

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 determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration 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 Starbuck Park

other names/site number 5JF978

2. Location

street & number Bear Creek Canyon [n/a] not for publication

city or town Idledale [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Jefferson code 059 zip code 80465

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 [].)

[Signature] State Historic Preservation Officer May 17, 1995 Date

State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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
See continuation sheet [].

for
Signature of the Keeper Edson W. Beall Date 6/30/95
Entered in the
National Register

Starbuck Park
Name of Property

Jefferson/CO
County/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 count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Denver Mountain Parks

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation: Outdoor Recreation

Landscape: Park

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation: Outdoor Recreation

Landscape: Park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Rustic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stone

roof Asphalt

other _____

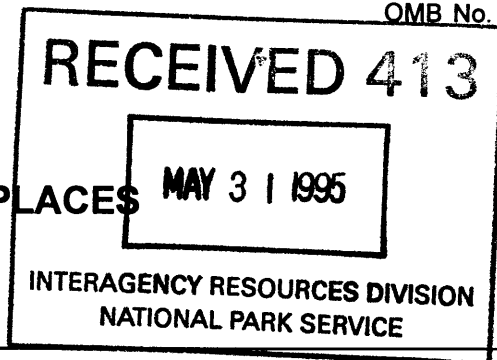
Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1



STARBUCK PARK
Name of Property

JEFFERSON/CO
County/State

Narrative Description

Starbuck Park is located along Bear Creek Canyon Drive, already listed on National Register of Historic Places. Situated off State Highway 74, four miles above the town of Morrison, and adjacent to the town of Idledale. The park consists of 11.3 acres and was included in the Olmsted Brother's acquisition plan as part of the Bear Mountain Tract.

The entrance to the park is a dirt road which veers south from Highway 74, and is the original road through the Bear Creek Canyon and the park. Approximately seventy-five yards from the Highway 74 junction, one comes to the J.J.B Benedict designed well house, which today serves as a picnic shelter.

The well house was situated to utilize the natural terrain of the area and continues to do so even though Bear Creek Drive Canyon Drive was realigned by the C.C.C.'s in the 1930's as the result of a disastrous flood. Built prior to 1923 by the City of Denver, it is a rectangular, open stone structure with four supporting piers, a concrete floor and an asphalt shingled roof. It was constructed of native stone and timber, and designed to ensure harmony between the natural features and man-made elements.

Along the road, to the south, are flat areas along both sides of Bear Creek. These areas are used for fishing and picnicking. Giant cottonwood trees along the creek maintain a riparian ecosystem and offer shade for visitors. In these areas were located the two ponds, which were used as a fish hatchery by the City of Denver to provide fish for the rest of the early Denver Mountain Park System.

Continuing on the road, at the end of the park, one comes to the adjacent property on which is located the ruins of the Denver Motor Club building, built in the early 1920's.

The park continues to provide open space between private developments and serves as a quiet, secluded area for picnicking and fishing. Standing at the shelter house, looking down the park road, one can gain a sense of what the area was like in the 1920's.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES (2)

Site (1): Starbuck Park

Structure (1): Well House

Starbuck Park
Name of Property

Jefferson/CO
County/State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes 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" in all the boxes 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.)

9. Major Bibliographic 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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Community Planning and Development

Entertainment/Recreation

Conservation

Landscape Architecture

Architecture

Periods of Significance

1916 - 1944

Significant Dates

1916

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Benedict, Jules Jacques Benoit

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other:

Name of repository:

Denver Parks and Recreation

Denver Public Library

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 2

STARBUCK PARK
Name of Property

JEFFERSON/CO
County/State

Narrative Statement of Significance

Starbuck Park meets criterion A for its historical significance to Entertainment and Recreation, Community Planning and Development and Conservation. It also meets criterion C for Landscape Architecture and Architecture. Starbuck Park was included in Olmsted's original acquisition plan as part of the Bear Creek Tract formerly adopted and acquired by the Mountain Park Commission in 1916. The park meets the registration requirements as they are defined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form for the Denver mountain Parks.

This secluded natural park, considered one of the "picnic parks of the hills", offered a rest stop for visitors touring the Bear Creek Canyon loop, as well as water from the well house to drink and replenish early automobile radiators. Providing easy access to Bear Creek, a favorite fishing spot, amplifies its significance to Entertainment and Recreation.

