

276

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

FPA 253

1. Name of Property

historic name Brush Creek Work Center
other names/site number 48CR4203

2. Location

street & number Medicine Bow National Forest /NA/not for publication
city, town Saratoga /XX/vicinity
state Wyoming code 48 county Carbon code 007 zip code 82331

3. Classification

| | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ownership of Property | Category of Property | Number of Resources within Property | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <u>3</u> | <u>5</u> buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State | <input type="checkbox"/> site | <u> </u> | <u> </u> sites |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal | <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <u> </u> | <u> </u> structures |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> object | <u> </u> | <u> </u> objects |
| | | <u>3</u> | <u>5</u> Total |

Name of related multiple property listing:
DEPRESSION-ERA USDA FOREST SERVICE
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEXES ON MEDICINE BOW
NATIONAL FOREST, WYOMING

Number of contributing resources
Previously listed in the National
Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Evan J. DeStor 2/9/94
Signature of certifying official Date
Federal Preservation Officer
USDA - Forest Service

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Shirley Bruchey-Wash, Deputy SHPO 4/24/94
Signature of certifying official Date
for John Keck
State Historic Preservation Officer

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Ma J. M. Way 4/11/94
 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:)

for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government: Government Office

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government: Government Office

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: USFS Rustic Architecture

Materials enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Wood: Log

Wood: Board

roof Wood: Shingle

other Asphalt: Shingle

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary

The Brush Creek Work Center is located in the Brush Creek drainage on the western slopes of the Medicine Bow Mountain Range in southern Wyoming. It was originally built as a remote ranger station to replace the original Brush Creek Ranger Station located about one mile to the northwest. It was converted into a work center when the administration of the Brush Creek District was consolidated in Saratoga, Wyoming. It is situated in a grassy clearing surrounded by lodgepole pine. The USDA Forest Service Facility has three contributory historic buildings built from 1937 to 1941 and five noncontributory buildings that were built from 1942 to 1981. Present at the site are an Office/Dwelling, Dwelling, Shop/Garage, Flammable Storage shed, South Pump House, Barracks, Storage building and a Storage/Bathhouse. The nominated property is a good example of a Forest Service ranger station built during the Depression-era. It retains all of its original buildings in their historic setting with no apparent intrusions and only minor modifications. The buildings illustrate the use of standard architectural plans typical of the construction of ranger stations during the Depression. The Brush Creek Work Center retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Setting

The Brush Creek Work Center is located on the western slopes of the Medicine Bow Mountains along the Snowy Range Scenic Byway. It sits in a valley formed by the Barrett Creek and Brush Creek drainages. The elevation is 8100 feet. The buildings are bordered by dense pine forest to the north and east. To the west is the Kindt Basin and open sagebrush. The buildings are designed to blend with in these surroundings. The Brush Creek Work Center buildings are situated on both sides of Brush Creek which runs north-south.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Period of Significance Significant Dates

ARCHITECTURE 1937-1941 1937

SOCIAL HISTORY _____ _____

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT _____ _____

CONSERVATION _____ _____

_____ Cultural Affiliation

_____ N/A _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

Significant Person Architect/Affiliation
N/A USDA Forest Service, Region 2

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The Brush Creek Work Center is significant under criterion "A" for its association with expansion of Forest Service administration from custodial superintendence to active resource management. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, it reflects the contribution of this Federal Works program to the expansion of Forest Service resource management during the 1930's. It is also significant under criterion "C" because it embodies a distinctive style of architecture developed by the Forest Service during the Depression-era. The use of standard plans was typical of remote Forest Service installations and the log building style conformed well with the forested surroundings. The buildings represent a distinctive Forest Service architectural design style and philosophy. The period of significance dates from 1937, when the first logs were cut to the completion of construction activities in 1941, corresponding with the end of the Great Depression and the disbanding of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Historic Contexts/Background

The Brush Creek Work Center is significant for its association with expansion of Forest Service administration from custodial superintendence to active resource management. (See "Depression-Era USDA Forest Service Administrative Complexes in the enclosed Multiple Property Form" for additional information).

