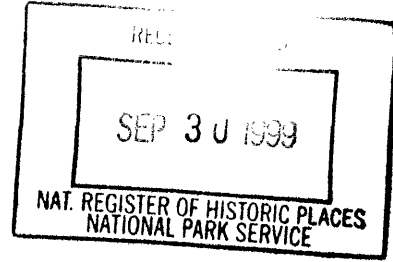


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

1294



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Indian Canyon Ranger Station

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Duchesne Ranger District, Ashley National Forest N/A not for publication

city or town Duchesne area _____ X vicinity

state Utah code UT county Duchesne code DU09 zip code 84021

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 nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Michael J. Kays Sept. 29, 1999
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
USDA Forest Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Wilson M... 1/6/99
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Utah Division of State History, Office of Historic Preservation
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.

 removed from the National Register.

 other, (explain:)

Edson W. Beall 10/28/99
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Indian Canyon Ranger Station
Name of Property

Duchesne area, County, Utah
City, 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	Non-contributing	
2		buildings
		sites
2		structures
		objects
4	0	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
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Forest Service guard station

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: wood-frame guard station

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE
walls WOOD
roof WOOD: shingle
other Chimney: BRICK

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 1

Indian Canyon Ranger Station, Duchesne area, Duchesne County, UT

Narrative Description

The Indian Canyon Ranger Station is located approximately 25 miles southwest of Duchesne at the junction of the Left Fork of Indian Canyon and Mill Hollow, with access from State Highway 33 and Forest Route 153. The buildings are situated high up on a point of the ridge between Mill Hollow and Indian Canyon. The ridge rises abruptly behind (to the south of) the dwelling, with Mill Hollow Creek running along the east of the rise and Indian Canyon Creek running along the west of the rise and the property. The area surrounding the station is covered with sage and juniper bushes. Spruce, cottonwood, willow, and aspen trees grow near the dwelling and along the creek. The two buildings, former buildings, and structures which comprise the ranger station were completed 1914-1935.

The ranger station, built in 1914, is a wood-frame sawed log-siding¹ structure (approx. 16' x 40') on a fieldstone and mortar foundation, with a wood shingle-covered, gable roof, and shingles in the gable ends. The building is rectangular in plan, the main entrance being located at the covered porch at the northwest corner of the building. The horizontal plank siding has shrunk in many areas, causing large gaps to appear, although the corner boards seem to be stable. The stone and mortar foundation appears to be failing in several areas. In the northeast corner is a large gap between the top of the foundation and the wooden sill plate where the mortar has deteriorated. There are many other areas where the mortar has failed.

The front (north) facade is a large blank wall pierced by two four-over-four, double-hung, windows widely spaced. The windows are framed with simple 1" x 4" lumber. The porch, located at the west end of the facade is inserted under the main roof, with two evenly-spaced 4" x 4" posts supporting the roof. The wide porch stairs have deteriorated and collapsed. The west facade features the open end of the front porch, and a single four-over-four window centrally spaced on the wall. Wood shingles are located in the gable section of the facade. The rear facade has two four-over-four windows, one placed in the center, the other towards the left side. A six-lite casement was inserted at some unknown date (possibly c.1940s). A shed-roofed, partially enclosed rear porch was added on the right side of the facade at the rear doorway. This appears original but does not show on a 1924 sketch plan of the building. The east facade features two four-over-four windows, evenly spaced, and shingles in the gable area. The roof retain its original green-painted, wood shingles. A painted brick chimney is located slightly to the east of center on the roof and appears in stable condition.

The front porch doorway enters into the living room (formerly office/dining room, see drawing) which is located at the center of the interior. A doorway leads from this room to a bedroom at the southwest corner. The bedroom has a corner cupboard at the southeast corner of the room. In the ceiling is scuttle providing access to the attic (which is infested with bats and rodents). A wall containing a brick stove chimney and a row of built-in closets (one which used to be a pantry) separates the living room from a kitchen/bedroom

¹"Sawed log" is the term used in the Forest Service description sheet, 1936. The siding is similar in appearance to dimensioned-lumber planks.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 2

Indian Canyon Ranger Station, Duchesne area, Duchesne County, UT

at the east side of the interior. A small bathroom was built against this wall at the southeast corner of the living room, probably in the c.1940s. The kitchen/bedroom contains a large metal basin with exposed plumbing. At the southeast corner of this room is located the rear doorway which provides access to the rear, semi-enclosed porch. The interior retains most of its original appearance including doors, beadboard walls, original ceiling height, and wood floors.

