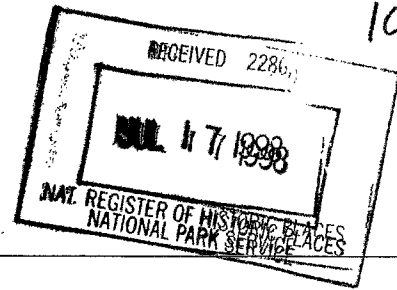


1032

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name: Jenny Lake Boat Concession Facilities

other name/site number: Reimer's Cabin and Wort Boathouse/Smithsonian #48TE1149

2. Location

street & number: South end of Jenny Lake

not for publication: n/a  
vicinity: X

city/town: Moose

state: Wyoming code: WY

county: code: 039

zip code: 83012

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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    meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant    nationally    statewide X locally. (    See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ronald M Greenberg  
Signature of certifying official/Title

7-9-98  
Date

Department of Interior, National Park Service  
State or Federal agency or bureau

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

Shirley Busby-wade  
Signature of commenting or other official

5/15/98  
Date

Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
   see continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register  
   see continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register  
   see continuation sheet
- removed from the National Register  
   see continuation sheet
- other (explain)

Signature of the Keeper

Linda McDonald

Date of Action

8/25/98

Name of Property

County and State

**Ownership of Property:** Public-Federal

**Category of Property:** Building

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:** N/A

**Name of related multiple property listing:** Grand Teton National Park Multiple Property Listing

Number of Resources within Property		
Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		building(s)
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		Total

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions:**  
Domestic/single dwelling; Commerce/business; Recreation and Culture/outdoor recreation

**Current Function:** Domestic/single dwelling; Commerce/business; Recreation and Culture/outdoor recreation

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification:**  
Other

**Materials:**  
foundation: stone  
walls: log  
roof: metal  
other: wood

**Narrative Description**

The Jenny Lake boat concession buildings -- Reimer's cabin, a boathouse, a boat dock, and two employee cabins -- are located in the southwestern corner of the park, on a peninsula of land that extends into Jenny Lake northwest of the outlet of Cottonwood Creek. The site is part of a developed area that includes Crandall Studio and the Jenny Lake CCC complex (housing the climbing concession office and, until 1991, the horse concession facilities). The boat concession buildings sit on the rocky outcrops above the west bank of the creek and the southern shore of the lake, amidst a scattering of pine, fir, aspen, cottonwood, and service berry. The residential buildings are clustered at the southern end of the site; the boathouse is to the northwest, on the lakeshore; and the boat dock branches off a footbridge across Cottonwood Creek. The peaks of Teewinot, Grand Teton, and Mount Owen are intermittently visible through the trees from the cabins. However, the dock and boathouse offer unimpeded views of the mountains across Jenny Lake to the west and north. These buildings can be accessed via the Jenny Lake Trail at the end of a paved entrance road that branches from Teton Park Road. The dirt and gravel Lupine Meadow Trailhead access road from Teton Park Road also provides a rear approach to the buildings.

**Reimer's Cabin (HS-0107), constructed 1937**

Reimer's cabin is a one-and-one-half-story log building with a gable roof, constructed on a stone foundation. The corners are joined with ventral saddle notches, and the exterior walls are chinked with split poles. At some corners, the log ends are cut at staggered lengths; at others they are cut flush. The frame gable ends are finished with boards and battens, with a decorative cut at the ends of the boards. All exterior wall surfaces are stained or painted dark brown. The gable roof is covered with metal panels, and features an interior concrete block chimney with a ceramic chimney pot. See continuation page.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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**Applicable National Register Criteria:** A, C

**Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):** N/A

**Significant Person(s):** N/A

**Cultural Affiliation:** N/A

**Areas of Significance:** Recreation and Culture; Architecture

**Period(s) of Significance:** 1929-1948

**Significant Dates:** 1937

**Architect/Builder:** Charles Wort(?); Dick Reimer; National Park Service, Branch of Plans and Design

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### Narrative Statement of Significance

#### Summary

Reimer's cabin and the associated boathouse (classified as a "Building") meet the registration requirements established for the Concessioner Complex property types, Grand Teton National Park Multiple Property Submission. (Please see the Park Administration and Development context of the GRTE MPS.) The property's period of significance extends from the 1929 establishment of Grand Teton National Park until the end of the historical period as defined by the National Register of Historic Places, or until the complex is no longer significantly associated with the GRTE recreation network.