See Continuation Sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Chesbro, Wallace

1993 Personal Communication. Notes on file, Medicine Bow National Forest Supervisors Office, Laramie, WY.

Grasso, Dennis N., Scott Thybony, Robert Rosenberg and Elizabeth Rosenberg

1981 Class I Cultural Resource Overview of the Medicine Bow National Forest Including Thunder Basin National Grassland. High Plains Consultants, Laramie, WY.

Hohn, Herb

1993 Personal Communication. Notes on file, Medicine Bow National Forest Supervisors Office, Laramie WY.

Operation Records for the CCC, National Archives, Denver Colorado.

USDA Forest Service Withdrawal, Facilities, Real Property, and Historical files, Medicine Bow National Forest, Laramie, Wyoming.

See continuation sheet.

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State hist. preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Medicine Bow National Forest

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 70 acres

UTM References

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 | <u>13</u> | <u>371220</u> | <u>4578515</u> | 2 | <u>13</u> | <u>371500</u> | <u>4578515</u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 3 | <u>13</u> | <u>371620</u> | <u>4577700</u> | 4 | <u>13</u> | <u>371220</u> | <u>4577700</u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of Brush Creek Work Center is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked by the following UTM references: 1 13 371220 4578515, 2 13 371500 4578515, 3 13 371620 4577700, 4 13 371220 4577700. It comprises the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27, T.29N., R.75W. The area surrounding the complex within the boundary is not considered a "buffer area," but is integral to the setting of the property. The boundary of the Brush Creek Work Center is shown as a solid line on the accompanying site plan.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes that land which was withdrawn from general Forest activities on February 13, 1939 (Letter in Withdrawal Files) for the purposes of constructing the Brush Creek Ranger Station Administrative Site.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James Heid, Forest Archaeologist

organization USDA Forest Service - Medicine Bow NF date 9/18/93

street & number 2468 Jackson St. telephone 307-745-8971

city or town Laramie state WY zip code 82070

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 2 Brush Creek Work Center, Carbon County, Wyoming

Contributing Buildings

Office/Dwelling (#3544): The Office/Dwelling is a one-story, irregular shaped log structure with a rubble stone foundation and an open stone porch attached to the south side. The construction uses horizontal, saddle-notched logs. The roof is medium-gabled and is covered with wood shingles. A vertical board door with two-pane window in the top part leads from the porch into the interior of the structure. A similar door leads from the office to the garage on the west side. Windows are all eight-pane casement type casement type that open outward. All of the windows have horizontal board shutters with the CCC tree emblem. The building presently contains a two-room office, a partial basement, bathroom and a two-car garage. It was constructed between 1937 and 1941 from standard Forest Service plans.

Dwelling (#3541): The Dwelling is a one-story, rectangular shaped log structure with a rubble stone foundation and an open stone porch attached to the south side. The construction uses horizontal, saddle-notched logs. The roof is medium-gabled and is covered with wood shingles. A vertical board door with a four-pane window in the top part leads from the porch into the interior of the structure. A similar door exits the building on the west side. Windows are either eight-pane casement type or six-pane (kitchen area) casement type that open outward. All of the windows have horizontal board shutters with the CCC tree emblem. The buildings contains a kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, living room with stone fireplace and a full basement. It was constructed between 1937 and 1941 from standard Forest Service plans.

Garage (#3573): The Garage is a one-story, rectangular shaped log structure with a concrete foundation and a full loft. It has two bays with wood-panel, overhead sliding doors and a two-room work space. The construction uses horizontal, saddle-notched logs. The roof is medium-gabled and is covered with wood shingles. It has a vertical board doors on the southern and eastern sides. A center dormer is situated in the roof on the north side of the building. Windows are six-pane non-opening casement type. It was constructed between 1937 and 1941 from standard Forest Service plans.

Noncontributing Buildings

Flammable Storage (#3598): The Flammable Storage shed is a rectangular shaped, one-story, wood frame building. The shed roof is medium-gable and is covered with asphalt shingles. It has a metal double-door on the west side. The siding is horizontal log siding. It has no windows and has a cement block/cement foundation. It was constructed in 1981.

