

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



758

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

other names/site number Buena Vista Rodeo Grounds, 5CF.2877

2. Location

street & number 2001 Gregg Drive N/A not for publication

city or town Buena Vista N/A vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Chaffee code 015 zip code 81211

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Abby K. Norton Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 9/23/14
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History

Colorado
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

 other (explain):

Joe Edson H. Beall 11.7.16
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

Chaffee, Colorado

Name of Property

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	3	buildings
0	0	district
1	0	site
1	2	structure
0	0	object
2	5	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: WPA Rustic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation:

walls: WOOD
STONE

roof: METAL

other: CONCRETE

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Physical Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources, if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

The 1940 Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds consist of a rodeo arena, corrals, grandstands, horse racetrack, and support buildings used for Buena Vista's annual rodeo. Located about 1.8 miles southwest of the center of Buena Vista, the grounds enjoy a striking view of the Collegiate Range and Mount Princeton to the west and southwest. Gregg Drive borders the site on the north and Rodeo Road (County Road 321) passes 0.3 miles to the east. The immediate vicinity is open and generally undeveloped to the west, south, and east; newer low density residential development lies to the north; and an aggregate extraction facility is located 0.3 miles to the northeast.

Elaboration

The nominated area contains two main resources: the overall site with rodeo arena and racetrack, and the grandstand, both of which are assessed as contributing. Five other resources, consisting of mostly small sheds and bleachers, are assessed as noncontributing. The corrals, racetrack, arenas, and other fences are considered elements of the site and are not counted separately. The resources are individually discussed below.¹

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Rodeo Grounds, Resource 1, 1940, Site, Photographs 1 through 16

The grounds, originally laid out by the Work Projects Administration (WPA) in 1940, occupy a level site (Resource 1), covering roughly 20.3 acres of a larger 356-acre assessor parcel and extending 1,310' north-south and 751' east-west. The WPA employed local men and used local materials, such as logs and cobblestones, in the project. There is no perimeter fence for the grounds, but its limits are roughly defined by bordering gravel roads. Near the northern end of the property an internal gravel road constructed in 2006 cuts east-west through the grounds. Large boulders line the south edge of this road and the south side of Gregg Drive. A roughly rectangular (293' X 144'), late-1990s practice arena is near the northeast corner. There are no trees or shrubs on the property. Spectators park in open areas surrounding the facility.

The rodeo grounds contain a 1940 oval half-mile-long dirt racetrack for horse racing. Although no longer used, the racetrack is clearly visible and defined by perimeter fencing. The racetrack is oriented north-south and has parallel east and west sides. The outer perimeter of the racetrack is bordered by a roughly 3'-high wood post fence with a top rail composed of narrow unpeeled logs notched and nailed to the top of the posts. The date of the fence is unknown; several posts and rails appear to be recent replacements. A straight section of racetrack, bordered by a lower fence of similar design, extends north off the northwest corner of the track.

The roughly oval rodeo arena is at the west-center of the racetrack's interior and covers about 1.1 acres. The texture of the arena surface is particularly important for rodeo events. Donald E. Hoover, who has been associated with the operation of the rodeo for more than fifty years, explained that rodeo volunteer Pat Schmidt developed a mixture of dirt, sand, and sawdust that provided give but was not sticky. The arena is enclosed with a ca. 1990s tall, white-painted metal fence composed of steel poles and open metal mesh (5" x 5" grid) welded to the poles. Gates are fabricated of the same

¹ Donald E. Hoover of Buena Vista provided information on construction dates and other building/structure details. Google Earth imagery between 1999 and 2013 was also used to date buildings and note changes in the grounds. Donald E. Hoover, Buena Vista, Colorado, Telephone Interviews by Thomas H. Simmons, 12 February 2013 and 2 May 2016.

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materials with sliding closers made of welded pipe with rebar handles. Warning signs on the fence caution: "Under Colorado law, an equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risk of equine activities."² Eight steel light poles with circular concrete bases provide lighting for the arena: four along the east side behind the bleachers and four along the fence in front of the grandstand.

At the south end of the arena is a raised ca. 2013 announcer's booth (Resource 4) with four gates for heavy stock (Brahma bulls and horses for bronco riding) below. A ca. 1990s corral complex is situated south of the booth. A large rectangular pen enclosed with metal posts and mesh fencing occupies its south half, while the north section includes an east-west alley, eight mostly rectangular smaller pens, and a chute leading to the gates. Fences in the north half are composed of steel posts with five tubular steel rails. A loading chute with a concrete base is located at the southeast corner of the corral. A shed (Resource 5) is near the northeast corner of the corral.

An alley composed of the same type of fencing used for the arena passes along its west side and connects to the corral area at the north end. This feature permits livestock to be moved between the north and south corrals. The ca. 1990s north corral at the northwest corner of the arena is used to hold roping stock such as calves. It is smaller than the south corral and contains two square pens to the north and three irregularly shaped pens to the south. A narrow alley along the east edge of the corral delivers livestock to a roping chute manufactured by Priefert of Mt. Pleasant, Texas. The chute opens onto the arena. Northeast of the arena is a roughly rectangular (291' X 148') fenced area used as a practice arena for barrel races.

A large open 1940 grandstand (Resource 2) faces the racetrack and arena at the west center of the property. Along the east edge of the arena are two bleachers: north bleachers of wood (Resource 3) and south metal bleachers (Resource 6). A small concession stand (Resource 7) is located east of the bleachers.

Alterations. The 1940 Work Projects Administration completion report references construction of a racetrack, grandstand, barn, and fences.³ The grandstand is still extant; the barn was removed at an unknown date. During the 1990s, the arena's wood fence (composed of wood posts and horizontal wood rails) and north and south corrals were reconstructed with steel post and wire mesh materials. Although the current north and south corral areas occupy the same locations as the 1940 ones, their configuration is not identical. Two small buildings and two bleachers have been added to the grounds since the 1990s. The east-west gravel road through the northern part of the property was constructed in 2006 and bisects the racetrack straightaway. Alignments of small boulders along the south side of that roadway and the south side of Gregg Drive were added between 2006 and 2011. The announcer's booth was built ca. 2013 after a ca. 1940 booth was destroyed by wind.

Grandstand, Resource 2, 1940, Structure, Photographs 17 through 23

Built by the Work Projects Administration (WPA) in 1940, the large open grandstand (123' X 26') faces east toward the racetrack and rodeo arena and is roughly equivalent in height to a two-story building. The support system of the grandstand consists of four rows of round wood logs atop low concrete bases, with additional logs providing horizontal and diagonal bracing. On the east, a cobblestone wall with a concrete cap extends across the base of the grandstand; the south half is somewhat obscured by a concrete pedestrian ramp with a metal tubular railing (added ca. 1990s). A wood railing is above the cobblestone wall.

² The sign cites Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-21-120.

³ Work Projects Administration, Colorado WPA Project 4537, Project Proposal and Record of Accomplishment, 1940, WPA Microfilm, Reel 1195, History Colorado, Denver, Colorado.

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The seating area is steeply raked and is composed of rows of painted board seats; the seating is divided into four sections by aisles with boxed board steps and can accommodate approximately four hundred spectators. Wood post and board railings clad with chain link fencing are present at the north and south ends of the seating area. At the north and south ends are wood landings with railings and wood steps extending west to ground level. Beneath the north stair landing is an enclosed area with concrete block walls and a plywood door on its north wall. A well head is located at the northeast corner of the grandstand.⁴ The asymmetrical gable roof of the grandstand is clad with corrugated metal and has overhanging eaves; exposed pole rafter tails are visible on the rear. Pole purlins project at each end with knee braces providing additional support. At the east center of the roof is a shed roof balcony, with a corrugated metal roof, board sides, and open front. The balcony served as the observation post for three judges during horse races.

Near the northwest corner of the grandstand, underneath the seating, is a rectangular one-story former concession building that is integrated into the framework of the grandstand. It has corrugated metal walls and roof. The roof overhangs on the east and west and extends along the front in a full-width hood with knee braces. There is a pedestrian door in the north wall; a band of concession windows on the front are boarded-up. The concession area faces a full-width concrete apron. According to Don Hoover, the concession component was condemned as a fire hazard and ceased operations in 2015.⁵

Alterations. A 1990s concrete pedestrian ramp with a metal tubular railing extends along the front of the grandstand from its center to the south end. The concession component near the northwest corner is at least thirty years old.

NONCONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

North Bleachers, Resource 3, ca. 1996, Structure, Photograph 24

The north bleachers rest upon a series of raised concrete footings. The rectangular bleachers (49' X 12') are composed of vertical 2" X 6" boards attached to the foundation footings and braced with additional boards forming an X pattern laterally and across the rear. The framework supports five rows of raked board bench seating with a capacity of approximately 120 spectators. Wood railings enclose the north and south ends of the structure. The top row of seating features a slanted backrest composed of 2" X 6" rails and posts. Wood stairs with handrails provide access at the southwest and northwest corners of the bleachers. Buena Vista resident Ada Morrison explained more seating was needed in the 1990s; people used to park pickup trucks along the eastern edge of the arena and sit in them to watch events.⁶

Alterations. There are no apparent alterations.

Announcer's Booth, Resource 4, ca. 2013, Building, Photographs 25 and 26

Located at the southeast corner of the arena above the chutes is an announcer's booth (28' X 8') that rests atop wood post supports. During rodeos, the booth is staffed with the announcer, judges, and the timer. Local historian George G. Everett observed: "The rodeo announcer is an important person, he gives color and enthusiasm and there is keen competition between mike men."⁷ The walls and roof are clad with standing seam metal panels. The front (north) contains six covered window openings

⁴ Only real property, not water rights (per 36 CFR 60.6), is the subject of this nomination. The Town of Buena Vista drilled the well in September 1984. Colorado Division of Water Resources, Well Permit Data, Permit Number 77257-F, 31 May 2013.

⁵ Hoover, Interview, 2016.

⁶ Ada Morrison, Buena Vista, Colorado, Telephone Interview by R. Laurie Simmons, 2 May 2016.

⁷ George G. Everett, *Cattle Cavalcade in Central Colorado* (Denver: Golden Bell Press, 1966), 416.

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that are opened during rodeo events. The east wall has a door composed of diagonal wood boards that faces a large steel catwalk and stairway that provides access to the booth from ground level; the stair structure includes metal pole supports and metal railings and mesh sides. The west and south walls of the booth are blank. The building displays a shed roof with wide overhangs on the front and rear.

Alterations. The previous 1940s announcer's booth was destroyed by wind ca. 2013 and was rebuilt, with a shed roof replacing the original asymmetrical gable and different wall cladding (standing seam metal panels replaced corrugated metal panels).

Shed, Resource 5, ca. 2006-12, Building, Photograph 27⁸

This one-story shed (17' X 11') is located near the northeast corner of the south corral, faces east, and has a concrete foundation. The walls are clad with standing seam metal siding. The front contains a center paneled door with a two-part window to the south. The north and south walls have small metal vents; the rear is blank.

Alterations. There are no apparent alterations.

South Bleachers, Resource 6, ca. 1999-2005, Structure, Photograph 29

Located south of the wood bleachers this rectangular (61' X 9') metal bleachers rests on a series of raised concrete footings. The bleachers contain five rows of raked metal bench seating, with a capacity of approximately 150 spectators. The rear and part of the north and south sides are enclosed by railings composed of square metal posts and tubular rails.

Alterations. There are no apparent alterations.

Concession Stand, Resource 7, ca. 1990s, Building, Photograph 28

The east concession stand lies about 55' east of the bleachers and faces west. The one-story building (18' X 16') is clad with vertically-scored wood paneling and has two service windows with hinged covers with X bracing. A concrete apron is present along the west and south walls. The south wall contains an off-center flush door; the remaining walls are blank. The shed roof is clad with ribbed metal roofing panels and displays a wide overhang on the front. A vertical board fence forms an enclosed area at the rear.

Alterations. There are no apparent alterations.

INTEGRITY

The Buena Vista Rodeo Grounds maintains a high level of integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. Still in its original location, the immediate surroundings are largely undeveloped, and the annual rodeo is still held here. The overall configuration of racetrack, arena, and grandstand remains intact. The facility has not been excessively modernized, so the feeling of a small-town rodeo is still present. Some impacts to integrity of materials and design have occurred since the 1990s when improvements replaced existing historic materials and added a number of relatively small buildings and structures to the site. The rodeo grounds cover a large site and the noncontributing resources are mostly small in scale and do not diminish the overall historic character of the property.

Location

The rodeo grounds have remained in the same location since construction in 1940.

⁸ A date range for this and other resources were estimated using Google Earth images.

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Setting

The setting of the rodeo grounds remains as it was during the period of significance. The site still displays the level topography in a broad valley that made it an ideal location for the facility. There is no development in the immediate area of the grounds, thus providing the wide-open spaces and dramatic mountain views that distinguish the site as a component of the high mountain valley.

Design

The design of the rodeo grounds reflects the pragmatic layout necessary for tending and confining animals, accommodating spectators, selling tickets and concessions, parking cars, viewing and announcing events, and hosting rodeos and other activities. The racetrack, arena, and grandstand reflect the original layout of the grounds; the 1990s corrals are in the same locations as the 1940 corrals, although varying in configuration. The northern part of the grounds received an east-west gravel road in 2006 and alignments of boulders. The most apparent change to the grandstand is the ca. 1990s installation of a pedestrian ramp along the south front to make the structure accessible. Some buildings and structures have been added to the grounds since the 1990s but they are relatively small in scale. Strong winds destroyed the announcer's booth ca. 2013; a shed roof replaced the earlier asymmetrical roof. The chutes below have been replaced.

