

PROPERTY NAME				Redfish Lake Lodge Complex				FIELD#		37-14944					
STREET		USFS Road 213						RESTRICT		<input type="checkbox"/>					
CITY		Stanley		VICINITY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		COUNTY CD		37					
COUNTY NAME				Custer											
SUBNAME				BLOCK				SUBLOT							
ACRES		17		LESS THAN		<input type="checkbox"/>									
TAX PARCEL				UTMZ		11		EASTING		666173					
NORTHING		4890069		TOWNSHIP		9		N_S		N					
RANGE		13		E_W		E		SECTION		3					
NW		1/4, 1/4		NE		1/4									
QUADRANGLE				Stanley 7.5'				OTHERMAP							
SANBORN MAP				SANBORN MAP#				PHOTO#		Digital					

ASSOCIATED FEATURES	Historic lodge, general store, gas house, storage cabin, and 5 historic cabins; NH boat docks, NH gazebo, 16 NH cabins, 2 pump houses, shed, corral, tack house, hay barn, barn/shed, laundry/shower house, gas station, 3 employee mini-cabins, employee dormitory, restrooms, housekeeping cabin	TOTAL # FEATURES	42
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NR REF #		NPS CERT		ACTIONDATE		FUTURE ELIG DATE	
DIST/MPLNAME1				DIST/MPLNAME2			

CRITERIA A ☒ B ☒ C ☒ D ☐ CRITERIA CONSIDERATION A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐

AREA OF SIGNIF	Entertainment/Recreation	AREA OF SIGNIF	Architecture
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COMMENTS	<p>The Redfish Lake Lodge Complex historic district was identified as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 2001. This IHSI form updates that documentation and eligibility assessment.</p> <p>ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION</p>
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PROJ/RPT TITLE	Redfish Lake Lodge Preservation Plan	SVY DATE	9/8/15	SVY LEVEL	Intensive
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RECORDED BY	Kerry Davis, PSLLC	PH	816-225-5605	ADDRESS	1007 E. Jefferson Street, Boise, ID 83712
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SUBMITTED PHOTOS ☒ NEGS ☐ SLIDES ☐ SKETCH MAP ☐

SVY RPT # ***** FOR ISHPO USE ONLY ***** IHSI# 37-14944

MS RPT # SITS# 10CR1504

IHPR # HABS NO. ID- HAER NO. ID- REV#

CS #		IHSI# REF		NR REF# 2		REV# REF		RI	SI	IH
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SVY RPT# 1 SVY RPT# 2 SVY RPT# 3 MS RPT# 1 MS RPT# 2 #V #S #SI

ADD'L NOTES	USFS Site #SW-1446 (10CR1504)
MORE DATA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOTE: The 2001 inventory of the complex used a different numbering system than that which is used by the resort operators. For the sake of consistency, the current updated survey of the complex used the same resource names and numbers as the 2001 survey. Where the resort operator's building names differ from the inventory, they are given in parenthesis.
ATTACH <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

# OF PHOTOS		NEGBOX#		# OF SLIDES		SHPO DETER		DETER DATE	
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INITIALED		ENTRY DATE		REVISE		REVISE		REVISE	
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IHS# _____

SITS# _____

REV# _____

PROPERTY NAME	Redfish Lake Lodge Complex	IHSI#	37-14944
FIELD#	37-14944	COUNTY NAME	Custer
OTHER NAME			
COUNTY CD	37	CITY	Stanley
		VICINITY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UTM REF2	11/666214/4890040	UTM REF3	11/666188/4889839
		UTM REF4	11/666039/4889804

OTHER MATERIAL2		CULTAFFIL		AGENCYCERT	Statewide
SIGNIFDATE	1923	SIGNIFPERIOD	1923-1933	SIGNIFPERSON	Limbert, Robert W.
ARCH/BUILD	Fritz, Paul, Landscape Architect			ARCHPLANS	<input type="checkbox"/>
				TAXEASE	<input type="checkbox"/>
				TAXCERT	<input type="checkbox"/>
OWNERSHIP	Public-Federal	PROPOWN	Sawtooth NF/Sawtooth NRA		
MORE DATA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ATTACH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DOCSOURCE	NRHP Bulletins; Sawtooth NF records; Redfish Lodge archives; SHPO records
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ADD'L NOTES	USFS Site #SW-1446 (10CR1504) NOTE: The 2001 inventory of the complex used a different numbering system than that which is used by the resort operators. For the sake of consistency, the current updated survey of the complex used the same resource names and numbers as the 2001 survey. Where the resort operator's building names differ from the inventory, they are given in parenthesis.
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COMMENTS	<p>The Redfish Lake Lodge Complex historic district was identified as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 2001. This IHSI form updates that documentation and eligibility assessment.</p>
	<p>ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>The NRHP-eligible Redfish Lake Lodge Complex historic district boundaries encompass approximately 4 acres of the larger 17-acre permit area. The NRHP-eligible area includes ten (10) resources, comprised of seven (7) contributing buildings, two (2) noncontributing buildings, and one (1) non-contributing structure. An additional nineteen (19) ineligible resources currently part of the Redfish Lake Lodge Resort operations are adjacent outside the NRHP-eligible area boundaries in the Lower</p>

PHOTO LOG ☐ IHSI# REF INITIALED DATE ENTERED

IHS# _____
 SITS# _____
 REV# _____

PROPERTY NAME	Redfish Lake Lodge Complex	IHSI#	37-14944
FIELD#	37-14944	COUNTY NAME	Custer

The Redfish Lake Lodge Complex historic district was identified as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 2001. This IHSI form updates that documentation and eligibility assessment.

The NRHP-eligible Redfish Lake Lodge Complex historic district boundaries encompass approximately 4 acres of the larger 17-acre permit area. The NRHP-eligible area includes ten (10) resources, comprised of seven (7) contributing buildings, two (2) noncontributing buildings, and one (1) non-contributing structure. An additional nineteen (19) ineligible resources currently part of the Redfish Lake Lodge Resort operations are adjacent outside the NRHP-eligible area boundaries in the Lower Compound at lakeside. An additional twelve (12) buildings and corral structures are located at the Upper Compound ¼-mile north of the main, lakeside Lower Compound. All resources are itemized below.

The seven (7) contributing resources include buildings constructed between c.1923 and c.1931. Of the three (3) non-contributing resources two are currently less than fifty years of age and one has lost integrity and no longer clearly communicates its original construction period. The non-contributing resources do not significantly impact the overall visual and functional cohesiveness of the historic area and the lodge complex continues to clearly communicate its historic recreational setting and landscape.

Within the confirmed boundaries, the Redfish Lake Lodge Complex historic district retains the representative core of historic lakeside recreational resources. The area's location, topography, setting, and spatial organization of its resources reflect the early through mid-twentieth century expansion of recreational activities in the Sawtooth NF. All extant resources served either a recreational function or directly supported the recreational use of the scenic Redfish Lake area. As a contiguous grouping of early twentieth resources that historically operated in concert to create a recreational experience, the NRHP-eligible area retains its historic integrity and continues to communicate information about its historic development as one of Idaho's historic recreational areas, and associations with significant patterns of events in recreational history and the development of the Sawtooth National Forest.

Per NRHP guidelines, the Redfish Lake Lodge Complex is most appropriately documented as a Historic District comprised of buildings, structures, and sites forming a Designed Historic Landscape, and as the location of a pattern of locally significant events.

For an elaborated description, see continuation sheets.

Previous documentation from 2001 (SHPO Report No. 2002/147; SW-01-2127) identified the period of significance as ending in 1933, with discussion of recreational contexts up through around 1940. To avoid redundancy, only historic context from c.1940 through the mid-1970s is included herein.

The Redfish Lake Lodge Complex comprises a historic recreation area on the north shore of Redfish Lake in the vicinity of Stanley, Custer County, Idaho, within the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA). It is eligible for listing in the National Register for its local significance under Criterion A in the area of ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION. The NRHP-eligible area includes the contiguous grouping of recreational resources that retain integrity and continue to reflect the early 20th century development of the lodge area.

Previous documentation also found the historic district to be eligible under Criteria B and C. The complex was found to be eligible under Criterion B in the area of ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION for its associations with early Idaho outdoors tourism promoter Robert W. Limbert, and under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE as a good example of early 20th century recreational Rustic style architecture. The current reevaluation concurs with these assessments and no additional research or documentation was required.

Previous documentation found the lodge complex to be additionally eligible under Criterion B for associations with Joe Blackman because of his having been Custer County's first black citizen and having worked as a carpenter in the early construction of the lodge and associated buildings. Though this association is notable and important, reexamination per National Register Bulletin How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation resulted in a different assessment. Per NRHP guidelines, "A property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group. It must be shown that the person gained importance within his or her profession or group." Additionally, for a property to be eligible under Criterion B, it should be "associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he or she achieved significance." By most accounts, Blackman [sic] was known locally for being a freed slave and pioneer miner, not as a carpenter. As such, it is questionable that having worked as a carpenter at Redfish Lake Lodge in the last years of his life was sufficient of a connection to the site to justify it being eligible under Criterion B for associations with Blackman [sic].

