

Minidoka Ranger District Historic Resource Documentation

Pine Dell Lodge



SW-17-2968

January 2017

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Preservation Solutions LLC — Boise, ID

Abstract

This report documents the results of a cultural resources survey conducted to identify and evaluate above-ground cultural resources at Pine Dell Lodge organizational camp in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, approximately 30 miles south of Hansen, Idaho, on Rock Creek Road.

CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS

I certify that this investigation was conducted and documented according to Secretary of Interior's Standards and guidelines and that the report is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.



Signature of Principle Investigator

1/3/2017

Date

Key Information

PROJECT NAME

Pine Dell Lodge Survey

PROJECT NUMBER(S)

SW-17-2968

LOCATION

Cassia County

USGS QUAD(S)

Pike Mountain, 7.5'

LEGAL LOCATION OF SURVEY

T14S, 19E, Section 31

SURVEY AREA

~ 14Acres

AREA SURVEYED

~14 Acres Intensive Survey

0 Acres Reconnaissance Survey

PROJECT DATA

0 Previously recorded cultural resources

15 New cultural resources located and/or recorded as 1 District

AUTHOR(S)

Kerry Davis, Architectural Historian

FEDERAL AGENCY

USFS

REPORT PREPARED FOR

Sawtooth National Forest

REPOSITORY

Sawtooth National Forest; Idaho SHPO

PRINCIPLE INVESTIGATOR

Kerry Davis, M.S.

DATE

1/3/2017

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Project Description

Permittees, LDS Church Twin Falls Facilities Management Group, contracted Preservation Solutions LLC (PSLLC) in June 2016 to complete a cultural resource investigation of the Pine Dell Lodge organizational camp, ~30 miles south of Hansen, Idaho. The purpose of this preemptive survey effort is to establish baseline documentation to streamline future compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended, regarding any potential forthcoming proposed alterations.

Environmental Setting

The survey area is approximately 30 miles south of Hansen, Idaho, just off Forest Service Road 541. At an elevation of approximately 6,980 feet above sea level, the area has a northeast aspect and is generally forested by conifers and aspens. Scattered 1-story, gabled, recreational buildings are found upslope to the southwest of FS 541, a minimally maintained gravel and dirt track.

Cultural Setting

Originally used for cattle and sheep grazing in the late 19th and early 20th century, the survey area and vicinity came under federal management in 1906 as part of the Cassia National Forest (which was incorporated into the Minidoka National Forest in 1908, which itself was later absorbed into Sawtooth National Forest in 1953). Though lower sections of Rock Creek Canyon were minimally developed for recreational uses during the early 20th century, the survey area was not developed until the around 1960. The survey area reflects circa 1960 through early 1980s recreational camp development. Please see the attached Idaho Historic Sites Inventory forms for an expanded discussion of the development history.

Pre-Field Research

Results from Idaho Record Search #16326 were received on July 18, 2016.

Previous Cultural Resources Studies

Several cultural resources studies have taken place in the vicinity over the years, primarily triggered by USFS actions such as timber sales and road-related projects dating from 1978 through 2015. However, no previous inventory of cultural resources in the recreational residence tract is on file.

Summary of previous studies in this area (within one mile of the survey area).

Report#	Author	Date	Title
CRM-SW-241	Eide	1980	Upper Goose Creek Timber Sale
CRM-SW-258	Eide	1981	CRI of the Rock Creek Admin Site
SW-87-1101	Harper	1987	Kum Ba Yah Timber Sale
SW-88-1261	Harper	1988	Tawakani Survey Area
SW-881259	Harper	1988	Porcupine Spring Area Survey
1989/3007	Hull-Stewart-Lang	1979	Upper Goose Creek Cordwood Sale
CRM-SW-231	Lang	1980	CRI of Porcupine Springs Campground Expansion
SW-84-619	Metzler	1984	CRSRF Rock Creek Corridor Viewshed
SW-840-697	Metzler	1984	Pike Mountain Trail
1989/6035	Selin/Gallagher	1978	CRI of Cassia I & II Road System
1989/6530	Stewart	1979	CRI of CCC Cordwood Timber Sale
SW-95-1643	Henrikson	1995	Porcupine Campground Expansion
SW-96-1750	Wells	1996	Diamondfield Jack Parking Lot Expansion
SW-01-2094	Sant	2001	Rock Creek Waterline
SW-15-2827	Mawhirter	2015	Rock Creek Fuels and Vegetation Project

Expected Cultural Resources

No cultural resource site inventory has been conducted in the survey area.

