

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

other names/site number Tl'ish Bitó (Snake Spring); Dibé Yázhí Habitlin (Lamb Route); Ben Harvey Trading Post

2. Location

street & number Building 1601, County Road 19

(NE corner of Section 33, T16N, R11W, NMPM&B)

☐ not for publication

city or town Borrogo Pass

☐ vicinity

state New Mexico code NM county McKinley code 031 zip code 87365

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

Jan Bette
Signature of certifying official/Title

NM SHPO

3/13/2012
Date

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:

X 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):

SP [Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

3/29/2012
Date of Action

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

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	
11	0	buildings
4	1	sites
2	1	structures
0	0	objects
17	2	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.)

COMMERCE/TRADE:

Department store/trading post

Religion/Religious Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE:

Department store/trading post

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other/one-story storefront

Other/rubble stone vernacular

Other/agricultural

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete; Masonry; or Not Visible

walls: Native Sandstone and Concrete Block

Masonry; Weatherboard; Stucco

roof: Galvanized Steel; Asphalt Roll

other: _____

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District was established in 1927 on a privately owned site in the "checkerboard area" of the Navajo Reservation in northwestern New Mexico. The district is located in a cove enclosed on the west, north, and east sides by a rocky escarpment of Mesa Verde sandstone roughly 100 feet high. The district's southern perimeter follows McKinley County Route 509. Within the district boundaries lie several acres of juniper-pinyon woodland at an elevation of about 7500 feet. Borrogo Pass or Dibé Yázhí Habitlin (Lamb Route) acquired its name from the trail located .25 mile to the east of the post, which straddles the Continental Divide. Beginning in the 20th century, livestock was conducted through this pass from the San Juan Basin in northwest New Mexico to the railroad line 18 miles south. T'ílish Bitó (Snake Spring) is located in the western side of the rock face circumscribing the district. The trading post includes 17 contributing buildings, sites, and structures. A large parking lot adjoining Route 509 is surrounded on two sides by the trading post store/main residence and adjoining garden; a warehouse; a Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Branch Chapel; several corrals; and a metal barn. A gated lane passes between the trading post store and the warehouse to give access to the northern section of the district, which includes a chicken coop; bunkhouse; root cellar; garage/shop area; hogan; two wooden outbuildings; a metal water tank; Snake Spring; and three historic archaeological sites, all located on a bench in the rock face that surrounds the post. Within the district boundaries is a non-contributing cistern located to the east of the warehouse and an archaeological site with the remains of a stone foundation for an early 20th century Hogan immediately to the south of the trading post corrals. Surrounding resources located outside of the district include a cemetery; two pastures; a well with related pump house; and Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department Site No. NM-Q-25-52 which was associated with silversmithing at the trading post during the 1930s and 1940s—this site was obliterated during the data recovery phase and subsequent construction of Route 509. The condition of the contributing buildings, structures, and sites in the Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District ranges from good to poor and the integrity of these constituent elements is excellent, reflecting only minor alterations since the mid-1950s.

Narrative Description

According to Kelley and Francis (2005), there were two inventories taken of the buildings at Borrogo Pass in 1931 and 1932 as part of the homestead proof testimony for Ben and Anna Harvey.¹ The inventories do not correspond with each other and the discrepancies, which are significant, make it difficult to ascertain what the Borrogo Pass Trading Post actually looked like during its earliest years. It is possible to conclude with a reasonable amount of certainty, however, that by 1931, the post included a log and stone house with several rooms (built in 1927), a stone garage (built in 1929), and a group of wooden outbuildings housing livestock and providing storage space.

The buildings, sites, and structures at Borrogo Pass Trading Post presently include the following:

Contributing Resources

Building 1: The trading post store/main residence and garden (1927-1956) **Sketch map location 1, Photographs #5, #6, and #7**

Most of the business at the trading post has taken place within this rectangular single-story building constructed from native sandstone and concrete block masonry. The site rises to the north; the front of the building is perched on a plinth, elevating the structure above the ground plane. Several steps give access to a covered porch. The façade of the building is oriented toward the southeast and includes six bays. The windows on the building are both steel and aluminum. The main entrance is centrally located and opens off of the porch. It contains double-leaf aluminum doors with glass panels and is flanked by several metal-framed windows. The two bays immediately to the west extend forward from the façade to form a small room, which has been used to provide a separate display area for hardware

¹ Klara B. Kelley and Harris Francis, "Ethnographic Investigations at Site NM-Q-25-52," from Kurt Dongoska, and Donovan K. Quam, *Phase II Data Recovery at Sites NM-Q-25-51 and NM-Q-25-52 along County Road 19, Borrogo Pass, McKinley County, New Mexico*. Zuni Cultural Resource Enterprise Report No. 834. (NNHPD report file no. 89-188.18) (Zuni, NM: Zuni Cultural Resources Enterprise, 2005), 209-211.

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

McKinley, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

items. The mostly metal roof comprises several different sections at various pitches giving evidence of a series of additions to the building. The retail area is located on the southeast side, with a "rug room," vault, storage rooms, and food preparation area to the northeast and northwest. According to DeForrest Smouse, who lived at Borrogo Pass during the 1940s and 1950s,

The trading post was arranged with counters on three sides behind which there were shelves containing articles to be sold. A number of glass cases were used as part of the counter. Between the counters was an area we called the bullpen, which contained the stove and usually a bench for customers to use while they were waiting to be served. The bullpen was an area where the local Navajos met and exchanged greetings and gossip. All business was conducted over the counters, and payment for goods was transacted near the store's front door. Some items were hung from the ceiling, i.e. saddles, harnesses, wagon bows, buckets, and galvanized gas cans.²

Figure 7-1 shows "the bullpen" of the Borrogo Pass Trading Post during the early 1950s. During the expansion of 1955-56, the retail area was enlarged and given a "self-service" plan. Several of the original glass cases are still in use within the store.

The residential part of the building, which includes a kitchen, two living areas, and two bedrooms, forms an L-shaped area along the northwest and southwest sides. A covered patio and walled garden adjoin the residential area on the southwest side. The garden contains an orchard and mature landscaping with ornamental trees, shrubs, and a rose garden. The orchard includes a watering system. A large parking lot, contiguous with the county road, is located along the front of the building. A pump island with three gasoline pumps parallels the building and is separated from it by a lane roughly 15 feet in width. Kelley and Francis (2005) and an interview with Donald L. Smouse testify to the presence of a cistern for collecting rainwater located underneath the patio on the southwest side of the house.³

According to oral sources, the original Harvey trading post was incorporated into later additions.⁴ Historic photographs dating from c. 1936 show a rectangular log building with three bays, which may very well be identical to the 1927-era structure (Figure 7-2). In 1993, Beverly Spears interviewed Vernon Bloomfield, the owner of the post from 1936-1940. With regard to the main trading post building, Mr. Bloomfield reported that he "rebuilt the whole thing."⁵ Photographs from the Smouse family collection indicate that the trading post building was also modified several times during the 1940s and 1950s. By 1940, the main building was a three-bay single-story structure. The exterior appears to have been stuccoed and the front door was accessed by way of a small stoop (Figure 7-3). The façade was surmounted by a stepped parapet, which also served as a sign. At least by 1945, the structure had been expanded with another bay flanking either side of the main façade (Figure 7-4). By 1948, a porch with shed roof had been constructed along the middle three bays of the façade (Figure 7-5). Thereafter, the two windows adjoining the door were enlarged. The façade was further modified within the next few years, when two paintings of Navajo rugs were added to either side of the main door (Figure 7-6). During the mid-1950s, the front part of the trading post/residence building was expanded to the southeast into the parking lot. Double-leaf doors were added, the main retail space was enlarged, and the hardware display area was added. A photo dating from 1955 in the Northern Arizona University Cline Library Special Collections shows the construction of this expansion underway (Figure 7-7).⁶ By 1956, the façade as it appears now had been established (Figure 7-8).

Building 2: Warehouse (c. 1950)

Sketch map location 2, Photographs #8, #9, and #10

This rectangular building, constructed from native sandstone around 1950, is two stories tall and adjoins the parking lot. According to DeForrest Smouse, Juan DeVore, a Navajo "was the stone mason that supervised the construction."⁷ The metal barrel roof possesses two metal eaves. A large corrugated metal door is located at the main entrance and provides access to a spacious two-story storage area. The area is partitioned on its northwest side to form a single-story storage room surmounted by another storage area. Three rectangular-shaped spaces project

² DeForrest Smouse, "Don R. and Frances Fern Smouse: Indian Traders to the Navajos, Borrogo Pass Trading Post, McKinley County, New Mexico," (July 2009), 7.

³ Donald L. Smouse, interview with Lillian Makeda, 21 May 2009, and Kelley and Francis, 212-213.

⁴ Kelley and Francis, 212, 213.

⁵ Spears Architects, AIA and the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, "Historic Inventory Building Inventory Form for Borrogo Pass Trading Post," in *Historic Trading Posts of Northwest New Mexico* (Santa Fe: New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, 1993).

⁶ The photograph shows the porch of the building lacking its roof which had probably been removed in preparation for the addition.

⁷ DeForrest Smouse, "Don R. and Frances Fern Smouse," 11.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

from the back and sides of the building and are accessed by doorways within the building. One of these spaces (along the northeast) is subterranean and was used as a root cellar. The other two possess shed roofs. An earlier stone structure with a pitched roof burned in June 1949 and the building was reconstructed with steel trusses shortly afterward (compare Figures 7-5 and 7-7).⁸ The windows are both wood and steel framed.

Building 3: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) Branch Chapel (c. mid-1950s)⁹
Sketch map location 3, Photograph #11

The Smouse family built the chapel to house religious and community activities and also to provide a residence for LDS missionaries serving in the Borrego Pass area. The building is constructed from concrete blocks and is rectangular with a metal side-gabled, pitched roof. The façade includes three bays with a centrally located door with single light. The north bay displays a sign reading "The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." The building retains its original steel windows. The main door leads into the sanctuary on the south side of the building. The sanctuary contains its original furniture, which includes a group of wooden pews from the now defunct Branch chapel at Bluewater, NM. A small apartment for LDS elders with bedroom and kitchen is located on the north side. Photographs from 1955-56 show the presence of the Chapel, although it was not formally dedicated until October 22, 1959 (Figure 7-7).¹⁰ At the dedication, Elder Spencer W. Kimball, later president of the LDS Church from 1973-1985, presided over a service that drew 135 people who were addressed by "two medicine men from the area, Juanita Platero and Joe Bebo, Sister Lucy Bloomfield [Fern Smouse's mother], Brother [Donald R.] Smouse, and Elder Kimball."¹¹

Building 4: Metal Barn (c. 1950s)
Sketch map location 4, Photograph #12

A corrugated metal barn with pitched roof is located on the east side of the trading post.

Structure 1: Corrals
Near sketch map location 4, Photograph #12

Several corrals with wooden and metal fencing are located on the east side of the site. A hogan (pre-trading post) was located at this site at one time, as indicated by oral sources and by the presence of a hogan ring just south of the corrals.¹²

Building 5: Chicken Coop (c. late 1930s)
Sketch map location 5, Photograph #13

The chicken coop is rectangular and located flush with the rock escarpment that bounds the west, north, and east sides of the trading post site. The walls of the coop are built from sandstone ashlar masonry; a wooden pen strung

⁸ Two Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) missionaries were present at the trading post at the time of the fire. Their account of the event may be found in the opening story on page 1 of the June 27, 1949 issue of *The Gamaliel*, the weekly newsletter of the LDS Southwest Indian Mission. "Ware House at Borego [sic] Pass Destroyed by Fire - Buildings on North and South Miraculously Saved" reads as follows: "Sunday midnight, June 19, Elders Raymond S. Jensen and Glen E. Barnes were suddenly awakened by flashing lights from the burning warehouse only 15 feet from the cabin in which they were sleeping. To add to the hazzard [sic], two tanks of gasoline sat between the buildings. They roused the traders, who were living in the trading post, which is across the alley the same distance to the south of the burning building. To the eye witnesses of that blazing inferno it looked as though the surrounding buildings were doomed. The Power that stills the tempest, and controls the elements could alone intervene. The helpless on lookers did call for help and by the act of providence the breeze immediately changed, carrying the heat away from the other buildings and they were spared." L. Tom Perry Special Collections at the Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

⁹ The LDS church is organized hierarchically into Stakes (paralleling Catholic dioceses) and Wards and Branches (paralleling parishes). Branches are typically converted into Wards when they become well-established and have attained a certain number of members.

¹⁰ A print of the photo from the Grace Herring Collection at NAU (Figure 7-7) is also in possession of DeForrest Smouse. The Smouse photo is undated but is also unclipped and clearly shows the entire chapel on the right side of the photo.

¹¹ "Entry for October 22, 1959 - Three Month Report, December 31, 1959," p. 1. Reel 2 of LR 8571 2, *Manuscript History and Historical Reports, Southwest Indian Mission*. LDS Church History Library and Archives, Salt Lake City, Utah. At the time of the dedication, Kimball was a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, the governing body of the LDS Church. Kimball was often referred to as "Apostle to the Lamanites"; the term "Lamanite" originated in *The Book of Mormon*, and in LDS doctrine, has historically been used to refer to indigenous Americans.

¹² Kelley and Francis, 215-221.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

McKinley, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

with chicken wire spans the front of the building and a flat metal roof provides shelter for both. The Smouses kept as many as 400 chickens and a member of their staff was paid to care for them during the 1970s and 1980s.

Building 6: Bunkhouse (c. 1950)

Sketch map location 6, Photograph #14

This rectangular, single-story building is symmetrically arranged to include two studio apartments, each with its own garage space. It was constructed at the same time as the warehouse and Juan DeVore was the stonemason and construction supervisor.¹³ The walls are executed in sandstone ashlar masonry; the metal shed roof slopes to the rear with side gables. The façade includes three bays. The two main entrances flanking the central garage area each contain a wooden door with single light; the garage doors have been replaced with corrugated metal. A bathroom is located in a corner of the garage.

Building 7: Root Cellar (c. 1940s)

Sketch map location 7, Photograph #15

A small stuccoed superstructure with wooden door provides the entrance to a subterranean root cellar.

Building 8: Garage/Shop Area (c. 1940s)

Sketch map location 8, Photograph #16

This rectangular wooden building with metal roof is partially constructed from old ammo boxes, probably originating from Ft. Wingate, NM (roughly 50 miles away).¹⁴

Building 9: Hogan (c. 1940s)

Sketch map location 9, Photograph #17

An octagonal hogan measures about 22 feet in diameter and is constructed from native sandstone on a concrete slab. As tradition dictates, it contains a door oriented toward the east. The hipped roof is covered with asphalt roll and has eight sections. Both the door and the building's three windows are constructed from wood. The interior contains one room. The building served at various times as a dormitory for the nearby school and as part of the silversmithing work associated with the post.

Structure 2: Metal Water Tank (c. 1950s)

Sketch map location 10, Photograph #18

A metal water tank is located to the west of the main group of buildings, near the edge of the escarpment.

Buildings 10 and 11: Wooden Outbuildings (2) (c. 1940s)

Sketch map locations 11 and 12, Photographs #19 and #20

The remains of two rectangular wooden outbuildings are located toward the northwest side of the main group of buildings. These outbuildings may be identical with "the clapboard huts" that served as housing for Navajos involved in the silversmithing workshop present at Borrego Pass during the 1930s and 1940s.¹⁵ Both outbuildings have eastern entrances and lack northern openings, in accordance with Navajo traditional beliefs.

Site: Snake Spring (T'i'lish Bitó)

Sketch map location 13, Photographs #21 and #22

Historic records indicate that the Harveys developed Snake Spring with a 30-40 foot tunnel during the late 1920s.¹⁶ The spring is located in an alcove to the northwest of the main group of buildings. The Cousins used the water from this spring for drinking and also hauled water from Thoreau because the water from the spring turned black when it

¹³ DeForrest Smouse, "Don R. and Frances Fern Smouse," 11.

¹⁴ Spears Architects, "Historic Inventory Building Inventory Form for Borrego Pass Trading Post."

¹⁵ Donald L. Smouse, interview with Klara B. Kelley, 23 Jun 2003.