The NRHP-eligible area encompasses ten (10) resources constructed between c.1923 and c.2010 of which are seven (7) contributing buildings, two (2) noncontributing buildings, and one (1) noncontributing structure. The lodge complex is locally significant in the area of Recreation for its associations with the expansion of recreational activity in the U.S. Forest Service during the early-to-mid-20th century. The NRHP-eligible area's resources communicate historic trends in recreational development, physically representing the spectrum of visitor amenities over time. The NRHP-eligible area's period of significance begins in circa c.1923 with the construction of the earliest building, and ends in 1933, the year of Limbert's death and the end of his association with the property. The period of significance acknowledges historic alterations in response to specific functional needs and counts resources that experienced such alterations within the period of significance as

IHSI# _____

SITS# _____

REV# _____

IDAHO HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

PROPERTY NAME	Redfish Lake Lodge Complex	IHSI#	37-14944
FIELD#	37-14944	COUNTY NAME	Custer

contributing elements.

For an elaborated statement of significance, see continuation sheets.

The Redfish Lake Lodge Complex historic district was identified as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 2001. This IHSI form updates that documentation and eligibility assessment.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The NRHP-eligible Redfish Lake Lodge Complex historic district boundaries encompass approximately 4 acres of the larger 17-acre permit area. The NRHP-eligible area includes ten (10) resources, comprised of seven (7) contributing buildings, two (2) noncontributing buildings, and one (1) non-contributing structure. An additional nineteen (19) ineligible resources currently part of the Redfish Lake Lodge Resort operations are adjacent outside the NRHP-eligible area boundaries in the Lower Compound at lakeside. An additional twelve (12) buildings and corral structures are located at the Upper Compound ¼-mile north of the main, lakeside Lower Compound. All resources are itemized below.

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Per NRHP guidelines, the Redfish Lake Lodge Complex is most appropriately documented as a Historic District comprised of buildings, structures, and sites forming a Designed Historic Landscape,¹ and as the location of a pattern of locally significant events.

Boundary

The historical patterns most clearly communicated at Redfish Lake Lodge are those related to early USFS/Sawtooth NF recreational development. As such, the historic area boundary encompasses all historically significant features at Redfish Lake Lodge and does not extend into areas developed after the 1930s. The NRHP-eligible boundaries form a polygonal area generally bounded on the west and east sides by the gravel roadways, and on the north at the limit of the presence of historic buildings. The lakefront forms the south boundary of the NRHP-eligible area.

Resource Inventory

Previous documentation from 2001 documented forty-two (42) resources. Current survey documented two additional buildings constructed since 2001, as well as three buildings removed since that time. The table below is taken directly from the 2001 documentation. Changes/updates to previous documentation is shown in *italics*. Expanded discussion of adjustments to the 2001 eligibility assessments follows the table.

¹ Review of NRHP Bulletins 18 and 30 for Designed Historic Landscapes and Rural Historic Landscapes, indicates parks and recreation areas are better suited for the Designed Historic Landscape evaluation methodology; the Rural Historic Landscape category is better suited for those landscapes reflecting "day-to-day occupational activities" and that have "developed and evolved in response to both the forces of nature and the pragmatic need to make a living."

Map Key	Photo #	Resource Name	Construction Date(s)	Eligibility Status	Justification
1	1	Lodge	c.1923; 1928-31; 1968-69	Contributing	<i>Retains sufficient integrity to communicate historic associations under Criteria A, B, and/or C</i>
2	2	Boat Docks	2001	Ineligible (outside district boundary)	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
3	3	Gazebo	1987	Noncontributing	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
4	4	General Store	1959; c.1995	Noncontributing	Constructed after period of significance; <i>loss of integrity</i>
5	-	Garage	c.1958	<i>Nonextant</i>	<i>Nonextant</i>
6	-	Restroom	c.1972	<i>Nonextant</i>	<i>Nonextant; replaced with resource #43</i>
7	5	Gas House	1929; 2007 (moved)	Contributing	<i>Retains sufficient integrity to communicate historic associations under Criteria A, B, and/or C</i>
8	6	Storage Cabin (Chow Hall)	c.1930	Contributing	<i>Retains sufficient integrity to communicate historic associations under Criteria A, B, and/or C</i>
9	7	Cabin #1 (Rustic Cabin #1-2)	1929-1930	Contributing	<i>Retains sufficient integrity to communicate historic associations under Criteria A, B, and/or C</i>
10	8	Cabin #2 (Rustic Cabin #3-4)	1929-1930	Contributing	<i>Retains sufficient integrity to communicate historic associations under Criteria A, B, and/or C</i>
11	9, 48	Cabin #3 (aka #7 or Executive Cabin; Originally the Store)	c.1929; 1958	Contributing	<i>Retains sufficient integrity to communicate historic associations under Criteria A, B, and/or C</i>
12	10	Cabin #4 (Rustic Cabin #5-6)	1929-1930	Contributing	<i>Retains sufficient integrity to communicate historic associations under Criteria A, B, and/or C</i>
13	11	Cabin #5 (Pine Rest Motel)	1965	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
14	12	Cabin #6	1987	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
15	13	Cabin #7	c.1978	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
16	14	Cabin #8	1986	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
17	14	Cabin #9	1986	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
18	14	Cabin #10	1986	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
19	-	Cabin #11	c.1965	<i>Nonextant</i>	<i>Nonextant; replaced with resource #45</i>
20	15	Cabin #12 (Employee Housing)	c.1935; c.1966	Ineligible	<i>Constructed after period of significance and moved too far from NRHP-eligible historic core to justify inclusion</i>
21	16	Cabin #13	c.1980	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic

22	17	Cabin #14	c.1980	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
23	18	Cabin #15	1986	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
24	19, 20	Cabin #16	1976; c.2005	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; <i>out-of-scale addition compromises integrity and prevents eligibility</i>
25	21	Pump House	c.1978	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
26	-	Utility Shed	c.1983	<i>Nonextant</i>	<i>Nonextant</i>
27	30	Corral	c.1998	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
28	31	Tack House	c.1983	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
29	33	Hay Barn	c.1983	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
30	32	Barn/Shed	c.1983	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
31	34	Laundry/ Shower house	1978	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
32	35	Gas Station	1978	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
33	36	Employee mini-cabins (3ea.)	c.1984	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
34	37	Employee dormitory	1989	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
35	38	Shed	c.1983	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
36	39	Pump House	c.1983	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
37	22	Cabin #17	2001	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
38	23	Cabin #18	2001	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
39	24	Cabin #19	2001	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
40	25	Cabin #20	2001	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
41	26	Cabin #21	2001	Ineligible	Constructed after period of significance; not historic
42	-	Proposed New Shop	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Nonextant</i>	<i>Nonextant</i>
43	27	New Restrooms	c.2010	<i>Noncontributing</i>	<i>Constructed after period of significance; not historic; replaced resource #6</i>
44	28	Housekeeping Cabin	2002	<i>Ineligible</i>	<i>Constructed after period of significance; not historic</i>
45	29	Cabin #23	2002	<i>Ineligible</i>	<i>Constructed after period of significance; not historic; replaced resource #19</i>

Adjusted Assessments

The following buildings are those for which eligibility assessments have been updated and/or have been constructed since 2001.

13. Cabin #5 (Pine Rest Motel)

Eligibility: Ineligible

Date of Construction: 1965

Photograph Number(s): 11

Updated Evaluation: The 2001 study stated that “According to Coiner (2001), he built this 55-foot x 28-foot four-plex building around 1965 and it was used as a motel. It is likely one of the new motel units referenced in a c.1960’s Redfish Lodge brochure. Coiner had a photograph of the building from that period. It has cedar siding, a wooden shake roof, and a plank deck across the front. A four-plex building is listed with the 1972 Bill of Sale inventory with an acquisition date of 1968. “

Previous documentation assessed this building as outside the period of significance and thus ineligible and drawn outside the NRHP-eligible historic district boundaries. The current study reexamined this building’s eligibility and, per consultation with SHPO (on-site August 2016), it was again found to be ineligible.

While the building is of sufficient age and integrity, it does not have the characteristics that make it a good representative of properties associated with the primary significance of the Redfish Lake Lodge, which is early twentieth century rustic recreational outdoors activity. Additionally, this building does not possess the physical features necessary to clearly convey aspects of the 1960s Operation Outdoors context in the USFS, nor of the important post-WWII era in the Sawtooth NF. Though Cabin #5 (Pine Rest Motel) dates to an important era in the history of the area, it does not have identified direct associations with nor does it clearly communicate these contexts.

