

1-23-73

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE:

Montana

COUNTY:

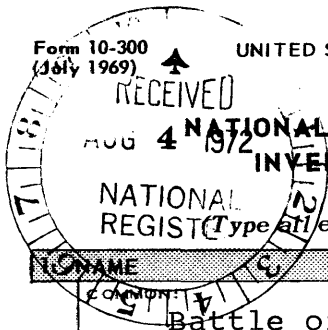
Big Horn

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

AUG 21 1972



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME
Battle of the Rosebud

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Crook's Fight on the Rosebud; Battle of Rosebud Creek

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

T-7-S R-39-E and T-7-S, R-38-E

CITY OR TOWN:

approximately 6 miles south of Kirby (Congressional District 2)

STATE

Montana

CODE

30

COUNTY:

Big Horn

CODE

003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
					<input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Elmer E. Kobold

STREET AND NUMBER:

Kirby Route

CITY OR TOWN:

Busby

STATE:

Montana

CODE

30

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Big Horn County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Hardin

STATE

Montana

CODE

30

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

State Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY:

Sept. 1968

Federal

State

County

Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

State Fish and Game Department

STREET AND NUMBER:

Mitchell Building

CITY OR TOWN:

Helena,

STATE:

Montana

CODE

30

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Montana

COUNTY: Big Horn

ENTRY NUMBER: AUG 21 1972

DATE: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

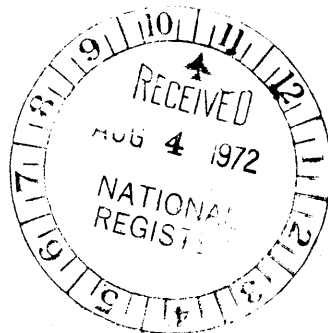
The battle took place on an extensive area of two to four miles of rolling, dry, low hills and breaks interspersed with gullies and dry creeks. The vegetative cover is one of undifferentiated grasses and sparse clumps of juniper and pine.

The area consists of rough pasture land and essentially remains unchanged from its original nature.

The site boundary encloses the major portion of the battlefield and does not include portions which lie on land belonging to owners presently unreceptive to nomination of their land to the National Register.

Beginning at the east section line of section 20 at its junction with the east-west gravel road, the boundary runs north to the midpoint of east side of Section 17, west 1 mile north to the midpoint of east side of section 7, west to the Crow Indian Reservation boundary, south 1/2 mile along the boundary then east to NW corner of section 18, south 1/4 mile, then east 1/2 mile, then south to the midpoint of section 19, then east to the midpoint of east side of section 19, then south 1 1/4 miles, then east 1 1/2 miles, then north 1/2 mile, then west 1/4 mile, north 1/2 mile, west 1/2 mile, then north to the beginning point on the gravel road.

NOTE: The integrity of this battlefield may be threatened in the near future because of strip coal mining activities under the auspices of the federal government.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Montana
COUNTY	Big Horn
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
AUG 21 1972	

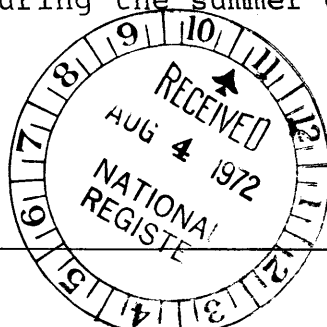
(Number all entries)

8. of cavalry to move down lowwalled Rosebud Canyon and to capture the hostile village he mistakenly believed existed here. Mill's foray proceeded until the Captain received word from Crook to return. The village went uncaptured for it actually lay twenty miles further north along Sundance (later Reno) Creek. In the meantime, the other troops had repulsed their attackers. The battle ended at 2:30 that afternoon, with the Indians returning to their village, which they later moved west into Little Big Horn River Valley.

Crook decided not to prosecute his tactical victory. At dawn June 18, he ordered a return to his base camp in Wyoming and the command moved south with casualties of ten men killed and twenty-two wounded. At Goose Creek, the General sent requests to Fort Fetterman for supplies and reinforcements. Crook remained at Goose Creek until August, and through most of the summer of 1876 the Wyoming column was inactive.

The Rosebud Battlefield represents a major conflict of the Indian wars period that deserves preservation for future generations. The site is historically significant for several reasons. The Rosebud battle involved a greater number of troops and resulted in fewer casualties than did the Little Big Horn Battle eight days later. Moreover, the fight constituted one of the largest Indian battles ever waged in the United States, and lasted for most of a day. In addition, the engagement was unusual in that Indian warriors launched an offensive drive against an army column; Indian fights of the period generally resulted from army assaults upon tribal villages.