Materials

The main grandstand retains its original materials; a concrete and steel pedestrian ramp has been added for accessibility. Continued use of the facility in the 1990s required that the historic wood corrals be replaced with steel posts and heavy-duty steel mesh to provide for the safety of rodeo participants and the audience. The rebuilt announcer's booth was clad with standing-seam panels rather than corrugated-metal panels.

Workmanship

The grounds reflect a "can-do" spirit of using available materials and limited funds to produce a serviceable rodeo facility. The original construction in 1940 re-used materials from an earlier 1920s grounds 0.3 miles to the northeast and incorporated materials found in the region. Donald E. Hoover noted the group had to "scrounge" materials for the improvements undertaken in the 1990s. This repurposing of materials reflects a way of life in the ranching community. Inmates from the nearby Buena Vista Correctional Complex erected new corrals, bleachers, and completed other tasks. Gates were fabricated from pipe, wire mesh, and rebar, with workers cutting and welding a sliding gate latch with a slot, sleeved pipes, and bent rebar.

Feeling

The rodeo grounds display a high level of integrity of feeling as a venue for local rodeo events and other events and performances. The mountains in the distance provide an ever-present reminder of the distinctive location of the resource, the challenges of raising livestock in a high-altitude location, and the rugged beauty of ranch life. The rodeo grounds convey a sense of small-town life, ranching heritage, the importance of local community, and a sense of shared responsibility.

Association

The rodeo grounds have a high level of integrity of association, continuing to host the same types of events and activities that led to its creation seventy-six years ago, while remaining as a vital component of Buena Vista's agricultural, economic, and social life.

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Table 1
Resources within the Historic District

Resource Number	Historic Resource Name and Year Built	Resource Type	Contributing Status
1	Rodeo Grounds (1940)	Site	Contributing
2	Grandstand (1940)	Structure	Contributing
3	North Bleachers (ca. 1996)	Structure	Noncontributing
4	Announcer's Booth (ca. 2013)	Building	Noncontributing
5	Shed (ca. 2006-12)	Building	Noncontributing
6	South Bleachers (ca. 1996-2005)	Structure	Noncontributing
7	Concession Stand (1990s)	Building	Noncontributing

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1940-1966

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Work Projects Administration

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Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance for Criterion A is 1940 for Social History (the year the Work Projects Administration undertook construction) and 1940-66 for Entertainment/Recreation (from the beginning of its use to a point fifty years before the present). The period of significance for Criterion C is 1940 (the year the grounds were completed).

Criteria Considerations (justification)

None

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Summary

The 1940 Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds are locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation for its association with the annual rodeo, an important Buena Vista and regional sporting and entertainment event and celebration recognizing the area's ranching roots. The grounds are also significant under Criterion A in the area of Social History as a project undertaken by the Work Projects Administration to provide work for the unemployed during the Great Depression. The resource is also locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an example of an early twentieth-century rodeo grounds planned and constructed by the WPA and featuring a WPA Rustic grandstand, a half-mile racetrack, and corrals.

Elaboration

CRITERION A

The Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds are significant under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation as the venue since 1940 for the Head Lettuce Day Rodeo, later known as the Collegiate Peaks Rodeo/Collegiate Peaks Stampede. Staged annually during the summer, the rodeo was and is a major community event that has included a parade and barbeque as well as the rodeo competition. Area resident Melanie Roth described it as "the biggest weekend of the year in Buena Vista," with a western theme attracting people from throughout Chaffee County and surrounding areas.⁹ The resource is also significant in the area of Social History as a Depression-era project undertaken by the New Deal Work Projects Administration to provide jobs for unemployed Buena Vista-area residents. The construction engaged about two-dozen workers and injected money into the town economy in 1940.

CRITERION C

The rodeo grounds are further significant under Criterion C for Architecture as an example of a 1940s small-town rodeo facility. This rodeo grounds replaced an earlier venue 0.3 miles to the northeast, providing the community with a more substantial and well-planned rodeo facility. WPA workers planned and laid out the grounds, creating a rodeo arena, corrals, and a half-mile oval racetrack for horse competitions. The construction met all of the needs for a small-town early twentieth-century rodeo facility. The project included as its centerpiece a WPA Rustic grandstand composed of local materials.

Early History of the Buena Vista Rodeo

The Buena Vista Rodeo Grounds has its roots in the Head Lettuce Day celebration first held on 4 September 1922 in Buena Vista. Local historian and cattleman Harry A. Epperson reported in 1944 that Mrs. Thomas R. Bay, manager of the Princeton Hotel, and Charlie Shryock, manager of the electric utility, formulated the idea.¹⁰ The one-day event culminated the growing season for head lettuce, peas, and other vegetables produced in

⁹ Melanie Roth, Buena Vista, Colorado, Telephone Interview by Thomas H. Simmons, 3 May 2016.

¹⁰ Harry A. Epperson, *Colorado as I Saw It* (Kaysville, Utah: Inland Printing Company, 1944), 135-36.

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the area, according to local historian Suzy Kelly.¹¹ A boom in raising these vegetables occurred in Buena Vista and the Arkansas Valley after World War I, and when shipped throughout the West the products gained attention for their flavor and crispness. The Buena Vista lettuce shipped under the label "Buena-Kist."¹²

The first Head Lettuce Day in 1922 consisted of several activities enjoyed by local residents and out-of-town guests. Epperson recalled it included a picnic on the banks of the town lake and a few foot and horse races; he donated a quarter of beef for the feast. The celebration included a barbeque and a baseball tournament, as well as a stock show featuring some of the Colorado Reformatory's animals. Organizers decided to make it an annual event and also organized the Head Lettuce Day Rodeo Association, with Harry Epperson serving as chairman for almost twenty-five years and enlisting the help of "some of the leading stockmen."¹³

Participants at Head Lettuce Day enjoyed offerings such as displays of farm produce (fresh and canned), merchants' exhibits, an expanded stock show, a large parade, fireworks, a celebration dance, baseball games and other athletic contests, and horse and foot races. Races took place on Main Street. The free barbecue in the town park was a highlight: "Many times there were four hungry people abreast in a line perhaps four blocks long, inching up to the spot in the park where dozens of volunteer workers were handing out brim-full plates of real goodies!"¹⁴

In 1925 the county fair was held in conjunction with Head Lettuce Day, and the event grew in scope. In the 1920s, a nine-hole golf course had been constructed west of Buena Vista. The golf club leased part of their land to the rodeo association and an initial rodeo grounds were erected at the northwest corner of today's Gregg Drive and County Road 321, with a grandstand, arena, chutes, and race track for horses.¹⁵

Eventually the event focused more on the rodeo and racing. The celebration was known as "The Best One Day Rodeo in Colorado." Local cowboys comprised a sizable proportion of rodeo participants, as Willmoth Everett recalled: "It was more fun, I think, yes. I really think so. I always enjoyed a rodeo like that, more than I do these professional ones, really. You usually knew who was riding and, you know, rooted for them."¹⁶ In the early days livestock for the rodeo were trailed to the event. Local ranchers, including the Dewitts, Frank Feiling, and Will Hallock, donated beef for free barbeque sandwiches, and the attendees were given half a head of lettuce and coffee. Local cattlemen also donated the rodeo stock for the competition. Large ovens at the Colorado Reformatory in Buena Vista were used to cook the meat.