20. Cabin #12

Eligibility: Ineligible

Date of Construction: c.1950

Photograph Number(s): 15; Historic Photo(s): 45, 48, 51

Updated Evaluation: The 2001 survey dated this building to c.1966. However, it is shown on a 1958 planning map of the Lower Compound at its original location W-SW of the lodge, where it is shown with the notation “QTRS.” The building’s design, materials, and construction techniques suggest a possibly earlier construction date which has yet to be corroborated.

According to the 2001 survey, the building has been moved twice, arriving at its current location in the late 1980s. It currently serves as employee housing. Though moved since its original construction, relocation of buildings at Redfish Lake, and throughout USFS recreational sites, was common and does not compromise the overall ability of the building to clearly communicate its historic associations. Previous documentation assessed this building as outside the period of significance and thus ineligible and drawn outside the NRHP-eligible historic district boundaries. This study reexamined this building’s eligibility and, per consultation with SHPO, (on-site August 2016), it was again found to be ineligible.

Though this building is of sufficient age and significance, its location well outside the historic core of the recreational ‘compound’ creates a disconnect between the sense of past place and time. The building is not of sufficient significance to justify the boundaries to be extended so far north, which would also require the inclusion of two noncontributing buildings (#13 and #44). If the building were moved back into the historic core area, it could be reevaluated for potential eligibility as a contributing resource to the historic district.

43. New Restrooms

Eligibility: Noncontributing

Date of Construction: c.2010

Photograph Number(s): 27

Description: This side-gabled building has poured concrete walls formed to mimic the appearance of logs. The primary (SE) elevation features a cross gable projecting slightly over the two, separate recessed restroom entrances. Additional features include: exposed rafter tails; single, six-light windows; and square corner posts.

History & Significance: This building replaced the earlier c.1972 restrooms (resource #6), which were counted as noncontributing in 2001 and are no longer extant. This building is not yet fifty years of age and is thus not yet contributing to the NRHP-eligible historic district.

44. Housekeeping Cabin

Eligibility: Ineligible

Date of Construction: 2002

Photograph Number(s): 28

Description: This one-story log building has a gabled roof aligned generally north-south. The primary entrance is centrally located in the east elevation. Additional features include: paired six-over-six windows; relatively long log tails at wall corners; and two sets of double-leaf doors in the south elevation that access linen and other utility storage.

History & Significance: This cabin was constructed since the last documentation of the Redfish Lake Lodge Complex. This building is not yet fifty years of age and is thus not eligible for inclusion in the nearby NRHP-eligible historic district.

45. Cabin #23

Eligibility: Ineligible

Date of Construction: 2002

Photograph Number(s): 29

Description: This one-story log building has a gable-front roof aligned generally north-south. The primary entrance is off-center in the south elevation. Additional features include: single and paired six-over-six windows; relatively long log tails at wall corners; and a concrete foundation.

History & Significance: This building replaced the earlier c.1965 Cabin #11 (resource #19), which were counted as noncontributing in 2001 and are no longer extant. This building is not yet fifty years of age and thus is not eligible for inclusion in the nearby NRHP-eligible historic district.

Previous documentation from 2001 (SHPO Report No. 2002/147; SW-01-2127) identified the period of significance as ending in 1933, with discussion of recreational contexts up through around 1940. To avoid redundancy, only historic context from c.1940 through the mid-1970s is included herein.

HISTORY and SIGNIFICANCE

The Redfish Lake Lodge Complex comprises a historic recreation area on the north shore of Redfish Lake in the vicinity of Stanley, Custer County, Idaho, within the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA). It is eligible for listing in the National Register for its local significance under Criterion A in the area of ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION. The NRHP-eligible area includes the contiguous grouping of recreational resources that retain integrity and continue to reflect the early 20th century development of the lodge area.

Previous documentation also found the historic district to be eligible under Criteria B and C. The complex was found to be eligible under Criterion B in the area of ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION for its associations with early Idaho outdoors tourism promoter Robert W. Limbert, and under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE as a good example of early 20th century recreational Rustic style architecture. The current reevaluation concurs with these assessments and no additional research or documentation was required.

Previous documentation found the lodge complex to be additionally eligible under Criterion B for associations with Joe Blackman² because of his having been Custer County's first black citizen and having worked as a carpenter in the early construction of the lodge and associated buildings. Though this association is notable and important, reexamination per National Register Bulletin *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* resulted in a different assessment. Per NRHP guidelines, "A property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group. It must be shown that the person gained importance within his or her profession or group."³ Additionally, for a property to be eligible under Criterion B, it should be "associated with a person's *productive* life, reflecting the time period when he or she achieved significance."⁴ By most accounts, Blackman [sic] was known locally for being a freed slave and pioneer miner, not as a carpenter. As such, it is questionable that having worked as a carpenter at Redfish Lake Lodge in the last years of his life was sufficient of a connection to the site to justify it being eligible under Criterion B for associations with Blackman [sic].

The NRHP-eligible area encompasses ten (10) resources constructed between c.1923 and c.2010 of which are seven (7) contributing buildings, two (2) noncontributing buildings, and one (1) noncontributing structure. The lodge complex is locally significant in the area of Recreation for its associations with the expansion of recreational activity in the U.S. Forest Service during the early-to-mid-20th century. The NRHP-eligible area's resources communicate historic trends in recreational development, physically representing the spectrum of visitor amenities over time. The NRHP-eligible area's period of significance begins in circa c.1923 with the construction of the earliest building, and ends in 1933, the year of Limbert's death and the end of his association with the property. The period of significance acknowledges historic alterations in response to specific functional needs and counts resources that experienced such alterations within the period of significance as contributing elements.

² Most accounts give his name as George Blackmon (1854-1936).

³ National Register Bulletin *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, 15.

⁴ Ibid.

RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST & REDFISH LAKE

The Great Depression and New Deal Programs

The 1929 stock market crash forced nearly half of the nation's banks to insolvency and the resulting drastic reductions in spending and production led to a sharp rise in unemployment nationwide. Little private commercial development occurred during the Great Depression and the only significant construction nationwide took place through public building projects.

The programs of the Works Progress Administration (WPA; renamed Work Projects Administration in 1939), the Public Works Administration (PWA), and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) significantly impacted not only the state's economic conditions, but also the Idaho landscape. These programs provided funding and manpower to state and local governments, as well as federal agencies, for the construction of public improvements, such as buildings, roads, bridges, and dams in order to provide jobs and stimulate the local economy. Thousands of Idaho citizens found work through the WPA and CCC, and the state ranked eighth nationwide in receipt of New Deal allocations that funded more than two hundred public buildings.⁵ Federal expenditures during this period also strengthened the regional transportation network. In Idaho, federal work programs spurred "the most active period of highway and bridge construction" to date."⁶

In particular, these federal programs spurred significant improvements on National Forest lands. With New Deal appropriations came funding for USFS projects including campgrounds, water systems, sanitary facilities, recreational areas, and so forth. In the Sawtooth NF, and specifically at Redfish Lake, New Deal projects included construction of the Redfish Lake campground and Redfish Lake Guard Station, as well as major improvements to the Redfish Lake Road. The 1937 WPA tourist guide to Idaho, *Idaho: A Guide in Word and Picture*, highlighted Redfish Lake in its detailed description of the tourist amenities along US 93 (present-day Idaho State Highway 75). Interestingly, it stated, "The hotel and cabins on Big Redfish have never been opened (for reasons which seem quite mysterious), but boats can be rented and campsites are many."⁷

By the onset of World War II, Redfish Lake boasted a lodge, a gas house, a store, and five rental cabins (Resource #s 1, 7-12, 20). The Sawtooth NF had evolved from its grazing and natural resource extraction character to a vast multi-use area with increasingly more recreational uses. In 1940, 6,000 visitors were reported at Redfish Lake.⁸ As stated in the Forest's own history written in 1940, "Looking into the future, it is our conclusion that all uses of the forest will be closely correlated, a place found for each use, and administered for the greatest good to the greatest number in the long run."⁹

Post-World War II Era

The general disruption of private construction resulting from the Great Depression continued after the United States entered World War II, and as the nation refitted for wartime production, public works efforts also largely ceased. By the end of World War II, almost twenty years had passed during which the Great Depression and wartime restrictions had severely constrained construction, maintenance, and new development. Thus, there was a real and psychological need nationwide for new, clear symbols of progress. Deferred maintenance of the nation's buildings and infrastructure during the War and improved economic conditions in the decades following led to road and building improvements nationwide. The auto industries refitted for automobile manufacturing, which had been ceased during the War, and consumer demand skyrocketed as Americans hit the road and the Baby Boom ensued; Idaho experienced a 13 percent population increase during the 1950s, and another 7 percent increase in the 1960s, reaching over 713,000 residents in 1970.

Mass migration into the city a generation before the World War II spurred a nostalgic interest in recreational exploration of the great outdoors in Post-War America. This return to that generation's rural roots coupled with the rise of the middle

⁵ Elizabeth Egleston, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Public School Buildings in Idaho," (Boise, Idaho: Idaho State Historical Society, 1991), E-2.