Although this is a ranger station site, there were fewer ancillary buildings than one would expect associated with the dwelling. Other buildings/structures on the site include the following:

Contributing:

- a barn (25' x 27'), built in 1921, of wood-frame and sawed-log-siding construction with a wood shingle-covered, gable roof. A large swinging door is located at the northwest corner, and a large sliding door at the southeast corner. The interior contains 2 horse stalls with a feed trough and a separate storage room..
- a wood pole-fenced corral located next to the barn, probably also built in 1921.
- a stone retaining wall and concrete foundation, built in 1935, adjacent to the parking area, east of the dwelling. A garage/storeroom, also built in 1935, was once located on the concrete foundation but was later demolished because of deterioration.

Nonsubstantial structures:

- a log hitching post east of the dwelling, possibly built in 1914.
- a galvanized-metal structure, probably used to measure weather conditions; this does not appear to be contributing.

These buildings are painted a red/brown color, probably similar to the "cinnamon brown" listed in a 1936 Forest Service descriptive sheet. According to a sketch floor plan dated May 26, 1924, the buildings were to be painted brown with white trim. The trim is now the same color as the building. The shingle roof and brick chimney are painted "CPC Green." The interior of the dwelling appears to be painted in the original tan color. The guard station has undergone some interior alteration but otherwise remains basically as it was built.

Although these buildings have not been in regular use for over two decades (because of an inadequate water supply to the site), they are still in fair condition. The interior of the dwelling has been overrun by rodents and bats, but would not be difficult to clean up. The foundation needs some rock in-fill and repointing of the mortar, but seems stable. The exterior siding needs some repair/replacement in areas. The barn is being used for storage and seems quite sturdy as well. The other structures, including the rock-and-mortar retaining wall, hitching post, and corral also appear stable and in good condition. There are some tentative plans to put this building to use perhaps as an environmental study facility.

X See continuation sheet

Indian Canyon Ranger Station
Name of Property

Duchesne area, Duchesne County, Utah
City, County, and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines 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" on all 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

CONSERVATION

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1914-1940s

Significant Dates

1914, 1921, 1935, c.1940s

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown, Forest Service/builder

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository:

Uinta & Ashley Nat/ Forests

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 3

Indian Canyon Ranger Station, Duchesne area, Duchesne County, UT

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Indian Canyon Ranger Station, built in 1914 as part of the Ashley National Forest, is an extant reminder of the early days of the Forest Service in Utah. After the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, the Division of Forestry was formed for the management of the land and timber sales. The United States Forest Service, as we now know it, was officially established by President Theodore Roosevelt on July 1, 1905, being placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture. Rangers were required to closely monitor the land, but because of the remoteness of the forests, buildings were acquired or constructed to house the rangers and to establish a federal government presence on the land. The Indian Canyon Ranger Station is the earliest remaining ranger station from the Uinta National Forest, and one of the earliest remaining structures on the Ashley National Forest built specifically by the Forest Service to house a ranger. And, although it has been vacant for at least two decades, it is still in good condition and has seen little alteration from its original conception. For this reason it is a good example of the facilities in which these overseers of the forests lived during the first few decades of the Forest Service.

Although the Indian Canyon Ranger Station site is now a part of the Ashley National Forest, up until 1954 this section of forest belonged to the Uinta National Forest.² The Uinta National Forest was officially named in 1906, after previously being known as the Uintah Forest Reserve. The Forest Reserves were created by President Grover Cleveland on February 22, 1897, upon recommendation by Gifford Pinchot, a government appointee under the Secretary of the Interior, that government stewardship of forest lands was required if the forests were to survive. On February 1, 1905, the Forest Reserves were transferred to the Department of Agriculture, and shortly after the name "Forest Service" was adopted. The site for the Indian Canyon Ranger Station was apparently chosen because of its central location for administrative purposes of the district. It was also near a stage stop on the route between Duchesne and the rail station located at Kyune, Utah.