WPA Builds a New Rodeo Grounds

In 1940, during the Great Depression, the Town of Buena Vista applied for a grant from the federal Work Projects Administration (WPA) to erect a new rodeo grounds, noting the Head Lettuce Celebration and Rodeo had "reached proportions as to require greater seating capacity and more rodeo equipment." The WPA approved the request for "construction of grandstand, corrals, chutes, barns, and improvements of race track and fence."¹⁷ The total project cost \$12,083, with \$1,245 contributed by the Buena Vista Head Lettuce Rodeo Association. Work began in May 1940 and finished in September, with twenty-one to twenty-four workers employed. The town's application for the WPA grant stated it had razed the earlier grandstand and planned to reuse its materials in the construction of the new corrals. Frank Feiling donated logs from his ranch in Park County for the grandstand, which were hauled to the site by Harve Flowers and Bill Turner.¹⁸ Local rancher

¹¹ Suzy Kelly, *Buena Vista's Tales from the Past* (Buena Vista, Colorado: Suzy Kelly, 2000), 102.

¹² Christopher Kolomitz, "The Lettuce Harvest that Once Was," *Colorado Central Magazine*, June 2014.

¹³ Epperson, *Colorado as I Saw It*, 136.

¹⁴ *Chaffee County Republican*, 10 July 1964.

¹⁵ Everett, *Cattle Cavalcade in Central Colorado*, 72; *Chaffee County Republican*, 7 August 1953. This location is 0.3 miles northeast of the current rodeo grounds. The *Chaffee County Republican* reported the initial grounds were built "a few years after the first show."

¹⁶ Willmoth Everett (wife of George P. Everett), Interview by Beth Smith, 26 October 2004, Oral History Interviews, Salida Regional Library, Salida, Colorado.

¹⁷ Work Projects Administration, Colorado WPA Project 4537, Project Proposal and Record of Accomplishment, 1940, WPA Microfilm, Reel 1195, History Colorado, Denver, Colorado

¹⁸ *Mountain Mail* (Salida), 12 July 2013; Everett, *Cattle Cavalcade in Central Colorado*, 73; Pat Schmidt, "94th Collegiate Peaks Stampede," 2016, in the files of Front Range Research Associates, Inc., Denver, Colorado. Everett recalled some

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Lester Morgan and his brother-in-law were among those on the WPA work crew, and Lawrence E. England supervised the work.¹⁹ The completion report noted the project constructed: a 400-seating capacity grandstand; a half-mile race track; wood fences (1,268' of 6'-high fence and 5,630' of 4'-high fence); and a 780-square-foot barn.²⁰

Construction of recreational and cultural facilities was an important element of the WPA program. The Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) for *New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains* noted that President Franklin D. Roosevelt believed outdoor activities and recreation were positive for one's health, as well as providing psychological benefits during the economic downturn. Often, recreational facilities "were simple to construct and therefore well suited to the majority of workers on relief," many of whom were unskilled.²¹ In Colorado the WPA built or improved 119 parks, 195 playground and athletic fields, and 32 swimming pools.²² Although the geographical coverage of the MPDF is limited to the eastern Colorado plains, the property types identified provide useful analysis. The rodeo grounds would fall under the property type "recreational and cultural resources" and the subtype "fairgrounds," which includes "grandstands or bleachers, barns, show rings, rodeo arenas, racetracks, exhibit halls, stock pens, and storage sheds."²³ No properties under this subtype were identified in the four southeast Colorado counties surveyed as part of the MPDF project.

Operation of the Rodeo and Associated Events

The Head Lettuce Day Rodeo name continued into the 1940s, but shipping lettuce from Buena Vista became unprofitable after World War II and declined in significance.²⁴ In 1944 Epperson observed the event's bucking and roping events attracted "men that enter all of the large rodeos of the west."²⁵ Plans for the 1953 event included a float parade, selection of a rodeo queen, livestock judging, dances, carnival events, exhibits at the community house, and two days of rodeos.²⁶ The rodeo was briefly affiliated with the national Rodeo Cowboys Association in the 1950s before returning to local control in 1956 (see Figure 1). In that year the event was renamed the Collegiate Peaks Stampede.²⁷

Various rodeo activities are fondly remembered by local residents. Horseracing on the half-mile oval track was a popular event. Ada Morrison stated: "Everyone loved the races. They would yell and holler."²⁸ The races started in front of the grandstand and finished there. The shed roof balcony at the east center of the grandstand served as a viewing platform for judges to watch the finish line and determine winners. The cowboy and cowgirl quadrille (essentially a square dance performed on horseback) was another crowd pleaser, as Harry Epperson relates: "The riders and horses have entered into this event so wholeheartedly, that the presentation to the public appears to have the coordination of horse and rider equal, if not greater, than those dances prepared on the New York stage by the great Flo Ziegfeld . . ."²⁹

of the buildings at the earlier site (not otherwise identified) were moved to the new location. The older racetrack oval can still be seen on current aerial photographs .3 miles northeast of the current rodeo grounds.

¹⁹ Morrison, Interview, 2016.

²⁰ Work Projects Administration, Colorado WPA Project 4537, Project Proposal and Record of Accomplishment, 1940, WPA Microfilm, Reel 1195, History Colorado, Denver, Colorado.

²¹ Deon Wolfenbarger, *New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains*, National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form, 23 September 2005, 106.

²² Wolfenbarger, *New Deal Resources*, 106, citing Work Projects Administration. *Final Report on the WPA Program, 1935-1943* (Washington: D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1947), 126-27 and 135-36.

²³ Wolfenbarger, *New Deal Resources*, 109.

²⁴ Virginia McConnell Simmons, *The Upper Arkansas: A Mountain River Valley* (Boulder: Pruett Publishing Company, 1990), 284.