⁶ Rebecca Herbst, *Idaho Bridge Inventory*, Volume 1 (Boise, Idaho: Idaho Transportation Department, 1983), 33.

⁷ Works Progress Administration, Federal Writers' Projects, *Idaho: A Guide in Word and Picture* (Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, 1937), 283.

⁸ Godfrey, Matthew, *Report on Navigability, Title, and Historic Uses of Redfish Lake* (Missoula: Historical Research Associates, Inc., 2003), 25.

⁹ Richa Wilson, *A Sudden Influx of Ample Funds: Administrative Facilities of the Sawtooth National Forest, 1905-1960* (Ogden, UT: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Sawtooth National Forest, 2009), 16.

class, its increasing reliance on the automobile, and the vast improvement in access to National Forest lands accomplished first during the New Deal and followed by infrastructure investment after the War allowed for unprecedented visitation to the forests in the 1950s. Recreational tourism grew rapidly nationwide during this period, with visits to national forests increasing by 213 percent between 1949 and 1959, for a total of 81.5 million visits.¹⁰ Despite the closure of Redfish Lake Lodge for the duration of the War, tourism quickly rebounded with 10,000 people vacationing at the lake in 1947.¹¹ During this period, to meet the demand predicted by the USFS and its statistical analysis for Sawtooth NF, agency managers expanded the Redfish Lake Guard Station site acreage (SW-302, 10-CR-841) in 1949, constructed the rustic amphitheater, and reserved 897 acres around Redfish in 1955 for recreational development.

Though New Deal relief funds had allowed for the construction of numerous recreation facilities, after World War II, Congress neglected to allocate funds for maintenance or construction and the nation's public land managers struggled to meet the increasing public demand for amenities and services.¹² Existing forest hotel and resort amenities across the nation (including those at Redfish Lake) saw nearly 3.3 million visitors in 1955.¹³ In response, the National Park Service (NPS) implemented "Mission 66" in 1956; a ten-year program garnering "Congressional appropriations to sustain and expand the nation's parks by managing circulation, repairing and constructing infrastructure, providing appropriate facilities, and educating the public about resources."¹⁴ The following year, and in direct response to the NPS Mission 66 initiative, the USFS implemented "Operation Outdoors," a program meant to improve recreational amenities for the ever-increasing number of visitors. Operation Outdoors anticipated an exponential growth in public use of forest lands by 1962 and outlined a "Five-year Program for Recreation."¹⁵ By 1960, an additional 1,430 acres had been set aside and by 1965; this land featured two new campgrounds and a boat launch at the lake.¹⁶ The agency's crowning achievement of the period was the completion of the Redfish Lake Visitors Center in 1962 and its opening to the public in 1963. Over 700 people visited the new center every weekend in its first year.¹⁷

Key policies of the USFS plan would affect Redfish Lake and both its public and private recreational amenities. Policies outlined under "Operation Outdoors" specified that "public service facilities" including resorts and motels would not be constructed by the USFS but left to "competent concessioners" who would "be encouraged to develop such facilities under special-use permit in locations where there is a public need for such facilities and services."¹⁸

These concessioners included Robert Coiner and C. Robert Tucker, the owners of Redfish Lake Enterprises, Inc., who responded to the increased demand on their facilities by requesting a special use permit in 1960.¹⁹ The permit allowed them to maintain and operate "cabins, store, service station, restaurant, lounge (bar), boat rentals, pier and boat landings, and trailer parking areas."²⁰ (These improvements were first specified in a site plan executed by a Forest Service landscape architect in March of 1958.)²¹ By 1961, agency documentation noted that "Our permittees are expending considerable sums for recreational developments at Redfish Lake."²² Execution of the special use permit and implementation of the 1958 site plan was largely completed by 1970. Historic photos illustrate that the lodge façade was partially remodeled between 1967 and 1970 when the front porch was enclosed, large windows facing the lake were installed, and a flat-roofed

¹⁰ Richa Wilson, *History and Significance of the Redfish Lake Visitor Center Sawtooth National Forest* (Ogden, UT: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Sawtooth National Forest, 2001), 2.

¹¹ Godfrey, 31.

¹² Wilson, *Redfish Lake Visitor Center*, 2.

¹³ USDA, *Operation Outdoors*, 13.

¹⁴ Wilson, *Redfish Lake Visitor Center*, 2.

¹⁵ U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service, *Operation Outdoors* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1957), 6.

¹⁶ Godfrey, 32.

¹⁷ Wilson, *Redfish Lake Visitor Center*, 9.

¹⁸ USDA, *Operation Outdoors*, 6.

¹⁹ Godfrey, 33.

²⁰ Godfrey, 33.

²¹ Roshanna Stone and Richa Wilson, *Redfish Lake Lodge Historic District Site SW-1446 (10CR1504) Evaluation* (Ogden, UT: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Sawtooth National Forest, 2001), 3.

²² Godfrey, 29.

porch was added.²³ Other major improvements at the site during this era include the construction of a new general store in 1959, a garage and other utilitarian structures in 1960, and “two new and very modern 4-plex motels” completed in 1965 and 1966.²⁴ (See resource #s 4, 5, 13, 19.)

Architectural trends of the post-war age – clean, horizontal lines, an emphasis on function, and an absence of unnecessary ornamentation – were not always easily accommodated in recreational facilities that had to respond to specific uses and climactic conditions. Shallow-pitched roofs and daringly cantilevered eaves were rare in forest structures. However, the adoption of innovative materials and floor plan concepts that promoted ease of functionality were trends that found a use in the forest as well as the city.

At Redfish Lake, the 1962 Redfish Lake Visitors Center employs the architectural vocabulary of Post-War America with the greatest success. The building’s “plywood and T1-11 siding, exposed glue-lam beams, and exposed tongue-and-groove roof decking,” as well as its dramatic shed roof, expansive windows, and stone accents, best illustrate the design trends of the mid-century nation.²⁵ Improvements at Redfish Lodge made use of stylistic innovations to a lesser degree. That said, plate glass picture windows on the lodge building’s lakeside elevation and its flat-roofed porch resting on exposed glue-lam beams illustrate the inescapability of certain concepts and technological innovations. Both the 1959 general store and the 1965 “motel” (Cabin #5) buildings (resource #s 4,13) reflect the horizontality and absence of unnecessary ornamentation expected in a building of that time period.

Establishment of Sawtooth National Recreation Area & Late 20th Century Developments

The general growth in tourism at Redfish Lake and throughout the surrounding region of the Sawtooth Mountain Range reignited interest by proponents of an effort to designate the Sawtooths as a national park.²⁶ Efforts to affect such a designation ebbed and flowed before and after World War II with support and opposition in equal measure. Finally, in 1966, Idaho Senator Len Jordan proposed the creation of a National Recreation Area – a fairly new concept for the management of federal lands. It would allow continued oversight by the USFS, which would permit more liberal uses of the region (grazing, hunting, mining, timber harvest, and so forth) while providing a more active emphasis on recreation and preventing an administrative dispute with the National Park Service. Congress designated 754,000 acres as the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA) in 1972.²⁷

Establishment of the SNRA was actively supported by management of the Redfish Lake Lodge who had seen and responded to the unprecedented Post-War growth in tourism at the lake.²⁸ The number of tourists at the Visitor’s Center increased to nearly 24,000 annual visitors in 1971.²⁹ Designation of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area in 1972 facilitated an additional expansion in services and amenities during the 1970s. Under new owners Donald and Jack See who acquired the lodge in 1971, temporary tent and trailer pads were replaced with permanent buildings.³⁰ The Sees “removed the icehouse, remodeled the garage, added to the lodge and the store, relocated the gas station, and built rental cabins, a manager’s cabin, and a public restroom. In addition, See reconstructed horse corrals, and erected stock buildings, a laundry/shower house, and cabins for employees” at the Upper Compound.^{31,32}

²³ Richa Wilson, *Redfish Lake Lodge Historic District Assessment of Proposed New Store/Lodge* (Ogden, UT: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Sawtooth National Forest, 2010), 20.

²⁴ Stone and Wilson, 15-20.

²⁵ Wilson, *Redfish Lake Visitor Center*, 15.

²⁶ Designation of the region as a park had been first proposed in 1911. Godfrey, 33.

²⁷ Godfrey, 34-35.

²⁸ Godfrey, 35.

²⁹ Wilson, *Redfish Lake Visitor Center*, 9.

³⁰ Stone and Wilson, 4.

³¹ Godfrey, 37-39.

³² Stone and Wilson, 23.