The Jenny Lake area was the first to be developed by NPS personnel after establishment of the park in 1929. Even before the park was established, a boat "concessioner" operated on Jenny Lake under a Forest Service Special Use Permit. In a 1929 monthly report, the first park superintendent mentioned the "Wirt" [sic] boat concession, which rented both motor boats and row boats to area visitors." The boat concession was integrated into the first GRTE Master Plans, which recognized the significance of Jenny Lake as a major visitor service area within the park.

Local residents and park staff consistently refer to the boathouse as the Wort boathouse, in reference to first concessioner Charles Wort.<sup>1</sup> In the "Jenny Lake Area Historic Resource Evaluation" NPS historian A. C. Toogood reports "the [boathouse] may have been built by Charles Wort who had the boating concession lease from the U. S. Forest Service."<sup>2</sup> Park maintenance records, however, indicate that the building was constructed in 1932, by the National Park Service. This post-1929 construction date is supported by NPS landscape architect Philip W. Kearney's report for the E.C.W.-Fifth Period (May 1 to October 15, 1935): "a new Boat House has just been completed on the shore of Jenny Lake for winter storage of boats. The site and design were approved and the structure is inconspicuous and well constructed."<sup>3</sup> The exact location of this boathouse, however, is not identified. Regardless of builder or date of construction, the boathouse is significantly associated with concession development along Jenny Lake (criterion A).

By 1935, Robert (Dick) Reimer had assumed the boat concession license. Reimer's new residence (HS-107), completed during the summer of 1937, was constructed under the watchful eye of the Landscape Division, which approved the preliminary drawings and supervised construction. By September of 1937, GRTE Resident Landscape Architect Sanford Hill described the new complex with approval: (See continuation page.)

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<sup>1</sup> Telephone interview with Mike Johnson, March 24, 1997.

<sup>2</sup> A. C. Toogood, "Jenny Lake Area Historic Resources Evaluation," Historic Preservation Team, Denver Service Center, December 13, 1974, Appendix A.

<sup>3</sup> Philip W. Kearney, "Report to Thomas C. Vint, Chief Architect, Through The Superintendent - Grand Teton National Park, From May 1 to October 15, 1935, E.C.W. Fifth Period," n.d., File: 1935 Report (1), Box D37, Yellowstone National Park Research Library and Archives, Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyoming.

Name of Property

County and State

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

Hill, Sanford. "Monthly Narrative Report to the Chief Architect," August 26 to September 30, 1937, File: 1935 Report (1), Box D37, Yellowstone National Park Research Library and Archives, Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyoming.

Kearney, Philip W. "Report to Thomas C. Vint, Chief Architect, Through The Superintendent - Grand Teton National Park, From May 1 to October 15, 1935, E.C.W. Fifth Period," n.d., File: 1935 Report (1), Box D37, Yellowstone National Park Research Library and Archives, Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyoming.

See continuation page.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other - Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property: less than 1 acre

UTM References: 12/52212/48444054

**Verbal Boundary Description**

From the boathouse eastward along the north side of the main Jenny Lake Trail to the west bank of Cottonwood Creek southward along the west bank of Cottonwood Creek to the southside of Reimer's cabin thence northward along the path from Reimer's cabin to the boathouse.

**Boundary Justification**

These boundaries include the two resources that retain historical integrity as well as the paths that link them. The two employee cabins moved to the site during the modern period are excluded as are the modern boat dock and footbridge.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Janene Caywood, Ann Hubber, Kathryn Schneid  
 organization: Historical Research Associates, Inc. date: 1997  
 street & number: P.O. Box 7086 telephone: 406 721-1958  
 city or town: Missoula state: MT zip code: 59807-7086

**Property Owner**

name/title: National Park Service  
 street & number: Grand Teton National Park Headquarters telephone: 307 739-3300  
 city or town: Moose state: WY zip code: 83012

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Jenny Lake Boat Concession Facilities, Teton Co., WY.

### 7. Narrative Description, continued

and exposed log rafter ends. All of the windows in the building have wooden sashes, and are trimmed with 5" milled logs. The front (east) elevation contains an open shed-roof porch supported by a foundation of river cobbles. The two corners of the porch roof are each supported by three log columns. Tongue-and-groove boards cover the porch floor. The porch shelters an entry located at the north end of the wall, and one six-by-six-light sliding sash window. The entry contains a double-leaf door made of vertical boards (with one light in the upper leaf) and a wood frame screen door. South of this porch, the east elevation contains two six-by-six-light sliding sash windows, and finally the screened window openings of the rear screened porch that occupies the southeast corner of the building.