²⁵ Epperson, *Colorado as I Saw It*, 136.

²⁶ *Chaffee County Republican*, 10 July 1953.

²⁷ Everett, *Cattle Cavalcade in Central Colorado*, 73. The mountains west of Buena Vista form the Collegiate Range, which contains several peaks named for U.S. colleges.

²⁸ Morrison, Interview, 2016.

²⁹ Epperson, *Colorado as I Saw It*, 136.

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The crowds also enjoyed relay events. George Everett described the Harry Epperson Range Relay competition:

In this event each contestant has three horses enclosed in a corral. The cowboy must rope one horse, lead him through the gate, saddle and mount him and run completely around the track. He then unsaddles, catches another horse and completes the routine again; this is followed by his third horse. The first man to make it around three times and turn his third horse loose is the winner. It is a very exciting race, particularly when there are six or seven cowboys entered, bringing the total number of horses to eighteen or twenty-one.³⁰

The rodeo parade in downtown Buena Vista became a key part of the rodeo weekend, with everyone who owned a horse in the area participating, as well as a parade marshal, clowns, high school marching bands, livestock, floats, and the rodeo queen (see Figure 2). Longtime Buena Vista resident Ada Morrison recalled all the businesses and organizations in town spent days building floats for the parade.³¹ Businesses placed display advertisements in the local newspaper supporting the rodeo (see Figure 3). Growing up in the area in the 1960s, Melanie Roth remembered everyone with a horse riding into town to participate in the parade, including the campers at Round Up Lodge for Boys west of town.³²

In the 1960s the Buena Vista Lions Club operated the rodeo, then a two-day event. Will Hallock, known as Mr. Buena Vista Rodeo, "contributed as much or possibly more, than any other person to the continued success of the annual Rodeo Fair."³³ Hallock led the parade for many years wearing a large Stetson hat and carrying an American flag (Figure 4). Eventually, the rodeo was held in the summer to accommodate more tourists. In 1966 George Everett asserted:

The Collegiate Peaks Stampede is one of the better amateur rodeos in the state, attracting cowboys and cowgirls from many places in the Western United States. The Rodeo and livestock exhibits is [sic] getting bigger and better every year. It is becoming a tourist attraction and furnishes entertainment for the various youth organizations, also encourages them to participate more especially in the parades.³⁴

In the postwar period, competitive events at the rodeo have included bareback riding, steer wrestling, mutton bustin', calf scramble, tie-down roping, breakaway roping, saddle bronc, mixed team roping, open team roping, ladies' barrel race, and bull riding.³⁵ For nine major events the purses for contestants consist of \$100 entry fee per cowboy plus \$500 per event contributed by the rodeo association. Dollars won in events equal points which determine a cowboy's competitive standing (see Figures 5 and 6).³⁶

In the 1980s, the local Chamber of Commerce started a 4th of July celebration and parade separated by only a week or two from the rodeo events. A decision was made to discontinue the rodeo parade. In the mid-1990s, horseracing also was dropped. According to Don Hoover, staging the races became too burdensome.

Recent Developments: Improving the Grounds

Beginning in the 1990s, the Collegiate Peaks Rodeo Association (CPRA) organized the rodeo with sponsorship from the Lions Club and American Legion and affiliation with the Colorado Rodeo Cowboy Association. CPRA is governed by a ten-member board. The annual budget to stage the rodeo is about \$24,000 with funding coming from merchant contributions and gate receipts.³⁷

³⁰ Everett, *Cattle Cavalcade in Central Colorado*, 72.

³¹ Morrison, Interview, 2016.

³² Melanie Roth, Buena Vista, Colorado, Email to Tom and Laurie Simmons, 23 May 2016.

³³ Gilbert E. Gregg, *Incidentally: Anecdotes from the History of an Earlier Day in Buena Vista, Colorado* (Gunnison, Colorado: B&B Printers, 1975), 84.

³⁴ Everett, *Cattle Cavalcade in Central Colorado*, 73.

³⁵ *Mountain Mail* (Salida), 12 July 2013.

³⁶ Hoover, Interview, 2016.

³⁷ Hoover, Interview, 2016.

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As local historian Suzy Kelly observes, the rodeo “is truly a community effort and appreciated by all.”³⁸ Starting in 1993 the Lions and Legionaires each contributed \$6,000 to undertake improvements to the grounds, with labor provided by inmates at the Buena Vista Correctional Complex (formerly the Colorado State Reformatory). Work included building the steel fencing and corrals and two outbuildings. Rodeo volunteer Pat Schmidt observed: “What used to be a patched together wood and wire arena, that often required makeshift repairs during performances, is now a sturdy steel structure that is pretty much maintenance free.”³⁹ In the late 1990s lights were added for nighttime events. Don Hoover estimates \$170,000 has been spent on improving the grounds in the last twenty-five to thirty years. The two-day rodeo attracts seven hundred to nine hundred attendees each day. Now known as the Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo, the competition is generally held the second full week in July and is part of a circuit of twenty-eight small-purse rodeos in Colorado and Wyoming. The Buena Vista event has been named the best rodeo on the circuit in three of the past five years.⁴⁰

9. Major Bibliographical References

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_____. Telephone Interview by Thomas H. Simmons. 3 May 2016.

Mountain Mail (Salida). 12 July 2013.

Schmidt, Pat. “94th Collegiate Peaks Stampede.” 2016. In the files of Front Range Research Associates, Inc., Denver, Colorado.

Simmons, Virginia McConnell. *The Upper Arkansas: A Mountain River Valley*. Boulder: Pruett Publishing Company, 1990.

³⁸ Kelly, *Buena Vista's Tales from the Past*, 104.

³⁹ Schmidt, “94th Collegiate Peaks Stampede.”

⁴⁰ Hoover, Interview, 2016. In 2016 the event will be held in mid-June. The only non-Colorado town on the circuit is Baggs, Wyoming.

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

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Westermeier, Clifford P. "Seventy-Five Years of Rodeo in Colorado." *Colorado Magazine* 28 (January 1951):13-27.

Wolfenbarger, Deon. *New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains*. National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form, 23 September 2005. On file with Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History Colorado, Denver, Colorado.