Under the present owner, Arlen Crouch, who purchased the lodge in 1999,³³ Redfish Lake Lodge coordinates facility maintenance and development through a Special Use Permit with the Sawtooth National Forest (USFS). The historic complex continues to be actively used for its original recreational purpose and remains an important amenity in the Sawtooth NF, receiving as many as one million visitors annually.³⁴

PAUL FRITZ & LEE BARON

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Paul Fritz (c.1929-2000) graduated with a degree in landscape architecture from Utah State University and in 1958 began his federal career a landscape architect and recreation planner for the Intermountain Region of the USFS. In this capacity, he developed outdoor recreation and/or classification plans at Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area (Ashley NF), oversaw survey and expansion of recreational areas in the Salmon and Bridger NFs, and drew up the original plans for Pomerelle Ski Area, as well as designed the 1958-59 Redfish plan in cooperation with USFS landscape architect, Lee Baron (see photo #45, 46 below).

After three years with the USFS, he transitioned to the National Park Service in 1961. As a landscape architect for the NPS, he worked at Flaming Gorge NRA, Crater Lake National Park, served on the study team for establishment of Redwoods National Park, and became project supervisor and landscape architect for Canyonlands National Park. In 1966, Fritz became superintendent at Craters of the Moon, where he was a lifelong advocate for its designation as a National Park. He later was instrumental in the drawing of the original boundary for the 1.5 million-acre Hells Canyon/Chief Joseph National Park and Preserve. After retiring in the 1980s, Fritz shifted to volunteering and activism with various conservation organizations, including the Hells Canyon Preservation Council on which he served from 1989 through 1995.

Lee Baron (born c.1930), a native of Utah, graduated from Utah State University in 1958 with a degree in landscape architecture. He immediately went to work for the U.S. Forest Service and collaborated with fellow USU grad, Paul Fritz, on the 1958-59 plan for Redfish Lake. By 1965, Baron was teaching in the Landscape Architecture program and involved with campus planning at Utah State University. A 1974 article in the *Salt Lake City Tribune* mentioned Lee Baron as working for the Wasatch National Forest at the time.³⁵

³³ Stone and Wilson, 5.

³⁴ Godfrey, 39.

³⁵ "Landscape Architects," *Salt Lake City Tribune*, March 1, 1974, G9.

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"Craters of the Moon has a stab a becoming a national park," *The Deseret News*, November 22, 1989, 39.

"Paul Fritz," *Hells Canyon Falcon* Vol 10 No. 1, January 2001, 2.