The land was originally withdrawn from homestead entry in December of 1906 but construction on a ranger station did not commence for another seven years. The dwelling was completed in 1914, at a cost of \$1052.85, but was the only building on the site for another seven years until the barn was constructed in 1921, at a cost of \$431.73. Constructed before formalized Forest Service plans were implemented, the dwelling is unique in its architecture, with no other similar Forest Service buildings existing in Northern Utah. A wood-frame latrine was constructed in 1926, and a wood-frame and bevel-siding garage/storeroom in 1935 at a cost of \$1706.86.³ These two structures became dilapidated beyond repair and were removed in the c.1970s. The 1936 "Descriptive Sheet" for the site states that at that time the dwelling had no interior bathroom, and exactly when the bathroom was added is not known, although it

² "Inventory of Historic Forest Service Buildings." Memo to Ashley National Forest Supervisor, December 6, 1976. Also see Uinta National Forest Boundary Maps in Shaun R. Nelson, ed., History of the Uinta National Forest: A Century of Stewardship, (Provo, Utah: Uinta National Forest, 1997).

³"Descriptive Sheet: Indian Canyon Ranger Station." May 7, 1936. Ashley National Forest Building Files.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 4

Indian Canyon Ranger Station, Duchesne area, Duchesne County, UT

appears to be from the 1940s.⁴ The same memorandum suggested that the barn be moved to a different location on the site or be screened from view by trees or shrubs, but a map from 1924 shows the barn in its current location and there are no traces of trees or shrubs remaining, so apparently this suggestion was probably never carried out.

In 1936 proposals were made to upgrade the site and construct a new dwelling (Forest Service R-4, Plan #53) with a basement, and a woodshed (R-4, Plan #66), but these never came to fruition. The main reason no changes were made was probably due to the difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of water to the site which would have been required with the larger building and increased crew size. In spite of not receiving the recommended upgrades, the Indian Canyon Ranger Station was in continual use six months out of the year as the summer headquarters for the ranger until 1950. After this time it was apparently used as a guard station for seasonal use of forest service crews until the early 1970s.

Ranger and guard stations were used as work and living centers for forest crews who managed and presided over Forest Service lands. They were built mainly as a convenience before the automobile became common transportation because the Forest Service lands and work areas were so far from the personnel's homes. The buildings and sites were also used as social centers for other people such as sheep herders and miners who worked in the vicinity. By approximately the 1950s, a majority of the ranger stations were being located in urban settings for convenience as the Forest Service went to a more centralized administrative plan, although some of the ranger and guard stations were, and still are used for seasonal management of the forests.

Forest Service administrative sites fell into two categories, ranger stations and guard stations, although the application of the terms has blurred somewhat over the years. Basically, ranger stations were larger than guard stations⁵ and were used as a year-'round base for the Ranger, his staff, and oftentimes his family. Buildings on a ranger station site might include a dwelling, an office (these two might be combined in the same building as in this case), a warehouse, and other buildings used for maintenance and storage of animals and vehicles. The large ranger complexes demonstrated administrative complexity and implied permanence on the site. Guard stations, on the other hand, housed from two to four crew members who came from various parts of the state and country, and were placed in remote areas of the forest where the crews worked during the summer. Since they were used for just a portion of the year, guard station sites met basic requirements, usually only consisting of a bunk house, garage or barn, and perhaps a storage shed. Because of the heavy snowfall during the winter, the guard stations, and some ranger stations (such as Indian Canyon), were only occupied seasonally, usually between May and October, or until snow prevented travel on the roads.⁶

⁴Ibid.

⁵Although in some cases a guard station on one forest could be larger than a ranger station on neighboring forest. According to Charmaine Thompson, Uinta Forest Archaeologist, one document listed the area of a "ranger house" to be 1200 sq. ft., while the area of a guard station was to be approximately 900 sq. ft.