The park is significant to Community Planning and Development for its association with the City Beautiful Movement in Denver as an extension of the merger of city planning into regional planning. The park provides vital open space separation between mountain communities.

This space provided between mountain communities also makes Starbuck park significant in Conservation as an important, early example of the concept of open space. In addition, the trout hatchery formerly located on the site is another early example of conserving natural resources. While destroyed by the nineteen-thirties floods, it was a fine example of very early efforts to manage natural resources for recreation.

As it provided fish for recreational fishing, in both Starbuck and other Denver Mountain Parks, Starbuck is significant to Recreation and Outdoor Recreation.

The park is significant to Architecture in that the well house was designed by J. J. B. Benedict and represents the fine craftsmanship and quality characteristic of rustic architecture using native materials in proper scale and avoiding undiluted hard lines and over sophistication.

Starbuck Park was named after John T. Starbuck, a prominent Jefferson County rancher who settled in Bear Creek Canyon in the early 1900's. As one of the first settlers in the area, he built a guest ranch on the present site of the town of Idledale. His former ranch, in addition to Starbuck Park, included portions of the present Red Rocks Park and several portions of the Denver Mountain Parks System. The community he founded was originally named Starbuck until changed to Idledale in 1933, following a flood along Bear Creek.

In the early twenties, the City and County of Denver was joined by the Denver Motor Club in making several permanent improvements to the public park and the area adjacent to it. The motor club's country home, a large stone building, located on a sixty-five acre tract was a major destination spot for early Denver motorists. A restaurant, dance hall and several cabins were available adjacent to the park. Several of the buildings and the bridge that crossed the creek were lost as a result of devastating floods and/or fires in the 1930's.

Starbuck Park was advertised as "--an idyllically secluded natural park consisting of large shade trees with ample space for picnics, ball games, streamside camping and other activities with plenty of tables, grills and the purest stream water available." A local restaurant, and a general store adjacent to the park continued to operate after the 1930's, providing plate lunches and services to visitors. The restaurant closed long ago, but John Starbuck's widow, Pearl, operated the store well into the 1970's.

The period of significance is arbitrarily ended at 1944 to meet the National Register's age criteria.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 & 10 Page 3

STARBUCK PARK
Name of Property

JEFFERSON/CO
County/State

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Newspapers and Magazines

- Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, March 1919.
Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, December 1919.
Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, February 1920.
Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, April 1920.
Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, June 1921.
Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, March 1922.
Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, September 1924.
Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, March 1925.
Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, September 1926.
Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, July 1928.

Collections

- Denver, City and County of: Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Mountain Parks Map Collection.
Denver, City and County of: Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Mountain Parks Collection.

UTM REFERENCES

- E) 13 479420 4390020
F) 13 479260 4390250
G) 13 479290 4390280

Starbuck Park
Name of Property

Jefferson/CO
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 11.3

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. Zone 13 Easting 479 450 Northing 4390 340

2. Zone 13 Easting 479 540 Northing 4390 310

3. Zone 13 Easting 479 530 Northing 4390 150

4. Zone 13 Easting 479 480 Northing 4389 980

[X] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Maureen Van Norden

organization Denver Parks and Recreation date 10/25/94

street & number 2300 15th Street telephone (303) 964-2544

city or town Denver state Colorado zip code 80202-1139

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 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

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Denver Parks and Recreation

street & number 2300 15th Street telephone (303) 964-2544

city or town Denver state Colorado zip code 80202-1139

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.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 4

STARBUCK PARK
Name of Property

JEFFERSON/CO
County/State

Verbal Boundary Description

Starbuck Park was deeded to the City and County of Denver in two distinct but adjoining parcels. See accompanying sketch map for specific point locations. Letters and numbers in parentheses have been added for clarity.