¹⁶ Kelley and Francis, 210, 212, and Jean and Bill Cousins, *Tales from Wide Ruins*, edited by Mary Tate Engels (Lubbock, TX: Texas Tech University Press, 1996), 83, 87. See also the homestead proof inventories quoted in Kelley and Francis, 34-35.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

was boiled and also did not run consistently. Bill Cousins described the interior of the spring as having troughs carved into the floor. Water dripped into the troughs and then ran down into a ten-gallon tank "buried in the floor."¹⁷ From there the water was hauled by bucket to the store. According to DeForrest Smouse, the tunnel had caved in by around 1940.¹⁸ During the 1940s and 1950s, drinking water for the post "was hauled five miles from the windmills located at either Casamera Lake or at Little Water."¹⁹ The remains of a wooden entrance and enclosing masonry walls are extant at the spring's opening and a section of the altered floor within the tunnel is still visible.

Historic Archaeological Site A (c. 1930s)
Water Channel
Sketch map location 14, Photograph #23

A water channel, approximately 4.5 feet wide and 30 feet long is located on the bench in the escarpment surrounding the main trading post buildings. The channel is connected to an outflow from the rock face above. It is enclosed on one side by a masonry wall roughly 2 feet high and on the other by the rock face.²⁰

Historic Archaeological Site B (c. 1930s)
Earthen Water Tank
Sketch map location 15, Photograph #24

An earthen water tank, roughly 60 feet in diameter is located on the bench in the escarpment surrounding to the north of the main trading post buildings. The tank was originally constructed to collect runoff from the rocks that enclose it on three sides. It possesses an earthen embankment roughly 8 feet wide at the base and 60 feet in length and which was originally elevated 6 feet above grade.²¹ Two masonry walls, each approximately 6 feet high and 7 feet in length terminate each end of the embankment.

Historic Archaeological Site C (c. 1940)
Wind Charger
Sketch map location 16, Photograph #25

In 1940, the trading post's electricity was generated by means of a wind charger "mounted on a tripod" located on a pinnacle in the escarpment behind the post. One of the wooden buildings at the post at that time had "a rack of liquid storage batteries" which was powered by the charger.²² Remains of the charger are presently located on and around the pinnacle.

Non-Contributing Resources

Structure: Cistern

A cistern with a concrete block superstructure is located to the east of the warehouse.

Archaeological Site: Hogan (c. early 20th century)²³

The foundation stones of a hogan structure are located immediately to the south of the trading post's corrals.

Surrounding Resources

The descriptions of the following structures and features are provided in order to give a fuller picture of the contemporary setting outside of the historic district but are not considered as part of the district because they have been altered, do not reflect historic features, or are too distant from the core resources to be included.

¹⁷ Cousins and Cousins, 87.

¹⁸ DeForrest Smouse, interview with Lillian Makeda, 8 Oct 2009.

¹⁹ DeForrest Smouse, "Don R. and Frances Fern Smouse," 16.

²⁰ Observations made by archaeologist John R. Stein during field visit with Lillian Makeda to Borrego Pass, 2 Aug 2010.

²¹ Observations made by archaeologist John R. Stein during field visit with Lillian Makeda to Borrego Pass, 2 Aug 2010.

²² DeForrest Smouse, "Donald R. and Fern Frances Smouse," 6.

²³ Estimate by archaeologist John R. Stein during field visit with Lillian Makeda to Borrego Pass, 2 Aug 2010.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Site: Cemetery (c. 1940s)

A cemetery with several graves associated with the trading post is located on top of the escarpment about .5 miles to the west of the main group of buildings in Section 33, on property belonging to the Smouse family. The Smouses originally began this cemetery to provide a place for local Navajos to bury their dead. In 2003, the gravesites were poorly marked (with rock slabs with rudimentary inscriptions). Borrego Pass Trading Post manager Josie Gonzales reported in August 2010 that the cemetery is located behind a locked gate and was in active use by the Borrego Pass community.²⁴ Due to continual use as an active burial ground which may result in accumulative changes to the integrity of the setting, the cemetery is considered as non-contributing.

Archaeological Site (c. 1930s and earlier)

Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department Site Number NM-Q-25-52²⁵

Construction on County Road 509 led to the obliteration of an archaeological site, NM-Q-25-52, formerly located to the south side of the trading post district boundary and which included both pre-Columbian and 20th century Navajo temporal components. The Navajo component was associated with the trading post and consisted of faint traces of three or four hogans that formerly accommodated silversmiths. These silversmiths produced jewelry for the trading post beginning around 1930 until sometime after WWII. According to Mabel Morgan, a local resident, the hogans were removed and replaced with cattle pens by the Smouses.²⁶ In 2003, remaining traces were so faint that details about the original appearance of the site had to be provided by oral historical sources. The data recovery phase and subsequent construction of the road destroyed the integrity of the site which is now located across the road to the southeast of the trading post.²⁷

Sites: Two Pastures

Pastures located immediately outside of the east and the west boundaries of the main trading post trading post district have been used since the Harveys' tenure for running livestock. The west pasture is divided for additional rotation and resting.

Structure: Well

A well is located on the northeast edge of Site NM-Q-25-52 across County Road 509 and approximately .1 mile south of the boundary of the trading post district. The post presently takes its water from this well, which was drilled during the 1990s and includes a pumphouse.

²⁴ Josie Gonzales, interview with Lillian Makeda, 2 Aug 2010.

²⁵ See Kelley and Francis, 221-225 for additional details relating to Site NM-Q-25-52.

²⁶ Mabel Morgan, interview with Dr. Klara Kelley, 5 Jun 2003.

²⁷ Observations made by archaeologist John R. Stein during field visit with Lillian Makeda to Borrego Pass, 2 Aug 2010.

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

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

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

RELIGION

Period of Significance

1927-1960

Significant Dates

1927; 1936; 1940; 1955

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Ben and Anna Harvey; Bill and Jean Cousins;

Donald R. and Fern Frances Bloomfield Smouse;

Juan DeVore

Period of Significance (Justification)

The trading post opened at Borrogo Pass in 1927 and while it has continued to operate, the end date of 1960 for the period of significance reflects that the years following do not support the exceptional significance criteria as required for properties less than 50 years old. The 1960s era also marked significant changes in the role and form of commercial trading operations with the Navajo as had been historically conducted in the Borrogo Pass Trading Post.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

A Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Branch Chapel is located within the historic district, and is considered a contributing building for its social, cultural, and economic association between the Mormon population that lived in the area and the Navajo people.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico

County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Borrego Pass Trading Post is an exemplary survival of a traditional Navajo trading post. A traditional Navajo trading post is commonly defined as a store that offers general merchandise to a mainly Navajo clientele and buys various commodities that its clients produce. The earliest Navajo trading posts bartered basic general merchandise directly for commodities, but since then, the character of general merchandise has changed and the exchanges have come to involve money much more than commodities. The Borrego Pass Trading Post, established in 1927, manifests the dramatic changes that took place between the 1930s and the 1950s in the Four Corners region. These transformations ultimately (by c. 1980) undermined the trading post system in Navajoland. A few posts, however, kept enough of the characteristics of earlier times (at least as represented in their architecture) to evoke the period of transformation and the years that led up to it. The Borrego Pass Trading Post is one of these few surviving examples. By continuing to offer general merchandise and to buy locally produced commodities, Borrego Pass, remains an important link between the Navajo people and the national, and even international, economy and society. In addition, the Borrego Pass Trading Post reflects these relationships as mediated by members of the Mormon faith. A large number of Navajoland traders have belonged to the LDS church, which has had its own complicated history of interaction with the US government and national society. The Mormon chapel at Borrego Pass Trading Post attests to the beginning of today's relatively open relationship between the LDS church and both the US government/society and the Navajo people. Furthermore, it illustrates the broad impact of Mormonism on the history of the Four Corners region, thus meeting National Register Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties.²⁸ The Borrego Pass Trading Post is eligible for the New Mexico Register of Historic Places under Criterion A (associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of New Mexico's history) and for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A (associated with events that have made a significant contribution to, and are identified with, or that outstandingly represent, the broad national patterns of United States history and from which an understanding and appreciation of those patterns may be gained).

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Borrego Pass Trading Post

Indian trading posts played a pivotal role in Navajo commerce from the late 19th to the mid 20th century. By offering a variety of services, the posts enabled the Navajos to participate in the national economy while maintaining their traditional life ways. The use of pawn and credit allowed the Navajos to continue their dependence on sheep husbandry, a practice that yields income only seasonally. The posts also purchased Navajo handicrafts such as rugs and jewelry and provided outlets for these goods that would not exist otherwise. While important economically, trading posts also often served as intermediaries between mainstream American culture and the Navajos, most of whom did not speak English until the mid-20th century. Traders translated letters, filled out tax returns, and worked with such entities as the railroads to enlist Navajo employees. The advent of a wage economy and improved educational opportunities after World War II transformed Navajo commerce. For a period of nearly 100 years, however, the post provided a vital service to the peoples of the Four Corners region. The period of significance for the Borrego Pass Trading Post is from 1927 to 1960 and reflects an era of trading post operations prior to changes that altered the traditional patterns of commerce in Navajoland.

Before 1927, when the Borrego Pass Trading Post was established, several Navajo families lived and herded in the area near the trading post site. Snake Spring made the area attractive. Even though the water was too sour for most people's taste (and also a snake in it made it dangerous to drink according to Navajo traditional beliefs), it was all right for livestock. People used to move along the whole valley, east and south of the present trading post with their animals. Archaeological traces of at least one hogan dating from before the trading post was constructed are located within the boundaries of the district. A ceremonial site (associated with the Navajo Nightway) lies in the bottomland to the east of the district.

²⁸ As outlined in National Register Bulletin No. 15, pp. 26-28.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Early Years

The Borrego Pass Trading Post was originally constructed by Anna and Ben Harvey. Around 1925, before the trading post appeared at its present site, there was a little store located about a mile or so east. It was a tent or small wooden building that Ben Harvey set up temporarily in the fall to trade canned goods for the pinyon nuts that people were picking there. Soon, local families invited Ben Harvey to build a store at Snake Spring, and he thought that enough people lived in the surrounding country to support the business. Various local men cut the pinyon and juniper logs for this trading post.

Information about the Harveys is fragmentary, and it has been possible to establish only a few details about their background. Anna Harvey may have been from Arkansas. Ben Harvey came to New Mexico as a telegraph operator for the Santa Fe railroad. Subsequently he and Anna had a small 3-4-room hotel in Thoreau (not to be confused with the luxurious "Harvey House" hotels of Santa Fe Railroad concessioner Fred Harvey!).

The relationship between the Harveys and wholesaler John Kirk was to prove critical to the fate of the Borrego Pass Trading Post. Either Anna or Ben was a cousin of Inez Schillingburg Kirk, whose husband, John, opened a retail-wholesale store, Kirk Brothers, in Gallup around 1920. John Kirk of Maryland had come to Gallup in 1910, worked briefly for a major wholesaler to Navajo trading posts (C.C. Manning), traded briefly in Chinle, Arizona (1912), then returned to Gallup to work for C.N. Cotton, one of the dominant general-merchandise wholesalers and commodity buyers for Navajo trading posts.

John and Inez Kirk each had several brothers and other relatives who operated trading posts in eastern and central Navajoland, and these stores were enough to support a small family wholesale house. Kirk Brothers was able to take a share of the trading-post wholesale trade from larger, older Gallup wholesalers like Cotton because the Kirks were more willing than the other wholesalers to take weaving and silver jewelry from outlying trading posts as payment for general merchandise.²⁹ Kirk Brothers of Gallup in 1923 used their letterhead to describe themselves as "Wholesalers of Navaho blankets, furs, wool, skins, hides, general merchandise, silverware made to order."

The Harveys encountered financial problems during the early years of the Depression leading John Kirk to acquire the Borrego Pass Trading Post in 1935. Bill and Jean Cousins were then hired to manage it until 1936, when it was sold to Vernon and Ruth Bloomfield. In 1939, a local man shot and wounded Mr. Bloomfield at the trading post. This event led Bloomfield to offer the post to his sister Fern and her husband Donald R. Smouse who operated it from 1940 until Fern Smouse's death in 1991. The post is presently owned by Fern and Donald R. Smouse's two surviving sons, Donald L. and DeForrest Smouse. Rosella and Merle Moore managed Borrego Pass from 1991 to 1998 and were succeeded by Josie Gonzales, who is the post's present manager.

The Harveys ran the post using the barter system, but later traders at the post shifted to offering cash, credit, tokens, and credit on pawn.³⁰ The traders—the Harveys, Bloomfields, and Smouses — bought all kinds of livestock (cattle, sheep, lambs, goats) and also wool, rugs, silver jewelry, and pinyon nuts. The Smouses also bought things that other traders would not buy, like hides.

Beginning with the Harveys, traders at Borrego Pass also worked with silversmiths and weavers from the area to develop a craft industry.³¹ A workshop for silver working was constructed which included several hogans where Navajo families lived and worked. The hogans were located to the southeast and on the north side of the main trading post building. By WWII, several of the families were living in "clapboard huts" on the north side of the post as well. At the trading post, a smith might get paid \$50-\$100 for a week's work. Artisans made rings, bracelets, belts, even bows and arrows, and was paid by the piece. The payment was in the form of store credit, which could be used to purchase supplies and pay off store debts. If the earnings exceeded past debts, then the payment was made in tokens. Several noted silversmiths sold their wares through Borrego Pass, including Crip Platero; Sam Platero; Juanito Platero; Little

²⁹ Tom Kirk, *The Kirk Clan, Traders with the Navaho*, People of the Far West, Brand Book No. 6 (San Diego: Corral of the Westerners, 1979), 147-157.

³⁰ DeForrest Smouse, interview with Lillian Makeda, 23 Sep 2009.

³¹ See Kelley and Francis for more details about silversmithing at Borrego Pass.

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Tom and his wife, Elsie Tom; Rena and Joe Long; Willie John; and Kenneth Bodie. Little Tom and Kenneth Bodie each won a Grand Prize at the Gallup Ceremonial for their silverwork.³²

The silversmithing workshop at Borrogo Pass probably reached its peak during WWII, and then diminished. The Smouses eventually replaced the hogans to the southeast with a corral. The archaeological remains of the workshop have been registered as Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department Site NM-Q-25-52.

For many years, Navajo rugs were also a focus at the post, some of them produced by the wives of the silversmiths. The Smouses worked to encourage better quality weaving. Among the local weavers were several men. The Smouses followed the practice of Fern Smouse's parents, George and Lucy Bloomfield of Toadlena, who worked with Ed Davies of Two Gray Hills to help local weavers there develop a higher quality product. (Among the most famous Two Gray Hills weavers was also a man, the encyclopedically knowledgeable ceremonialist "Hosteen Klah"). A lot of people came to the Borrogo Pass Trading Post to buy the silver jewelry and rugs. The Smouses did not depend on wholesalers to distribute these goods. They may have notified potential craft buyers by mail. During World War II, the Smouses and area traders started working together toward better quality in local weaving. These traders eventually helped the region's weavers to organize the Crownpoint Rug Weaver's Association and its famous auctions, which began around 1960.

The Smouses operated the post following practices already established in the Four Corners region. The traders would give store credit and tokens for local products. For example, the Smouses might value a rug at \$6-\$8 and the person would get tokens or credit for that amount. The use of tokens was discontinued sometime between 1958 and 1963. Many local families had accounts with the Smouses. They would pay their balances with lambs in the fall and wool in the spring. If the value of the lambs or the wool exceeded what the family owed on earlier consumer-goods purchases, the family would get the remainder in cash. People could buy items including flour, sugar, coffee, salt, baking powder, lard, onions, eggs, potatoes, and soda pop. In early times, the store sold very little food in cans. Even pop came in bottles. The store also sold clothes, cloth, shoes (soles nailed on), tools (axes, shovels, rakes), wood-burning stoves (no butane), and kerosene for lamps. One could even order a wagon though Don Smouse. Wagons would come disassembled and were put together when they arrived. Smouse would also get other items for local residents through special order.