⁶Information obtained from Charmaine Thompson, Uinta Forest Archaeologist, and Heritage Resource director.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 5

Indian Canyon Ranger Station, Duchesne area, Duchesne County, UT

Forest Service administrative buildings have not been systematically researched on a national level, nor does any consistent typology exist, mainly because of the variation in types and styles up until the 1930s. At this time, the National Forest Service adopted official plans for nationwide implementation. Using various means, including the Civilian Conservation Corps, Forest Service employees, and private contractors and individuals, the Forest Service was able to construct a large number of buildings during the 1930s and early 1940s.

These buildings are generally of wood-frame construction, with various styles of wood siding, and concrete or stone foundations. Several different styles of guard stations were designed, along with accompanying outbuildings which included barns, garages, storage sheds, and large warehouses. Although often thought of as being rather spartan, ranger stations could be quite homey and colorful. A Forest Service "Improvement Plan" describes the interior of a dwelling:

"Interior: Living-dining room and bedroom walls all finished with two coats calcimine in the following colors: Living, dining room, light tan. Bedroom walls peach, ceiling cream, bedroom light tan. Floors and wood work, cherry stain and varnish. Bath room and kitchen walls and woodwork finished with 3 coats of Nile Green enamel, two tone. Bathroom floor cherry stain and varnish, kitchen floor linoleum."⁷

Many of the historic Forest Service buildings are still in use and have seen little alteration, although non-historic alterations are becoming an increasing problem. Because their use as residences is not specifically required, some of the buildings are being used for storage, or are sitting vacant as this one is. In order to decrease the cost of maintenance, the Forest Service is opting to destroy some of the buildings, cover them with aluminum siding, or renovate them for other uses. As the number of historic guard stations decreases, the importance of understanding their place in history increases.

⁷"Improvement Plan-Descriptive Sheet." Altonah Ranger Station, Ashley National Forest, 1936, 2.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 9 Page 6

Indian Canyon Ranger Station, Duchesne area, Duchesne County, UT

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Descriptive Sheet-Improvement Plans, Indian Canyon Ranger Station. Ashley National Forest. Vernal, Utah, 1936.

"Inventory of Historic Forest Service Buildings." Memo to Ashley National Forest Supervisor, December 6, 1976.

IMACS Site Form (AS-193), Indian Canyon Ranger Station. Vernal, Utah, 1981.

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Phillips, Steven J. Old House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture, 1600 to 1940. Washington, D. C., The Preservation press, 1992.

Rutledge, R.H. Building Construction Manual, Form 406: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Region Four. U.S. Government Printing Office, revised 1935.

Steen, Harold K. The U. S. forest Service: A History. Seattle & London: The University of Washington Press, 1976, revised 1991.

Indian Canyon Ranger Station
Name of Property

Duchesne area, Duchesne County, Utah
City, County, and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approximately 1.0 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A 1/2 5/2/7/6/8/0 4/4/1/9/5/0/0 B 1 1111 11111
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

C 1 1111 11111 D 1 1111 11111

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The area immediately surrounding the dwelling site and barn, including the driveway, parking area, and corral.

SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of SW 1/4

No Property Tax No.
Forest Service No. AS-193

 See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries chosen are those which were historically, and continued to be, most closely associated with the guard station and accompanying building and structures.

 See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Cory Jensen, Historic Preservation Consultant/Utah SHPO Staff

organization Uinta & Ashley National Forests date December 4, 1998

street & number 300 Rio Grande telephone 801/533-3559

city or town Salt Lake City state UT zip code 84101-1182

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Maps:** A **USGS** map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and/or properties having large acreage or numerous resources.
- **Photographs:** Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.
- **Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

name Ashley National Forest

street & number 650 North Vernal Avenue telephone 435/789-1181

city or town Vernal state UT zip code 84078

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section No. PHOTOS Page 7

Indian Canyon Ranger Station, Duchesne area, Duchesne County, UT

Common Label Information:

1. Indian Canyon Ranger Station
2. Duchesne area, Duchesne County, Utah
3. Photographer: J. Cory Jensen
4. Date: November 1997
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO.

Photo No. 1:

6. North elevation of building. Camera facing south.

Photo No. 2:

6. North & east elevations of building. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 3:

6. South & west elevations of building. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 4: Barn

6. South & east elevations of building. Camera facing northwest.

Barn

14'4" x 28' - 8'9" wall; (8.39 sq.)
Roof-over all - 30' x 17'2" (5.16 sq.)

