Service for administrative use. Several cabins constructed along phone line routes originally housed line crews, but were later used for Forest Service administration.

Pre-CCC Phase (1911-1932)

Components of the main cabin as well as the addition to the west side show the influence of the Pre-CCC Phase on construction of the Ranger Station. The Pre-CCC Phase began with the introduction of standardized plans around 1910 and closed with the start of the New Deal. National, Regional, and Forest standardized designs were developed through this Phase, reflecting constantly increasing regulation of administrative design and construction. This Phase, encompassing the protective/custodial era, includes the introduction and development of fire protection measures, the start of a Forest Service recreational policy, and extensive construction of fire-control improvements, Ranger and Guard Stations.

Despite the presence of a Regional engineering staff, many Forests developed their own standardized administrative designs and employed local builders to construct them. Pre-CCC Phase log designs typically involved saddle-notched logs with short crowns and flat cut ends. Logs were not hewn on any face, and required daubing with concrete or saplings, and chinking over metal lath. By the close of the era, several log buildings exhibited rudimentary elements of the Rustic Style.

Although careful architectural planning was common during this Phase, finished buildings still reflected both local influences and the skills and preferences of the individual builders. It was common for Rangers to modify the architectural plans as they saw fit. Self-sufficient rangers tended to hold the Engineering Division in low regard (Baird 1994).

Construction Elements: Construction was based upon standardized or "series" plans produced by the Forests' Regional or National Office of Engineering. Formally designed building plans were generally rectangular and single storied. Ranger/Guard buildings had two or three principal rooms and a single stall garage. Some dwellings had basements or cellars, often used for furnace or storage. Moderate pitched roofs were almost exclusively gabled with overhanging eaves and fully exposed rafters. There were occasional instances of fascia and gutters above the entries. Fenestration consisted of singly arranged or double-hung or sliding wood frame windows with Craftsman-style multi-paned upper sashes and single-paned bottom sashes. Sometimes the windows had four panes on one sash. Windows were often symmetrically arranged on each elevation. Buildings contained little or no exterior decoration. Formal stylistic influences include the Bungalow and Craftsman styles.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 17

Materials: Foundations were concrete slab or 6" poured concrete from between 22' and 12" below grade or between 4" and 6" above grade. Roofs had wood shingles or metal seam roofing, tin ridge caps and flashing, and finials. Frame construction often included Douglas fir studs, rafters and joists, pine clapboard or 6" simple drop siding, and overlapped or inlaid vertical molding at the corners. Log construction was varied, as in the Pre-Design Phase, but the examples built to design have deeper overhangs and logs of more consistent diameter. Two entries were usually off-center on the eave sides, the front entry flanked by at least one window, but more often by two windows. Occasionally protected by a canopy or extended gabled roof, entries usually had a wooden stoop with no railings. Wood panel doors were usually half glazed, with Craftsman-style vertical glass panes.

Site Placement: The locations of buildings during this phase were typically more remote than permanent Ranger Stations. Most were in relatively flat areas, in both rural and urban areas. Associated features could include portable fire caches, spring development, flagpole, corral, fenced pasture and Forest Service signs.

Additional Information:

Excerpt taken from an interview with Jim Hurd in December 2003.

KenCairn: How did your family come to be acquainted with Summit Creek?

Well my dad was with the Forest Service before the Second World War. He started with the CCCs at a camp near Baggs, WY. As a transplanted Iowan, he became quite a mountain man, he loved it. The three Cs really got him started. He was in a 3C camp up there by Walden and Chambers Lake. Then there was the 3C camp in Baggs, which my grandfather was the superintendent of (James Hezakaya Mudd) in the mid to late thirties. There was also a camp in the Saratoga area and my uncle his son worked there. I visited the barracks up east of Baggs toward Dixon. We moved to Steamboat in 1938 when my dad started working for the FS. My dad later started doing trail construction on the Routt. He helped build the trail between Fish Creek Falls and Long Lake in 1938 (see photo). They used hand tools and a slip that they pulled behind. He became the Assistant Ranger on the Hahns Peak RD of the Routt in 1941. In 1941 there were quite a few timber sales so they asked him to stay up there instead of driving back and forth. That is how they came to live in the Summit Cr. GS during the summer of 1941. He cruised timber sales, selecting trees for the loggers to cut by cutting a blaze into it and adding a USFS stamp with the same tool. He believed in selective cutting and studied books about European forestry. He never liked clear cuts, nor was he a believer in "zero cut". He studied a lot on his own, even though he only had an 8th grade education. He brought the family (Ida, Jim and younger brother Chuck (a year younger than I) in a Model A pickup to live in Summit Creek GS during the summer of 1941. That was some summer!

KenCairn: What do you remember about that summer?