The region around present-day Pine Dell Lodge organizational camp served primarily as open range grazing lands for sheep and timber extraction in the late 19th and early 20th century. With the establishment of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) under President Theodore Roosevelt in 1905, millions of acres across Idaho and throughout the West were drawn into the National Forest system. As part of this shift in land use management, the area including what became Pine Dell Lodge was designated as part of the Cassia Forest Reserve in 1906. Two years later, the USFS consolidated the Cassia Forest Reserve with nearby River Forest Reserve (to the east) under the name Minidoka National Forest (Minidoka NF) and began regulating grazing and timber harvesting by means of permits.

With the increasing affordability and popularity of the automobile during the early 20th century, the advent of improved roads into previously remote and rugged regions allowed a growing number of tourists to access the natural wonders of the national forests. Recreation in Minidoka NF increased significantly in this era and a shift in use and management from grazing and timber harvesting toward recreation took place. In 1917, Minidoka NF initiated reporting on recreation and noted 5,935 individuals visited the forest that year. By the early 1920s, campgrounds with latrines supported recreationalists at five locations in the Minidoka NF. In just two years between 1928 and 1930 the number of visitors increased over 67 percent, with 10,865 people entering the forest.

With the onset of the Great Depression came establishment of the programs of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the Public Works Administration (PWA), and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), which significantly impacted not only the state's economic conditions, but also the Idaho landscape. In particular, these federal programs spurred significant improvements on National Forest lands. With New Deal appropriations came funding for USFS projects for campgrounds, water systems, sanitary facilities, recreational areas, and so forth. Wilson summarized this trend in the Sawtooth NF: "Summer recreational opportunities increased with the initiation of the CCC program in 1933. Prior to 1917, there were no campgrounds or picnic areas on the Sawtooth. Minor improvements were made

after World War I but it was not until the Forest Service had New Deal funding and labor that significant strides were made. The CCC cleared areas for campgrounds, installed water systems, assembled tables and stoves, built toilet and sanitary facilities, placed swings, and constructed boat docks."¹ Recreational visits to Sawtooth NF jumped from 5,400 in 1917 to 15,000 in 1935.

During the post-World War II period, public demand grew for more active outdoor recreation opportunities, and requests for summer home and organization camp permits outpaced Forest Service staff ability to plan and survey tracts. The Forest Service responded to the increase in recreational demands with the launch of "Operation Outdoors" in 1957, a program focused on the development of new recreational facilities. Developments during this period reflect the Forest Service architectural idiom of the time, which had shifted away from the Rustic Style and toward the contemporary Modern Movement. As a result, Forest Service buildings from this era typically have minimal applied decoration, simple forms, and functional designs.

The survey area and its vicinity were not developed until after the original landscape design for the Goose Creek Organization Site was approved in 1958. The current survey project is taking place in an area that is and has historically been rural and recreational in character. The survey area reflects circa 1960 through early 1980s recreational camp development.

Field Methodology

Preservation Solutions (PSLLC) architectural Historian, Kerry Davis, M.S., served as project manager, field photographer, researcher, and cultural resource assessment author. Davis completed the necessary research at Sawtooth National Forest Headquarters in Twin Falls and at Minidoka Ranger District Headquarters in Burley.

Additional research included review of Cassia Assessor records and USFS cultural resource and recreation permit records in Twin Falls and Burley, as well as the utilization of the online collections of USGS, BLM GLO, Ancestry.com, and the *Idaho Statesman* Historical Archive, available through the Boise Public Library.

The field survey to document each resource took place on July 20, 2016, and included photographic documentation of each above-ground resource in the Pine Dell Lodge organizational camp sufficient to determine NRHP eligibility.

¹ Wilson, 14-15.

Results

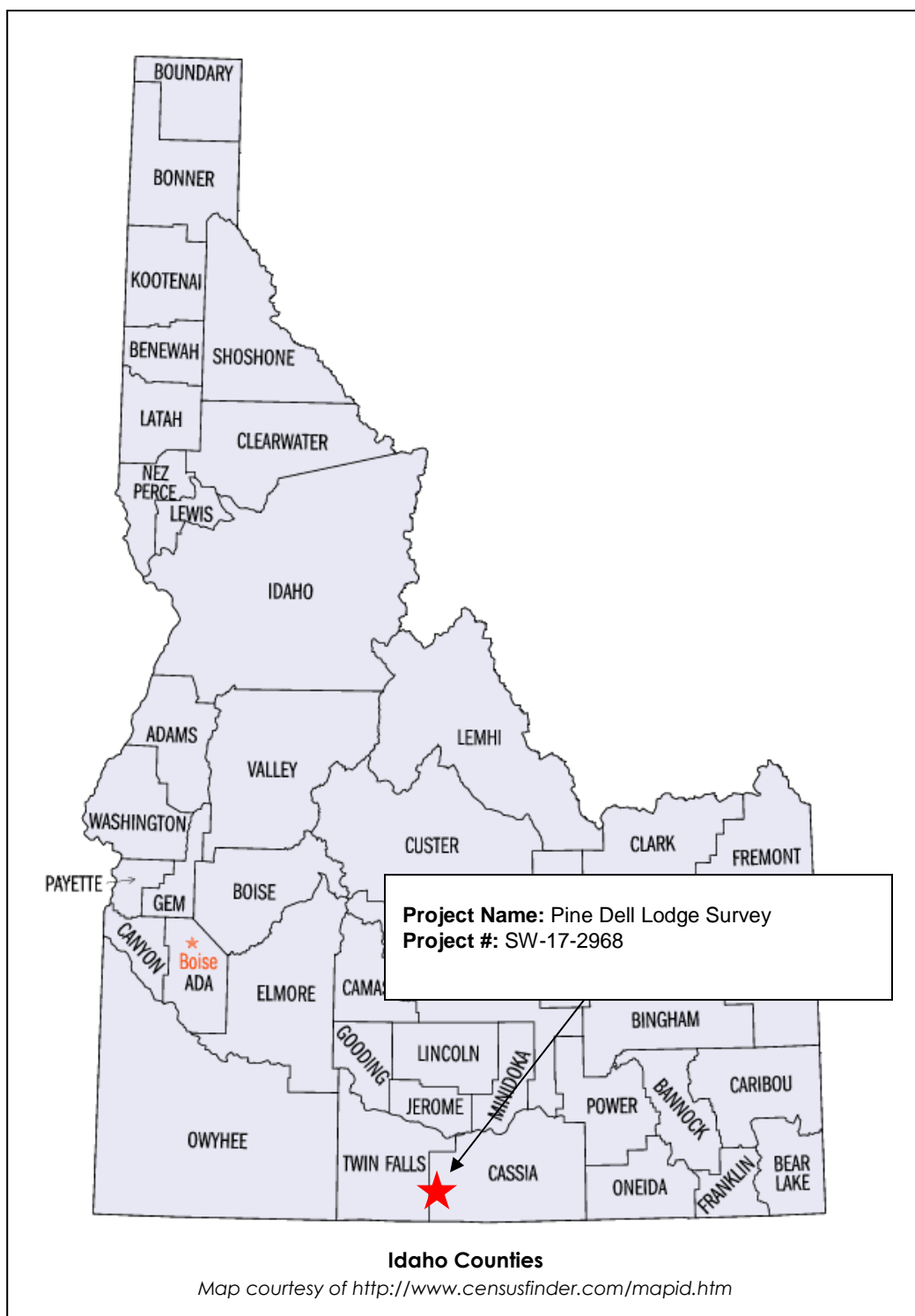
All cultural resources recorded in the survey area (see Maps section below):

Site #	Site/Feature Type	NR Status
Temp. No. PINE-01/SW-2293	Pine Dell Lodge Camp (15 resources)	Ineligible