Parcel 1: Being in the southeast quarter of the N.E. 1/4 of Sec. 32, T. 4 South, Range 70 west of the 6th P.M. and being more particularly described as follows:

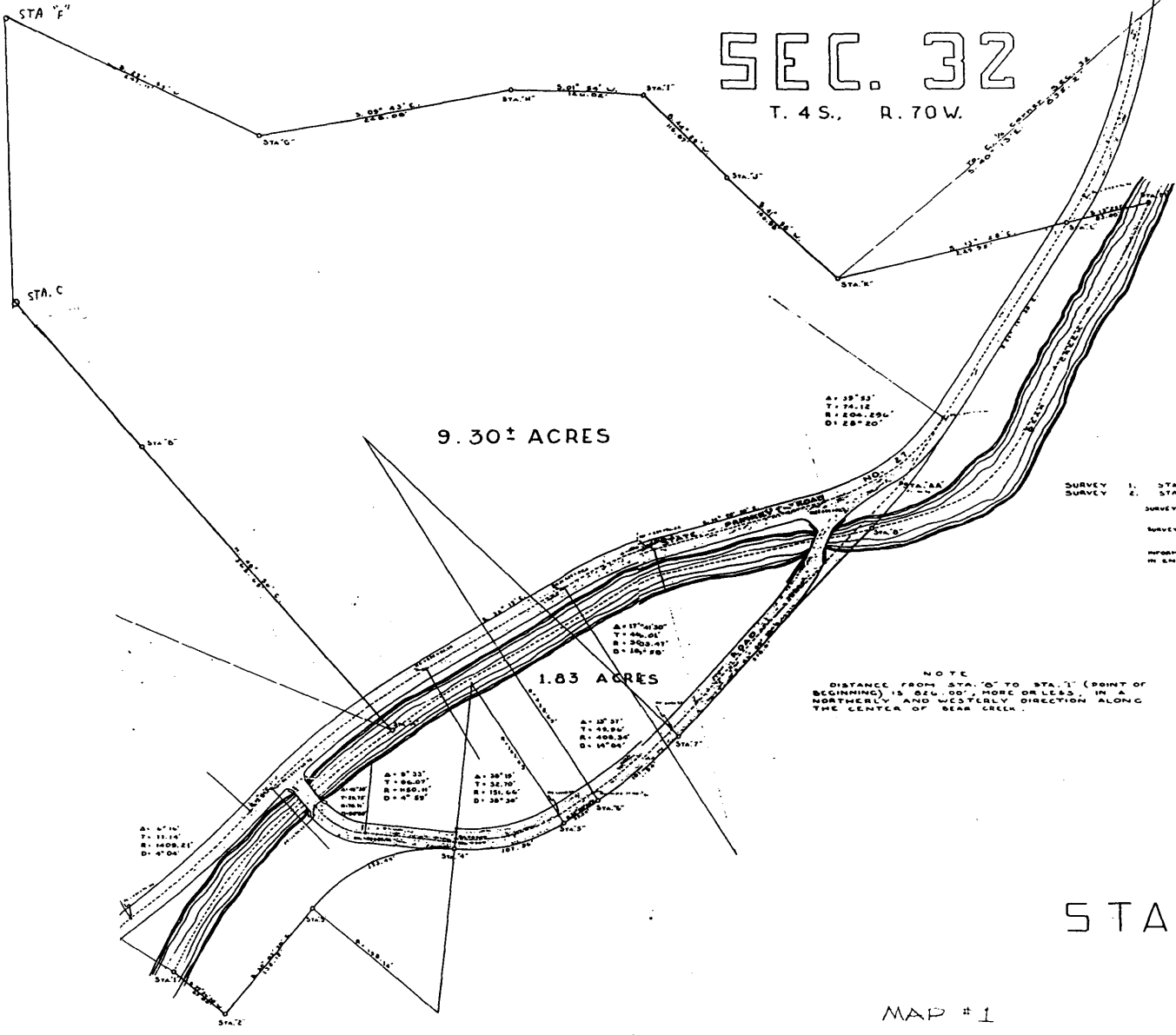
Beginning at a point in the center of Bear Creek, (1), from which point the N.E. corner of Section 32 bears N. 31 deg. 41 min. 30 sec. east, a distance of 1985.03 feet; (2) thence south 39 deg. 56 min. 30 sec. W., a distance of 65.00 feet to a point (3), on the southwesterly boundary of a proposed road; thence along said southwesterly boundary S. 50 deg. 03 min. 30 sec. east, a distance of 132.12 feet to a point of a curve (4); thence on said curve to the right having a radius of 158.14 feet a distance of 155.44 feet to a point of reverse curve (5); thence on said reverse curve to the left having a radius of 161.43 feet a distance of 107.96 feet to point of tangent (6); thence south 32 deg. 03 min. 30 sec. east along said tangent, a distance of 39.54 feet to point of curve (7); thence on said curve to the left having a radius of 418.69 feet, a distance of 101.94 feet to point of tangent; thence south 46 deg. 00 min. 30 sec. east along said tangent a distance of 278 feet to a point located in the center of Bear Creek (8); thence in a northerly and westerly direction along the center of Bear Creek, a distance of 826 feet more or less to place of beginning, being in all 1.83 acres, more or less, together with all water rights thereunto belonging.

