

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 00000327

Date Listed: 4/21/2000

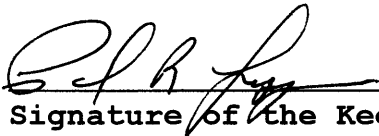
Big Creek Commissary  
Property Name

Valley  
County

ID  
State

N/A  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*for*  \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

4/21/00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

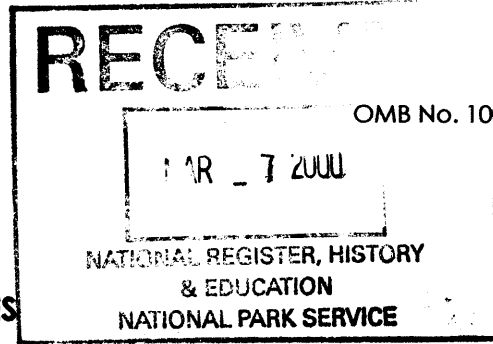
Location:  
The correct county code is: 085

Certification:  
The confirms that the nomination is for a property that meets the National Register Criteria at the: *local level*.

These revisions were confirmed with M. Kaczor of Forest Service.

DISTRIBUTION:  
National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

NPS Form 10-900  
0018  
(Oct. 1990)  
**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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions 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 of 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 the 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: Big Creek Commissary  
Other names/site number: Big Creek Barn, Building #1303 PY-797, 10VY532

**2. Location**

City or Town: Yellow Pine, Payette National Forest  vicinity  
Street & Number: 085  n/a not for publication  
State: Idaho Code     ID County Valley Code 049 Zip Code 83677

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Michael J. Kuczer FPO 1/31/00

Signature of certifying official

Date

USDA Forest Service

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] SHPO 2/26/99

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

Idaho State Historical Society

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): \_\_\_\_\_

*Paul B. Jager* 4/21/00

*h* Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes  
as apply)

\_\_\_\_ private

\_\_\_\_ public-local

\_\_\_\_ public-State

x public-Federal

USDA Payette

National Forest

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

x building(s)

\_\_\_\_ district

\_\_\_\_ site

\_\_\_\_ structure

\_\_\_\_ object

**Number of Resources  
within Property**

Contributing / Non

1 buildings

\_\_\_\_ sites

\_\_\_\_ structures

\_\_\_\_ objects

1 Total

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

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

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Agriculture/Storage

Sub: Government/Office

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Agriculture/Animal Facility Sub: Storage

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Rustic - log cabin

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

roof metal

walls log

other \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description** x See continuation sheets

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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 yrs.

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture, Government

**Period of Significance** 1924 - early 1940s

**Significant Dates** 1924

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) NA

**Cultural Affiliation** NA

**Architect/BUILDER** USDA Forest Service

**Narrative Statement of Significance**  See continuation sheets.

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)  See 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                       Local government
- Other State agency     University
- Federal agency     Other

Name of repository: Payette National Forest, McCall, Idaho

Name of Property Big Creek Commissary  
County and State Valley, Idaho

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**10. Geographical Data**  
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**Acreage of Property** 1 acre

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1 <u>11</u>	<u>632190</u>	<u>4999410</u>	3 _____
2 _____	_____	4 _____	_____

\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description** x See continuation sheet.

**Boundary Justification** x See continuation sheet.

=====  
**11. Form Prepared By**  
=====

Name/Title Donna Hartmans  
Organization Arrow Rock Architects  
Date February 22, 1999  
Street & Number 2406 West Idaho  
Telephone (208) 344-7186  
City or Town Boise State ID Zip Code 83702

=====  
**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.

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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 the SHPO or FPO.)

Name USDA, Payette National Forest  
Street & Number PO Box 1026  
Telephone 208-634-0750  
City or Town McCall State ID Zip Code 83638

=====  
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 listing

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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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**County and State** Valley, Idaho

**SUMMARY**

The Big Creek Commissary was constructed in 1924 - 25 during the initial development of the Big Creek Ranger Station. Of the original complex of buildings only the commissary remains. This structure is unique in its construction and represents one of the few remaining "log cabin" era buildings on the Payette National Forest.

**GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS**

The Big Creek Commissary is situated at 5,710 feet above mean sea level one half mile from the western border of the Frank Church – River of No Return Wilderness in Valley County, Idaho. The site is located thirty-eight air miles from McCall, Idaho, the headquarters for the Payette National Forest. The historic townsite of Edwardsburg is less than one-half mile to the south.

**SITE**

The site is accessed via Forest Service Road 340 which follows the Big Creek drainage northward. The Commissary is located within the minor drainage of Logan Creek which joins Big Creek one mile north. The mile-long meadow parallels Hogback Ridge which divides the Big Creek drainage from the minor drainage. The surrounding environment consists of a lodgepole pine forest interspersed with open, wet, grassy areas. The site was selected because of the abundance of straight, tall lodgepole pine trees that were used in the construction of the commissary and other structures.

The historic setting of the Big Creek Commissary has remained essentially unchanged since the completion of the building in 1925. The commissary is accessible by Forest Service road 371, pack trail, and the grass-covered airfield, constructed in circa 1935. A corral to the north of the commissary is used for the containment of horses and mules. Irrigation water for these pastures is derived from water lines extending from Logan Creek. The pastures provide for the grazing of horses and mules used for transporting people and equipment into and out of the wilderness.

**EXTERIOR**

The construction of the Commissary occurred in 1924 – 25, during the development of the Big Creek Ranger Station. Of the original complex of buildings and features, only the commissary and a non-historic corral immediately to the north remains. Other fence lines around the site are also non-historic.

The commissary building measures 56 feet east to west by 24 feet north to south with a six-foot overhang at the south. The structure is one-and-a-half stories in height. The foundation consists of a combination of formed concrete footings and concrete piers. The continuous concrete footing, located under the west half of the building, appears to have been added later as the sill log is completely enveloped. The east half is supported by concrete piers. The pier at the northeast corner is inscribed with the following information (see drawings).

"Sept. 7, 1930, Emmitt Routson, Walter Hinkley, and Don Park."

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**LOG CONSTRUCTION**

A sill log spans the irregularly placed piers at the east end and extends beyond the north and south walls. Exterior walls are composed of logs 10" – 14" in diameter. Logs used in the superstructure are smaller, averaging 7" – 10" in diameter. The primary daubing consists of tree lichen covered with concrete and the chinking is small poles of 2" – 3" in diameter. The exterior of the building has been stained a reddish-brown.

The log walls have been left in their natural round profile. The ends have been hewn and square notched. The intersection of the two interior log partitions is visible at the north and south elevations. Again the logs are square notched at these junctures creating a neat seam of hewn log ends. The overall effect is very uniform in materials and craftsmanship.

At the south elevation the roof extends over the south wall and is supported by five log posts. This deep overhang provides a sheltered area for the transfer of equipment and supplies. At the west end of the south wall is a sliding door which accesses the commissary space. At the center of the south wall is a single passage door of slab construction with one light that leads to an office space. At the east end of the south wall is a pair of doors of slab construction with one light each that open into the tack room. There are no windows on the south elevation.

The east elevation features a triple set of six-pane fixed windows that is offset to the north. The opening is finished with painted casings. Centered in the gable end above is another triple set of six-pane fixed windows. The shakes overlap the window frame and no casing was installed.

The north elevation features a modern sliding door accessing the tack room. At the center of the north wall is another triple set of six-pane fixed windows with painted casings. At the west end of the north wall is a pair of doors of slab construction opening into the commissary.

The west elevation features a triple set of six-pane fixed windows that is offset to the north. The opening is finished with painted casings. Centered in the gable end above is another triple set of six-pane fixed windows. The shakes overlap the window frame and no casing was installed.

The steep-pitched gable roof was originally finished with shakes. It is now covered with corrugated metal roofing. The ridge pole and purlins extend beyond the end walls creating a deep shadow. The gable ends are finished with six rows of hand-split Douglas fir shakes.