On the south elevation an entry into the screened porch is off-set east of center. This entry is flanked on either side by a screened window opening, and is accessed via board steps with a log and milled lumber hand rail. The west end of this wall is enclosed with boards (the area between the top of the wall log and the gable end) has been infilled with boards. (On the interior of the building, this space contains a bathroom.) The gable end is finished with boards and battens; the boards have a decorative cut at the bottom. A four-light casement window (with a wood-frame screen) is centered beneath the roof ridge in the gable end.

The west elevation contains two, six-light by six-light sliding-sash windows in the north two-thirds of the wall. The south third (which corresponds to the interior bath) is covered with permanently affixed shutters. The north elevation contains a centrally placed six-light by six-light sliding sash window centered within the elevation. A four-light casement window is centered within the gable end.

### Interior

The living room occupies the north one-third of the main floor of the building. The living room floor is covered with wall-to-wall carpet, that hides hardwood floors. The ceiling consists of the exposed stained and varnished log floor joists of the half-story, and random-width planking (which is painted white). Built-in bookcases are located on either side of the window in the west wall. The south interior living-room wall is finished with rough-cut boards and battens. A large, doorless opening in the east end of this wall leads to the kitchen; a vertical board door in the west end of the wall leads to the downstairs bedroom. The wall, ceiling and floor finishes in the bedroom are the same as those for the living room.

The kitchen floor is covered with linoleum, and the ceiling has the same exposed log floor joists and painted boards as in the living room. The east and south wall of the kitchen are varnished log chinked with split poles; the west wall is finished with rough-cut boards and battens. Cupboards and formica counter-tops are modern. A double-leaf door made of vertical boards leads from the kitchen to the screened porch at the rear of the building. The east and south walls of the screened porch are formed by the exterior bearing walls of the building. The porch floors are covered with the same linoleum as that in the kitchen and the ceilings are the same as those in the kitchen/living-room. An interior wood stairway leads to the half-story, which contains a bedroom at either end with a storage room in between.

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### **Jenny Lake Boathouse (HS-0034), constructed ca. 1930**

The boathouse is a rectangular, one-story, log building with a gable roof. The front (north) elevation is supported by log cribs filled with stone that in turn rest on bedrock; the rear foundation is not visible beneath deteriorating sill logs. The corners of the building are joined with ventral saddle notches with flush-cut log ends. Chinking consists of split poles. The front-gable roof is covered with rolled asphalt roofing.

The front elevation contains a small plank deck that projects over the edge of the lake and that is supported by log pilings. The entire width of this elevation contains an entry that has a pair of hinged, plywood doors. (The original doors ran along metal tracks affixed to the interior walls of the building and contained ribbons of windows placed within the upper edge of the door.) The west, south and east elevations each contain a nine-light by nine-light sliding window (with wooden sashes) centered within the elevation. A pedestrian entry is located at the south end of the west elevation, and contains a vertical board door. The door and the windows are trimmed with milled log slabs.

### **Interior**

The interior of this building contains one large room, now used by the boat concessioners, Brent and Chris Miller, for storing supplies. The interior walls and ceiling are unfinished, except for split pole chinking on the interior walls. The floor consists of large 10" - 12" planks.

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### 8. Statement of Significance, continued

"Mr. Reimer . . . has already razed his old office building just off the west end of the foot bridge. The removal of this building has improved the appearance of the area a good deal. He is also going to remove the tent frames from their present location and then the point will be free of all structures except the boat house which is on the lake side and invisible from the trail bridge.<sup>4</sup>

Because of the degree of Landscape Division involvement in site layout and architectural design, Reimer's cabin is a significant example of NPS Rustic Architecture (criterion C).