Parcel 2: Being in the E 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 32, Township 4 South, Range 70 west of the 6th P.M. and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the center of Bear Creek, (A), from which point the NE corner of Section 32, bears north 23 deg. 13 min. E., a distance of 2076.94 feet; thence north 48 deg. 56 min. E. a distance of 365.69 feet to a point (B); thence north 48 deg. 36 min. E. a distance of 226.73 feet to a point (C); thence south 77 deg. 04 min., East, a distance of 105.41 feet to a point (D); thence south 80 deg. 53 min. east a distance of 93.17 feet to a point (E); thence south 80 deg. 53 min. east, a distance of 45.97 feet to a point (F), from which point the NE corner of section 32 bears N. 4 deg. 51 min. east a distance of 1547.6 feet; thence south 25 deg. 55 min. west, a distance of 247.11 feet to a point (G); thence south 01 deg. 54 min. west, a distance of 126.02 feet to a point (I); thence south 44 deg/29 min. west, a distance of 116.67 feet to a point (J); thence south 41 deg. 58 min. west, a distance of 146.98 feet to a point (K), (from which point the E 1/4 corner of section 32 bears south 40 deg. 13 min. east, a distance of 835.02 feet;) thence south 13 deg. 28 min. east, a distance of 229.95 feet to a point (L), which point is located on the center line of the Bear Creek Road; thence south 13 deg. 28 min. east, a distance of 83.0 feet to a point (M) located in the center of Bear Creek; thence in a northerly and westerly direction along the center of Bear Creek, a distance of 952 feet, more or less to place of beginning, in all 9.30 acres, more or less, saving and excepting therefrom State Primary Road No. 27, as now laid out on the ground. (See sketch map #1)

Boundary Justification

The boundaries encompass all the lands owned by the City and County of Denver called Starbuck Park.



SEC. 32

T. 4 S., R. 70 W.

9.30± ACRES

1.83 ACRES

NOTE
 DISTANCE FROM STA. M TO STA. A (POINT OF BEGINNING) IS 892.00', MORE OR LESS, IN NORTHERLY AND WESTERLY DIRECTION ALONG CENTER OF BEAR CREEK.

SURVEY 1. STATION "A" THRU STATION "M"
 SURVEY 2. STATION "I" THRU STATION "B" AND STATION "AA"
 SURVEY 1 INFORMATION TAKEN FROM MOUNTAIN PARK DEED BOOK, PAGE NO. ENGINEERING DEED BOOK, PAGE 1024.
 SURVEY 2 INFORMATION TAKEN FROM MOUNTAIN PARK DEED BOOK, PAGE 31, ENGINEERING DEED BOOK, PAGE 1024.
 INFORMATION FOR STATE PRIMARY ROAD NO. 27 TAKEN FROM DRAWING IN ENGINEERING VAULT, DRAWING NO. STARBUCK PARK 8-10"

