

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 13 1976

DATE ENTERED OCT 8 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC ^{Wk} Walker Charcoal Kiln
~~AND/OR COMMON~~

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *SE of Prescott* Forest
Forest System Road #197 on the Prescott National Forest
CITY, TOWN *(unincorporated)* CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Walker, Arizona VICINITY OF *Prescott, AZ.* CODE 003
STATE *Arizona* COUNTY *Yavapai* CODE 025

2 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(if applicable)*
U. S. Forest Service
STREET & NUMBER *517 Gold Ave., SW*
CITY, TOWN *Albuquerque* VICINITY OF *New Mexico*

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. *THUMB BUTTE RANGER DISTRICT, PRESCOTT NATL. FOREST*
STREET & NUMBER *344 So. CORTEZ ST.*
CITY, TOWN *PRESCOTT* STATE *ARIZ.*

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE *Nomination Form - Arizona State Register of Historic Sites*
DATE *February 21, 1972* FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS *Prescott National Forest*
CITY, TOWN *Prescott* STATE *Arizona*

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

- UNALTERED
- ALTERED

CHECK ONE

- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This kiln used to supply charcoal for the reduction of precious metals (gold and silver) in the Walker area. It's constructed of native granite rock without mortar. The kiln is in a beehive shape approximately 25 feet high with a base 50 feet in diameter. It has vent holes around the bottom for air. Access to the kiln was gained by means of two doors, one at the base 8 feet by 4 feet and the other near the apex of the kiln measuring approximately 4 feet by 3 feet. It is assumed the door near the apex was reached by means of a ramp extending from an upper service road to the door. This door was used to load the kiln. The lower door was used to both load the kiln with wood to be burned and retrieve the charcoal. Both entrances were probably covered by iron doors. Existence of the iron doors are not evident. Indications of two service roads are present, however, ponderosa pine trees are growing in the road beds.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1863-1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The structure which played an important part in the production of precious metals from the Walker area is an outstanding example of this type of kiln. In the State of Arizona this type of kiln existed at one other location which may be threatened by the development of the Central Arizona Project.

The community now known as Walker dates back to 1863 when Captain Joseph R. Walker and a party of 25 men first discovered gold in the streambed of Lynx Creek. The strike was a rich one, and this original party was rapidly supplemented by miners and prospectors from throughout the West. To protect this sizeable white population from hostile Indians, a detachment of soldiers was brought into the area and bivouacked in the Chino Valley area. In May 1864 the detachment was moved in close to the fledgling territorial capitol of Prescott, founded only a month earlier, and established the permanent garrison still called Fort Whipple.

The Walker area itself remained mainly a collection of log cabins, numerous mining claims in various stages of development, and a few primitive mill sites. As the mining operations progressed, the need for a smelter of some type became evident. In 1880 a small smelter financed by a Mr. Dake was constructed along Lynx Creek, but was apparently seldom used due to the lack of sufficient fuel. A second and larger smelter, built by the Howells Smelting and Mining Company, was erected in 1882. The Howells smelter, rated at 40 tons, was no more successful than the Dake smelter, operating for less than a year before folding under. Again, lack of sufficient quantities of fuel was a significant problem.

Charcoal, produced locally in several rock kilns, was the primary fuel used in these smelters. In light of the very short life of the smelters, we would surmise that the kilns had an equally short productive life. One of these kilns still stands.

Subsequent to the failure of the smelters in Walker, a coal-fired smelter was built in Prescott which apparently could handle the ore taken from Walker and the surrounding areas.

Walker today is far below its once high population of 3000 people, and has made the transition from a mining community to a quiet summer home and resort area. About all that is left for reminders of its days of gold and silver king of central Arizona are numerous shafts and mine dumps, piles of placer rock in Lynx Creek, and the old kiln.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Potter, Alvina N.
n.d. The Many Lives of the Lynx

(This is a book of local mining history.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5.0 ^{gnd}
~~10.0~~

Lat. 34° 27' 30"
Long. 112° 22' 15"

UTM REFERENCES

A | 12 | 317,316,25 | 3,811,316,25
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | | | | | | | | | |
C | | | | | | | | | |
D | | | | | | | | | |
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Charles R. Scheier, Forester / *ADDNL. INFO BY* JACK A. DARNALL, FORESTER 1975
ORGANIZATION Thumb Butte Ranger District Prescott National Forest DATE March 13, 1973
STREET & NUMBER 344 South Cortez TELEPHONE (602) 445-7253
CITY OR TOWN Prescott STATE Arizona