Paint } Brown - 2 1/2 gal.
 } White - 1/2 gal.
Green (Roof) - 1/2 gal. 1 coat

Uinta Natl. Forest.

Indian Canyon R.S.
Dwelling

5/26/24

AMC.

1/4" = 1 ft.

10 foot wall - outside
9 foot ceiling

Roof, over all - (42' x 21')
(long) x (over)
882 sq. ft. (9' square)
Allowing 2" overlap; 7500 shing
regul

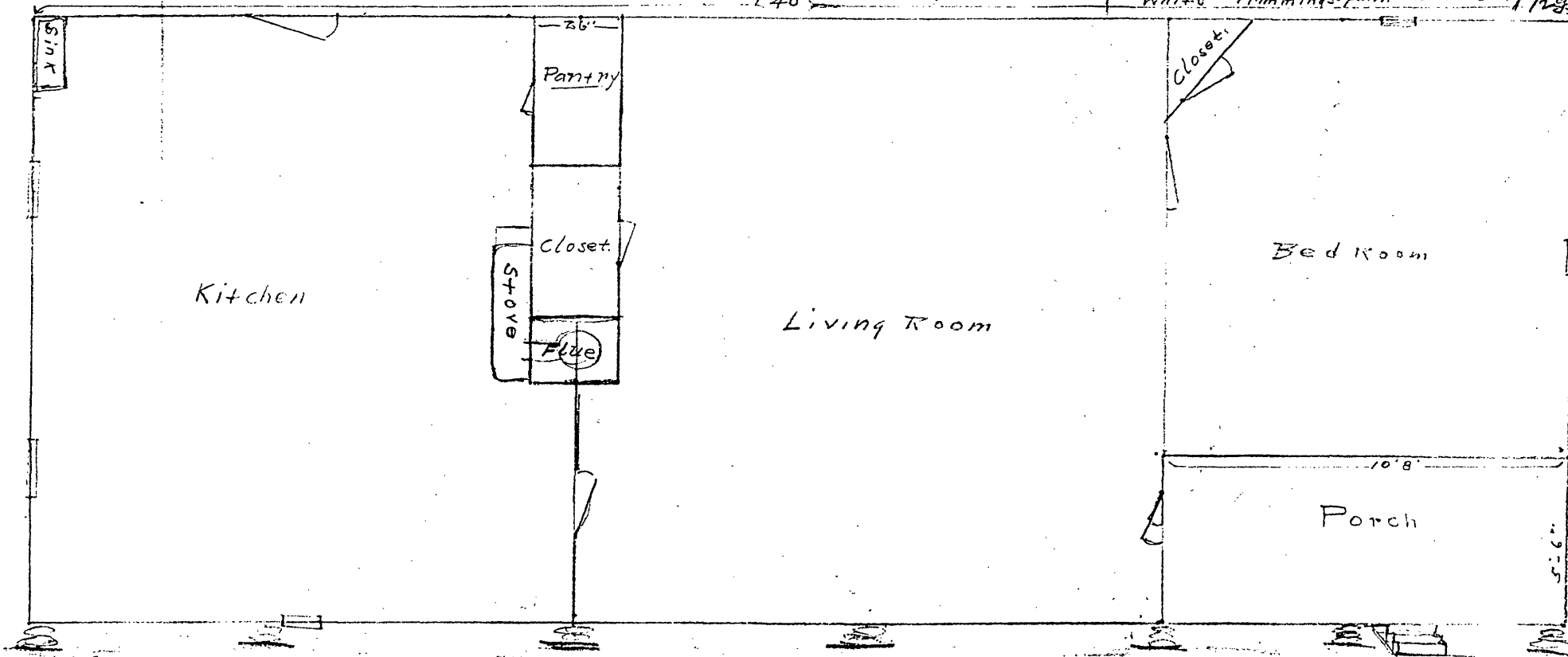
Shingle Nails - 40 lbs.