Hurd: They would stop at Columbine for supplies and gas, also a supply point for sheep companies. There would be a lot of sheep camp tents and wagons there. Lawrence and Gertrude Juel owned the Columbine town/complex. The store (now) was also their house that their daughter Janice owns now.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 8 Page 18

She was a little older than we were. We liked to go from Summit Cr. to the store, Janice had a punchboard. You had this little pin and you punched out the paper and it told you whatever prize you had won. It was a nickel a punch. They had built a teeter-totter for Janice. There were few children. There was one other kid up at the Rockfuller Ranch (He thinks that Charlene Rockfuller still lives in Steamboat). My brother and I each had a horse. His was an Indian pony we called Papoose, mine was a black horse called Star. They came to our calls and we would jump on them off of the buck and rail fence. We fished in Summit Creek constantly (see photos). We also lived in Seedhouse GS.

KenCairn: What do you remember about the structures surrounding Summit Creek GS?

Hurd: There was an outhouse back in the corner (not sure exactly where); it was a little log one behind the GS on the left inside the fence (not out in the meadow). The barn was on the right. The Summit Cr GS barn was sold to the Leonard Fisher in Columbine and reassembled there at the town site. I don't know why.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 9 Page 19**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Cayton, J.G. 1925 Letter to Forest Supervisor, Montezuma National Forest. On file, Supervisor's Office, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison National Forests, Delta, Colorado.

Caywood, J. 1991 Evaluation of Region 1 Forest Service Owned Buildings for Eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Region 1, Missoula, Montana.

Dana, S.T. 1956 Forest and Range Policy: Its Development in the United States. McGraw-Hill, New York.

Denver Times, Sept. 18, 1902.

Fitton, D.E. 1939 Letter to San Juan National Forest Supervisor. On file, National Park Service, Midwest Archaeological Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Hartley, R. and J. Schneck 1993 Historic Architectural Building/Structure Inventory for the Summit Creek Guard Station, Routt National Forest, Routt County, Colorado. On file, Colorado State Historic Preservation Office, Denver, Colorado.

Hartley, R. and J. Schneck 1996 Administering the National Forests of Colorado. An Assessment of the Architectural and Cultural Significance of Historical Administrative Properties. National Park Service, Midwest Archaeological Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Hinton, W. 1988 History of the Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region. Draft ms. on file, National Park Service, Midwest Archaeological center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Hurd, Jim. Interview, December 23, 2003 by Angie KenCairn in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
Transcript filed at Routt National Forest, Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Joslin, Les. 1995 Uncle Sam's Cabins: A Visitor's Guide to Historic U.S. Forest Service Ranger Stations of the West. Wilderness Associates, Bend, Oregon.

Leavitt, C. 1908 Letter to H.K. Porter, Uncompahgre National Forest. On file, Supervisor's Office, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison National Forests, Delta, Colorado.

Loring (Ranger) 1921 Excerpts from Ranger Meeting 2/6/1921 at Pueblo. In Forest History, Vol. 1, 1905-1971, San Juan and Montezuma National Forests, Colorado, pp. 232. Ms. on file, National Park Service, Midwest Archaeological Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Mack, C.B. 1940 Letter to Gifford Pinchot, Milford Pennsylvania. On file, Supervisor's Office, San Juan National Forest, Durango, Colorado.

McCarthy, G. Michael 1976 Colorado under Cleveland and McKinley. Journal of Forest History 20:80-90.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number 9 Page 20

Otis, A.T., W.D. Honey, T.C. Hogg, and K.K. Laken 1986 The Forest Service and the Civilian Conservation Corps: 1933-42. United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Washington, D.C.

Pearce, S.J. and Merrill A. Wilson 1983 A Guide to Colorado Architecture. Colorado State Historical Society, Denver, Colorado.

Philips, R. 1909 Working Plan – Montezuma National Forest. On file, Supervisor's Office, San Juan National Forests, Durango, Colorado.

Philips, R. 1910 Working Plan – Montezuma National Forest. Dated March 1, 1910. On file, Supervisor's Office, San Juan National Forest, Durango, Colorado.

Pinchot, G. 1907 The Use Book. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Porter, H.K. 1908 Letter to Mr. Pickford, Forest Supervisor, Routt National Forest, dated March 8, 1948. In History of National Forests 1905-1972. On file, National Park Service, Midwest Archaeological Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Reini, G.H. 1931 A History of the National Forests in Colorado. Unpublished Master's Thesis, Department of History and Political Science, Colorado State Teachers College.

Riley, S. 1915 Letter to M.B. Tomblin, dated December 8, 1915. National Archives, Denver, Colorado.

Shoemaker, L. 1944 National Forests, Colorado Magazine. 21(5):182-184.

Steen, H.K. 1976 The U.S. Forest Service: A History. University of Washington Press, Seattle, Washington.

U.S. Department of Agriculture 1990 The History of Engineering in the Forest Service (A Compilation of History and Memoirs, 1905-1989). Forest Service, Engineering Staff, Washington, D.C.

U.S. Forest Service 1928 National Forests of Colorado. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Misc. Pub. No. 18, U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, D.C.