The Smouses also took items such as jewelry on pawn and according to DeForrest Smouse, "It was not uncommon for Don and Fern to lend the pawn to owner, free of charge, for special occasions."³³

Though the Smouses operated the post along traditional lines throughout their tenure, during the 1950s they also had to make certain changes to comply with new federal and Navajo Tribal regulations developed after World War II. These new regulations were, in part, a response to protests of Navajos against earlier practices that seemed exploitative to the growing numbers of Navajo wage workers.³⁴ The cessation of tokens is an example, as is the 1955 remodeling of the sales area.

The 1970s to the present

In the summer of 1974, Klara B. Kelley interviewed Vernon Bloomfield and he provided details about the goods that his sister and brother-in-law Fern and Don Smouse were handling at Borrogo Pass Trading Post at the time of the interview.³⁵ According to Bloomfield,

Though producing wool and livestock did not contribute much income to local families, and at a time when many trading posts were starting to quit handling them, the store still bought these commodities. Smouse in turn sold the wool to Roswell Wool and Mohair Company and hauled it to their Albuquerque warehouse, along with wool from trading posts at Coyote Canyon and Tsaya. The previous spring [1974], Smouse had handled 180,000 lbs [this amount was much larger than most trading posts handled, and probably

³² DeForrest Smouse, interview, 11 May 2009 and DeForrest Smouse, "Don R. and Frances Fern Smouse," 18. See Kelley and Francis, 219 for a more comprehensive list of the silversmiths who worked at Borrogo Pass.

³³ DeForrest Smouse, "Don R. and Frances Fern Smouse," 7.

³⁴ Willow Roberts Powers, *Navajo Trading: The End of an Era* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2001), 134-148.

³⁵ Kelley and Francis, 206-207. Another round of regulatory reforms, especially about pawn and credit, were underway, but Kelley avoided these sensitive topics so as not to jeopardize the entire interview.

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

includes the Coyote Canyon and Tsaya wool]. The cattle that Smouse bought, he hauled to Albuquerque for sale. Feedlot operators in Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska sent trucks to haul the lambs away. Smouse did not use a broker to sell the lambs, so presumably the feeders had longstanding relationships with him. The previous fall [1973], feeders had trucked away 1200 head. Smouse did not buy agricultural produce, which local people produced for their own consumption.³⁶

In 1974, crafts were still a significant source of local income, with jewelry much more important than weaving. Local people produced the jewelry at home and took it to trading posts all over the region, to Gallup and other border towns, and even to Albuquerque. The store also took a little local jewelry on consignment. The Smouses marketed these items directly to their personal network of buyers for curio stores in California, Colorado, and Sun Valley, Idaho. The Smouses also got silver and turquoise from Gallup and supplied them to local silversmiths on consignment.

Bloomfield added that the store's clientele was entirely comprised of local residents and that may account for the unusually wide range of items that it carried on its shelves. Don Smouse trucked goods in every Monday from Gallup and drove to Albuquerque to purchase items for the store as well. The employees at the post included many Navajos who not only manufactured crafts items, but also helped with construction and cared for the livestock. A person was hired to take care of the large chicken flock (numbering as many as 400) at the post and Fern Smouse had a full-time gardener on the payroll as well.

In hindsight, the diversity of merchandise that Borrogo Pass and many other Navajoland trading posts offered during the 1960s-1970s seems to have been greater than at any time before or since. In this short period, people had more monthly cash income from wages and Great Society social programs, yet most roads were still unpaved, so that people could not easily shop in border towns where prices were lower.

Rosella and Merle Moore, who managed Borrogo Pass from 1991 to 1998, were interviewed in 2003. Although the post retained many traditional ways of doing business, major changes were already underway. In the 1990s, the Moores bought wool and mohair, lambs, and cattle, as well as crafts. They stopped buying these commodities at the end of their tenure, and the store has not resumed purchases since.

The Moores bought wool and mohair until 1997. They formerly sold the wool to Roswell Wool and Mohair through a local buyer (agent) in Gallup. In 1997, Roswell Wool and Mohair went through a change of management. Roswell Wool and Mohair used to ship wool to England, but English buyers evidently were substituting Australian wool, making the Navajo wool trade no longer worthwhile. When Roswell Wool and Mohair stopped sending trucks to the trading post to pick up wool and mohair, the Moores stopped buying it.

In the 1990s, the Moores had the cattle they bought trucked to sales yards at Los Lunas, Clovis, and Milan (near Grants), New Mexico, and also kept some for themselves. They sold the lambs through Roswell Wool and Mohair, which sent trucks to haul the lambs to feedlots. In 1997, when the new owners of Roswell Wool and Mohair stopped sending trucks for wool, they also stopped sending trucks for lambs, so the Moores stopped buying lambs as well. The prices were also very low, and the Moores could not pay producers much either. The federal Wool Incentive Program stopped sending checks to producers in 1999.

During the late 1990s, a drought prompted the Navajo Nation to persuade people to sell livestock, especially horses. The Moores asked buyers from Albuquerque and Belen to come to the trading post to buy horses. But local people did not want to sell. When the Navajo Nation had a horse vaccination program (because of an epidemic), the Moores had the rangers use the corrals at the trading post where people brought in 500 horses.

In the 1990s, the Moores bought silver jewelry, rugs, and kachina figurines. Local residents were their best customers for the jewelry. Non-Indians bought more of the rugs and kachina figurines, especially people whom the Moores cultivated through various relationships – for example, an Indian Health Service doctor who collected kachina figurines, and a contact at the University of New Mexico who brought 8 long vans of visitors to buy rugs. Also, Merle Moore was active in western rodeo associations, and the Moores set up booths at rodeos in various western cities where they sold arts and crafts and took special orders.

³⁶ Vernon Bloomfield, interview with Klara B. Kelley, 8 Aug 1974.

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Changes in the way that the government handled disbursement checks made it increasingly difficult for the Moores to deal in credit and new Navajo Nation regulations made it impractical to continue to take pawn. Large chain stores like Walmart in Gallup also diminished the post's ability to offer dry goods at a competitive price. Canned goods and small hardware such as axes, nails, dishpans and coffee pots continued to be saleable.

According to Willow Roberts Powers, by 2001, the Borrogo Pass Trading Post was one of only two dozen trading posts on the Navajo reservation "to continue to provide old-time services, as well as goods."³⁷ In 2010, the post continues to conduct business in several traditional ways. Manager Josie Gonzales still buys livestock and pinyon nuts and purchases locally-crafted silver jewelry. The post also carries a wide variety of merchandise, including many household items absent from the shelves of local convenience stores.

The Cousins and Bloomfield/Smouse Families

The Cousins family (who managed the Borrogo Pass Trading Post from 1935-1936) and the Bloomfield/Smouse family (which has owned the post since 1936) have both had long and successful careers as Indian traders in the Four Corners region. Bill Cousins developed his skill as a trader by way of his father Charles Cousins, who worked at a series of posts, finally owning the Cousins Brothers Trading Post in Chi Chil Tah, NM.³⁸ The experiences of Bill and Jean Cousins at Borrogo Pass form a chapter of their autobiography *Tales from Wide Ruins* (1996) which describes their experiences at trading posts in New Mexico and Arizona.

Donald R. Smouse grew up in San Juan County, New Mexico and spent his early years working as a laborer on fruit farms and then as part of archaeological excavations at Chaco Canyon. He began his trading career at Toadlena (NM) Trading Post where he met his future wife Fern and freighted supplies from Gallup. Vernon Bloomfield and Fern Bloomfield Smouse were the children of George Bloomfield, famed as a trader at Toadlena Trading Post where he was instrumental in developing the Two Gray Hills rug style, one of the canonical styles employed by Navajo rug weavers to this day.³⁹

Over the course of the 20th century, the Bloomfield family became nothing less than a trading dynasty in the Four Corners region. Fern Bloomfield and Donald R. Smouse traded at Gallegos (NM) before purchasing the Borrogo Pass Trading Post. Fern's younger sister Grace and her husband Charles Herring operated the Toadlena Trading Post beginning in 1936. Vernon Bloomfield moved on to the Dennehotso (AZ) Trading Post after leaving Borrogo Pass in 1940. Another brother, Monte Bloomfield worked at the Shonto (AZ) Trading Post. Fern's younger sister Ruth married Roscoe McGee and they ran the Red Mesa (AZ) Trading Post for many years. Marilene Bloomfield married Raymond Blair and they worked at the Rock Point (AZ) and Round Rock (AZ) Trading Posts. The youngest sister in the family, Paula, married Leroy Bish and together, they operated the Mancos Creek (CO) Trading Post.⁴⁰

Mormon Indian Traders

The Bloomfield and Smouse families played an important part in the history of 20th-century Indian trading in this region but they are also noteworthy as representatives of the first group of American traders in the Four Corners area, the Mormons. According to historians Richard Van Valkenburgh and John McPhee, "Either by Navajo-Hopi trade acquaintance or by direct contact, the Mormons developed trade relations with the Navajo before the tribe was exiled to Fort Sumner in 1864. The Mormons were the first American traders to the Navajos of any consequence."⁴¹

John Bloomfield, Fern Smouse's grandfather, was a member of the Ramah Pioneers, the first group of Mormons to settle in New Mexico.⁴² He arrived in New Mexico in 1882 and established himself in Ramah, where he died in 1916. His son George purchased the Toadlena Trading Post in 1911 and became one of a growing number of Mormon Indian traders. David Kay Flake, in his "A History of Mormon Missionary Work with the Hopi, Navajo, and

³⁷ Powers, 221.

³⁸ See John Murphey, "Cousins Bros. Trading Post" [National Register of Historic Places Registration Form]. Santa Fe: New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, 2006.

³⁹ See Powers, 69.

⁴⁰ DeForrest Smouse, "Mormon Indian Traders," (July 2009), 1.

⁴¹ Richard Van Valkenburgh and John McPhee, *A Short History of the Navajo People* (Window Rock, AZ: Navajo Service, 1938), 43.

⁴² Gary Tietjen, *Encounter with the Frontier*, 2nd ed. (North Salt Lake, UT: DMT Publishing, 2007 [1969]), 49.

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico

County and State

Zuni Indians⁴³ enumerates a short list of "great Indian missionaries," that includes Fern Smouse's parents, George and Lucy Bloomfield along with three others.⁴⁴

After a period of intense activity during the late 19th-century, Mormon missionary work among the Navajo of New Mexico became dormant for a period lasting until the late 1930s. During "the period of waiting," George and Lucy Bloomfield handed out copies of the Book of Mormon and managed to interest several Indians in their beliefs.⁴⁵ The official LDS Navajo-Hopi Mission was opened in 1936, and in 1941 it was established in northeastern New Mexico.⁴⁶ The Bloomfields served as the missionaries to one of the six districts organized within this mission and "were by far the most successful missionaries during its two year history."⁴⁷ "Nearly all" of the missionaries were Indian traders.⁴⁸ Some of the Bloomfields' Native American converts, including Mary Jumbo, and Ruth and Howella Polacca, served as missionaries and played important roles in the Church in later years. In 1943, the LDS mission to the Navajos was reorganized administratively into the Navajo-Zuni Mission. The first president of the newly organized mission was Will Evans, the trader at the Shiprock (NM) Trading Company.⁴⁹ The mission subsequently became the Southwest Indian Mission in 1949.

Trading Post LDS Chapels

From at least 1943, the mission to the Navajo incorporated a building program, and trading post sites belonging to LDS members were a primary focus.⁵⁰ According to Southwest Indian Mission records, James B. Collyer, the LDS trader/missionary at Crystal, New Mexico worked with Navajo converts to build "a little church building" next to his trading post in 1943.⁵¹ This log building was "the first permanent chapel built by the Church on the Indian reservations of the Southwest."⁵² By the end of 1944, the post at Crystal had been sold and the new trader had modified the former chapel into a dwelling for lodgers.⁵³ The LDS Church soon encountered many obstacles to building on tribal trust land, and even finding accommodations for missionaries was a challenge. By 1945 "there were no buildings belonging to the Church in the entire Mission."⁵⁴ In March 1946, Will Evans completed a tour of the Four Corners region in response to a request by Spencer W. Kimball, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, the governing body for the LDS Church.⁵⁵ Evans specifically looked for deeded land "within and adjacent to the Navajo Reservation" that might be available for the construction of religious buildings.⁵⁶ His report, filed in April of that year, contains a detailed list of locations, almost all of which were trading posts owned by LDS members.⁵⁷ The following month, he visited yet another location at the trading post in Perea, east of Gallup, owned by LDS trader Bert Foutz.⁵⁸ By January 1948, the Borrogo Pass Trading Post had also been vetted as a prospective site during another tour through the region. The

⁴³ M.A. Thesis, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, 1965.

⁴⁴ The other three were Jacob Hamblin, Thales Haskell, and Ernst Tietjen. See David Kay Flake, "A History of Mormon Missionary Work with the Hopi, Navajo, and Zuni Indians," (M.A. Thesis, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, 1965), iv.

⁴⁵ Flake, 90.

⁴⁶ Flake, 111.

⁴⁷ Flake, 112-113.

⁴⁸ Flake, 113.

⁴⁹ "Entry for 26 Feb 1943," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*, LDS Church History Library, Salt Lake City, UT. Evans would serve in this capacity until April 1947.

⁵⁰ According to Fern Smouse's sister, Grace Bloomfield Herring, her husband Charles Herring accompanied Ralph Evans, the first president of the Navajo-Zuni Mission, to the Navajo capital at Window Rock, Arizona to request permission to construct LDS chapels on the Navajo reservation. Grace Herring interview by Karen Underhill, February 11, 1998. United Indian Traders Association Collection, Northern Arizona University, Cline Library Special Collections (NAU.OH.75.5).

⁵¹ "Entry for 21 Mar 1943," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*, LDS Church History Library, Salt Lake City, UT.

⁵² According to Richard G. Oman, "The first permanent chapel built by the Church on the Indian reservations of the Southwest was built at Crystal, a fitting monument to the great work of Howella and Ruth Polacca." See "LDS Southwest Indian Art," in *Ensign*, September 1982—Accessed online at <http://www.lds.org> on March 16, 2010. Howella Polacca describes the building as "a little log house," in "The Story of Howella Polacca," in *The Gamalii*, 20 Mar 1948: 4. Reel 1 of LR 8571 20, *Southwest Indian Mission Publications*, LDS Church History Library, Salt Lake City, UT.

⁵³ "Letter from Ruth and Howella Polacca to Pres. Evans," 25 Dec 1944, in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*.

⁵⁴ "Entry for 6 Dec 1945," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*.

⁵⁵ "Entry for 22 Mar 1946," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*.

⁵⁶ "Entry for April 1946," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*.

⁵⁷ "Entry for April 1946," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*.

⁵⁸ "Entry for 23 May 1946," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*.

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

McKinley, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

new mission president, S. Eugene Flake, noted that the Smouses were among a group of traders who "were willing to give land for chapels."⁵⁹

As the end of 1948 approached, plans were being laid for the construction of several new LDS chapels expressly intended for Native Americans. The December 15, 1948 edition of the *Deseret News* reported that,

Recent announcement was made of the approval of seven new chapels for Indian members and their friends in several widely scattered places. They will be of masonry construction in a distinctive Indian architecture and will provide for a chapel and recreation hall combined and one or two classrooms.⁶⁰

Two of the locations were specifically mentioned as being at trading posts, namely "Buck's Trading Post, northeast of Gallup, New Mexico," (probably either Whitehorse Lake or Star Lake Trading Post, both owned by Pauline Buck) and "Lee's Trading Post near Window Rock" (also known as Two-Story Trading Post owned by Anna and Lester Lee in St. Michael's, Arizona).⁶¹ By December 1949, the chapel at Two-Story Trading Post was under construction and would soon become the second LDS trading post chapel in Navajoland.