Work Projects Administration, Colorado WPA Project 4537, Project Proposal and Record of Accomplishment, 1940, WPA Microfilm, Reel 1195, History Colorado, Denver, Colorado.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: History Colorado

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):
5CF.2877

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 20.3

Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.
(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: N/A
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	38.825202	-106.155022	4	38.821341	-106.153639
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:
2	38.825162	-106.152391	5	38.821554	-106.154770
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:
3	38.821900	-106.152234	6	38.822849	-106.155145
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:

OR

UTM References

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1	13	399738	4298013	4	13	399852	4297582
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	13	399966	4298005	5	13	399755	4297608
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3	13	399975	4297643	6	13	399723	4297752
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

Chaffee, Colorado

Name of Property

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The nominated area is shown on the included to-scale map and consists of a portion of a much larger assessor parcel. The grounds are bounded by Gregg Drive on the north and internal parcel roads on the west, south, and east.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary includes the portion of the parcel historically associated with the rodeo activities.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Thomas H. Simmons and R. Laurie Simmons, Historians (for property owner)

organization Front Range Research Associates, Inc. date 3 May 2016 (Revised)

street & number 3635 W. 46th Avenue telephone 303-477-7597

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80211

e-mail frraden@msn.com website www.frhistory.com

Property Owner: (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Town of Buena Vista

street & number P.O. Box 200 telephone _____

city or town Buena Vista state CO zip code 81211

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each digital image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to a sketch map or aerial map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

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Photograph Log

Name of Property: Buena Vista Rodeo Grounds

City or Vicinity: Buena Vista

County: Chaffee State: Colorado

Photographer: Thomas H. Simmons

Date

Photographed: April 2016

Number, camera direction, and description of photograph:

- 1 of 29, view southwest, overview of grounds from northeast corner of property with the Collegiate Range in the distance
- 2 of 29, view southwest, east-west road and small boulder alignments in northern part of property
- 3 of 29, view west, fence on outer edge of racetrack, east-west road, and small boulder alignments in northern part of property
- 4 of 29, view southwest, lower fence bordering north-south section of racetrack with grandstand (Resource 2) in the distance at left
- 5 of 29, view south, woven wire and wood post fence along west edge of racetrack north of the grandstand. The grandstand (Resource 2, right) and the announcer's booth (Resource 4, left) are in the distance
- 6 of 29, view north, rodeo arena from the announcer's booth catwalk, with bleachers to right
- 7 of 29, view south-southwest, view from the north bleachers (Resource 3) of the south end of the rodeo arena, with the south bleachers (Resource 6) in the foreground and the announcer's booth (Resource 4), shed (Resource 5), and south corral in the distance
- 8 of 29, view northwest, view from the north bleachers (Resource 3) of the north end of the rodeo arena with the north corral to the left
- 9 of 29, view south-southeast, overview of north corral from its northwest corner, with the bleachers and announcer's booth in the distance
- 10 of 29, view south, alley in the north corral from its north edge
- 11 of 29, view southwest, overview of the west part of the south corral from the announcer's booth catwalk
- 12 of 29, view southeast, overview of the east part of the south corral from the announcer's booth catwalk with the shed (Resource 5) to the left
- 13 of 29, view northwest, loading chute at the northeast corner of the south corral, with the announcer's booth (Resource 4) and shed (Resource 5) to the right
- 14 of 29, view east, gate detail in front of grandstand with the rodeo arena in the background
- 15 of 29, view east-northeast, practice arena from its southwest corner
- 16 of 29, view northeast, overview of the bleachers (Resources 3 and 6, to the left) and the east concession building (Resource 7, to the right)
- 17 of 29, view west, grandstand (Resource 2) from the rodeo arena with the Collegiate Range in the distance
- 18 of 29, view northwest, south end and front of grandstand (Resource 2)
- 19 of 29, view east, rear (west side) of grandstand (Resource 2)

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

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- 20 of 29, view southeast, north side and rear of the grandstand (Resource 2) with integrated concession component
- 21 of 29, view south, north end of the grandstand (Resource 2)
- 22 of 29, view upward, roof framing of the grandstand (Resource 2)
- 23 of 29, view northeast, concession component near the northwest corner of the grandstand (Resource 2)
- 24 of 29, view north-northeast, north bleachers (Resource 3)
- 25 of 29, view southeast, announcer's booth (Resource 4) with rodeo gates below
- 26 of 29, view northwest, announcer's booth (Resource 4), metal stairs, and catwalk
- 27 of 29, view southwest, shed (Resource 5)
- 28 of 29, view southeast, east concession building (Resource 7)
- 29 of 29, view northeast, south bleachers (Resource 6)

Historic Figure Log

- 1 of 6, This view from the grandstand looking east shows an event underway at the rodeo grounds in the 1950s. Courtesy of Kelly, *Buena Vista's Tales from the Past* (2000), 103.
- 2 of 6, Margaret McMurry served as rodeo queen in 1936 and 1940. She is shown riding in the rodeo parade in this undated photograph. Courtesy of Suzy Kelly in *Mountain Mail* (Salida), 12 July 2013.
- 3 of 6, The rodeo and its parade comprised a major summertime event in Buena Vista. Chaffee County businesses purchased advertisements like this one supporting the event. Courtesy of *Chaffee County Republican*, 7 August 1953.
- 4 of 6, William N. Hallock was a familiar figure at the rodeo parade for many years. Courtesy of Everett, *Cattle Cavalcade in Central Colorado* (1966), 72.
- 5 of 6, A bull has just dislodged its rider in this photograph from the 1977 rodeo. The old announcer's booth and chutes are visible in the background, as well as a section of the previous arena fence. Courtesy of *Chaffee County Times*, July 1977, Brodie Farquhar photograph.
- 6 of 6, Calf-roping, shown here in 2015, is one of the events staged at the annual rodeo. Courtesy of Jan Johnson, Buena Vista, Colorado.

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

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Figures

Location Map from Google Earth



The labeled points are the coordinates of the bounding polygon of the nominated resource.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	38.825202	-106.155022
2	38.825162	-106.152391
3	38.821900	-106.152234
4	38.821341	-106.153639
5	38.821554	-106.154770
6	38.822849	-106.155145

