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NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS FORM 10-900 (Rev. 8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018 [SD-SHPO # ECA-OH-597-1/89] [use paper with at least 25% cotton rag content, use NLQ or LQ printer]

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering "NA" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: CCC Camp Custer Officers' Cabin other name/ site number: CU-RM-7

2. Location

street & number: 8 mi. northwest of Custer on Custer Co. 292 /na/ not for publication city, town: Custer /XX/ vicinity state: SOUTH DAKOTA code: SD county: Custer code: SD 033 zip code: 57730

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property:		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
/XX/ private	/XX/ building(s)	1		buildings
/ / public-local	/ / district			sites
/ / public-state	/ / site			structures
/ / public-federal	/ / structure			objects
	/ / object	1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

11. Form Prepared by

name/title: Rolene Schliesman, consultant; with technical assist. by John Rau, SHPO staff organization: Custer County Commission date: February 20, 1992 street & number: 1313 N. Cleveland telephone: 336-6393 city or town: Sioux Falls state: SOUTH DAKOTA zip code: 57103

page 2: CCC Camp Custer Officers' Cabin
property name

, Custer
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA
state

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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. / / See continuation sheet.

M. F. ... Signature of certifying official 5/4/92 Date

SHPO South Dakota
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property / / meets / / does not meet the National Register Criteria. / / See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. 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) _____

entered in the
National Register

Helena Byer 6/9/92

Signature of the Keeper Date

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property name

, Custer
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA
state

6. Function or Use (enter categories from instructions)

Historic functions:

DOMESTIC/Institutional Housing

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Rustic

Materials:

(enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Log

roof Asphalt

other Stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

/XX/ see continuation sheet

8. Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in
relation to other properties: / / / / /XX/

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria / / A / /B /XX/C / /D

Criteria Considerations / /A / /B / /C / /D / /E / /F / /G

Areas of Significance (enter from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1934

Significant Dates

1934

Significant Person

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Civilian Conservation Corps

Company 1791

**State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations,
and periods of significance noted above** /XX/ see continuation sheet

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property name

, Custer
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA
state

9. Major Bibliographical References /XX/ see continuation sheet

Previous documentation by 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:

- /XX/ State historic preservation office**
- / / Other State agency
- / / Federal agency
- / / Local government
- / / University
- / / Other

Specify repository:

South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: Less Than one acre

UTM References:

A = /13/	/603-240/	/4851-050/	B = / /	/ /	/ /
C = / /	/ /	/ /	D = / /	/ /	/ /
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

Quad: Berne

Scale: 1:24000

/ / see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description:

/XX/ see continuation sheet

Boundary Justification:

/XX/ see continuation sheet

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Situated in the forested northern hills of Custer County, South Dakota, about eight miles northwest of the City of Custer, the CCC Camp Custer Officers' Cabin is a rectangular, log dwelling constructed in circa 1934 by workers of the Civilian Conservation Corps. The building rises from a poured concrete foundation and is constructed of horizontal pine logs fitted at the corners with saddle notches. The logs are cut in staggered lengths creating flares or wings projecting from the end of each wall. Log purlins and a log ridgepole support the shallow gable roof, which is covered with rolled asphalt sheets. A massive chimney constructed of rusticated native stone masonry rises from the north gable end. Fenestration includes several small wooden multiple-light casement windows.

The cabin features a split-level floor plan with the bedrooms, and kitchen arranged in an L-shaped configuration above the rectangular living room. Interior furnishings include knotty pine paneling, narrow log handrails, a stone fireplace with a pine mantel, and exposed roof members.

A few yards south of the cabin is another log officers quarters that was originally identical to the nominated building; however, it has undergone several recent alterations. Two small privies, one of half-log construction, and a deteriorated wood frame barn are also located near the cabin, but they too do not have sufficient integrity or significance to be eligible for listing in the Register. Only the single cabin is nominated here and included within the boundaries of the nominated property.

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Under Criterion C of the National Register Criteria, the CCC Camp Custer Officers' Cabin is significant in the area of Architecture, because it is a good examples the vernacular Rustic Style used by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Constructed in 1934, it is a survivor of the imprint that the CCC made on the region during the Great Depression. Under the South Dakota Historical Preservation Plan, the nominated property relates to the following historic context: VI. Great Depression.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

During the 1930s with the economic upset of the Great Depression, the entire country had fallen onto hard times and needed assistance. Unemployment and business failure were rampant. In response, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Congress established a plethora of assistance programs to bring immediate as well as long-term relief to the country. Roosevelt's programs, all part of what he called a "New Deal" for the United States, were designed to put people back to work, to provide public service, and to stimulate local economies by consuming local goods.