Building chapels for Native Americans was clearly of some interest to the Mormon public at large. The book *Mormon Architecture*, published in 1949 and authored by Joseph Weston includes a sketch of a "Modern Navajo Indian LDS Chapel" as part of a series of photographs of LDS buildings (Figure 8-1).⁶² By the end of 1952, the LDS Church had successfully constructed three chapels on tribal trust land at Toadlena, Crystal, and at Sawmill, Arizona, while adding another trading post chapel at Perea. According to Flake, more LDS chapels were built as part of the Southwest Indian Mission between 1955 and 1958 under the direction of Alfred E. Rohner. It was during this period that the chapel at Borrogo Pass was constructed. By 1960, the Borrogo Pass Trading Post Branch Chapel was one of nine Branch chapels in Navajoland, and one of three associated with trading posts.⁶³

Fern Bloomfield Smouse was devoutly religious and it seems likely that her parents, George and Lucy Bloomfield also played a role in establishing the branch chapel at Borrogo Pass Trading Post. According to DeForrest Smouse, Don R. and Fern Smouse gave land to the church and then funded the construction of the building. According to Richard G. Oman, Senior Curator Emeritus at the LDS Historical Department and Museum of Church History in Salt Lake City, the Borrogo Pass Branch Chapel was the first formal LDS branch chapel to ever have been constructed by a single family.⁶⁴ Historic photos indicate the presence of the chapel at the post by 1955 and former missionary Richard Hatch dates the chapel to 1955-56.⁶⁵ The building contains a sanctuary and a small apartment for LDS missionaries (or elders). Previous to the construction of the chapel, missionaries stayed in the stone bunkhouse at the post, utilizing the east apartment (the three Smouse boys lived in the west unit). The Smouses charged the elders for

⁵⁹ "Entry for January 18 - Three Month Report, March 31, 1948," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*. LDS records note that Charlie Morgan was "the first to be baptized at Borrogo Pass" in October 1948. See "Entry for October 26 - Three Month Report, December 31, 1948," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*. The Borrogo Pass Trading Post was also the site of a large LDS gathering on June 24, 1951, when "the entire mission presidency went to Borrogo Pass at the request of the Indian people there, to hold a meeting with them and also to pray for rain." Each of the two meetings that were held drew over 60 Diné. See "Entry for June 24 - Three Month Report, June 30, 1951," in Reel 1 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*.

⁶⁰ Henry A. Smith, "Work with Indians Top Story of 1948," *Deseret News*, 15 Dec 1948: Section C, 3.

⁶¹ The other five locations were "at Ramah [NM], southeast of Gallup"; "in the St. John's [AZ] stake"; "one northwest of Crystal, New Mexico near the Arizona/New Mexico line"; "near St. George [UT] for the Shevitt Indians"; "at Richfield [UT] for the Navajos and other Indians in that area"; "at Kanosh [UT]." *Deseret News*, 15 December 1948.

⁶² The chapel was designed by Edward O. Anderson, architect, and the sketch was drawn by Robert L. Shepherd. See Weston, *Mormon Architecture* (Salt Lake City: Weston Publishing, 1949), 89.

⁶³ In 1960, branch chapels in the Southwest Indian Mission that ministered to Navajos were located at Lee (formerly Two-Story Trading Post), Arizona; Toadlena, New Mexico; Perea Trading Post, New Mexico; El Morro, near Ramah, New Mexico; Crystal, New Mexico; Sawmill, Arizona; and Borrogo Pass Trading Post. There was also a chapel at Moencopi that served mostly Hopis and a chapel at Thoreau that was attended mostly by Anglos. Other LDS buildings that specifically served Diné converts included the following: a trailer at Red Rock, Arizona; "a small house near Trading Post" at Gap, Arizona; a small building at Whitehorse for converts in Pueblo Alto, New Mexico. At Chinle, Arizona, meetings were held in a small building and at Black Mountain Trading Post. See "Yearly Area and Progress Report," in *The Lamanite*, December 1960. L. Tom Perry Special Collections at the Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

⁶⁴ DeForrest Smouse, interview with Lillian Makeda, 8 Oct 2009. Also Richard G. Oman, interview with Lillian Makeda 3 Aug 2010.

⁶⁵ Interview with Lillian Makeda, 19 Apr 2009

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

McKinley, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

the utility bills, but did not collect rent. Don R. Smouse also loaned his horses to the elders so that they could travel and proselytize in the area.⁶⁶

The architecture of the Borrego Pass chapel is distinguished by its spareness and lack of pretension. The rectangular building is painted white and is unadorned save for a metal sign identifying the building as an LDS church. As historian Richard Francaviglia has written, "the Mormons have always stressed simple but effective houses of worship."⁶⁷ The pews and pulpit were taken from the Bluewater, New Mexico chapel which had closed several years earlier.⁶⁸

Activities at the chapel included both religious meetings and community events. Richard Hatch, who served as a missionary at Borrego Pass from 1965-1966 can remember that on Sundays, Sacrament Meeting and Sunday School took place with an average of 25 people attending.⁶⁹ In 1966, the Branch also sponsored a field trip to Albuquerque "to see the BYU Cougars beat the UNM Lobos (33-6)" and to take a ride on the Sandia Peak Tramway.⁷⁰ During the week, Relief Society meetings were held. The Society was a woman's group that would typically come together for a meal and work on various craft projects. Hatch says that the chapel "usually had a [weaving] loom set up in the back that the Society was working." Children eleven years and younger also met at the chapel on a weekday. Hatch can remember an average of 10-20 children gathering in the building for these meetings. Christmas parties were an annual event at the chapel, and the festivities in 1968 drew 400 people.⁷¹ The pulpit would be moved out into the parking lot and gifts would be distributed. Saturday nights, movies were shown in the chapel. For a dime or three empty pop bottles, local residents could watch a movie on a 16mm projector purchased by the Smouses. The Smouses ordered films from a catalog they acquired from a movie company. Westerns were popular and "the chapel would be packed" with "thirty to forty trucks out front."⁷² The chapel was active until the death of Fern Bloomfield Smouse in 1991.⁷³

The Southwest Indian Mission ultimately constructed only four trading post chapels. The reason was almost certainly related to the hostility demonstrated toward the LDS Church by rival denominations and by the Navajo Tribal Council from the late 1940s until at least 1960. As late as 1959, the trader at Sunrise Trading Post at Leupp, Arizona was forced to ask two LDS missionaries who were living in a trailer at the post to leave. LDS records document that the trader was responding to threats "that if he did not move the Mormon Elders from his lease, that certain measures would be taken to see that his privileges to trade on the reservation were withdrawn."⁷⁴ Church records from the period repeatedly attest to the antagonism encountered by the LDS Church in Navajoland. Indian traders were especially vulnerable to this antagonism and the construction program that was planned for trading posts in 1946 never came to fruition.⁷⁵

The branch chapel at Borrego Pass remains as the only LDS chapel associated with a trading post in the United States.⁷⁶ The "little log house" at Crystal has been razed and only traces remain of the Perea and Two-Story Trading Posts. The chapel at Borrego Pass qualifies as a religious building, but it is also the only example of a typology "that

⁶⁶ DeForrest Smouse, "Don R. and Frances Fern Smouse," 12.

⁶⁷ Richard V. Francaviglia, *The Mormon Landscape: Existence, Creation, and Perception of a Unique Image in the American West* (New York: AMS Press, 1978), 97.

⁶⁸ Richard Hatch, interview with Lillian Makeda, April 19, 2009. The Bluewater Branch (later Ward) was organized in 1901 and was one of the oldest branches in New Mexico.

⁶⁹ Richard Hatch, interview, 19 Apr 2009.

⁷⁰ "Entry for September 22 - Quarterly Historical Report of the Borrego Pass Branch for the Three Months ending September 30, 1966," in LR 863 2, *Borrego Pass Branch Manuscript History and Historical Reports, 1965-69*, LDS Church History Library, Salt Lake City, UT.

⁷¹ Richard Hatch, personal communication, April 19, 2009, and "Entry for December 23 - Historical Report of the Borrego Pass Branch date 12/31/68 for the year ending 1968," in LR 863 2, *Borrego Pass Branch Manuscript History and Historical Reports, 1965-69*, LDS Church History Library, Salt Lake City, UT.

⁷² Richard Hatch, interview, 19 Apr 2009.

⁷³ DeForrest Smouse, "Don R. and Frances Fern Smouse," 14.

⁷⁴ "Entry for November 3, 1959 - Quarterly Report, December 31, 1959" in Reel 2 of LR 8571 2, *Southwest Indian Mission Manuscript History and Historical Reports*.

⁷⁵ The period immediately after WWII was one of rapid historical change in federal-Indian policy and how these changes additionally complicated attempts to build Mormon trading post chapels is an unexplored area of research and beyond the scope of this nomination.

⁷⁶ According to Richard G. Oman, interview with Lillian Makeda, 5 Aug 2010.

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico

County and State

represents to an exceptional degree the history of the state by its association with events, people, or design and construction elements significant on the national, regional, or local level.⁷⁷ It thus fulfills the requirements for National Register eligibility as outlined in *Religious Properties of New Mexico*, a Statement of Historic Context completed for the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division in 1995. In addition, the chapel illustrates the broad impact of Mormonism on the history of the Four Corners region, and thus meets National Register Criterion Consideration A: Religious Properties. The Borrogo Pass Trading Post is one of the last active "old-style" trading posts in the United States and represents a variety of commerce that was once pre-eminent at many Indian reservations in the Western part of this country. The presence of the chapel renders it additionally distinctive as an archetypal example of Mormon trading in the American Southwest. As such, the post is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of New Mexico and American history, qualifying it by Criterion A for the New Mexico and National Registers of Historic Places.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

The history of the trading post system in Navajoland begins in 1868 with the treaty between the Navajo people and the US government.⁷⁸ This treaty followed several years of warfare, which culminated in the internment of 8,000 Navajos, at least half the Navajo population, on a military reservation (Bosque Redondo) several hundred miles east of their homeland. The treaty established a reservation in the middle of the much larger Navajo traditional homeland. Then the US government sent the people home.

Most families returned to their former homes, whether inside or outside the Treaty Reservation. There they tried to continue their traditional way of life, raising livestock, farming, hunting, and gathering, all for their own consumption, and trading among wide networks of relatives and neighboring tribes for what they did not produce. Extended families tried to restore their former far-flung seasonal ranges. Yet, despite several additions to the Reservation in the late 1800s and early 1900s, several new developments thwarted them, including:

- The loss of livestock before the treaty, which delayed restoration of full self-support.
- The re-establishment of military posts inside post-1868 Navajoland, which helped forestall rebellions and increased the region's appeal to non-Indian settlers.
- Encroachment by non-Indian settlers into the edges of Navajoland, which barred Navajo families from much of their homeland, especially the best-watered, most productive parts.
- The transcontinental railroad, built in 1881 across the southern part of Navajoland, which drew still more non-Indians. In 1866 Congress had set aside a grant of alternate square mile parcels, ultimately extending 50 miles both north and south of the railroad's route. The Borrogo Pass Trading Post is within the original railroad grant in the eastern part of post-1868 Navajoland, an area called the Checkerboard because of the checkered pattern of land ownership established by the railroad grant and the non-Indian ranchers it attracted.

These developments prepared the ground for the trading-post system to take root amid the formerly self-subsistent people who had lost the land and livestock necessary to maintain that way of life. The military posts, with their sutlers, and the railroad, with its efficient access to markets and sources of trade goods in the Eastern US, provided the system's basic infrastructure. The resulting system had the following features:

- Scattered rural trading posts that served Navajo families in their hinterlands and were connected to general merchandise wholesalers in the border towns along the railroads and wagon roads on the edges of Navajoland (Gallup, Farmington, and Grants in New Mexico; Flagstaff, Winslow, and Holbrook in Arizona, and Cortez in Colorado). Each border town eventually had several dozen such trading posts in their hinterlands, and each post generally dealt with wholesalers in the nearest border town. Goods were hauled to and from town by contract

⁷⁷ National Register of Historic Places requirements as outlined in Corinne P. Sze, *Religious Properties of New Mexico* [National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form] (Santa Fe: New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, 1995), Section F, 115.

⁷⁸ This section is based on the following sources: Klara Bonsack Kelley, *Commercial Networks in the Navajo-Hopi-Zuni Region* (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, 1977); Kelley and Francis, "Navajo Ethnohistorical Account of the Borrogo Pass Region," and "Ethnographic Investigations at Site NM-Q-25-52; Kelley and Francis, "Borrogo Pass Trading Post" in *Navajo Trading Post Encyclopedia*; Powers, *Navajo Trading*.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

McKinley, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

wagon freighters, many of them Navajos paid in merchandise, who also operated their own small, usually short-lived trading posts. (Most traders have been non-Navajos, but throughout its history, the system also included some traders who were Navajos.)

- A network of exchange that was based almost entirely on credit. Just as the traders supplied general merchandise to Navajos directly in exchange for wool, weaving and silverwork, hides and pelts, pinyon nuts, and later lambs and cattle, so the traders passed these commodities along to the wholesalers in exchange for general merchandise.
- A trade relationship between border-town wholesalers and larger, more specialized wholesalers who provided general merchandise and were based in the region's major cities: Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Phoenix, Denver, and Salt Lake City.

At first the system was based on straight barter, so Navajo families supplemented seasonal commodities (mainly wool, since they kept livestock to rebuild their herds) with items they could trade year-round. The main such commodity was weaving, already long famous and widely traded throughout the region since long before 1868. Silver jewelry became another such commodity when the tourists drawn by the railroad proved a profitable market for it. After the turn of the 20th century, however, traders increasingly extended credit on various terms to Navajo families, which enlarged the scale of Navajo indebtedness to the posts and dependence on them. As a result, trading posts proliferated. At its peak around 1930, the system consisted of about 150 posts for a population of about 40,000. Each post served around 270 people or 30 extended families (the Navajo population now may exceed 250,000). The Borrego Pass Trading Post was established late in this expansive time of the trading post system.

Between the 1930s and the 1950s, several developments restricted the trading post system and eventually caused its demise. These included:

- The stock reduction program of the 1930s, when the U.S government forced the Navajo people to sell roughly 40-50% of their livestock. This program was part of federal soil conservation and range management efforts throughout the western US, one goal of which was to prevent silting at the new Hoover Dam on the Colorado River, a major electric power source for southern California.
- World War II and postwar oil, gas, uranium, and (later) coal development in the region, which increased wage work for Navajos to replace livestock as the main livelihood for most families (eventually supplemented by various low-income and entitlement payments).
- Federal funding for road improvement and other new infrastructure in Navajoland during the 1950s and 1960s.

These developments enabled the Navajo people to take their income, now mostly in monthly cash payments, to shop in the border towns. They eventually withdrew the volume of trade that most trading posts needed to survive. Other factors that undermined the trading post system included federal and Navajo Nation government regulations propounded in the 1950s to control trading-post credit practices and upgrade the buildings; and globalization of trade in later decades, which undermined regional wool and livestock wholesalers.

Though buffeted by increasingly powerful colonial forces that subordinated their formerly independent, egalitarian society to the stratified national one, the Navajo people after 1868 were not simply exploited victims. Nor was the trading post system simply a means for US merchant capitalists to exploit them (though exploitation was built into all levels of the system). As both producers and consumers, Navajos were the foundation of the trading post system and its main source of profits. If a Navajo community did not want a trading post in its midst, the post would not survive. The posts that survived the longest were those with traders who worked most cooperatively with the surrounding Navajo communities. Borrego Pass was prominent among them.

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Manuscripts

- Borrogo Pass Branch Manuscript History and Historical Reports, 1965-69.* LDS Church History Library and Archives, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Borrogo Pass Branch Manuscript History and Historical Reports, 1982-83.* LDS Church History Library and Archives, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Manuscript History and Historical Reports, Southwest Indian Mission.* LDS Church History Library and Archives, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Smouse, DeForrest. "A Day at a Navajo Trading Post – Borrogo Pass Trading Post – Prewitt, McKinley County, New Mexico," (May 2010). Original in possession of the author.
- "Don R. and Frances Fern Smouse: Indian Traders to the Navajos, Borrogo Pass Trading Post, McKinley County, New Mexico," (July 2009). Original in possession of the author.
- "Mormon Indian Traders," (July 2009). Original in possession of the author.
- United Indian Traders Association Collection.* Northern Arizona University, Cline Library Special Collections, Flagstaff, Arizona.