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES NO NONE

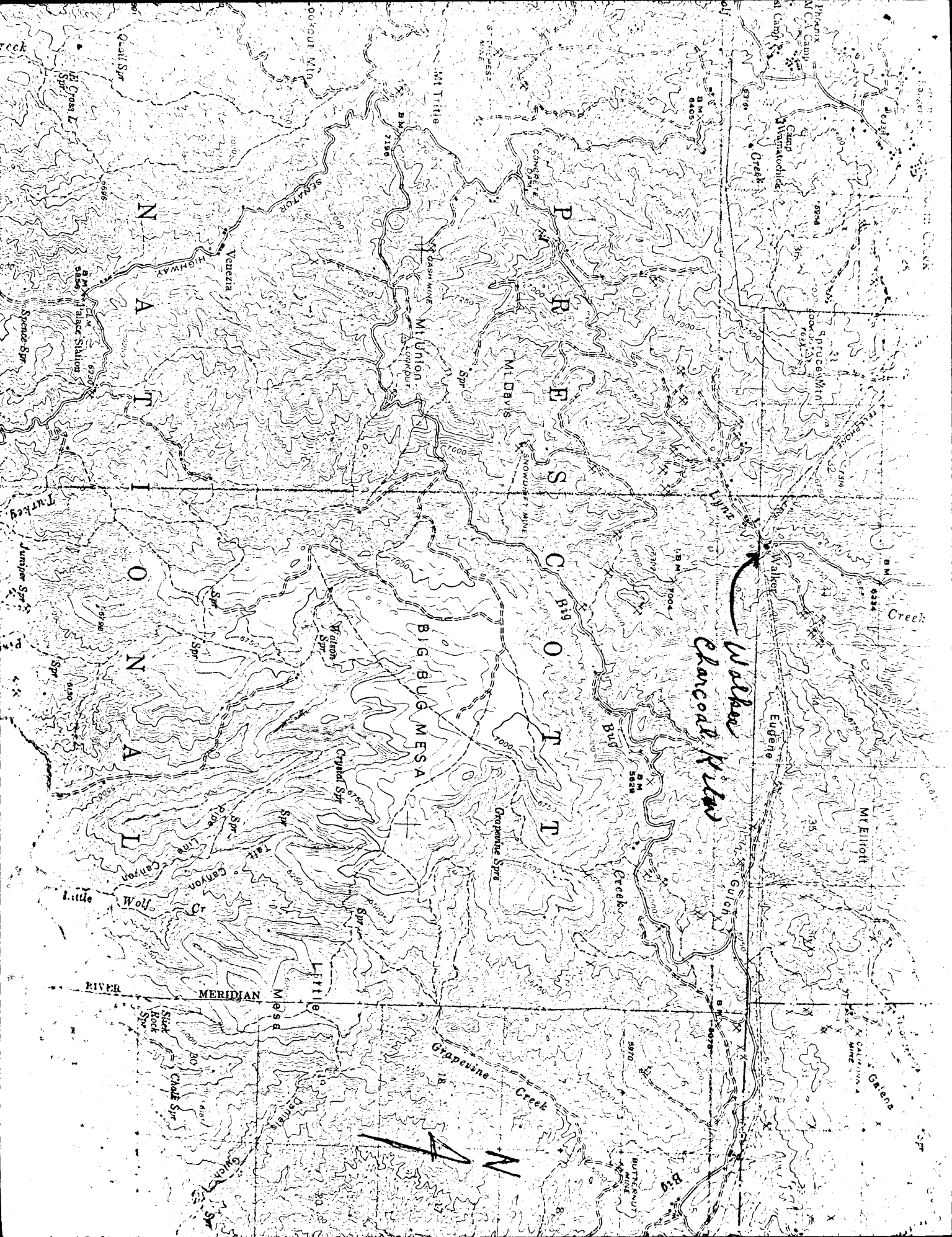
Dennis Mc Carthy
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE *[Signature]*

TITLE *Acting Director of Resource* DATE *Jan 6, 1976*

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<i>[Signature]</i>	DATE <i>10/8/76</i>
ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE <i>9/27/76</i>
ATTEST:	
<i>[Signature]</i>	
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	



Walton
Charcoal Pit

MERIDIAN

N
A

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 13 1976
DATE ENTERED OCT 8 1970

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Walker Charcoal Kiln

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Walker

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Yavapai

STATE Arizona

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

USGS 15 minute Series - Mt. Union Quadrangle

DATE

1947

SCALE

1:62500

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES