

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Arizona</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Graham</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>AUG 13 1974</b>

<b>1. NAME</b>	
COMMON: <b>Power's Cabin</b>	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

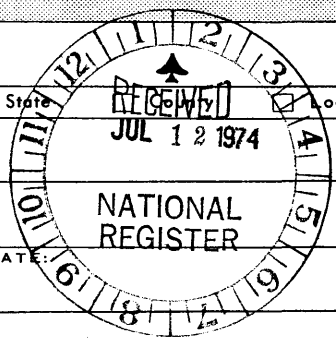
<b>2. LOCATION</b> <i>NW of Willcox in Coronado National Forest</i>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>Galiuro Mtns., 45 miles NW of Willcox, AZ via road and 10 miles via trail</b>			
CITY OR TOWN: <i>Willcox vicinity</i> <b>Forest Service trails on the Coronado National Forest.</b>			
STATE <b>Arizona</b>	CODE <b>04</b>	COUNTY: <b>Graham</b>	CODE <b>009</b>

<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY <i>(Check One)</i>	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE <i>(Check One or More as Appropriate)</i>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(Specify)</i> <u>abandoned</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____

<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>			
OWNER'S NAME: <b>Coronado National Forest</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>P. O. Box 551</b>			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Tucson</b>	STATE: <b>Arizona</b>	CODE <b>85702</b>	CODE <b>04</b>

<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: <b>Docket 21, Page 536, 6/26/11 Graham County Recorder's Office, Docket 98, page 102, 9/28/64</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Safford</b>	STATE: <b>Arizona</b>	CODE <b>04</b>	CODE <b>04</b>

<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Arizona  
COUNTY: Graham  
ENTRY NUMBER: **AUG 13 1974**  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  Ruins  Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered  Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved  Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

One room log cabin with small shed on one end. The cabin has a shake roof and stone/masonry chimney. The roof is beginning to deteriorate and one corner of the cabin has begun to collapse. The chimney and remainder of the cabin are in fair condition. Bullet holes are visible around the door and windows.

The cabin appears to be unaltered from its original construction.

The land on which this cabin is located is in National Forest status. The landowner is Coronado National Forest, P.O. Box 551, Tucson, Arizona, 05702.

Continued on attached sheet.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Constructed approximately 1910; gunfight 1917.**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | <u>Local history</u>                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | <u>and mining</u>                                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This remote log cabin represents the abode of pioneer families who prospected and mined minerals in the Southern Arizona mountains. At the time of construction, access to the cabin was over 25 miles of trail from the nearest settlement.

The cabin was the site of a 1918 gunfight in which three law officers and Mr. Power were killed. The fight allegedly occurred when a U. S. Marshal and three deputies from Safford rode to the Power's Cabin to take the Power boys, Tom and John, to Safford. The boys supposedly had failed to report for their draft induction.

The U. S. Marshal reportedly did not approach the cabin and was not involved in the gunfight. Only Tom and John Power survived the fight. They were later caught, sentenced to life in prison and have since been released. Tom Power died in 1970. John Power lives today near Aravaipa.

Public sentiment is still strong among local residents regarding what actually occurred prior to the shootout. Some believe the law officers gave no warning and shot Mr. Power without cause. Others believe the law officers were ambushed.

Continued on attached sheet.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

None known

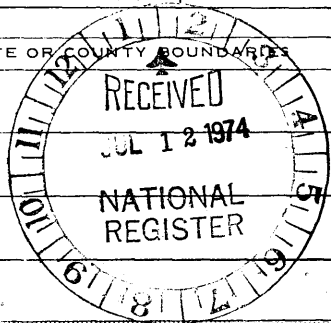
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	32°	35'	38"	110°	20'	42"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	VTM 12/56/450					
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	3606275 HL					
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2.5 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Harry G. Little, District Ranger

ORGANIZATION: USFS, Coronado N. F., Willcox R. D. DATE: 2/20/73

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box P

CITY OR TOWN: Willcox STATE: Arizona CODE: 04

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National  State  Local

Name: Dennis McCarty

Title: Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 2-26-74

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

[Signature]  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 8/15/75

ATTEST: [Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: AUG 13 1975

x [Signature] 7/19/74  
 ROY W. BAUGHTER  
 Acting Director of Recreation

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED ON NOMINATION FORM, POWER'S CABIN

- #7. The cabin was constructed with Arizona cypress poles 6 to 10" in diameter. The chinking (very little left) was probably a cement type mortar. The door and window frames are rough sawed lumber. The chimney is made of native stone and mortar. There appears to have been a wooden floor.

The best method of preserving the cabin would be to reinforce the one deteriorated corner and reshingle the roof. Access to the cabin is obtainable by helicopter (helispot 1/4 mile away) or by 12 miles of trail. The cost of preserving the cabin is estimated to be approximately \$4,000.