Books, Articles, MA Theses, Reports, and Websites:

- Burton, Harold W. "Our Church Architectural Development." *Improvement Era* Volume 62 (April 1959): 252-267.
- Cannon, Lewis T. "Architecture of Church Buildings." *The Improvement Era* Volume 17 (May 1914): 793-801.
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. *Family Search International Genealogical Index v5.0.* Accessed online at <http://www.familysearch.org> on July 22, 2009.
- Cousins, Jean and Bill. *Tales from Wide Ruins.* Edited by Mary Tate Engels. Lubbock, TX: Texas Tech University Press, 1996.
- Evans, Will. *Along Navajo Trails: Recollections of a Trader.* Edited by Susan E. Woods and Robert S. McPherson. Logan, UT: Utah State University Press, 2005.
- Flake, David Kay. "A History of Mormon Missionary Work with the Hopi, Navajo, and Zuni Indians." M.A. Thesis, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, 1965.
- Foster, H. Mannie. "History of Mormon Settlements in Mexico and New Mexico." M.A. Thesis, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, 1937.
- Francaviglia, Richard V. *The Mormon Landscape: Existence, Creation, and Perception of a Unique Image in the American West.* New York: AMS Press, 1978.
- Givens, Terry. *People of Paradox: A History of Mormon Culture.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2007.
- Heinz, Lyle S. "Origin and development of the San Juan Mission in southeastern Utah in its work with Indian people (principally since 1940)." M.A. Thesis, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, 1976.
- Kelley, Klara Bonsack. "Commercial Networks in the Navajo-Hopi-Zuni Region." Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, 1977.
- Kelley, Klara and Harris Francis. "Borrogo Pass Trading Post" and miscellaneous other entries. In *Navajo Trading Post Encyclopedia.* Accessed online at <http://www.navajotradingposts.info/> on July 15, 2010, October 22, 2010, and update in preparation, ms in authors' possession.
- "Navajo Ethnohistorical Account of the Borrogo Pass Region," and "Ethnographic Investigations at Site NM-Q-25-52," from Kurt Dongoske and Donovan K. Quam, *Phase II Data Recovery at Sites NM-Q-25-51 and NM-Q-25-52 along County Road 19 Borrogo Pass, McKinley County, New Mexico* (Zuni Cultural Resource Enterprise Report No. 834. [NNHPD report no. 89-188.18]. Zuni, NM: Zuni Cultural Resources Enterprise, 2005.
- Kirk, Tom. *The Kirk Clan, Traders with the Navaho.* People of the Far West, Brand Book No. 6. San Diego: Corral of the Westerners, 1979—Accessed online 6 at http://www.shillingburg.net/tom_kirk.html on 6 Aug 2010.
- Law, Wesley R. "Mormon Indian Missions – 1855." M.A. Thesis, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, 1959.
- Lee, Albert. *Gaamaliitsoh, Indian Trader: An Autobiography of Albert Hugh Lee, 1897-1976.* Edited by Ella Ruth Lee Danoff and Fae Lee Sitton. Mesa, AZ: Lofgren's, 1982.
- McNitt, Frank. *The Indian Traders.* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1962.
- Meinig, Donald W. "The Mormon Culture Region: Strategies and Patterns in the Geography of the American West, 1847-1964." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Volume 55, No. 2 (June 1965): 191-220.
- Oman, Richard G. "LDS Southwest Indian Art." *Ensign*, September 1982—Accessed online at <http://www.lds.org> on

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico

County and State

16 Mar 2010.

Palmer, John Franklin. "Mormon Settlements in the San Juan Basin of Colorado and New Mexico." M.A. Thesis, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, 1967.

Pavlik, Steve. "Of Saints and Lamanites: An Analysis of Navajo Mormonism." *Wicazo Sa Review* Volume 8, No. 1 (Spring 1992): 21-30.

Peterson, Charles S. *Take up your Mission: Mormon Colonizing along the Little Colorado River, 1870-1900*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1973.

Peterson, Iver. "Indian Traders Fading from Western Landscape." *The New York Times*. 9 Feb 1986.

Polacca, Howela. "The Story of Howela Polacca," in *The Gamalii*, 20 Mar 1948.

Powers, Willow Roberts. *Navajo Trading: The End of an Era*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2001.

Smith, Henry A. "Work with Indians Top Story of 1948." *Deseret News*, 15 Dec 1948: Section C, 3+.

Smith, Joseph. *History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Period I: History of Joseph Smith, the Prophet*. Salt Lake City: Deseret News, 1902.

Spears Architects, AIA and the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division. *Historic Trading Posts of Northwest New Mexico*. Santa Fe: New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, 1993.

Stegner, Wallace. *Mormon Country*. New York: Bonanza Books, 1952.

Sze, Corinne P. *Religious Properties of New Mexico* [National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form]. Santa Fe: New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, 1995.

Tanner, J. "Architecture in Religion." *The Improvement Era* Volume 17 (May 1914): 789-791.

Telling, Irving. "Ramah, New Mexico, 1876-1900: An Historical Episode with Some Value Analysis." *Utah Historical Quarterly* Volume 21 (1953): 117-136.

Tietjen, Gary. *Encounter with the Frontier*. Salt Lake City: DMT Publishing, 2007.

———. *Mormon Pioneers in New Mexico: A History of Ramah, Fruitland, Luna, Beulah, Bluewater, Virden, and Carson*. Self-published, 1980.

Van Valkenburgh, Richard and John McPhee. *A Short History of the Navajo People*. Window Rock, AZ: Navajo Service, 1938.

"Ware House at Borego Pass Destroyed by Fire - Buildings on North and South Miraculously Saved." *The Gamalih*, 27 Jun 1949: 1. L. Tom Perry Special Collections at the Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

Weston, Joseph. *Mormon Architecture*. Salt Lake City: Weston Publishing, 1949.

Wilcox, Keith Wilson. "An Architectural Design Concept for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints." M.A. Thesis, University of Oregon, Eugene, 1953.

Interviews and Personal Communications

Martin Begay, interview with Klara B. Kelley, 27 May 2003

James V. "Vernon" Bloomfield, interview with Klara B. Kelley, 8 Aug 1974

Bruce Burnham, interview with Lillian Makeda, 5 Aug 2010

Herbert Clausen, interview with Lillian Makeda, 4 Aug 2009

Josie Gonzales, interview with Klara B. Kelley and Lillian Makeda, 30 May 2009

Josie Gonzales, interview with Lillian Makeda, 2 Aug 2010

Richard Hatch, interview with Lillian Makeda, 19 Apr 2009.

Grace [Bloomfield] Herring, interview with Karen Underhill, 11 Feb 1998. United Indian Traders Association Collection, Northern Arizona University, Cline Library Special Collections (NAU.OH.75.5)

Bruce McGee, interview with Lillian Makeda, 5 Aug 2010

Clifton McGee, interview with Lillian Makeda, 6 Aug 2010

Rosella Moore, interviews with Klara B. Kelley, 24-25 Jun 2003

Mabel Morgan, interview with Klara B. Kelley, 5 Jun 2003

Alan Morrell, Historian with the LDS Church History Library, Salt Lake City, UT, personal communications with Lillian Makeda, 24 Sep and 28 Sep 2009.

Richard G. Oman, interview with Lillian Makeda, 3 Aug 2010.

Sam Platero, interview with Klara B. Kelley, 23 May 2003

DeForrest Smouse, interviews with Lillian Makeda, 11 May, 23 Sep, and 8 Oct 2009

Donald L. Smouse, interview with Klara B. Kelley, 23 Jun 2003

Donald L. Smouse, interview with Lillian Makeda, 21 May 2009

Joe Tanner, interview with Lillian Makeda, 22 June 2009

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

McKinley, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

Dale Tingey, interview with Lillian Makeda, 5 Aug 2010
Kent W. Wilcox, interview with Lillian Makeda, 7 Sep 2009
Mark Winter, personal communication with Lillian Makeda, 18 Sep 2009

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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 12

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References (NAD27)

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

For official reference purposes only Points 1, 2, 3, 5, 11, and 12 are plotted on the USGS map, as they circumscribe the general boundaries of the property. The remaining points are plotted on the attached Site Map and further demarcate the verbal boundary description.

1	12S	0771824	3940990	9	12S	0771808	3941190
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	12S	0771722	3941038	10	12S	0771855	3941185
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3	12S	0771667	3941103	11	13S	0228189	3941212
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
4	12S	0771680	3941154	12	13S	0228256	3941186
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
5	12S	0771697	3941190	13	13S	0228234	3941079
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
6	12S	0771714	3941218	14	13S	0228191	3941053
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
7	12S	0771731	3941213	15	13S	0228153	3941035
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
8	12S	0771754	3941197	16			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The district is located in a cove enclosed on the west, north, and east sides by a rocky escarpment of Mesa Verde sandstone roughly 100 feet high. The district's southern perimeter follows McKinley County Route 509. The boundary includes the top edge of the surrounding escarpment, as well as the escarpment wall, in order to incorporate features such as the windmill site and spring. The bounds can be found on the attached map, generally marked by the lines connecting the UTM coordinate points.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The escarpment and McKinley County Route 509 circumscribe the area where the trading post and the historic activities associated with it are located.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lillian Makeda and Klara B. Kelley, PhD

organization _____

date August 6, 2010

street & number PO Box 1532

telephone 505-728-7960

city or town Gallup

state NM

zip code 87305

e-mail lillianmakeda@yahoo.com ; kbkelley47@yahoo.com

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name DeForrest Smouse

street & number 1070 N. 500 E.

telephone 801-292-2554

city or town Centerville

state UT

zip code 84014

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

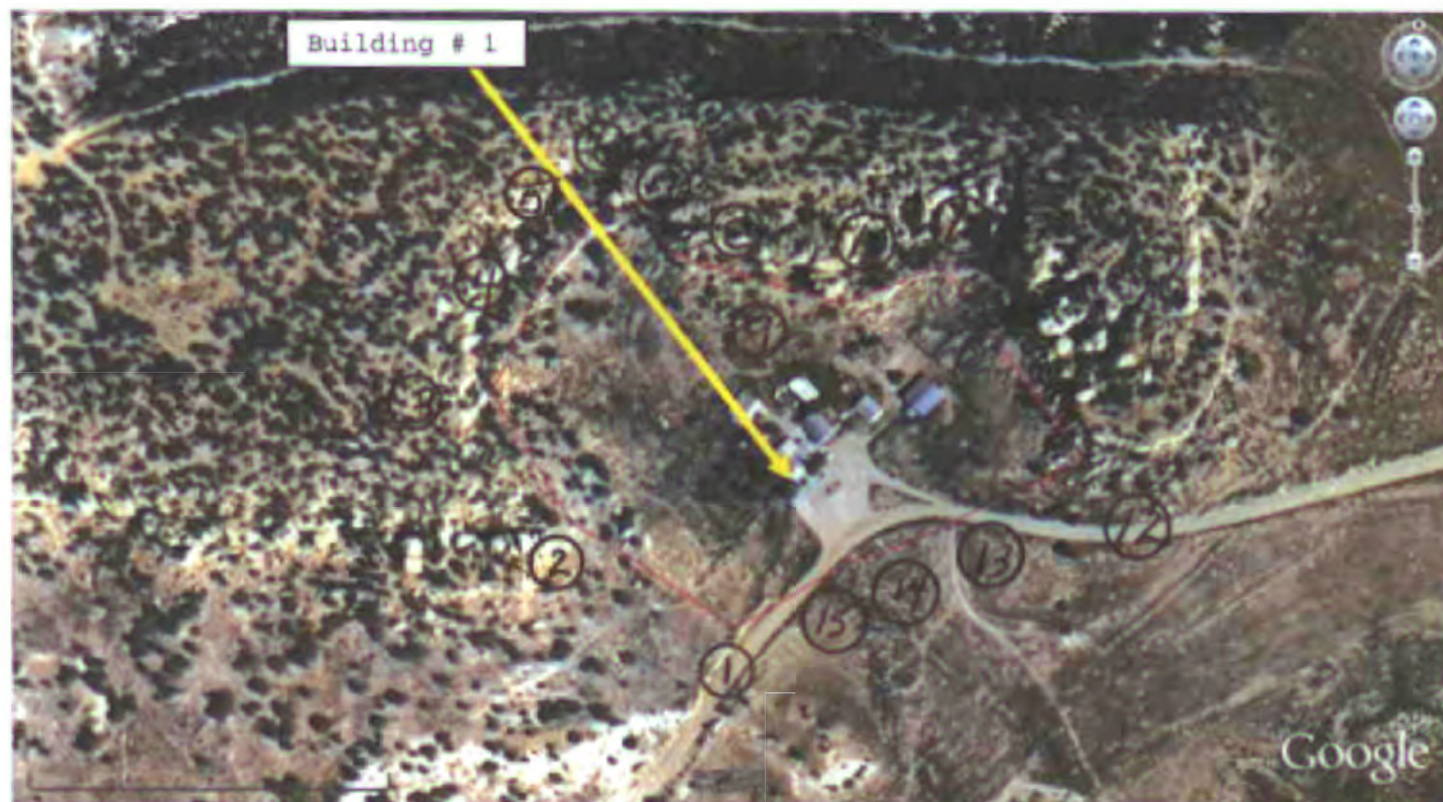
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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 18 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.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Additional Documentation: Site Maps



Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

NOTE: Top of the image is north; the southernmost building on this image is building no. 1 on the sketch map.

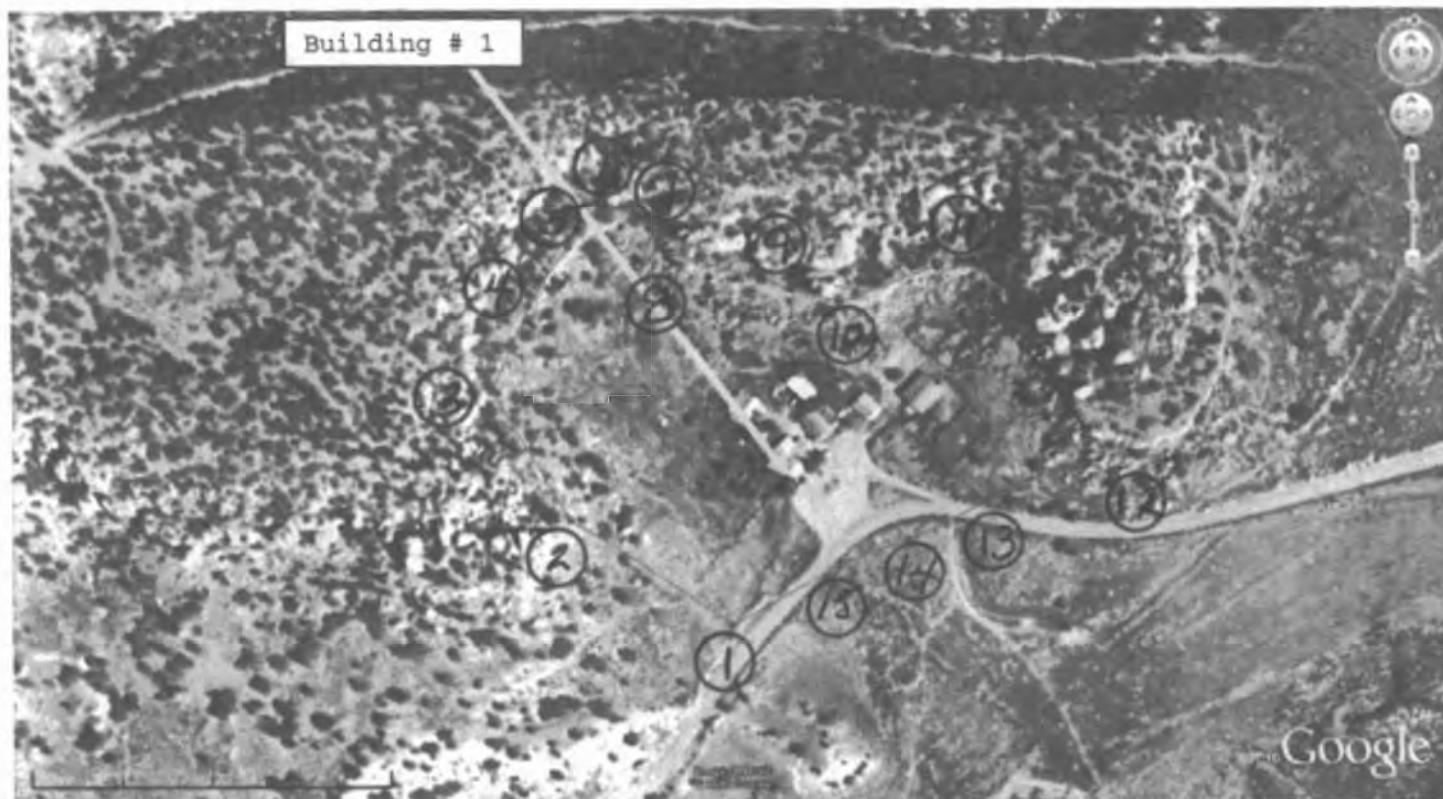
Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

McKinley, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

Additional Documentation: Site Maps



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

NOTE: Top of the image is north; the southernmost building on this image is building no. 1 on the sketch map.