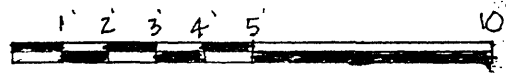
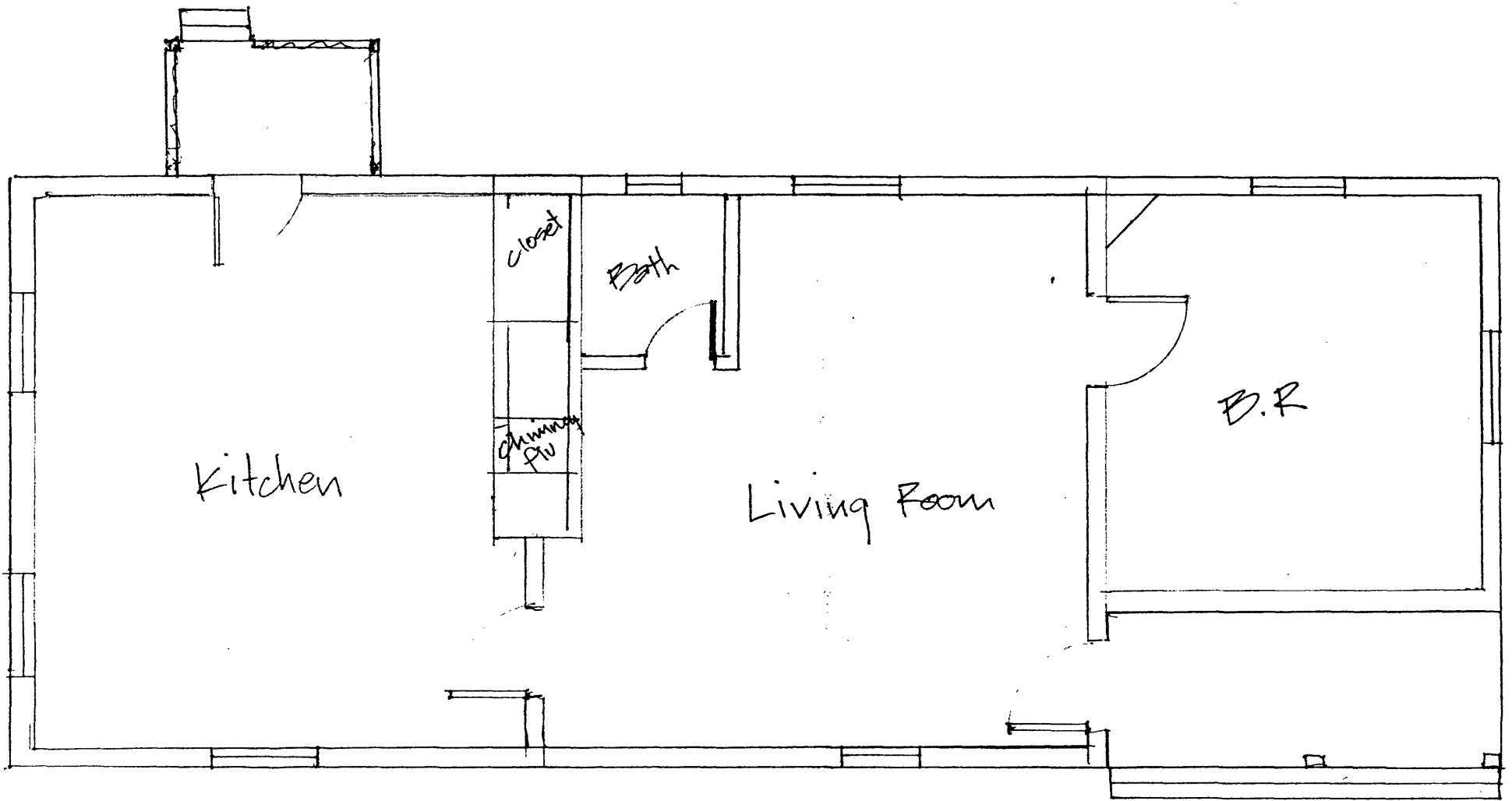
(Cut - behind house - 12')
(Retaining Wall - North side) -

Roof paint -
Green - 1 gal.