Of the boat concession facilities currently present at Jenny Lake, only the boathouse and Reimer's cabin date to the historic period and continue to be used in association with the Jenny Lake boat concession. The boat dock, although in the same location as the original boat dock, was reconstructed in 1994 by the current concessioners, Brent and Chris Miller. The Jenny Lake footbridge referenced by Hill was entirely reconstructed in 1981 by NPS crews. In addition, the cabins that house the concessioner's employees do not date to the historic period. Originally, there were three small cabins located nearly adjacent to the west side of Reimer's cabin. However, the boat concessioner removed those buildings sometime during the 1970s or early 1980s, and replaced them with the two current cabins that were moved in from the community of Kelly, Wyoming. Apparently, the park service applied two of the original building numbers to these new buildings. The boat dock, the footbridge, and the two employee cabins are excluded from the boat concession National Register site boundaries.<sup>5</sup>

### 9. Major Bibliographic References, continued

Miller, Chris and Brent Miller. Interviewed by Janene Caywood, Historical Research Associates, June, 1995.

NPS, *Fixed Property Records*, buildings #34, #107, #303, #304.

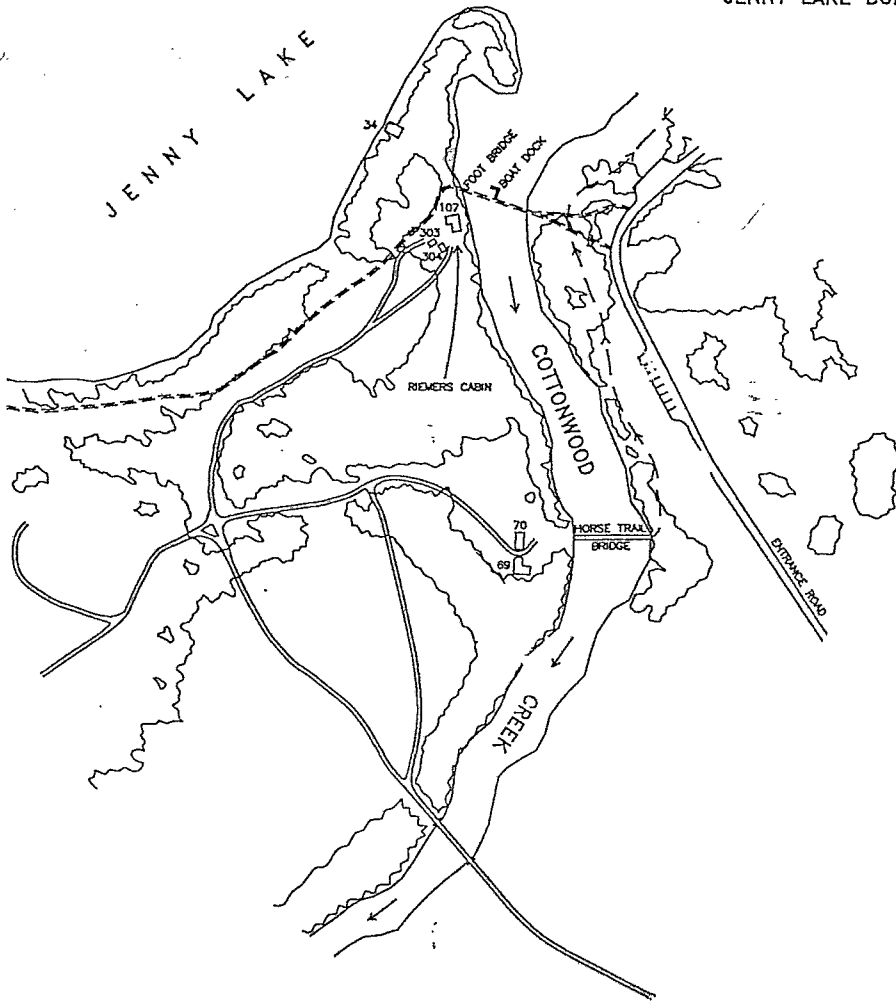
Toogood, A. C. "Jenny Lake Area Historic Resources Evaluation," Historic Preservation Team, Denver Service Center, December 13, 1974, Appendix A.

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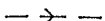

<sup>4</sup> Sanford Hill, "Monthly Narrative Report to the Chief Architect," August 26 to September 30, 1937, File: 1935 Report (1), Box D37, Yellowstone National Park Research Library and Archives, Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyoming.

<sup>5</sup> NPS, *Fixed Property Records*, buildings #34, #107, #303, #304; Chris and Brent Miller, interviewed by Janene Caywood, Historical Research Associates, June, 1995.




GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK  
 JENNY LAKE BOAT CONCESSION

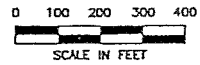


SYMBOL LEGEND

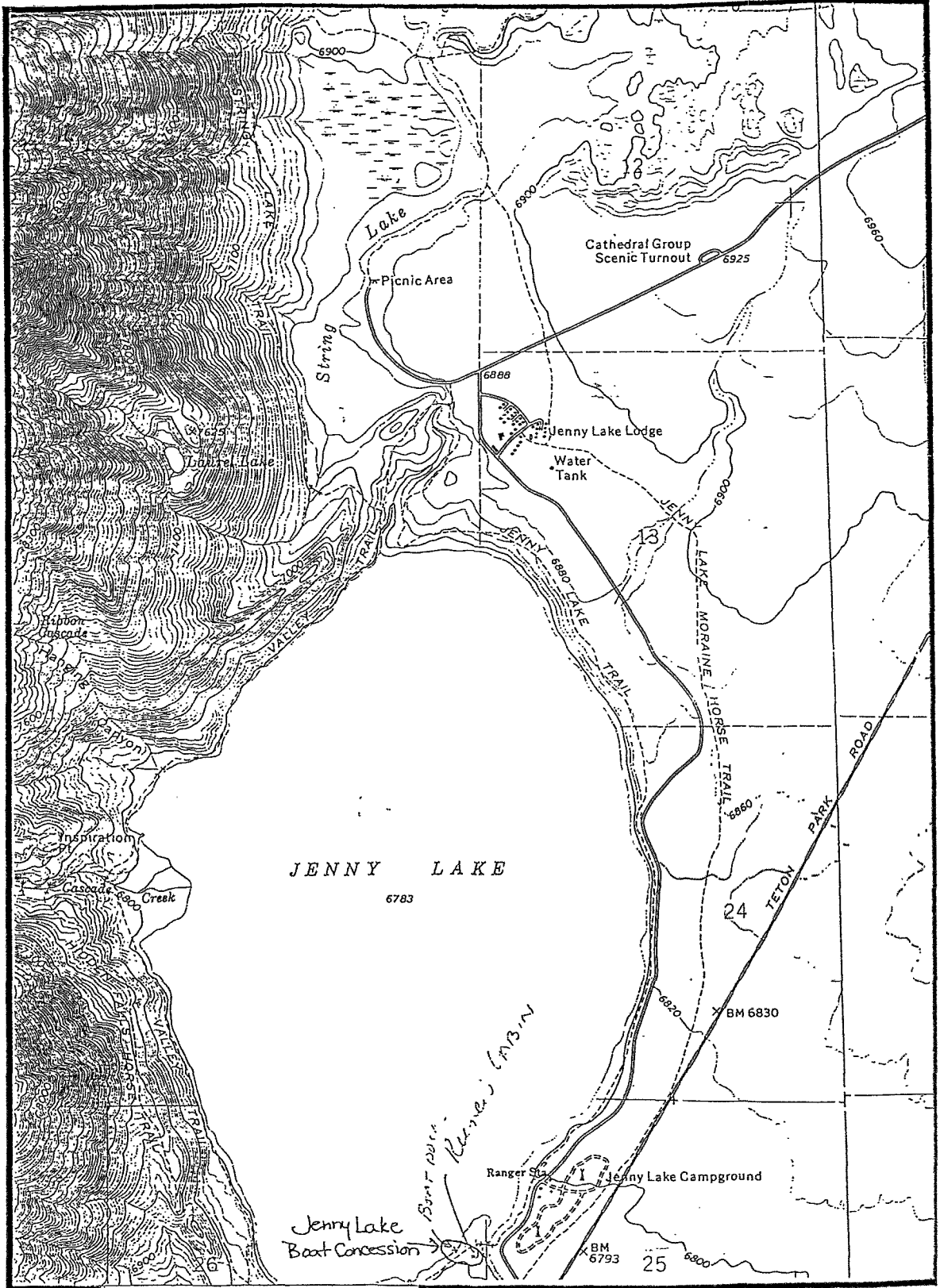
-  TREELINE
-  HORSE TRAIL
-  FOOT PATH

BUILDING LEGEND

-  BUILDING #34 BOAT HOUSE
-  BUILDING #69 BOAT HOUSE
-  BUILDING #70 MOUNTAINEERS BUILDING

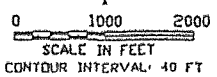






USGS 7.5' QUAD JENNY LAKE

STATE WYOMING



TOWNSHIP 44N RANGE 116W

SECTION 21

COUNTY TETON