FIGURE 1 – LOCATION MAP

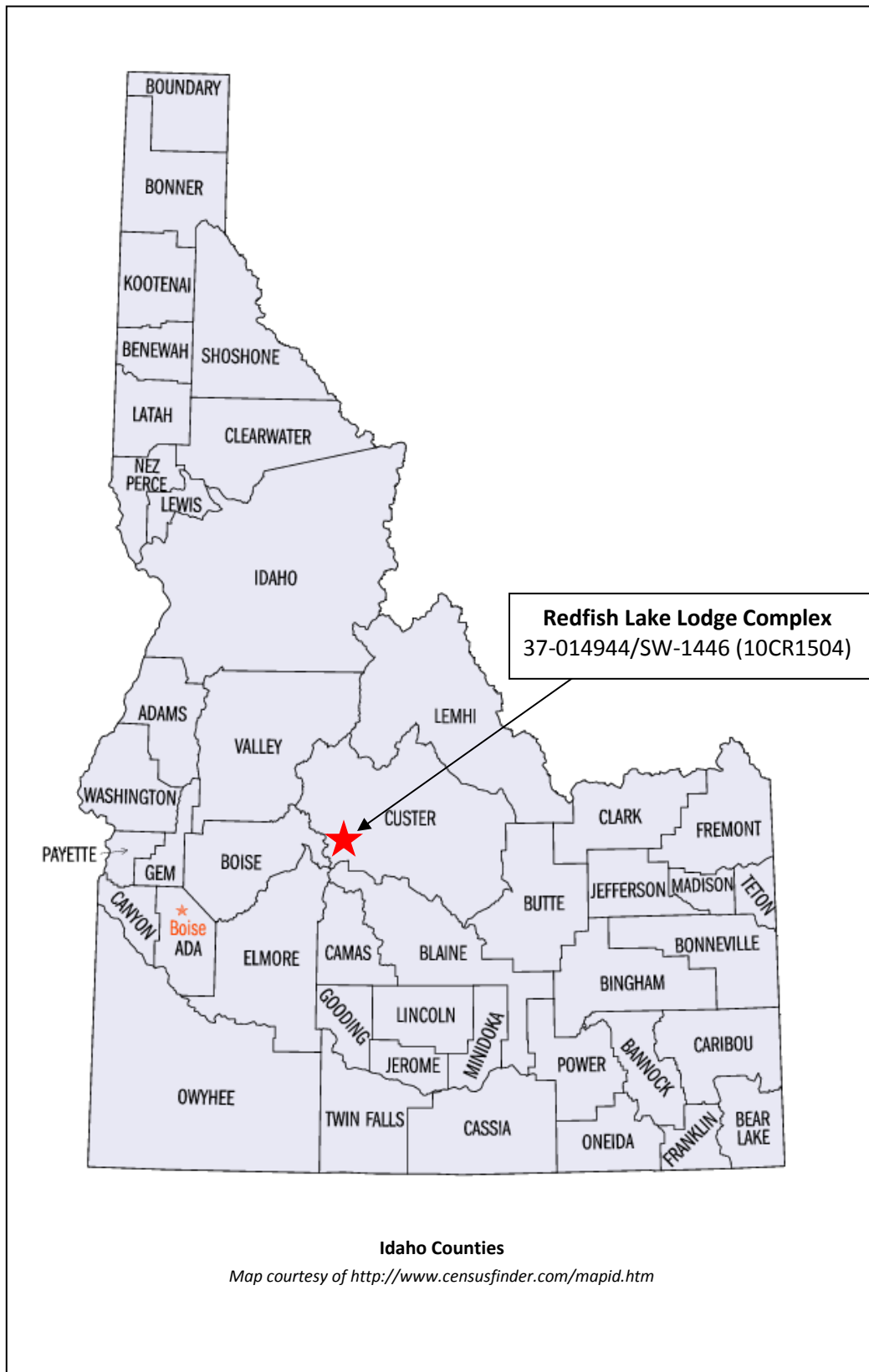


FIGURE 2 – USGS QUADRANGLE MAP

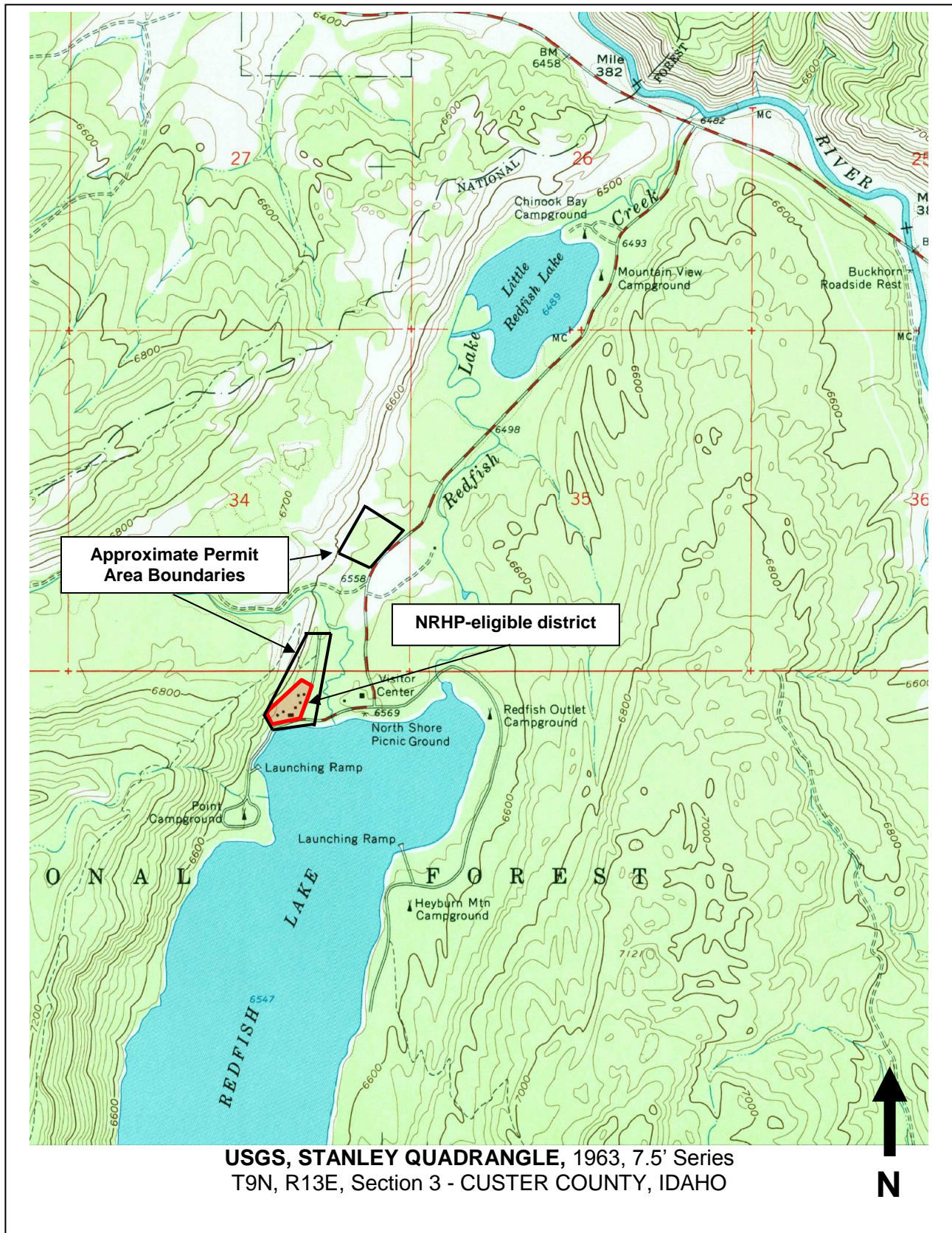


FIGURE 3 – NRHP-ELIGIBLE HISTORIC DISTRICT MAP

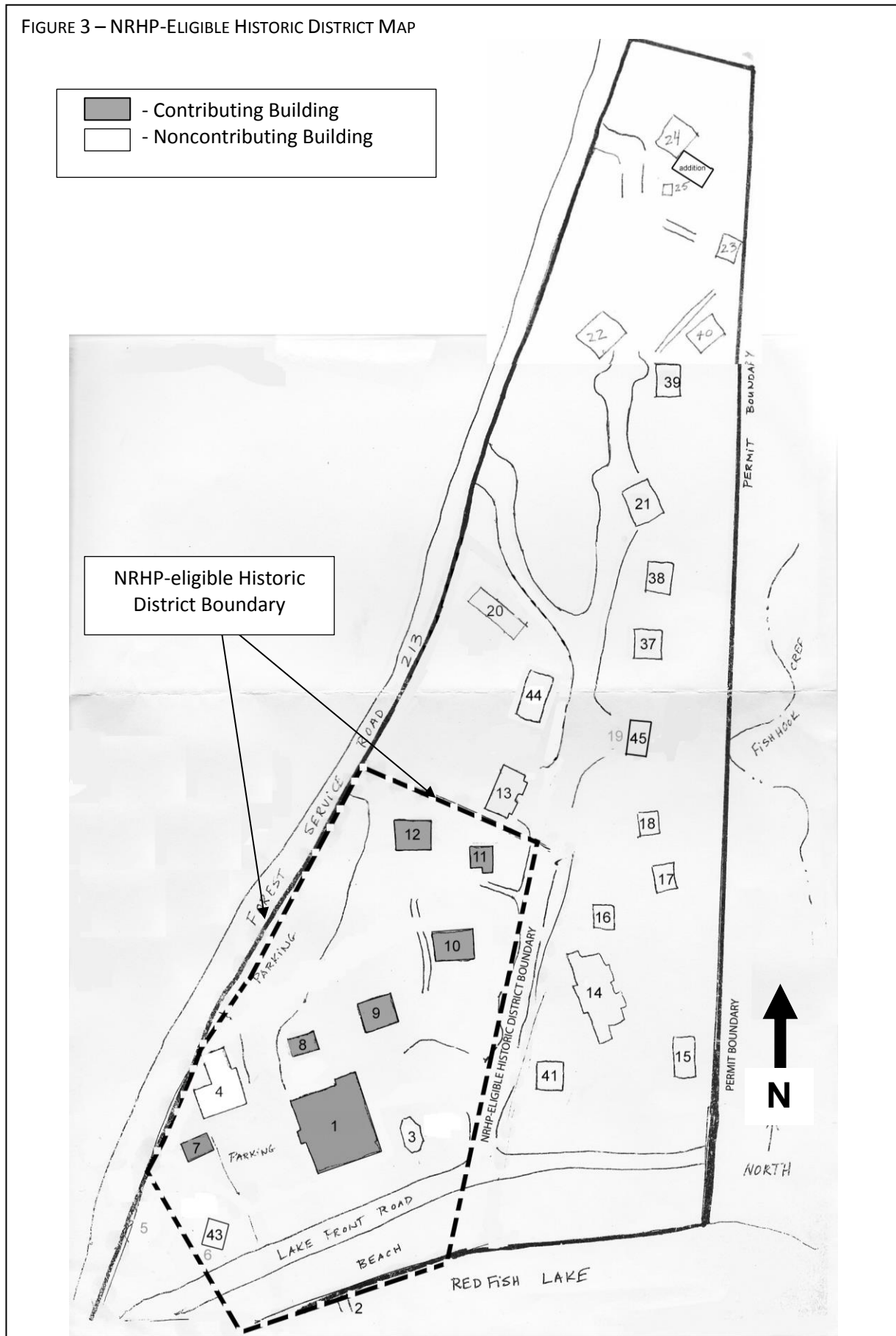
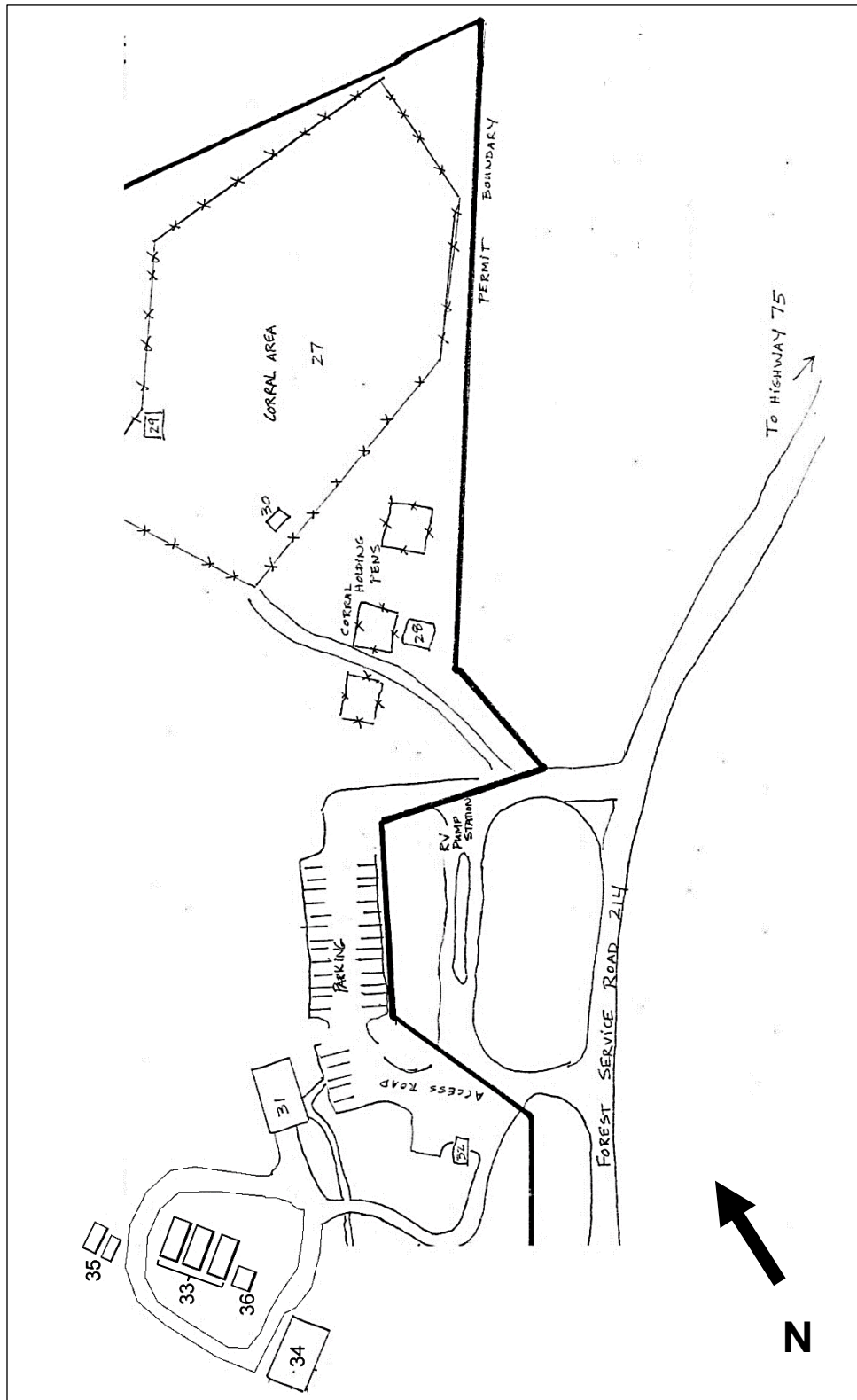