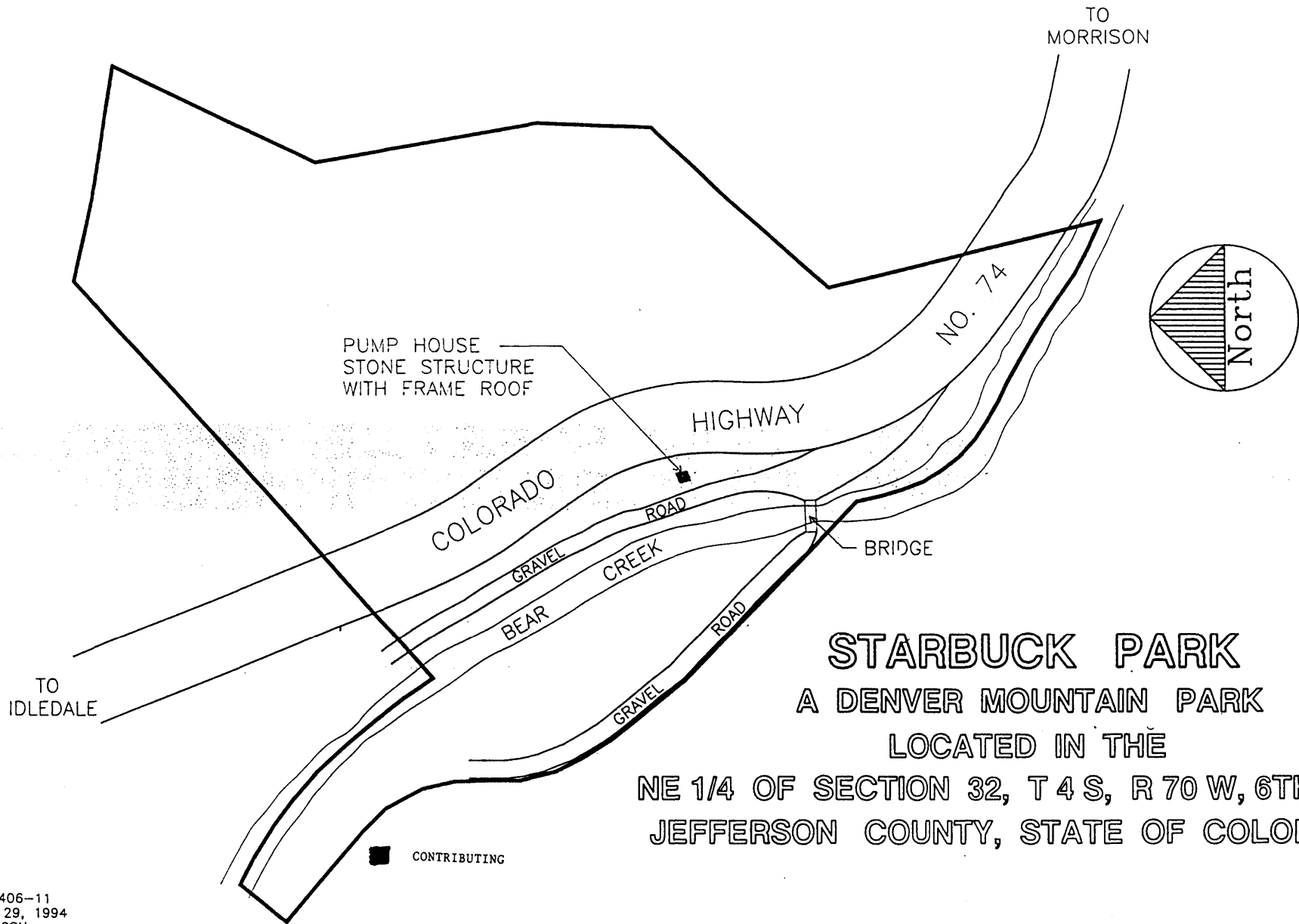
NOTE
 DISTANCE FROM STA. B TO STA. I (POINT OF BEGINNING) IS 824.00', MORE OR LESS, IN A NORTHERLY AND WESTERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE CENTER OF BEAR CREEK.

STARBUCK PARK



MAP # 1

DRAWN BY DATE 8-23-59



STARBUCK PARK
 A DENVER MOUNTAIN PARK
 LOCATED IN THE
 NE 1/4 OF SECTION 32, T 4 S, R 70 W, 6TH P.M.,
 JEFFERSON COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO

DWG. NO. 9406-11
 DATE: JUNE 29, 1994
 DRAWN BY: GSN

MAP #2

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number ____ Page 5

STARBUCK PARK
Name of Property

JEFFERSON/O
County/State

PHOTO LOG

The following information will be the same for all photographs.

1. Name of Property: Starbuck Park
2. Location: Jefferson County, Colorado
3. Photographer: Chuck Whigham
4. Date of Photograph: 1994
5. Location of Original Negatives: City and County of Denver, Parks & Recreation Dept.

Photo # Description

1. Entrance to Park looking N.
2. Well House looking N.
3. Inside Well House looking E.
4. View from Well House looking S.
5. Bear Creek - Fishing Site looking W.