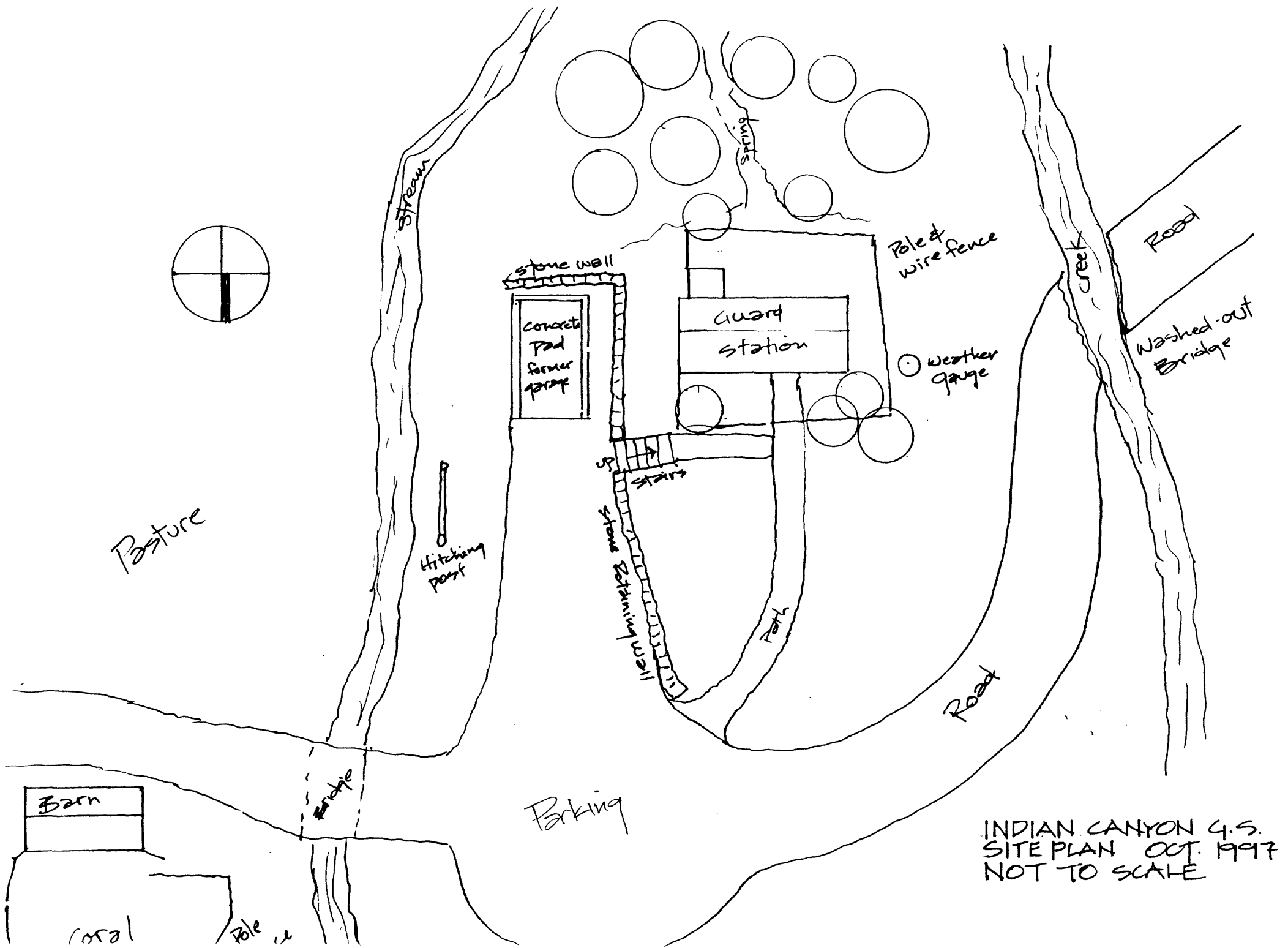
Paints } 2 coats, outside walls - 8
 } Brown - (20% added of rough-saved walls)
 } White - Trimming - paint - 1 1/2 gal.

40'





INDIAN CANYON RANGER ST.
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"
DATE: NOV. 1995
DRAWN BY: C. JENSEN
C. #14



INDIAN CANYON U.S.
 SITE PLAN OCT. 1997
 NOT TO SCALE