South Pump House (#3746): The South Pump House is a one-story, rectangular shaped wood frame building. The shed roof is flat and has a asphalt cover. It has a metal double-door on the west side. The siding is horizontal-board. It has no windows and has a concrete foundation. It was constructed in 1980.

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Contributing Buildings

Barracks (#3800): The barracks is a one-story rectangular shaped wood frame building. The roof is medium-gable and covered with asphalt shingles. It has horizontal metal siding. The windows are one-pane casement type that open outward. The doors are solid plywood with one large window in the top part and are located on the south and east sides. A shed-dormer is located in the eastern part of the roof. It contains four bunkrooms, a kitchen, a bathroom and a full cellar. It was built in 1980.

Storage (#3500): The Storage building is a rectangular, one-story, wood frame building. It has horizontal board siding and sits on a concrete block foundation. The roof is medium-gable and has a asphalt covering. The windows are nine-pane casement type. A small porch is located on the south end. It has a five-panel wood door on the west end and a solid plywood door on the north side. The building was constructed in 1942 as part of the Ryan Park Prisoner of War Camp. It was moved to Brush Creek in the 1960's. As a result it was not present at Brush Creek during the period of significance nor does it relate to the documented significance of the property.

Bathhouse/Storage(#3502): The Storage/Bathhouse is a rectangular shaped, one-story, wood frame building. It has horizontal board siding and sits on a concrete foundation. The roof is medium-gable with wood shingles. The windows are nine-pane casement type. The door is five-paneled wood and is located on the south side. It was constructed in 1942 as part of the Ryan Park POW camp and moved to Brush Creek in the 1960's. As a result it was not present at Brush Creek during the period of significance nor does it relate to the documented significance of the property. A small storage building of horizontal board and cement block is located at the east end of building.

Integrity

The Brush Creek Work Center has undergone only very minor alterations to the buildings since it was first constructed. There are no buildings or structures outside the property boundary that impact the visual integrity of the complex. The complex possesses integrity of design, workmanship, materials, setting, feeling, and association and, therefore, is a good representation of a USDA Forest Service administrative complex from the depression.

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Historic Contexts/Background

Most of the major construction at the Brush Creek Work Center was completed in 1937-1940 by crews from the Ryan Park Side Camp (F-22). It was a side camp of the Saratoga Camp (F-38-W) located in Saratoga, Wyoming. The main camps such as Saratoga Camp usually worked throughout the winter. The side camps usually were established in the spring, when weather permitted, with 20 to 25 workers from the main camps and closed down for the winter. The Mullen Creek Camp (F-36-W) and the Brush Creek Side Camp (F-39-W) also did a small amount of work on the site. Crews from the Saratoga Camp and the Brush Creek Side Camp did some finishing up work in 1941 (Inspection Letters, 1938-1941). The foreman for the Ryan Park Side Camp was Herb Hahn. Herb and his crew cuts the logs for the complex off of Barrett Ridge. They also excavated and laid the foundations, constructed the sidewalks, and completed all the rough structural construction. Local craftsmen were then brought in to do the finer work. Fred potter, a rancher from the Encampment area did the stonecutting for the sidewalks, foundations, porches and the fireplace in the Dwelling. Urban Shantz, a Finnish carpenter from Chicago built the cabinets in the Office/Dwelling and Dwelling. Another carpenter to work on the work center was Chris Jensen from Rawlins, Wyoming.

The work center was originally built as an administrative facility for the Brush Creek Ranger District and replaced the original facility that was located about one mile to the northwest. The first Ranger Station was originally called the Drinkhard Ranger Station and was constructed in 1905. The name was not thought to be appropriate and was changed to Brush Creek in 1914. The District was part of the Medicine Bow Reserve which was headquartered in Saratoga, Wyoming. It was not until 1910 that the Medicine Bow National Forest came into existence and the Forest Headquarters were moved from Saratoga to Laramie, Wyoming. The Work Center is still being used presently by work crews from the Brush Creek Ranger District.

BRUSH CREEK WORK CENTER