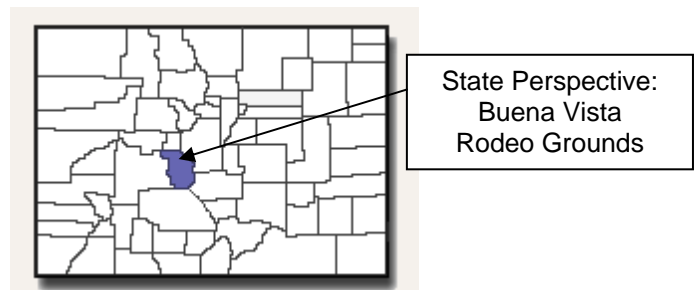
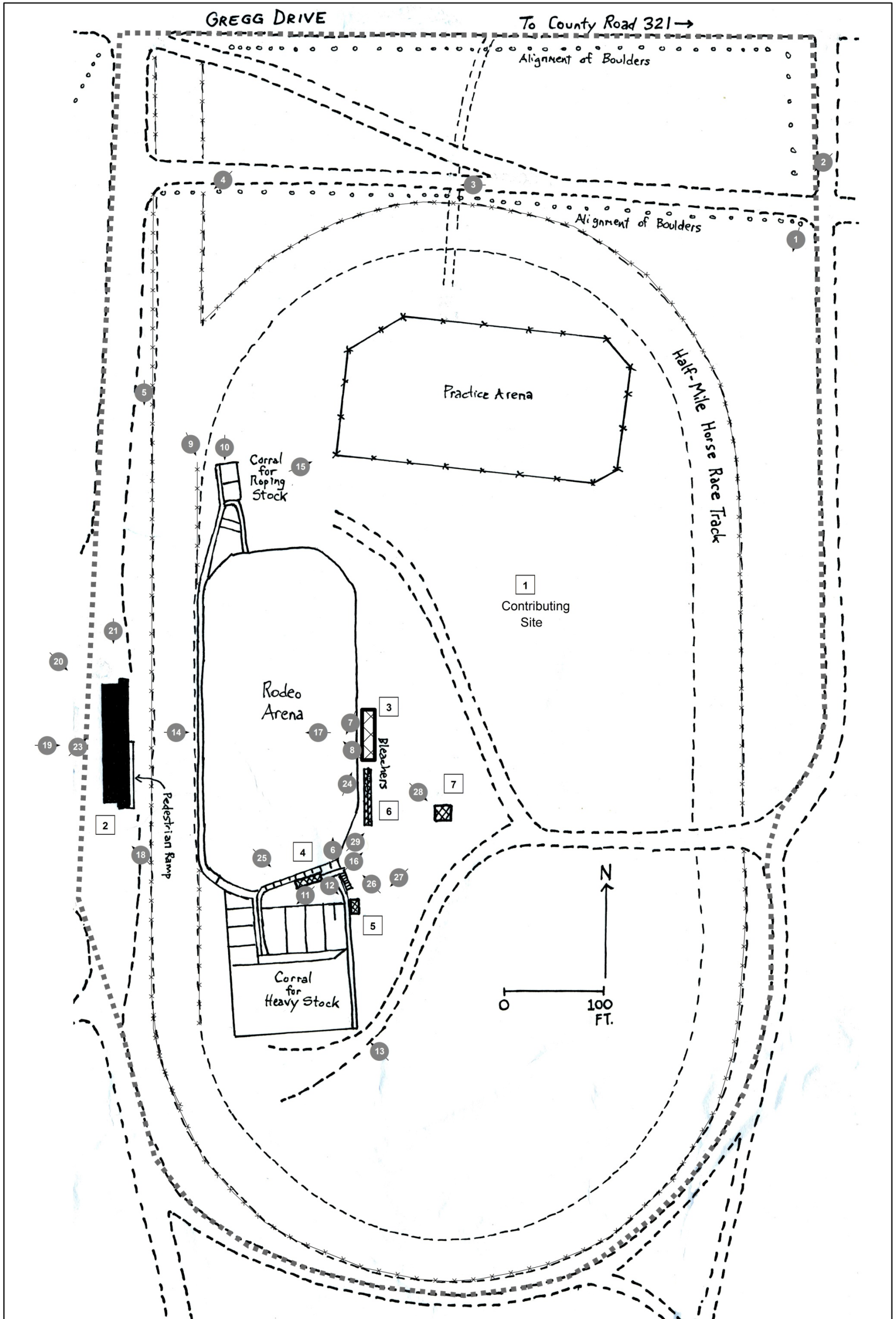


Image Date: 27 September 2013

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds
Name of Property

Chaffee, Colorado
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Sketch Map



6 Resource Number 13 Photograph Location - - - - - Nominated Area Boundary x-x-x-x-x Fence
Contributing Status: ■ Contributing ▨ Noncontributing

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

Chaffee, Colorado

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County and State

Historic Figures

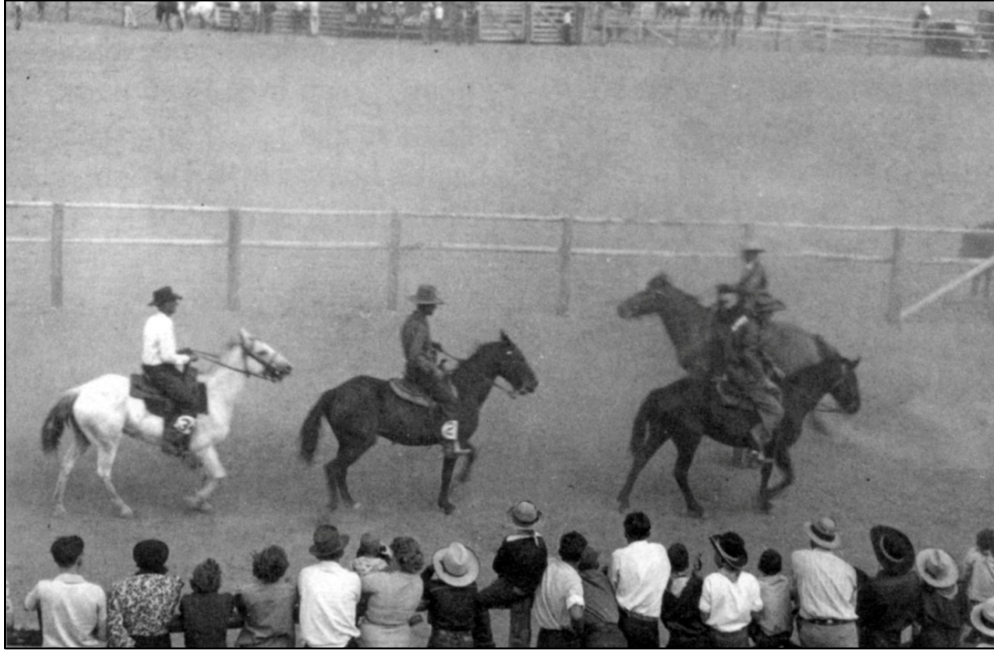


Figure 1. This view from the grandstand looking east shows an event underway at the rodeo grounds in the 1950s. Courtesy of Kelly, *Buena Vista's Tales from the Past* (2000), 103.



Figure 2. Margaret McMurry served as rodeo queen in 1936 and 1940. She is shown riding in the rodeo parade in this undated photograph. Courtesy of Suzy Kelly in *Mountain Mail* (Salida), 12 July 2013.

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

Chaffee, Colorado

Name of Property

County and State



Figure 3. The rodeo and its parade comprised a major summertime event in Buena Vista. Chaffee County businesses purchased advertisements like this one supporting the event. Courtesy of *Chaffee County Republican*, 7 August 1953.