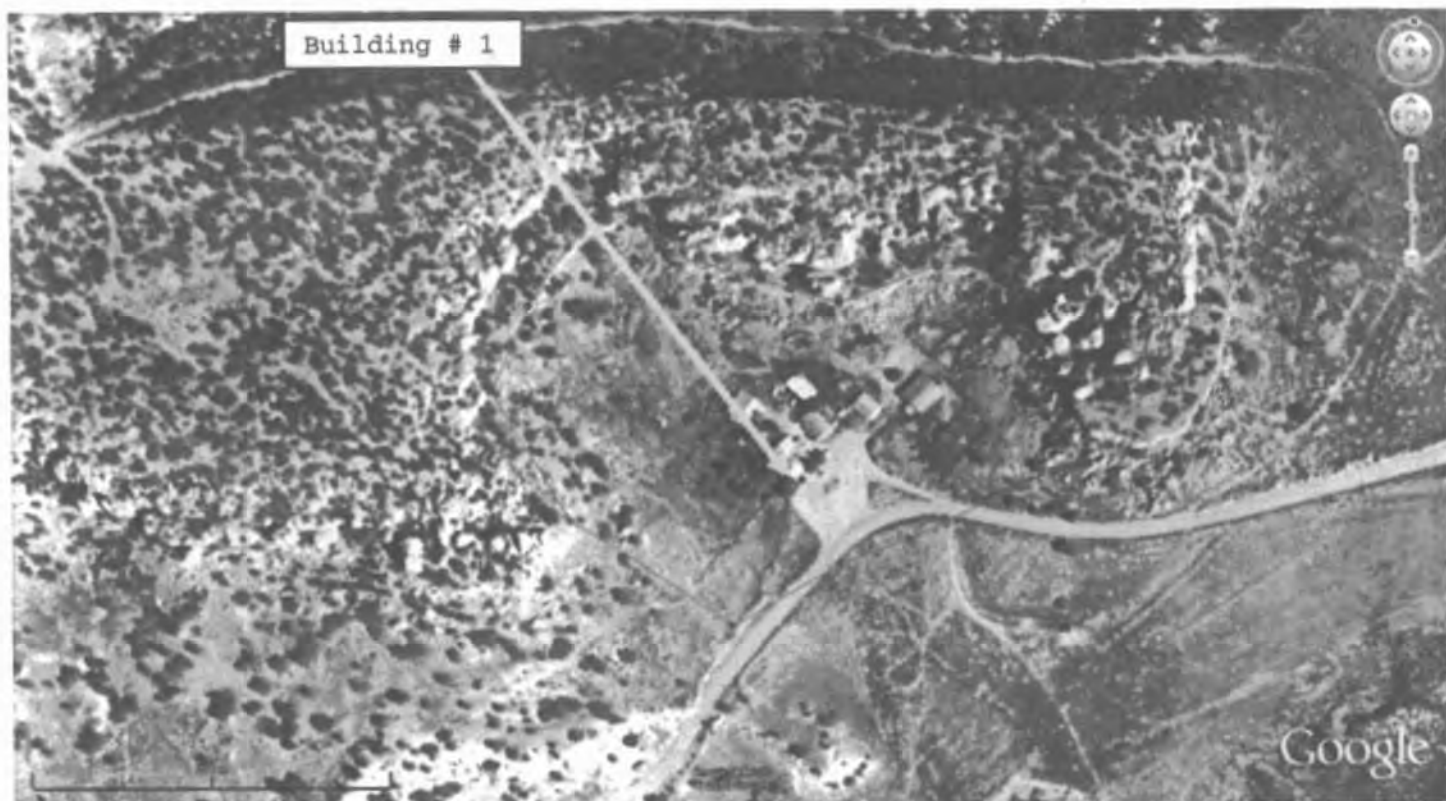
Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

McKinley, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

Additional Documentation: Site Maps



Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

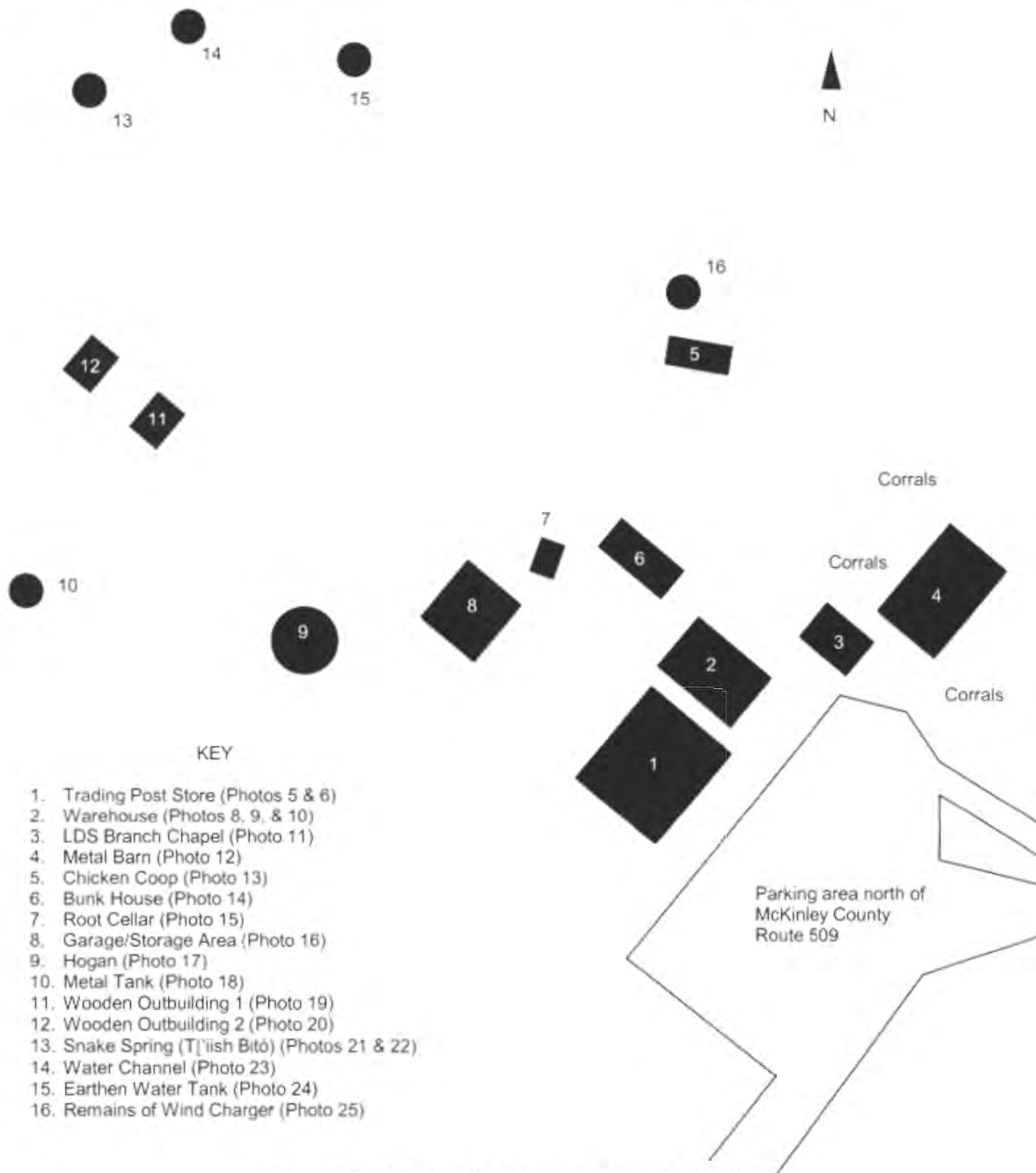
NOTE: Top of the image is north; the southernmost building on this image is building no. 1 on the sketch map.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico

County and State



Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District Sketch Map

NOTE: Building no. 1 is the southernmost building on the Google aerial image.

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Additional Documentation: USGS Map



Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Casamero Lake Quad, 1963 and Borrego Pass Quad, 1963 combined

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Additional Documentation: Figures

Figure 7-1. "Bullpen" of the Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. early 1950s
Source: DeForrest Smouse

Figure 7-2. Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. 1936
Source: DeForrest Smouse

Figure 7-3. Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. 1940
Source: DeForrest Smouse

Figure 7-4. Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. 1945
Source: DeForrest Smouse

Figure 7-5. Borrego Pass Trading Post with early warehouse, c. 1949
Source: DeForrest Smouse

Figure 7-6. Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. early 1950s
Source: DeForrest Smouse

Figure 7-7. Borrego Pass Trading Post undergoing expansion, c. 1955-56
Source: Northern Arizona University, Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives, Grace Herring Collection

Figure 7-8. Borrego Pass Trading Post, Christmas 1956
Source: DeForrest Smouse

Figure 8-1. Illustration of a Navajo LDS Chapel, Edward O. Anderson, architect and Robert L. Shepherd, delineator
Source: Joseph Weston, *Mormon Architecture* (Salt Lake City: Weston Publishing, 1949)

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico

County and State

Additional Documentation: Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger.

Name of Property: Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

City or Vicinity: Borrego Pass

County: McKinley

State: NM

Photographers: Lillian Makeda and John R. Stein

Dates Photographed: May 30, 2009 and August 2, 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 25

View of Borrego Pass Trading Post from McKinley County Route 509

Facing North

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

2 of 25

Setting

Facing West

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

3 of 25

Setting

Facing East

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

4 of 25

View of Sandstone Pinnacle along Bench of Escarpment

Facing Southwest

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

5 of 25

The Trading Post Store/Main Residence (Sketch Map Location 1)

Facing West

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

6 of 25

The Trading Post Store/Main Residence (Sketch Map Location 1)

Facing South

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

7 of 25

Interior of Store with historic glass display cases

Facing West

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

8 of 25

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico

County and State

Warehouse (Sketch Map Location 2)

Facing East

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

9 of 25

Warehouse (Sketch Map Location 2)

Facing South

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

10 of 25

Warehouse with subterranean storage area (Sketch Map Location 2)

Facing Northwest

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

11 of 25

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Branch Chapel (Sketch Map Location 3)

Facing East

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

12 of 25

Metal Barn and Corrals (Sketch Map Location 4)

Facing East

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

13 of 25

Chicken Coop (Sketch Map Location 5)

Facing East

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

14 of 25

Bunkhouse (Sketch Map Location 6)

Facing Northeast

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

15 of 25

Root Cellar (Sketch Map Location 7)

Facing Northeast

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

16 of 25

Garage and Storage Area (Sketch Map Location 8)

Facing North

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

17 of 25

Hogan (Sketch Map Location 9)

Facing Northwest

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

18 of 25

Metal tank (Sketch Map Location 10)

Facing Northwest

Date Photographed: May 30, 2009

19 of 25

Wooden Outbuilding (1 of 2) (Sketch Map Location 11)

Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District

Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico

County and State

Facing South

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

20 of 25

Wooden Outbuilding (2 of 2) (Sketch Map Location 12)

Facing South

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

21 of 25

Snake Spring (Tʼiish Bitó) (Sketch Map Location 13)

View from Bench on Escarpment, Facing Northwest

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

22 of 25

Snake Spring (Tʼiish Bitó)

Facing North

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

23 of 25

Water Channel

Facing North

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

24 of 25

Earthen Water Tank—Historic Archaeological Site B (Sketch Map Location 15)

View from Escarpment, Facing South

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

25 of 25

Wind Charger—Historic Archaeological Site C (Sketch Map Location 16)

View from Bench on Escarpment, Facing Northwest

Date Photographed: August 2, 2010

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Additional Documentation: Figures

**Figure 7-1. "Bullpen" of the Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. early 1950s.
Don R. and Fern Bloomfield Smouse are pictured at right.
Source: DeForrest Smouse**



Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Additional Documentation: Figures

Figure 7-2. Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. 1936.
Source: DeForrest Smouse

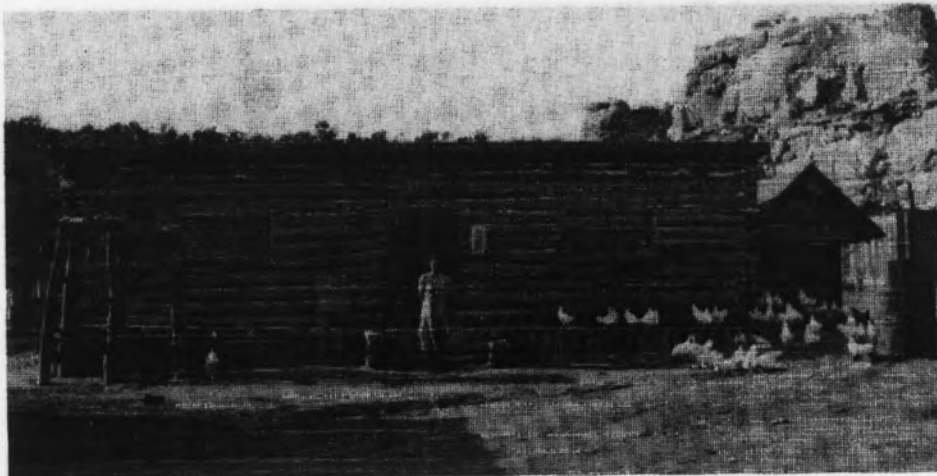


Figure 7-3. Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. 1940
Source: DeForrest Smouse

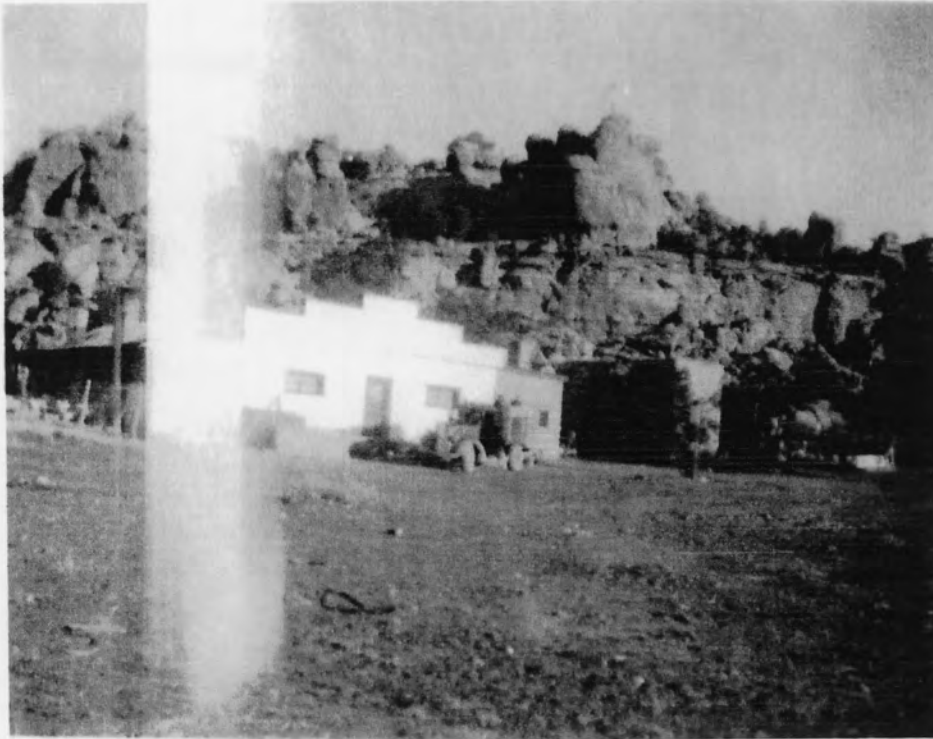


Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Additional Documentation: Figures

Figure 7-4. Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. 1945
Source: DeForrest Smouse



Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Additional Documentation: Figures

Figure 7-5. Borrego Pass Trading Post with early warehouse, c. 1949
Source: DeForrest Smouse



Figure 7-6. Borrego Pass Trading Post, c. early 1950s
Source: DeForrest Smouse



Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Additional Documentation: Figures

**Figure 7-7. Borrego Pass Trading Post undergoing expansion, c. 1955-56
The new warehouse and Borrego Pass LDS Branch Chapel are visible to the right.**

**Source: Northern Arizona University, Cline Library,
Special Collections and Archives, Grace Herring Collection.**



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
Name of Property

McKinley, New Mexico
County and State

Figure 7-8. Borrogo Pass Trading Post, Christmas 1956
Source: DeForrest Smouse.



Figure 8-1. Illustration of a Navajo LDS Chapel
Edward O. Anderson, architect and Robert L. Shepherd, delineator
Source: Joseph Weston, *Mormon Architecture* (Salt Lake City: Weston Publishing, 1949)



Modern Navajo Indian L.D.S. Chapel

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW MEXICO, McKinley

DATE RECEIVED: 6/10/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/29/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/14/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/26/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000475

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: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT ___ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA RETURN

REVIEWER Paul Lusignea

DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 7/26/11

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.

BORREGO PASS TRADING POST HISTORIC DISTRICT

McKinley County, NM

National Register of Historic Places – Review Comments

The current documentation requires technical and substantive revision. Final National Register consideration can be completed upon correction of the items noted below and submission of the revised nomination materials to the National Register.

The current nomination documents an interesting early twentieth century New Mexico property. The required revisions will address mapping issues, resource descriptions and counts, and boundary clarifications.

Classification

The *Resource Count* should be revised to read: *1 Non-contributing Structure*.

[The only non-contributing resource located with the boundaries of the nominated district is the cistern. The remaining “non-contributing resources” are actually located outside the boundaries and therefore should not be included in the official resource count. The inclusion of descriptive material for these features should be clearly noted in the narrative as providing additional information on outside setting.]

Historic Function

The *Historic Function* should be amended to add: *Religion/Religious Facility*.

[Since the nomination acknowledges the close association of the Mormon Church with the commercial activities at the trading post (see Significance), the function of the chapel building [#3] should probably be specifically highlighted under Historic Functions.]

Architectural Classification

The *Architectural Classification* box should be revised to further address a specific property type or style in association with term *Other*. [Simply referring to “Other” by itself does not provide any useful information to the database. Examples might include: Other/one-story storefront; Other/rubblestone vernacular; Other/log cabin, etc. The terms used may reflect common vernacular terminology or state-specific survey terminology.]

Description

Overall the building descriptions are excellent and provide the appropriate level of detail for the nomination. However, the inclusion of the descriptions for the coalmine, cemetery, Site NM-Q-25-52, well, and pastures under the heading *Non-Contributing Resources* in the narrative is highly confusing since these resources are not actually included within the boundaries of the nominated property (as per information provided by the nomination preparers.) In order to clarify the status of the various resources, I would continue using the subject heading “Non-Contributing Resources,” but include under that heading only the description for the concrete block cistern located east of the warehouse within the district.

Under a separate subject heading, perhaps entitled “*Setting*,” or “*Surrounding Resources*” you can move the current narratives for the other resources. A clarifying statement should be provided at the beginning stating that these descriptions are being provided to help establish the contemporary setting of the district, but are not considered a part of the historic district because they have been altered, do not reflect historic features, or are too distant from the core resources to be included. If their exclusion was simply a matter of owner preference, that could be seen as problematic, unless the nomination directly makes a case for the inclusion of only the core historic features. We previously discussed the possibility of including the

cemetery as a contributing resource and decided that the wording concerning integrity would suffice to justify its exclusion and "non-historic" status. If possible, similar notations should be provided to justify the exclusion of the other "non-contributing resources," which also appear to date from the period of significance. While not required, a map showing the rough approximate location of these extraneous features would be helpful, since they are given such prominent discussion.

Significance

The period of significance statement could have a stronger justification for the end date chosen, e.g. *"...The end date reflects the fact that although the trading post continued to operate, its historic significance does not support exceptional significance as required for properties less than 50 years old. The 1960 era also marked significant changes in the role and operations of commercial trading operations like the Borrego Pass property."*

Geographic Data

The Verbal Boundary Description should be revised to add the following clarification. *"...Route 509. The boundary includes the top edge of the surrounding escarpment, as well as the escarpment wall, in order to incorporate features such as the windmill site and spring. The bounds can be found on the attached map, generally marked by the line connecting the UTM coordinate points."*

The U.T.M. Points selected for the district should be noted on the full scale USGS map provided with the nomination. In the case of the Borrego Pass site, it might have been better to provide fewer points, but the inclusion of the sketch map assists in locating the precise points. The sketch map should be annotated, however, to place consecutively numbered markers to identify the actual UTM points. [These steps will be completed by the National Park Service.]

Photographs

Please note that the color prints submitted with the nomination were clearly discolored, perhaps due to the printing systems. Future nominations should seek to provide clearer and better quality prints.

If you have additional questions regarding these comments please feel free to contact my office directly.

Paul Lusignan, Historian
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
202-354-2229
Paul_lusignan@nps.gov

<s:/nr/lusi/slrtemp/borregopasstradingpost.rtn>

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW MEXICO, McKinley

DATE RECEIVED: 3/16/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/02/12
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000475

DETAILED EVALUATION:

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Commerce and Religion. A rare surviving, early twentieth century, Navajo trading post complex, the district includes vernacular resources dating from 1927 to 1960, which provided general merchandise and trade goods to local residents, as well as religious services and a ready market for Navajo-produced commodities. Closely aligned with the Mormon Church, the Borrego Pass Trading Post illustrates the often interwoven themes of religious activity and commerce in the rural Four Corners region of New Mexico.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion A

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignea DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 3/29/2012

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



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
1 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 1/25
Walmart 10/28/2010 Order# 1790



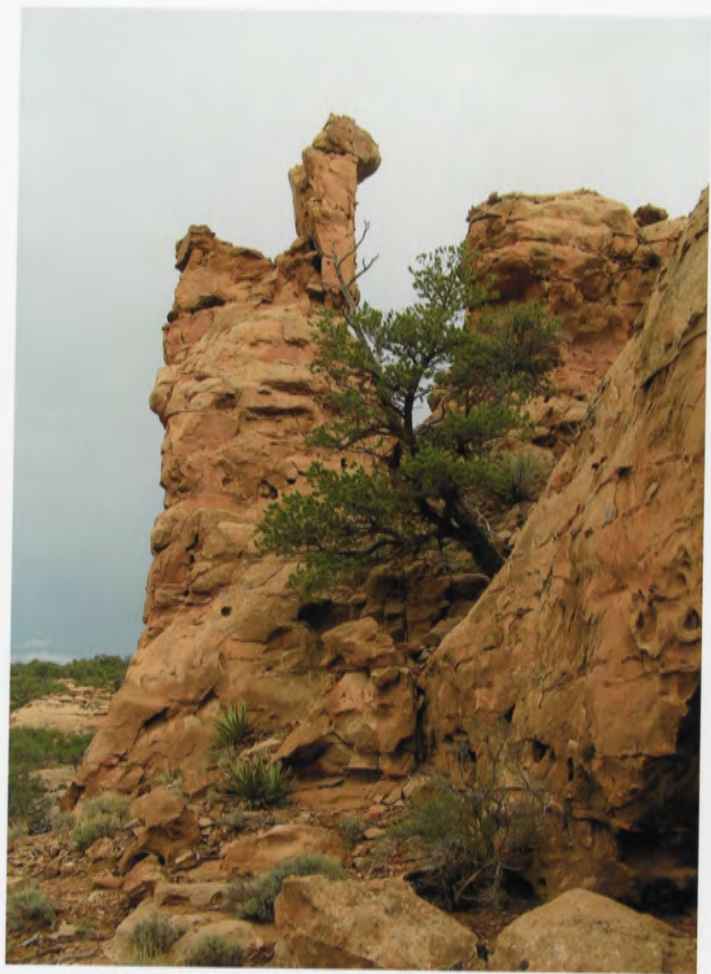
Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
2 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 11/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
3 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 10/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, Nm
4 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 5/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
S of 2S

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 12/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
6 of 25

NM McKinley County Borrego Pas 3/3
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1796



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
7 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 14/25
Walmart 5/20/2009 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
8 of 25

NM McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 22/25
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
9 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 23/25
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
10 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 19/25
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
11 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 1/3
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1796



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
12 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 15/25.
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM.
13 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 18/25
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM.
14 of 25

NM McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 21/25
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
IS of 25

NM_McKinley County Borrego Pas 16/25
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1790



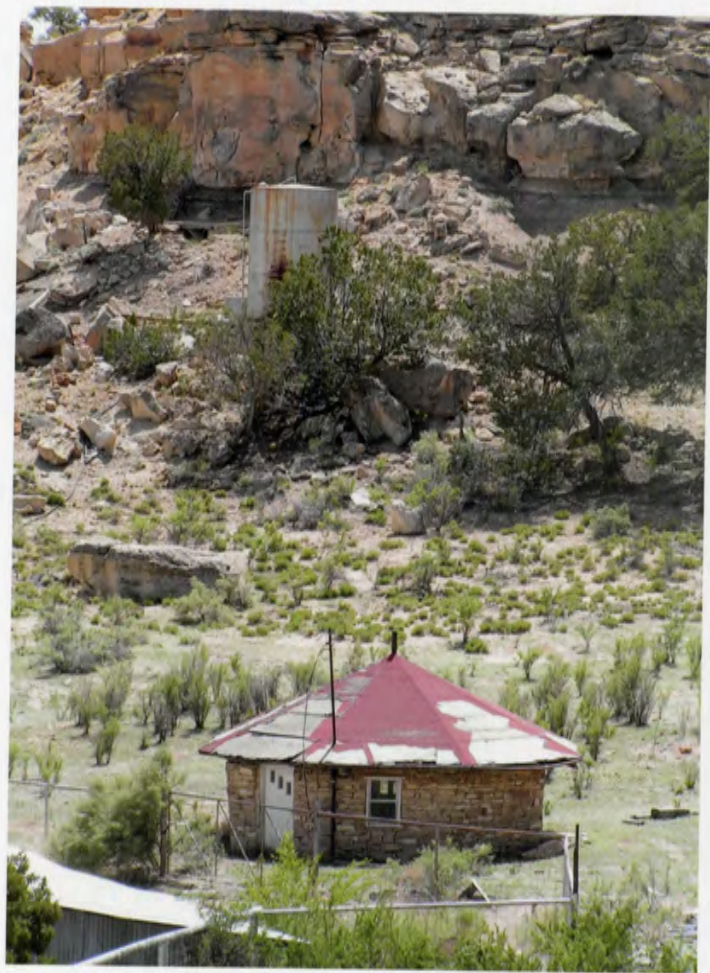
Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
16 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 20/25
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, N.M.
17 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 2/3
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1796



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
18 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 13/25
Walmart 5/30/2009 Order# 1790



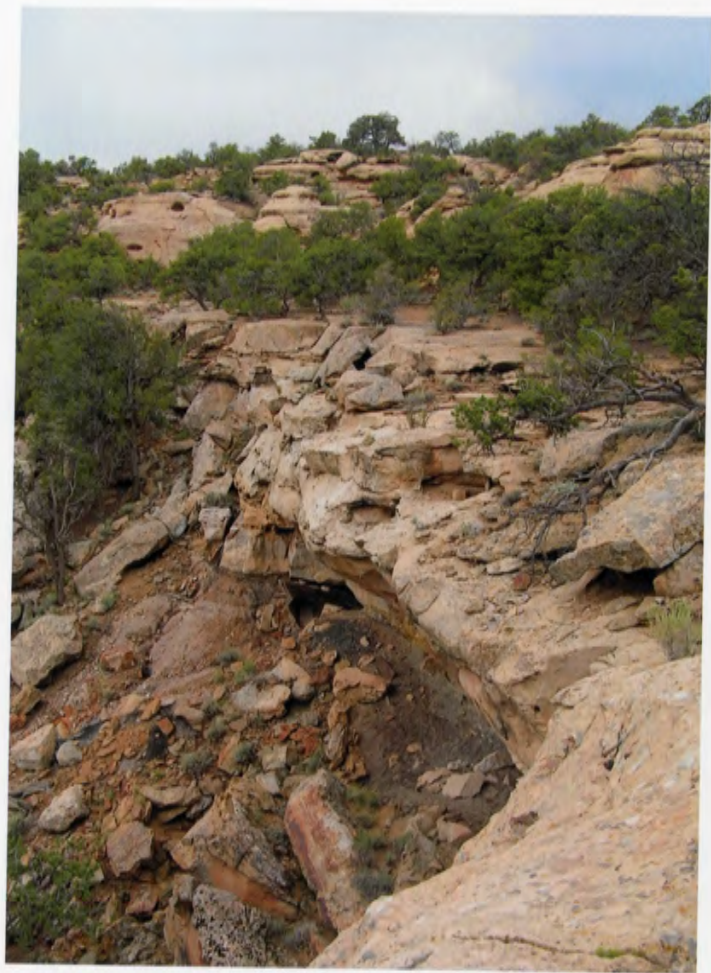
Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
19 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 6/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
20 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 7/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
21 of 25

NM_McKinley County Borrego Pas 3/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
22 of 25

NM McKinley County Borrogo Pas 8/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
23 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 2/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



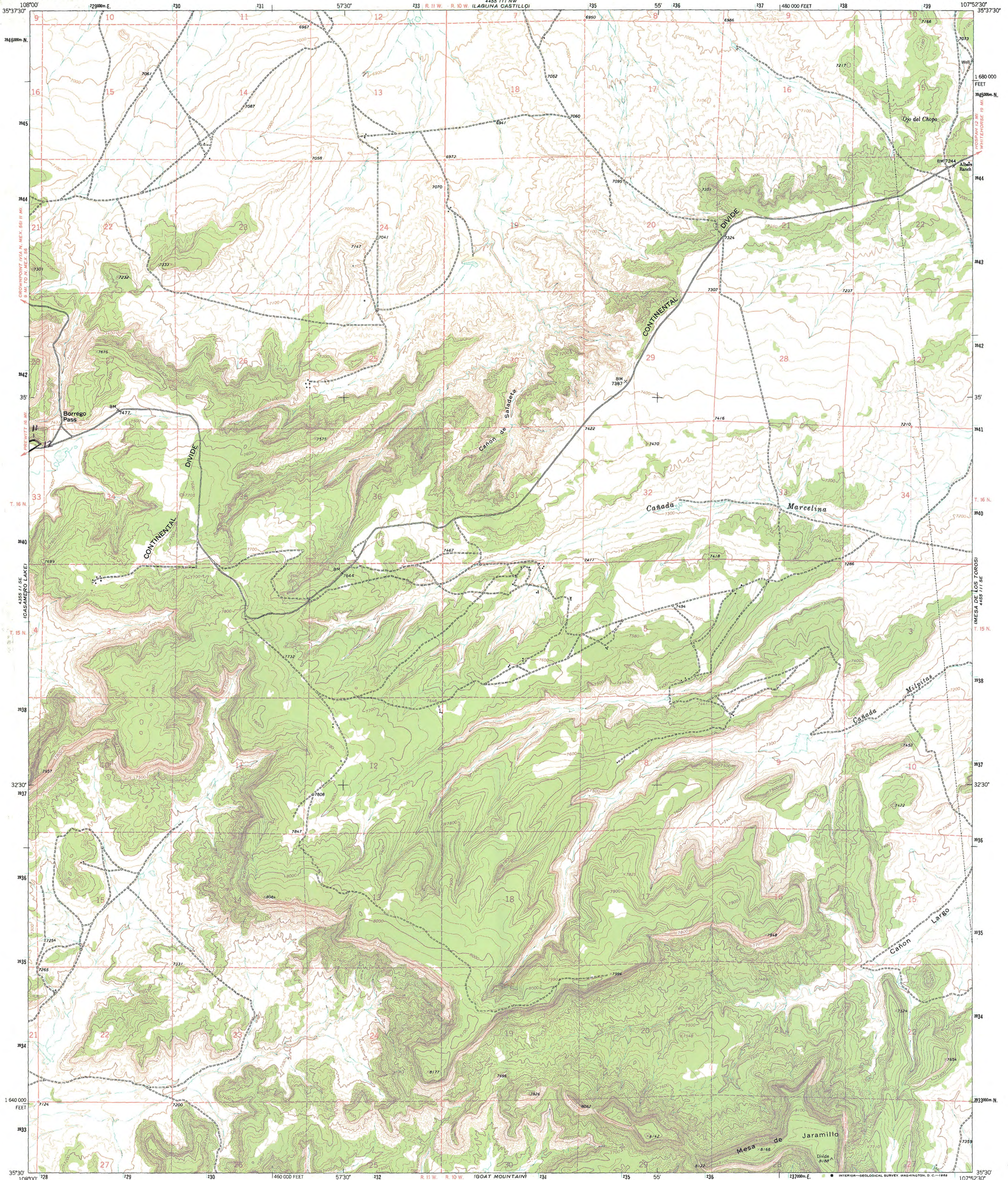
Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
24 of 25