One program especially favored by the President was the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW), which he affectionately called the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).¹ The CCC was a cooperative venture among the departments of War, the Interior, Agriculture, and Labor. Designed to solve the problems of unemployment, forestry, and soil conservation, the program enrolled 27,000 men in 1330 work camps nationally by the end of 1933. Single, unemployed men between the ages of 18 and 25 were eligible to apply for work and if selected would live in military-type camps in forests and parks to perform needed conservation tasks. The enrollees were required to spend a minimum of six months with the CCC and to send \$25.00 of their \$30.00 monthly wage back to their families. In exchange, the United States Army would provide all the necessities of life, including food, shelter, clothing, and educational and religious opportunities. By the latter part of the decade, the program suffered declines in enrollment and also became embroiled in national politics. Still, the CCC continued to perform conservation tasks nationwide until 1942. World War II and a greatly improved economy brought about an end to the vast pool of workers eligible for employment in the CCC.

1. Eventually the ECW took on the official name Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), which President Roosevelt had been using since the inception of the program.

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CCC Camp Custer (F-12) was organized in June of 1933 some eight miles northwest of the City of Custer by Company 1791 under the command of Captain W. C. Lattimore and Lieutenant J. T. Dawson. The original thirteen wood frame and log buildings at the camp included barracks, a mess hall and kitchen, a root cellar, a recreation facility, a laundry, an infirmary, and officers' quarters. A few years later a garage, a light plant, shops, and more barracks were added. These buildings all displayed the architectural influence of the Rustic Style as popularized by the National Park Service. A wooden overthrow supported by rusticated pillars marked the entry to the camp. Over the next few years, several other CCC companies worked at the camp. Like other CCC workers, the enrollees of Camp Custer worked mostly at tree thinning, fence building, road and telephone line repair, and fire suppression. As the national program waned toward the end of the decade, Camp Custer was closed and fell into disrepair.

Today, only the stone pillars from the overthrow and a few foundations remain from the main camp compound. The officers' quarters, which lie on private land to the southwest of the main camp, are the only intact standing resources from Camp Custer. Of these the one cabin nominated here is the only surviving resource from the camp with sufficient integrity to be eligible for listing in the National Register.

According to the warranty deed, officers Lattimore and Dawson purchased five acres of land from Mark and Mary Kelly on July 31, 1933. The officers' cabins were built on this private parcel that lies just across the county road from where the main camp stood. The tract of land was named and recorded as "Lattidaw," a derivative of the names of the two CCC officers.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The design of the Camp Custer Cabin was influenced by the Adirondack rustic style and the ongoing craftsman movement of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. From 1870 to 1930, this rustic style evolved in upstate New York as a popular form of domestic architecture for resorts and vacation homes of the wealthy. Such buildings have a "rusticated" appearance and are characterized by the use of logs, and indigenous stones, shingled roofs with broad overhangs, exposed rafters, brackets, and simply proportioned fenestration. Although originally intended as a local vernacular style, it spread to the west partly because the National Park Service adopted its use for park structures. In fact, many buildings constructed by Great Depression relief organizations, especially the CCC and the equally popular Works Progress Administration (WPA), utilize this "rustic style," which was intended to harmonize with the natural surroundings of parks and forests.

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The Camp Custer Cabin illustrates the features of Rustic architecture with its round log walls, crafty fenestration, undressed stone work including a fireplace and chimney, and exposed roof members. It is a fine example of CCC architecture in the region.

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE

The period of significance of the CCC Camp Custer Officers' Cabin does not extend beyond its date of construction in 1934.

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- Hoaglund, Ed (former owner of the property). Telephone interview with Rolene Jungemann, 31 July 1989.
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Section number 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nominated property is bounded by a set of imaginary lines that intersect to form a rectangle around the rectangular building. The northern boundary line lies 6 feet north of the north gable wall and runs parallel to that wall. The western boundary line lies 6 feet west of the west axial wall and runs parallel to that wall. The southern boundary line lies 6 feet south of the south gable wall and runs parallel to that wall. The eastern boundary line lies 6 feet east of the east axial wall and runs parallel to that wall. The property is located in the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 11, Township 3 South, Range 3 East, Black Hills Meridian, in Custer County, South Dakota.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: The boundary lines of the nominated property are set to include only the single log dwelling and to exclude any other surrounding features, which do not have sufficient integrity or significance to the eligible for listing in the National Register.

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1.

CCC Camp Custer Officers' Cabin
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by John Rau
February 1992
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
East (front) and north facades, camera facing southwest
Photo No. 1

2.

CCC Camp Custer Officers' Cabin
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by John Rau
February 1992
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
North facade, camera facing south
Photo No. 2

3.

CCC Camp Custer Officers' Cabin
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by John Rau
February 1992
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
West facade, camera facing east
Photo No. 3

4.

CCC Camp Custer Officers' Cabin
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by John Rau
February 1992
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
East and south facades, camera facing north-northwest
Photo No. 4