In the configuration of the so-called Sioux War, the Rosebud battle warrants special prominence because of the consequent military disaster at the Little Big Horn. For one thing, the Sioux and Cheyenne warriors grew emboldened after their repulse of Crook's command, and became convinced in their determination to resist military pressure from all quarters. Furthermore, General Crook's subsequent failure to notify other principal army commanders, notable General Alfred H. Terry, doubtless led directly to the Custer tragedy. Although Crook claimed a tactical victory at Rosebud Creek the Indians had nevertheless successfully impeded his advance; Crook's tactical victory spelled strategical defeat for General Terry's plan for surrounding the Sioux and Cheyennes during the summer of 1876.



SIGNIFICANCE

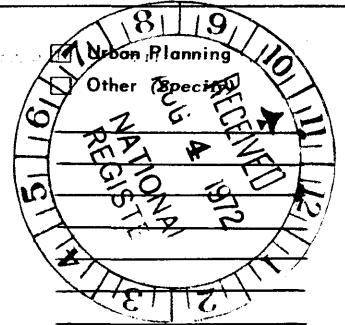
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE The Battle of Rosebud Creek occurred on June 17, 1876 and constituted a major engagement of the Sioux War of 1876-77. In compliance with a grand military strategical design for crushing the combined hostile elements of the Sioux and Northern Cheyenne Indians, Brigadier General George Crook, commanding the Military Department of the Platte, set out from Fort Fetterman, Wyoming, on May 29, with fifteen companies of cavalry and five of infantry. Crook's column was to coordinate movements with respective columns under Brigadier General Alfred H. Terry and Colonel John Gibbon, from Forts Lincoln, Dakota and Ellis, Montana. According to plan, Crook would effect a union with the others somewhere in the vicinity of the Yellowstone River.

During the march north from Fetterman, Crook's column was augmented by some sixty-five miners and over 250 Crow and Shoshone Indian scouts. The column totaled over 1300 men. Crook continued his advance amid news from his scouts that hostiles were nearby. At evening, June 16, the soldiers camped along the headwaters of the south fork of Rosebud Creek.

Early next morning as the column proceeded downstream, a lone shot rang out and several Crow scouts came racing their horses from the ridges to the North, followed by a horde of hostile warriors. Caught off their guard, the soldiers became disorganized, and the scouts rode out to meet the attackers. By the time the scouts fell back, Crook had managed to deploy his force and ordered a frontal charge by his cavalry to check the hostiles. The fight grew intense along the right flank of Crook's line, but soon action appeared to the left where the Crows and Shoshones charged bravely to halt pressure from Sioux warriors. At the center of the line, the miners and other civilians deployed behind rocks and successfully held the hostiles at bay.

The battle raged in this manner for nearly two hours, with the Indians mounting renewed assaults that often involved hand-to-hand combat. At about noon the right flank was cleared, permitting Crook to order Captain Anson Mills with eight companies

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Great Western Indian Fights. by Members of the Potomac Corral of the Westerners, Doubleday and Co., New York, 1960.

J. W. Vaughn. With Crook at the Rosebud, Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Penn., 1956.

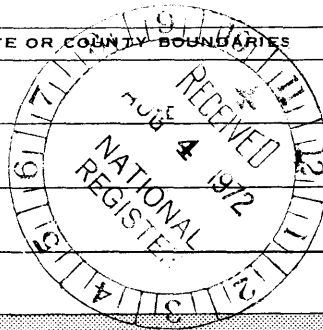
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	45	14	41.5	107	01	9.7			
NE	45	14	41.5	106	57	31.8			
SE	45	11	52.6	106	57	31.8			
SW	45	11	52.6	107	01	9.7			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2680

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Norman Guyaz, Asst. Planner & Project Administrator