Williams, G.W. 1994 The National Forests: A Short History. Draft ms. on file, National Park Service, Midwest Archaeological Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Wilson, M. 1984 Log Cabin Studies. Forest Service Cultural Resource Series No. 9, United States Department of Agriculture, Ogden, Utah.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

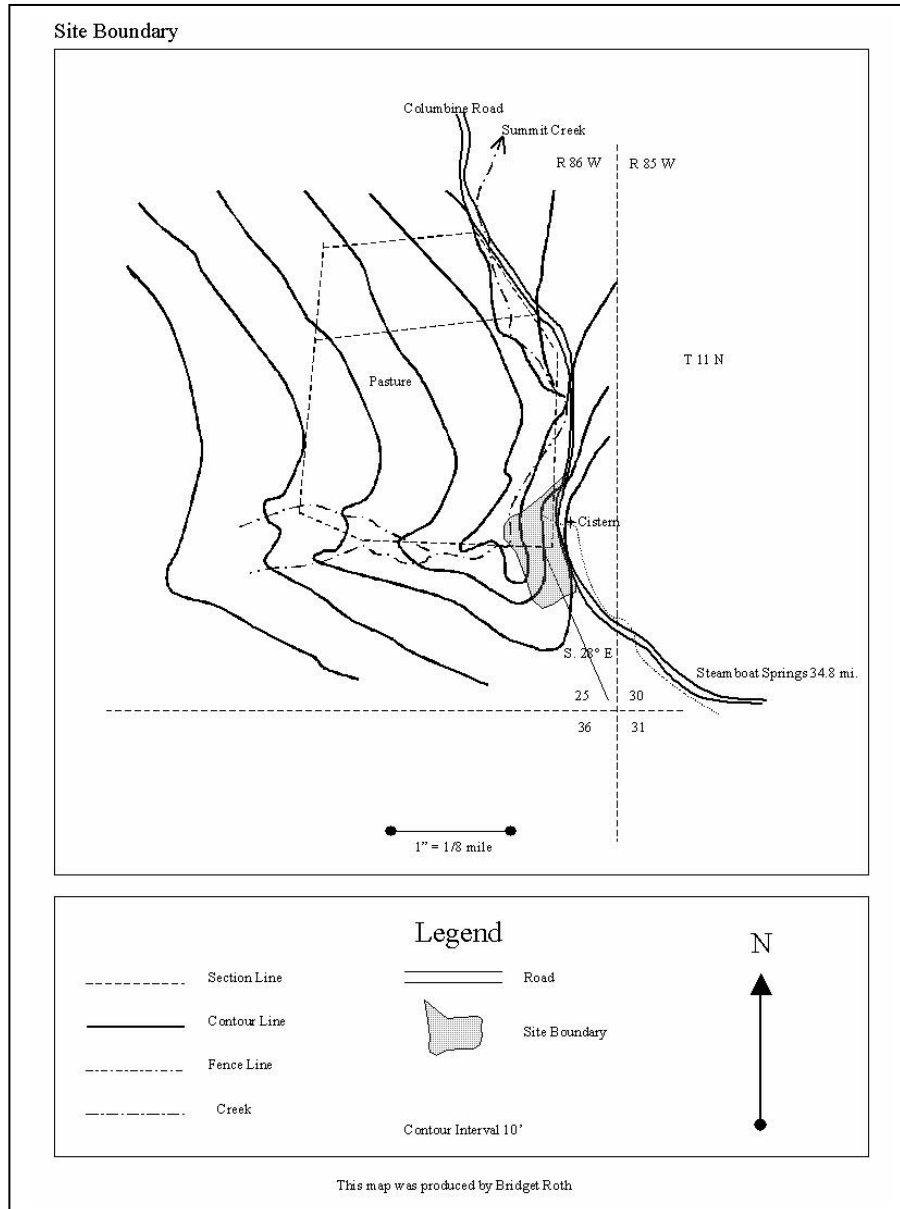
Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ Colorado

Section number 10 Page 21

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated parcel includes the shaded portion noted in the scale map below.



BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated boundary includes those buildings associated with the historic use of the Summit Creek Ranger Station within the Routt National Forest.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ ColoradoSection number ___ Page 22**PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-9 except as noted:

Name of Property: Summit Creek Ranger Station
Location: Routt County/ Colorado
Photographer: Elicia North
Date of Photographs: November 8, 2003
Negatives: USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region Office

Photo No. Photographic Information

- 1 Main cabin- east wall of original cabin, view to west.
- 2 Main cabin- east and north wall of original cabin, portion of west addition, view to SW.
- 3 Main cabin- west addition, enclosed porch, and north side of original cabin, view to east.
- 4 Main cabin- north walls, view to south.
- 5 Main cabin- detail of north wall including foundation, view to south.
- 6 Main cabin- windows and north wall of west addition, view to SE.
- 7 Outhouse- view to west.
- 8 Garage- north wall with garage doors, view to south.
- 9 Garage- west wall, view to east.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Summit Creek Ranger Station
Routt County/ Colorado

Section number ___ Page 23

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
Elkhorn Mountain Quadrangle, Colorado
7.5 Minute Series

UTM: Zone 13 / 333545E / 4527053N
PLSS: 6th PM, T11N, R86W, Sec. 25
SW¼, NE¼, SE¼, SE¼
Elevation: 8119 feet