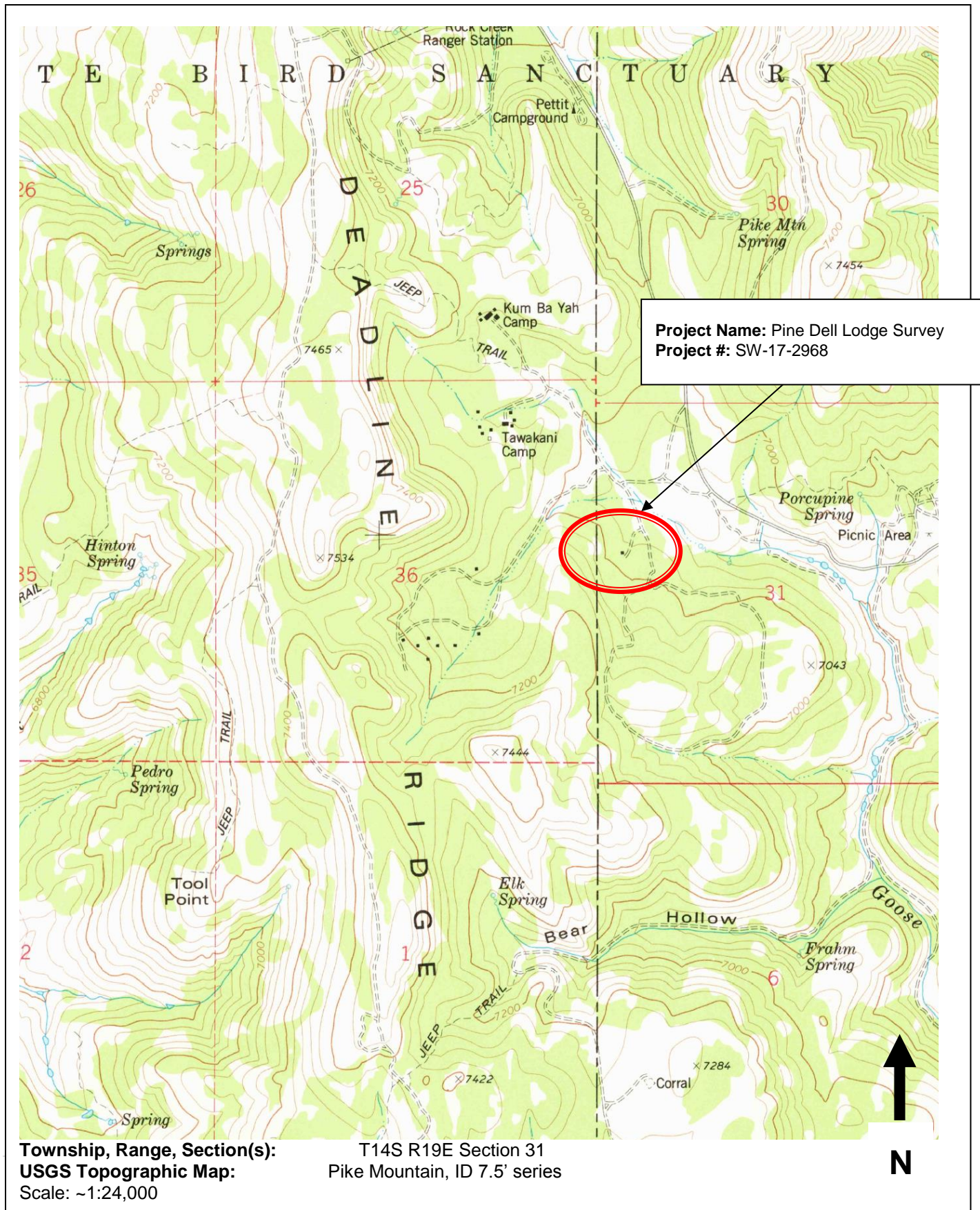
Not previously surveyed, a total of fifteen (15) resources were identified and documented in the survey area, all of which were assessed as components of a potential district. With the vast majority of resources dating to the 1970s and early 1980s, the camp, as a whole, is not NRHP-eligible and as such each resource was found to be ineligible. For further information please see the attached Idaho Historic Sites Inventory (IHSI) forms.