ORGANIZATION: Montana Fish and Game Department DATE: 6-26-72

STREET AND NUMBER: Mitchell Building

CITY OR TOWN: Helena STATE: Montana CODE: 30

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Wesley R. Woodgerd

Title State Liaison Officer

Date June 26 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

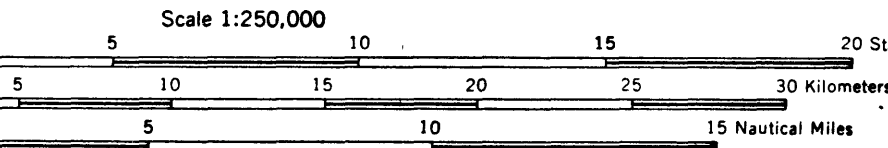
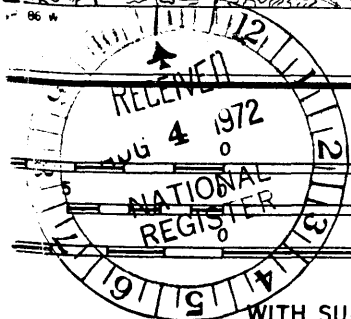
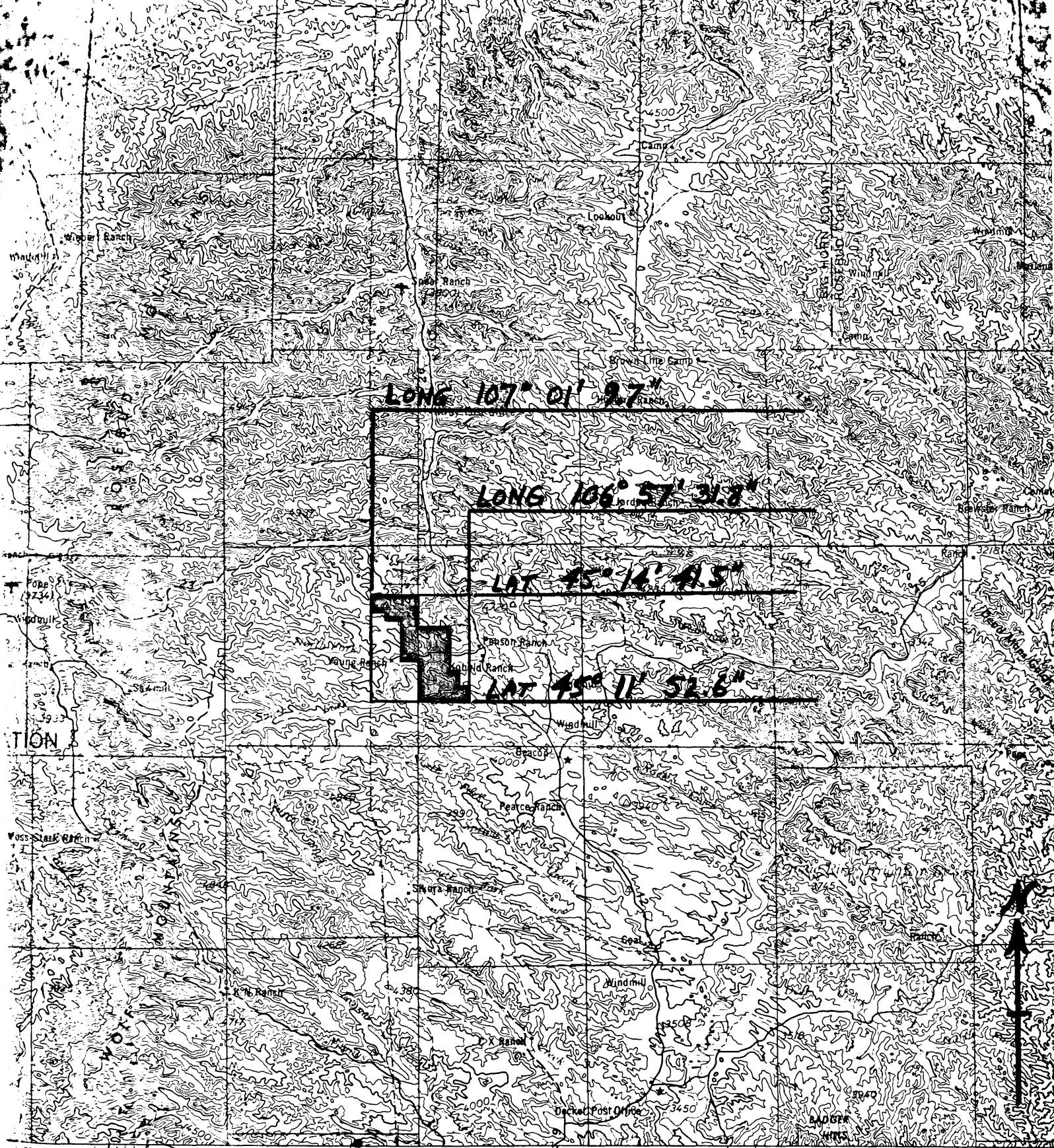
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/21/72

ATTEST: William H. Bennett
Keeper of The National Register

Date _____



CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET
WITH SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOURS AT 50 FOOT INTERVALS
TRANSVERSE MERCATOR PROJECTION

U.S.G.S
HARDIN, MONT.; WYOMING
1:250,000
1958

Form 10 301
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

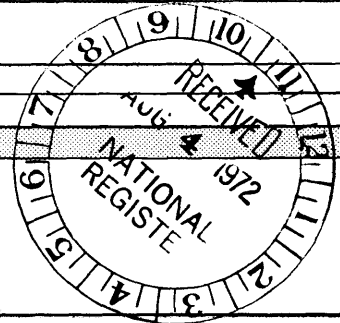
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Montana	
COUNTY Big Horn	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

AUG 21 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Battle of the Rosebud			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Crook's Fight on the Rosebud; Battle of Rosebud Creek			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: T-7-S, R-39-E and T-7-S, R-38-E			
CITY OR TOWN: Approximately 6 miles south of Kirby (Congressional District 2)			
STATE: Montana	CODE 30	COUNTY: Big Horn	CODE 003
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U. S. G. S. Hardin, Montana; Wyoming			
SCALE: 1 : 250,000			
DATE: 1958			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



Half Moon Hill
Earl V Ranch 104505