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

Chaffee, Colorado

Name of Property

County and State

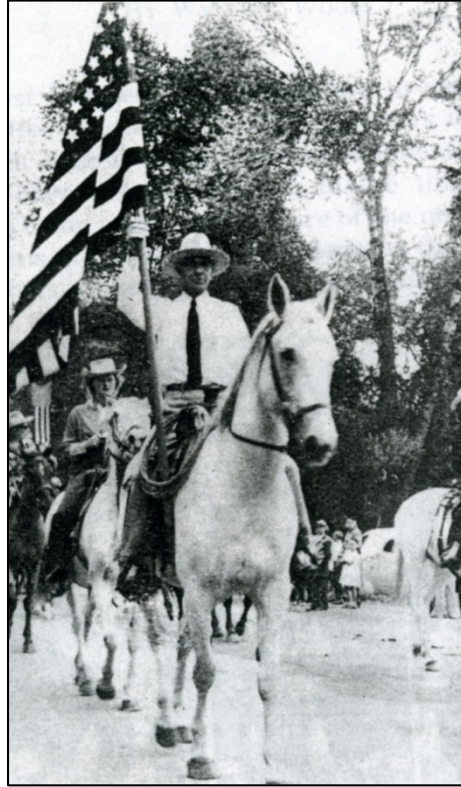


Figure 4. William N. Hallock was a familiar figure at the rodeo parade for many years. Courtesy of Everett, *Cattle Cavalcade in Central Colorado* (1966), 72.

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

Chaffee, Colorado

Name of Property

County and State

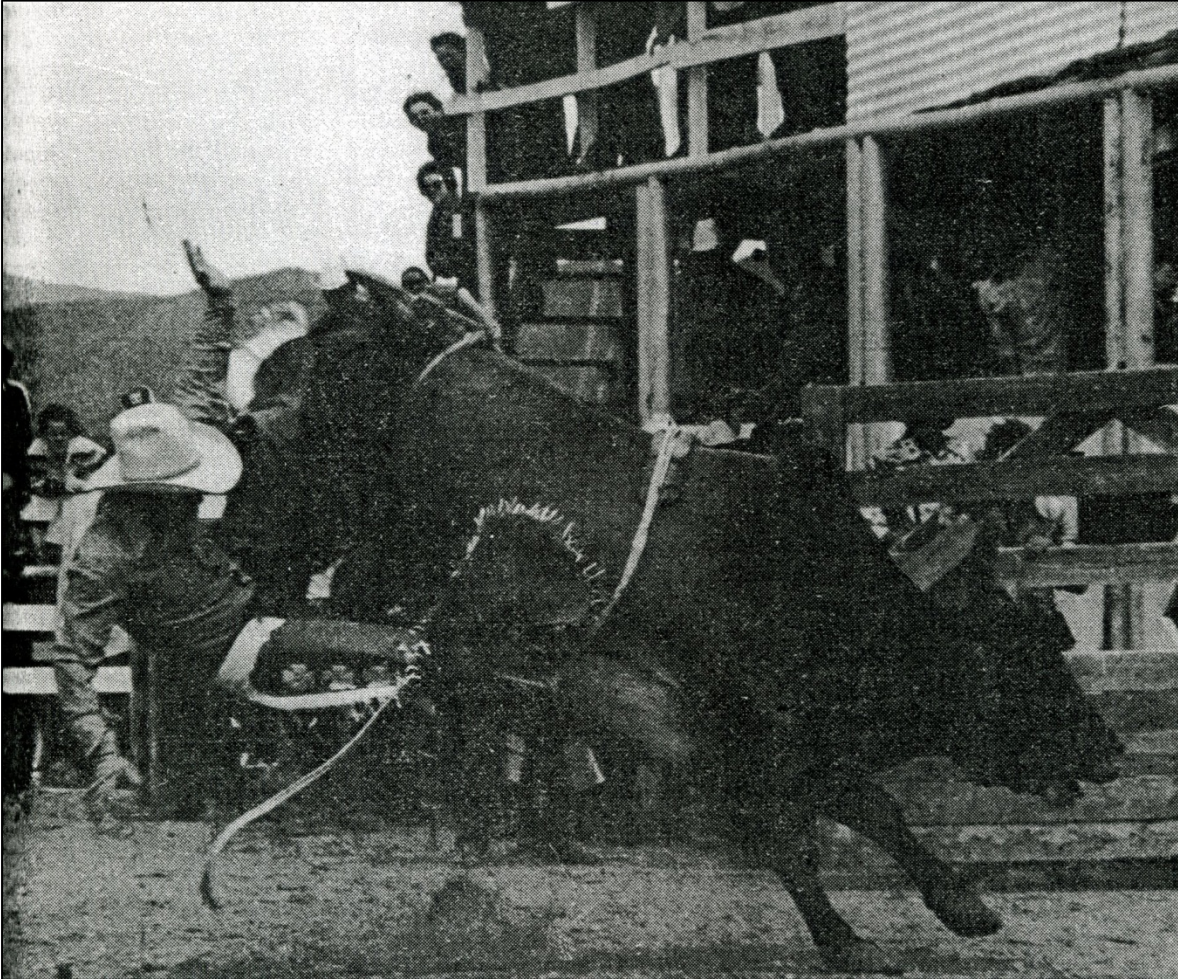


Figure 5. A bull has just dislodged its rider in this photograph from the 1977 rodeo. The old announcer's booth and chutes are visible in the background, as well as a section of the previous arena fence. Courtesy of *Chaffee County Times*, July 1977, Brodie Farquhar photograph.

Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

Chaffee, Colorado

Name of Property

County and State



Figure 6. Calf-roping, shown here in 2015, is one of the events staged at the annual rodeo. Courtesy of Jan Johnson, Buena Vista, Colorado.



















































COLLEGIATE

1

COWBOYS

2

STAMPEDE

3

RODEO

4









UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Head Lettuce Day--Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Chaffee

DATE RECEIVED: 9/23/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/21/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/07/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/08/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000758

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11.7.16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



September 23, 2016

Mr. J. Paul Loether
Deputy Keeper and Chief, NR and NHL Programs
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, NW, 8th Floor (MS 2280)
Washington, D.C. 20005-5905

Dear Mr. Loether:

We are pleased to submit for your review the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination for Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds (5CF.2877) in Chaffee County, Colorado.

The Colorado Historic Preservation Review Board reviewed the nomination at its meeting on September 16, 2016. The board voted unanimously to recommend to the State Historic Preservation Officer that the property met the criteria for listing in the National Register.

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for Head Lettuce Day/Collegiate Peaks Stampede Rodeo Grounds to the National Register of Historic Places.

We look forward to the formal listing of this property. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at 303-866-4683 or by email at erika.warzel@state.co.us.

Sincerely,



Erika Warzel
National and State Register Historian
(303) 866-4683
erika.warzel@state.co.us

Enclosures

CDs (2)
Signature Page