FIGURE 4 – UPPER COMPOUND MAP



PHOTOS – LOWER COMPOUND



01. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Main Lodge Building, view NE, September 2015



02. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Boat Docks, view SE, September 2015



03. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Gazebo, view SE, September 2015



04. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, General Store, view NW, September 2015



05. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Gas Station, view S-SW, September 2015



06. Redfish Lake Lodge Storage Cabin, view SE, September 2015



07. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #1, view N, September 2015



08. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #2, view N-NE, September 2015



09. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #3, view N-NE, September 2015



10. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #4, view NW, September 2015



11. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #5, view SW, September 2015



12. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #6, view E-SE, September 2015



13. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #7, view NE, September 2015



14. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabins #8-10, view E, September 2015



15. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #12, view N-NW, September 2015



16. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #13, view SE, September 2015



17. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #14, view N, September 2015



18. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #15, view NE, September 2015



19. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #16, view N-NE, September 2015



20. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #16, post-2001 addition, view N-NE, September 2015



21. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Pump House, view SE, September 2015



22. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #17, view NW, September 2015



23. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #18, view N-NE, September 2015



24. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #19, view N, September 2015



25. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #20, view S-SW, September 2015



26. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #21, view N-NE, September 2015



27. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, New Restrooms, view SW, September 2015



28. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Housekeeping Cabin, view NW, September 2015



29. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Cabin #23, view NE, September 2015

PHOTOS – UPPER COMPOUND



30. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Corral, view N, September 2015



31. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Tack House, view N, September 2015



32. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Barn/Shed, view N, September 2015



33. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Hay Barn, view NE, September 2015



34. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Laundry/Shower House, view N, September 2015



35. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Gas Station, view W, September 2015



36. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Employee Mini-cabins, view E, September 2015



37. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Employee Dormitory, view SW, September 2015



38. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Sheds, view N, September 2015



39. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, Pump House (far right), view N, September 2015

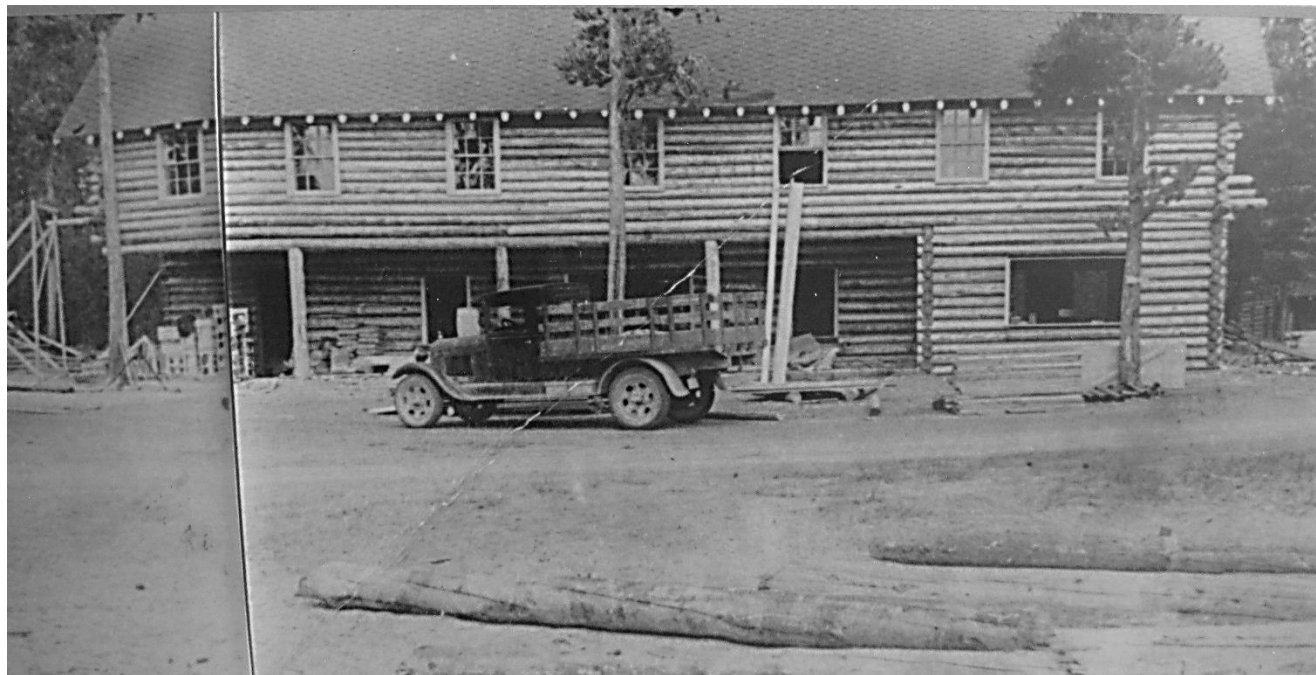
PHOTOS & PLANS – HISTORIC



40. Redfish Lake Lodge, view NW, c.1925
Courtesy Redfish Lake Lodge Collection



41. Redfish Lake Lodge, view N-NW, 1928
Courtesy Redfish Lake Lodge Collection



42. Redfish Lake Lodge, view N-NW, 1928-29

Courtesy Redfish Lake Lodge Collection



43. Redfish Lake Lodge (R), Gas House (L), Cabin #3 (center), view NW, 1928-29

Courtesy Redfish Lake Lodge Collection



Redfish Lake Lodge

44. Redfish Lake Lodge, 1931

Courtesy Limbert Collection, BSU Archives



Typical Double Cabin—each half accommodates three people and has its own fireplace.

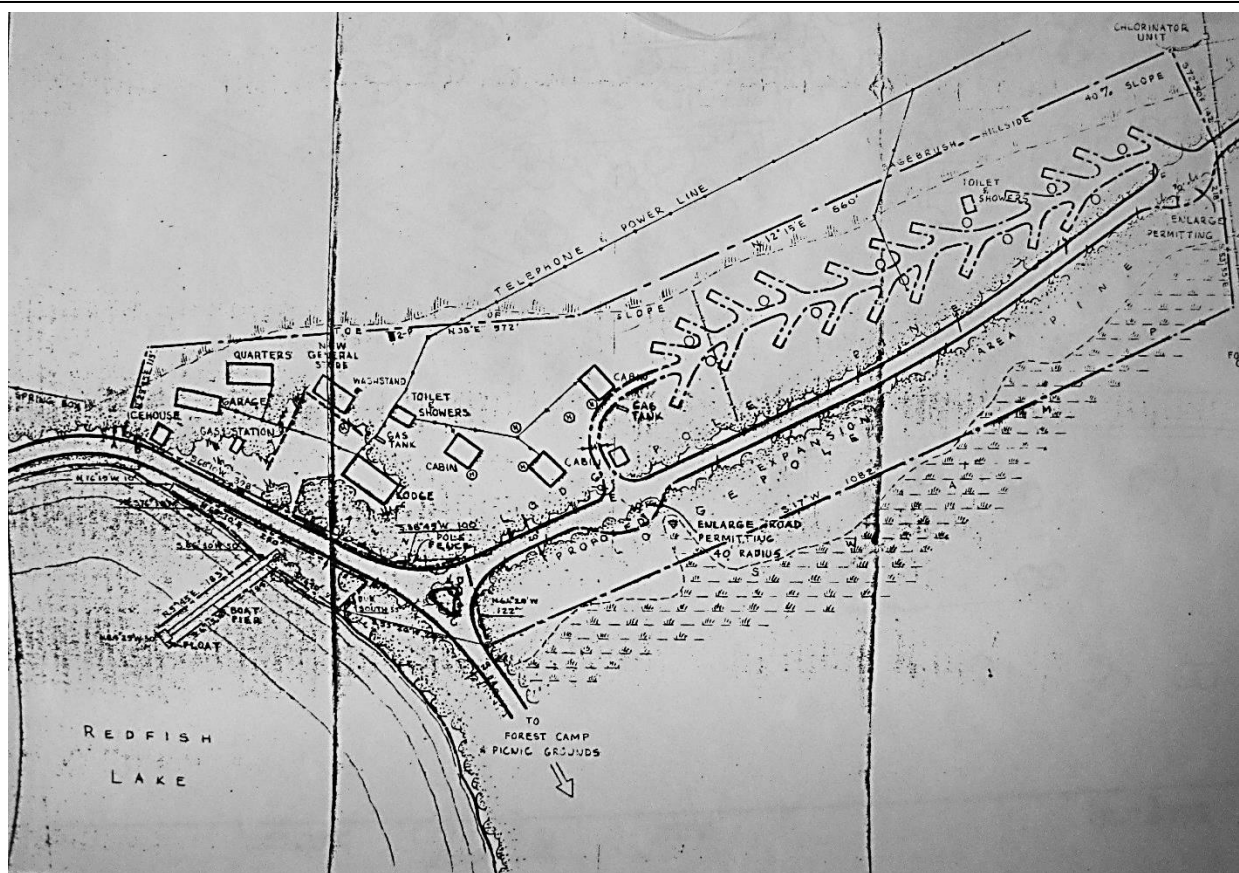
45. Redfish Lake Lodge (R), Main Lodge, 1931