- #8. The following information was obtained during an interview conducted by Jack O. McCombs, Willcox Ranger District, with John Power on December 24, 1974 and a review of the mining claim dockets in the Graham County Courthouse, Safford, Arizona.

The date of the first mining or ranching activities in the Rattlesnake Canyon area has not been determined. Exploration work and mining were apparently quite active in the Gold Mountain area in the late 1880's and 1890's. Both the records in the Courthouse and Mr. Power made reference to Gold Mountain Mining Camp. The first Courthouse records that are available are dated 1902. That year, both G. G. Branson and J. T. Branson located claims in the Gold Mountain area. The old log cabin located near Rattlesnake Well is called Branson Cabin by John Power. Also, in 1902 C. F. Hanson and C. Overton located claims in the Gold Mountain area.

In 1905 and 1906 A. Bowman and F. H. Goldin filed on the Abandoned Claims. These claims are located in the Kielberg drainage and are the ones that were later filed on by the Powers and are commonly known as the Power's Claims.

John Power stated that his family first moved to the Galiuro Mountains in 1909 or 1910. They lived in a cabin in Lower Rattlesnake Canyon at the mouth of Pipestem Canyon where they were in the ranching business raising cattle and horses. A short time later they moved to Rattlesnake Springs; this is now known as Power's Garden. Mr. Power stated the family did grow a garden, thus the nickname of Power's Garden came about. He stated that prior to their family living at Rattlesnake Springs, Pete Spence had lived there and he was in the goat ranching business. Mr. Spence built the old log cabin which is presently used as a barn at Power's Garden Forest Service administrative site. The date of this old cabin probably would be in the 1880's or 1890's.

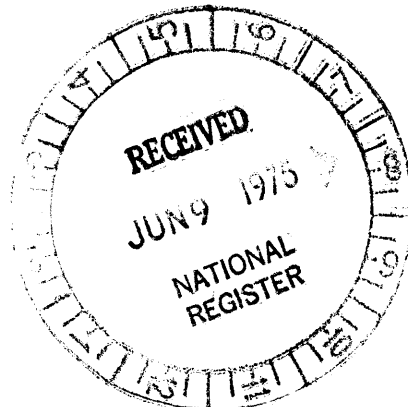
John Power stated his family lived at Rattlesnake Springs for about eight years; therefore, it appears this was their main headquarters rather than the Power's Cabin located on the Abandoned Claims in Kielberg drainage.

On June 26, 1911, J. G. (John) Power filed on the Abandoned Claims and the Burro Claims in Kielberg drainage. On July 15, 1913, J. D. Power filed on claims in the Rattlesnake area.

Mr. Power stated that the Power's Cabin, located on the Abandoned Claims, was constructed by Al Bowman, Fred Goldin, Tom (last name unknown) and a fourth man (name unknown) sometime in the 1890's. The Power family lived in this cabin intermittently as they worked their Abandoned Claims during the period, 1911-1918. The family members consisted of the father (Old Man Tom), Bud, John G. and Tom, Jr., their sister, Olla, and a hired hand, Tom Sisson. Following the shooting on February 10, 1918, it is not known whether anyone occupied the Power's Cabin. Based on the available information, it is doubtful whether anyone resided there permanently.

Mr. Power stated that the road from Aravaipa Canyon into Rattlesnake Canyon, including that portion today known as Power's Hill, was constructed by him, his brother Tom, and his father in 1915 and 1916. He stated the stamp mill was installed in Rattlesnake Canyon by their family but they never got to use it. The ball mill, portions of which presently exist in Rattlesnake Canyon, was placed there at a later date. Mr. Power stated their family never shipped any ore from their Abandoned Claims and never realized any income from these claims. It is not known whether anyone shipped any ore since the Powers left there in 1918. Mr. Power said there was approximately \$30,000 worth of gold ore shipped from the Gold Mountain Claims in the 1890's.

Known history of the Power family includes Mrs. Tom Power, Sr. who was killed in 1890 when a ridgepole of the cabin they were living in collapsed and fell upon her; a son named Bud left home in 1917 to join the Army. As a result of this, he was disowned by the other family members. A daughter, Olla, died of an unknown cause at the Power's Cabin in 1917. Tom, Sr., was killed on February 10, 1918 at the age of 49. Tom, Jr., died in 1970 at the age of 77 after spending 43 years in prison. John G., at the age of 83 after spending 43 years in prison, is presently living with the Eddie Lackner family near Klondyke, Arizona.



Known reference materials regarding the Power family include articles by Bob Thomas in The Arizona Republic, January 26, 1969, and The Arizona Star, March 25, 1960; On the Track of the Power Boys by McKinley Cash from the Journal of Arizona History #8, 1967; a book entitled The Tragedy of the Powers Mine by Elizabeth Lambert Wood, 1957, Binfords and Mort, Publishers, Portland, Oregon. The Transcript of the Reporter's Record of Evidence (W. C. D. Cochran, Safford County Court) may be found in the records of the Arizona Historical Society in Tucson, Arizona.