Maps

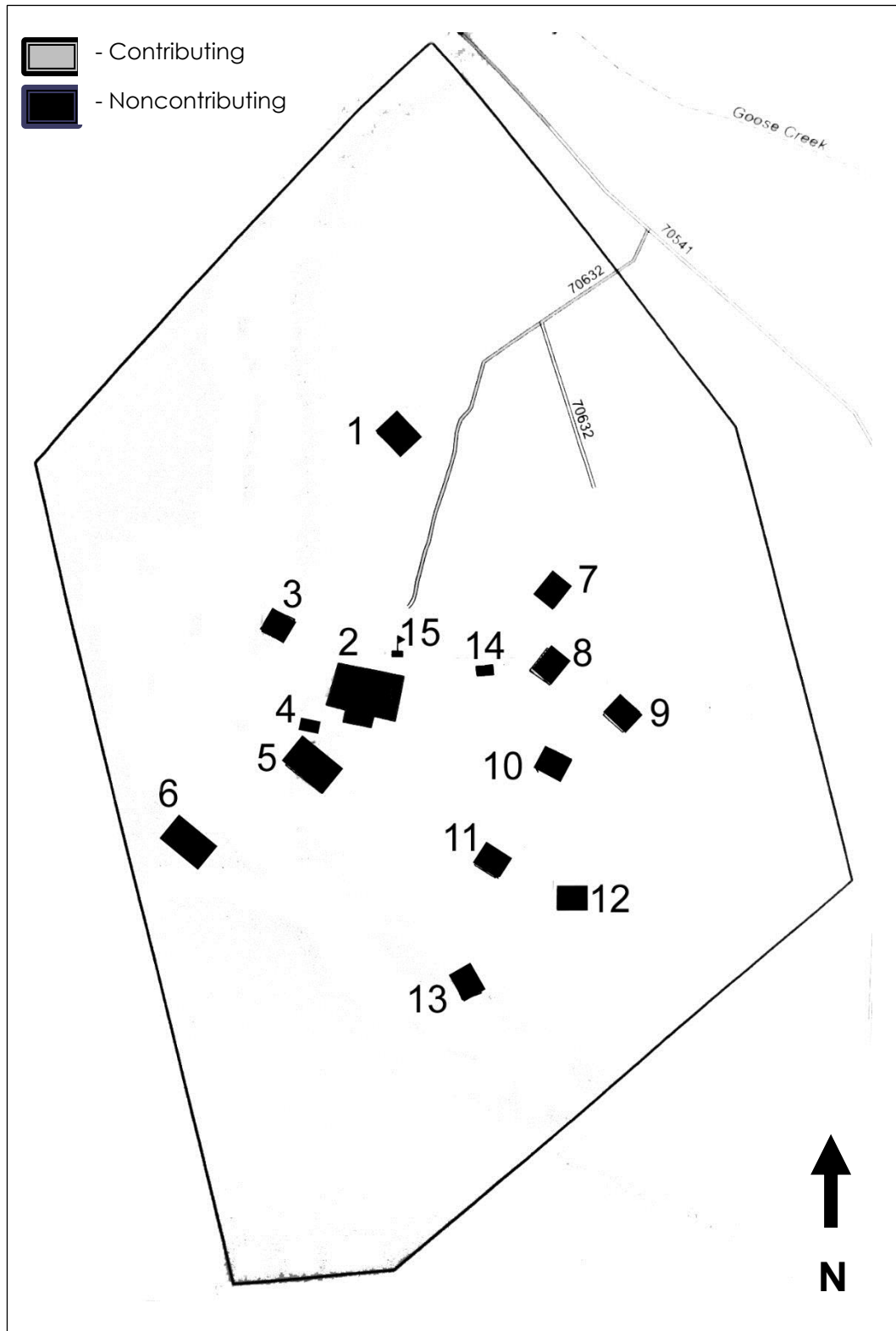
Location



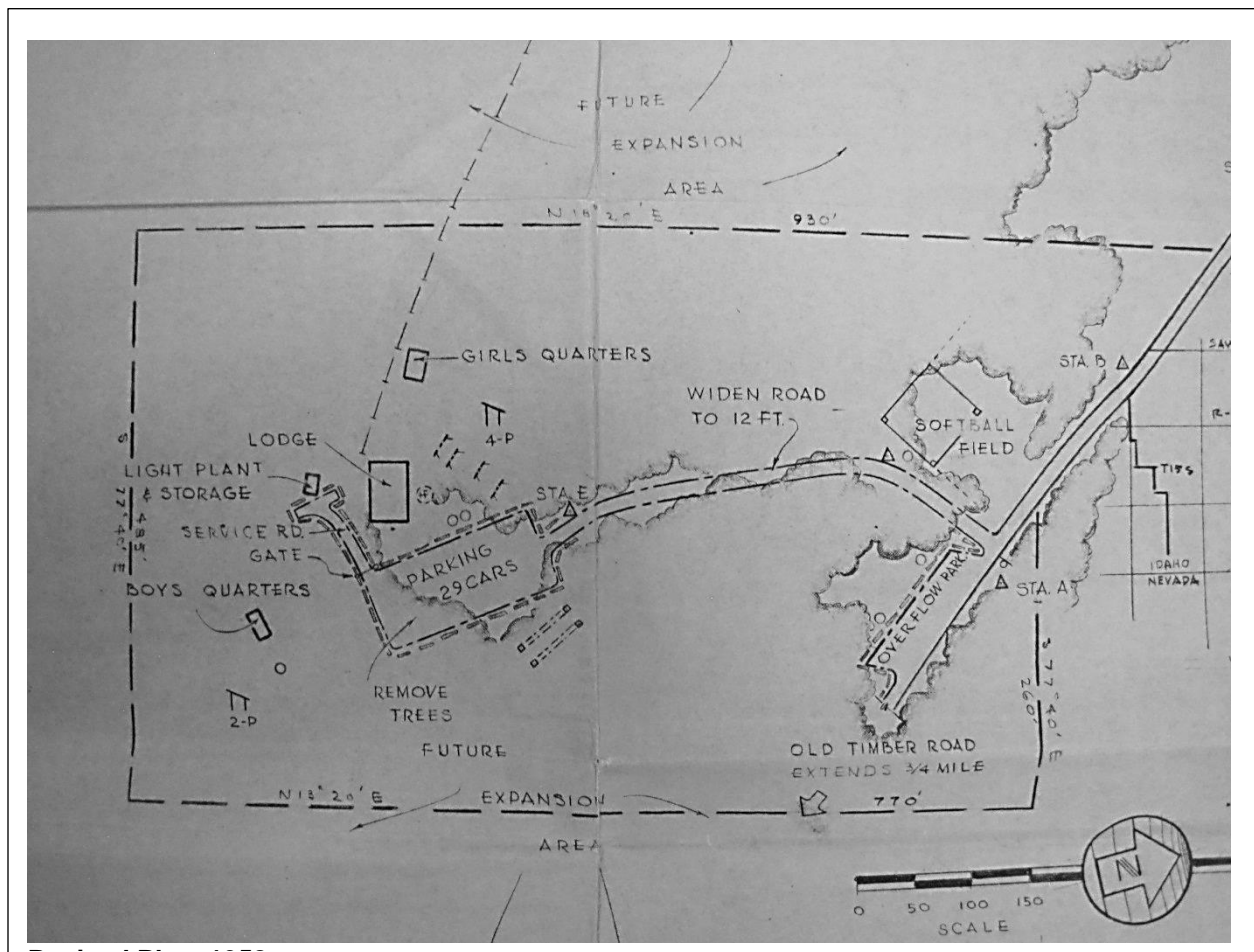
Survey Area



National Register Eligibility Map



Original Landscape Plan



APPROX. ACREAGE WITHIN BOUNDARY- 9.4 A.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE REGION FOUR
DIVISION OF WATER, RECREATION & LANDS
SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST
TWIN FALLS DISTRICT
GOOSE CREEK ORGANIZATION SITE #1

DESIGNED DATE 6/27/58 PAUL FRITZ L.A. DESIGNER	REC'D DATE 8-3-59 <i>Kenji Shiozawa</i> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT	APPROVED DATE 8/12/59 <i>E. Morris Fisher</i> FOREST SUPERVISOR APPROVED DATE 7/24/59 <i>John D. ...</i> ASST. REGIONAL FORESTER	PLAN NO.
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WAAGEN 7-30-59

Superceded/PT

Detail of Revised Pine Dell Lodge Plan, 1958

Recorded Site(s)



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
Caretaker's Cabin, July 2016



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
Main Lodge, July 2016



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
#2 Scout Den, July 2016



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
Generator Building/Shed, July 2016



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
Shower House, July 2016



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
Amphitheater, July 2016



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
Cabin #4 Bear Hollow, July 2016
Typical of Cabins 7-13



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
Cabin #9 Eagles Roost, July 2016
Typical of Cabins 7-13



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
Toilet Building, July 2016



Temp. No. PINE-01, Pine Dell Lodge
Flagpole, July 2016