Courtesy Limbert Collection, BSU Archives

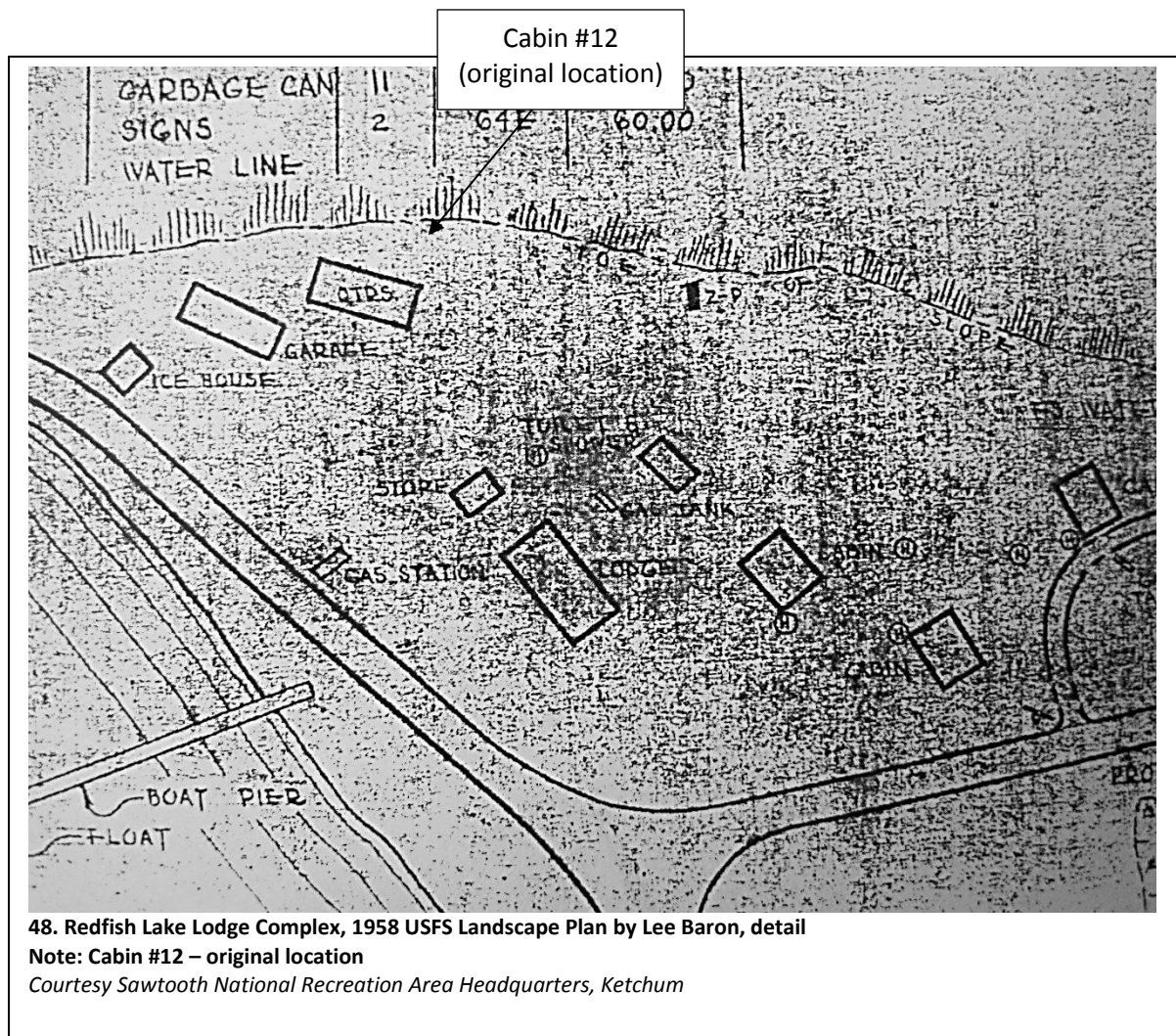


46. Redfish Lake Lodge (R), Cabin #3 (L), view NW, 1937

Courtesy USFS, CD414, 1Image33



47. Redfish Lake Lodge Complex, 1958 USFS Landscape Plan by Lee Baron, detail of Lower Compound
Courtesy Sawtooth National Recreation Area Headquarters, Ketchum

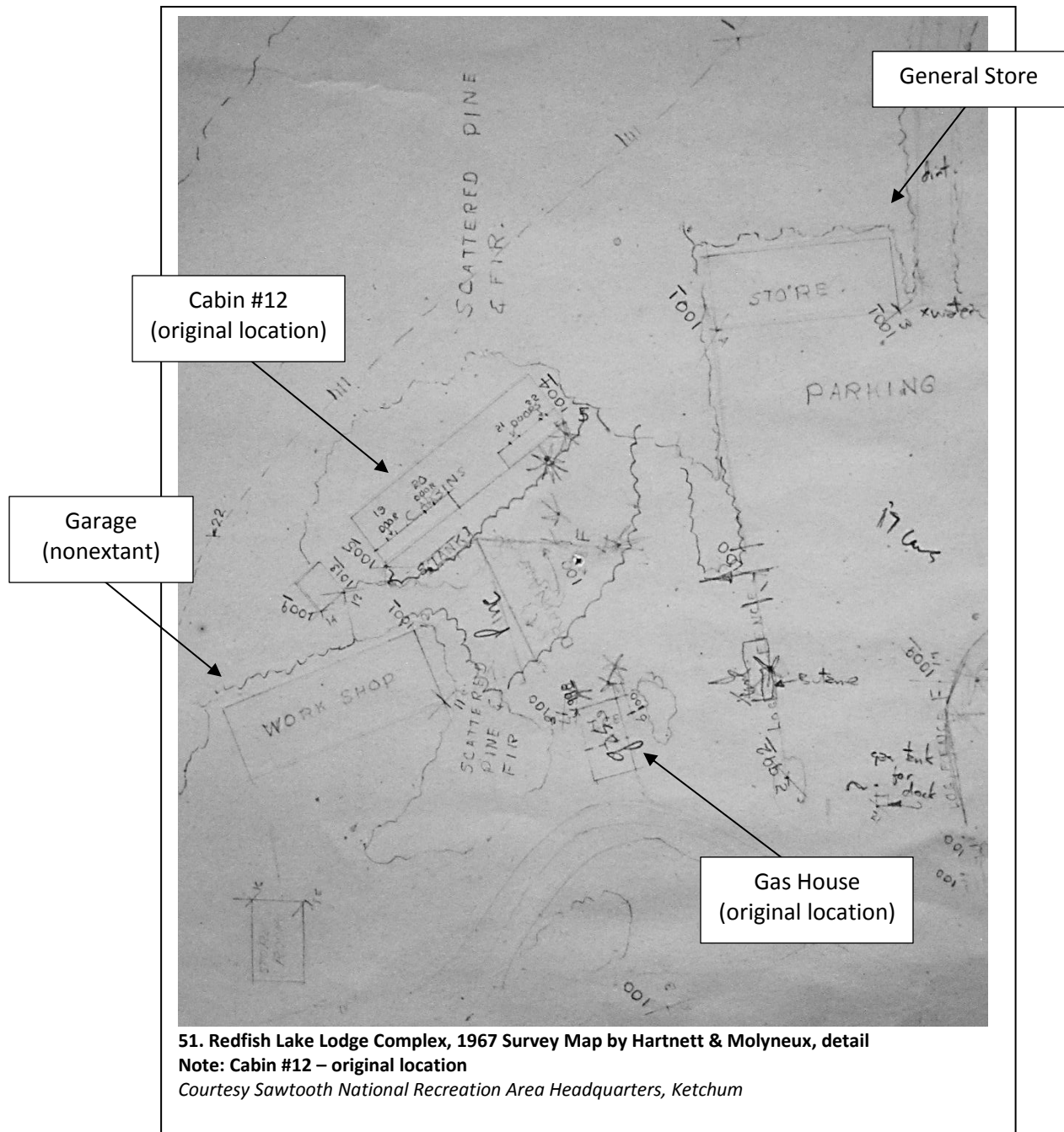




49. Redfish Lake Lodge, view N-NE, 1964
Courtesy USFS, Photo510499



50. Store (aka Trading Post; relocated and now Cabin #3 'Executive Cabin'), view NW at its original location, nd. *Courtesy Idaho State Archives, 77-164.14*





52. Redfish Lake Lodge (R) and General Store (L), view N-NW, 1967
Courtesy USFS, CD414, 1Image111



53. Redfish Lake Lodge (R) and General Store (L), view N-NW, 1970
Courtesy USFS, CD414, 2Image7
Note remodeled lodge façade