NM_McKinley County_Borrogo Pas 9/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1290

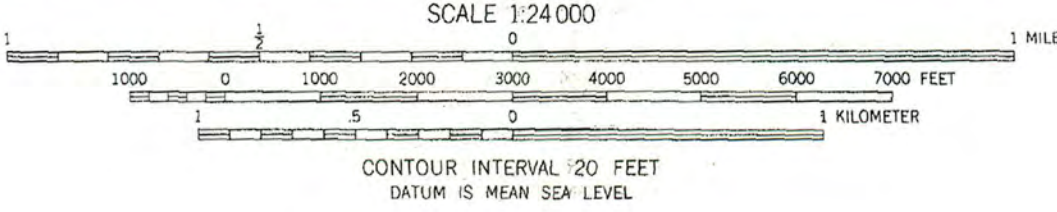
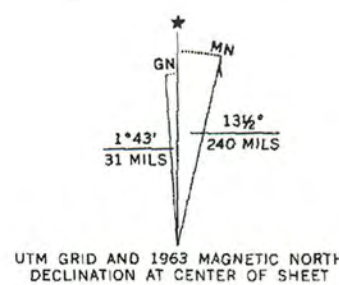


Borrogo Pass Trading Post Historic District
McKinley County, NM
25 of 25

NM McKinley County Borrego Pas 4/25
Walmart 8/3/2010 Order# 1790



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1958. Field checked 1963
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on New Mexico coordinate system, west zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 13, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Light-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———

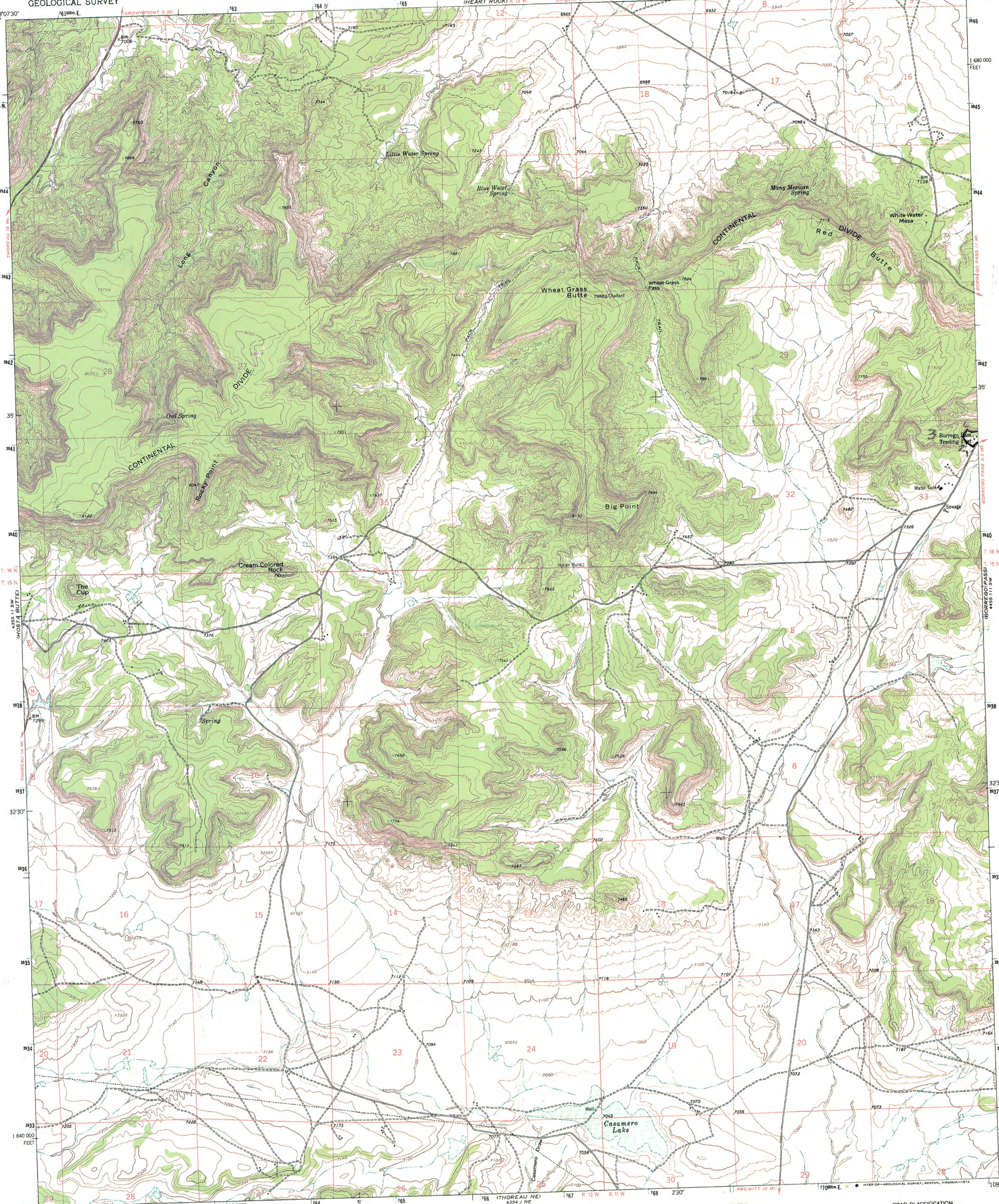
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District - Map 2

BORREGO PASS, N. MEX.
N3530-W10752.5/7.5
1963
AMS 4455 111 SW-SERIES Y881

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CASAMERO LAKE QUADRANGLE
NEW MEXICO-MCKINLEY CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

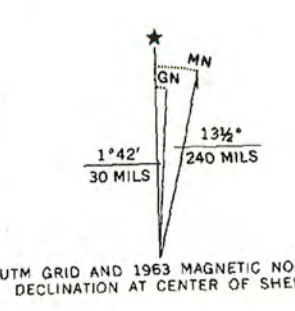
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1958. Field checked 1963

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum

10,000-foot grid based on New Mexico coordinate system, west zone

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 12, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines



SCALE 1:24,000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

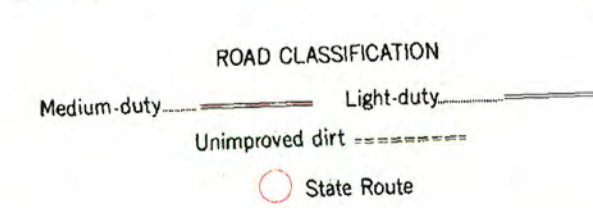
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 10-FOOT CONTOURS

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



CASAMERO LAKE, N. MEX.
N3530-W10800/7.5

1963

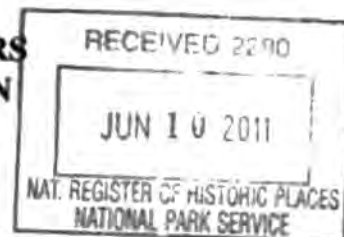
AMS 4355 11 SE-SERIES V881

Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District - Map 1



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING
407 GALISTEO STREET, SUITE 236
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
PHONE (505) 827-6320 FAX (505) 827-6338



2 June 2011

Paul R. Lusignan, Historian
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" [Eye] Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20005

Re: Borrego Pass Trading Post, McKinley County, NM

Dear Mr. Lusignan:

The New Mexico Cultural Properties Review Committee (CPRC) voted unanimously at their October 15, 2010 meeting to forward the nomination for the Borrego Pass Trading Post to the Keeper of the Register for consideration for listing to the National Register of Historic Places. The CPRC recommended a few revisions to the nomination which were completed by the preparer in April 2011.

As stated in the nomination, the Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District was established in 1927 on a privately owned site in the "checkerboard area" of the Navajo Reservation in northwestern New Mexico. Eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, the historic district consists of 17 contributing buildings, sites, and structures exhibiting a high degree of integrity. An exemplary survival of a traditional Navajo trading post it manifests the dramatic changes that took place between the 1930s and the 1950s in the Four Corners region which ultimately undermined the trading post system in Navajoland by the 1980s. By continuing to offer general merchandise and to buy locally produced commodities, Borrego Pass, remains an important link between the Navajo people and the national, and even international, economy and society. In addition, the Borrego Pass Trading Post reflects relationships established by members of the Mormon faith with the Navajo Nation.

Thank you for completing a preliminary review of this nomination and for your assistance to the Keeper in its final review. Enclosed is the nomination along with accompanying USGS maps, photographs and a CD-R with digital files of the complete nomination packet. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. I can be reached by phone at (505) 476-0444 or e-mail at Terry.Moody@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator

Enclosures: One National Register nomination, photographs, two USGS maps, and a CD-R.



"Moody, Terry, DCA"
<Terry.Moody@state.nm.us>
09/19/2011 11:33 AM

To "Paul_Lusignan@nps.gov" <Paul_Lusignan@nps.gov>
cc "Lillian Makeda (lillianmakeda@yahoo.com)"
<lillianmakeda@yahoo.com>, "Klara Kelley
(kbkelley47@yahoo.com)" <kbkelley47@yahoo.com>
bcc

Subject FW: Borrego Pass

History: This message has been replied to.

Hello Paul,

I apologize for it taking so long to get revisions returned to you. I made revisions following the guidance you sent on August 18, and forwarded these on to Lillian and Klara on August 31. They returned the attached document addressing some questions I had on 4 September. I reviewed the comments they had below and the revised nomination and also made a few more edits to the Narrative Description Summary Paragraph reflecting all revisions. When you have a moment would you please review and let us know if it is a final. If so, I'll print on archival paper and have Jan Biella sign and we will forward this on to you.

In regards to the photographs, Lillian is having photographs printed according to the NPS Photo Guidelines, and these will be included with resubmission of the revised nomination. I am afraid that, since this nomination had come in when I first arrive on the job, I had thought that the submission of digital photographs was all that was needed with the nomination packet. After receiving your e-mail last month about the quality of photographs, I spoke with Alexis Abernathy and she confirmed that archival quality hard copies of photographs were to be submitted along with digital images. The copies of the photographs on continuation sheets submitted with this nomination did not meet the archival guidelines.

Thanks for taking the time to review this nomination again and to ensure it meets the standards for listing to the NRHP.

Terry
Terry Moody
State and National Register Coordinator
NM Historic Preservation Division
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
(505) 476-0444 Voice
(505) 827-6320 General Information
(505) 827-6338 Fax
From: Lillian Makeda [mailto:lillianmakeda@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 04, 2011 3:05 PM
To: Moody, Terry, DCA
Cc: Klara Kelley
Subject: Borrego Pass

Dear Terry,

Thank you for the latest draft of the Borrego Pass Trading Post Historic District nomination. I have attached a copy with our most recent revisions.

We thought that the changes you made to the Classification, Historic Function, Architectural Classification, Significance, and Geographic Data sections in response to Paul's comments were fine and should remain as you have revised them. We would like to make two changes to the Description section. First, we have modified the language in the introduction to the "Surrounding Resource" section. And in response to your comment about the hogan foundation within the district boundary (on page 11), we have added the hogan remains as an archaeological site to the Non-contributing Resources section on page 7.

We would like to leave the reference to the Navajo ceremonial site on page 11 of the nomination "as is," or alternatively, we can delete it.

I spoke with DeForrest Smouse today about the coalmine adits listed in the Surrounding Context section (see page 8) and received some additional information that has led us to delete it from the nomination. As it turns out, the mine was worked very briefly by two of Donald Smouse's brothers after they returned from WWII. The mine was never economically tied to the post and, for what it's worth, was never productive.

Paul's comment about the quality of the color reproductions has been noted. I do remember submitting a hard copy of the nomination and a digital archival disk of the photographs as well. I am not sure whether his comment pertains to my hard copy or whether he was sent a copy generated by your office or whether he is responding to the digital photographs. I would be very interested to know.

I removed Donald Smouse, Jr. from the Owner section since he died earlier this year.

I look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your help.

Best,
Lillian



NM_McKinleyCnty_BorregoPassTradingPost_NRI-nom_FINAL_RVS-Keeper_lmkb-TM_19Sept11.doc



Paul Lusignan/WASO/NPS
02/21/2012 03:31 PM

To Terry.Moody@state.nm.us
cc
bcc
Subject Borrego Pass Trading Post

Terry,

Please find attached a revised and final version of the Borrego Pass Trading Post National Register nomination form. If you could have the SHPO sign and certify the new cover page and return that page to our office we will proceed with finalizing the listing of the property. At this point we will retain the original maps and photographs at our office for safe keeping. You need only return the signed cover sheet. Please direct it to my attention only, so that the control unit won't be confused over the single page submission. I will match the new signed page with the body of the text as found on the attachment. I will send you a hard copy of the map with the corrected UTM points noted for your files. You may also retain a copy of the attached form as the nomination of record for your files.

If you have any additional questions, please let me know.



Borrego Pass Trading Post HDrevised.nom.doc
Paul R. Lusignan
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
(202) 354-2229
(202) 371-2229 fax

Moody, Terry, DCA

From: Paul_Lusignan@nps.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:31 PM
To: Moody, Terry, DCA
Subject: Borrego Pass Trading Post
Attachments: Borrego Pass Trading Post HDrevised.nom.doc

Terry,

Please find attached a revised and final version of the Borrego Pass Trading Post National Register nomination form. If you could have the SHPO sign and certify the new cover page and return that page to our office we will proceed with finalizing the listing of the property. At this point we will retain the original maps and photographs at our office for safe keeping. You need only return the signed cover sheet. Please direct it to my attention only, so that the control unit won't be confused over the single page submission. I will match the new signed page with the body of the text as found on the attachment. I will send you a hard copy of the map with the corrected UTM points noted for your files. You may also retain a copy of the attached form as the nomination of record for your files.

If you have any additional questions, please let me know.

(See attached file: Borrego Pass Trading Post HDrevised.nom.doc) Paul R. Lusignan Historian National Register of Historic Places National Park Service
(202) 354-2229
(202) 371-2229 fax



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING
407 GALISTEO STREET, SUITE 236
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501
PHONE (505) 827-6320 FAX (505) 827-6338



13 March 2012

Paul R. Lusignan, Historian
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" [Eye] Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20005

Re: Borrego Pass Trading Post, McKinley County, NM

Dear Paul,

Please find attached National Register of Historic Places nomination coversheet, with the SHPO's signature as instructed via e-mail. I am also enclosing the hardcopy photographs submitted by the preparer which were not included with the original nomination packet. I received the revised maps and have inserted these in our files along with the revised nomination you e-mailed on 21 February. Thank you so much for all of your help with getting this nomination listed. I look forward to receiving the official notice.

Please let me know if you need additional information. I can be reached by phone at (505) 476-0444 or e-mail at Terry.Moody@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

Terry Moody
Terry Moody

State and National Register Coordinator

Enclosures: One NRHP nomination coversheet and 25 photographs