**INTERIOR**

The interior of the building is divided into three bays separated by log partitions. At the first floor is the commissary at the west, tack room at the east, and office at the center.

The commissary space is open to the roof structure. Walls are logs with pole chinking. Flooring is composed of wood planks 6" – 8" in width.

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The office space at the center of the building is finished with painted plywood paneling. Butt joints at panels are covered with battens. Flooring is composed of wood planks 6" – 8" in width with wide baseboards. The old telephone switchboard remains in this space.

The tack room walls are logs with pole chinking. The flooring and ceiling are composed of wood planks. Workbenches and equipment for repairing tack are present.

At the east wall of the tack room is a stairway leading to the second level. This second level spans the office and tack room areas. This area historically served as sleeping quarters for crews and was used for storage. Flooring is composed of wood planks 6" – 8" in width.

There are no trusses supporting the roof of this massive log building. Three structural diaphragms, each constructed of sixteen horizontal logs spanning from north to south, support the purlins. This diaphragm system stiffens and strengthens the roof structure. USDA Forest Service engineers no longer use this structural feature; trusses are used in contemporary construction.



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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This site is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A as associated with the early development of the USDA Idaho National Forest. The history of the Big Creek Commissary as associated with the Big Creek Ranger Station forms an important link with the early development of Forest Service administrative sites in the back country.

This site is also eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criteria C, as being a property "that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction....". This property reflects the establishment of the United States Forest Service in 1905 and the reliance upon early Forest Service craftsmanship in constructing vernacular "log cabin" style buildings using local materials. This building period predates the creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933 which initiated a major building boom for the Forest Service. Standardization of building plans ended the "log cabin" era of Forest Service rustic architecture. The 1935 Building Construction Manual for Region Four of the Forest Service does not illustrate log construction as found at Big Creek Commissary. Plans in this handbook are wood frame construction with logs used only for site features – benches, signposts, and fences. This verifies that by the mid 1930s the Forest Service had abandoned the use of logs in construction of their buildings.<sup>1</sup>

**HISTORIC CONTEXT**

The historic significance of this property is related to the early development of the United States Forest Service. Envisioned as early as the 1870s by various private forest conservation groups, a system of forest reserves began to be established in 1891 under the Department of the Interior. Active management and development began under the "Organic Act" of June 4, 1897. In 1905 these reserves were moved from the General Land Office to the Department of Agriculture and reorganized as the United States Forest Service. Major advances were made in the administration of these vast forest tracts including a powerful sense of mission for the public good and decentralization of authority.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See USDA, FS, Region 4, Building Construction Manual, (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1934) and USDA, FS, Intermountain Region, Engineering Handbook, Building Construction Section. (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1946).

<sup>2</sup> See the following: Donna Hartmans, Historic Lookouts on the Willamette National Forest: Management Plans for Preservation. (Eugene, Oregon: Unpublished Graduate Thesis, University of Oregon, Historic Preservation Program, December 1991), 7-8. William C. Tweed, Recreation Site Planning and Improvement in National Forests 1891 – 1942. (United States Department of Agriculture, FS-354), 2. Terry L. West, Centennial Mini-Histories of the Forest Service. (United States Department of Agriculture, FS-518), 13.

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The terms "National Forest" and "Forest Service" adopted officially in 1907, epitomized Chief Gifford Pinchot's philosophy that public forest lands were to be utilized, and not merely reserved. Pinchot's policy allowed reasonable amounts of free wood to area residents, logging, grazing, and waterpower development under regulation. Other priorities included the controlling of wildfire, soil erosion, and pilfering of resources, so that forests would remain productive, and renewable.<sup>3</sup>

Many settlers, and early forest users, especially in the West, found themselves at odds with the new Forest Service regulations. Within this backdrop, the fledgling National Forests began to establish "Guard" and "Ranger Stations" to administer their vast public land management responsibilities.

**THE PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST**

The Payette National Forest has undergone a series of boundary changes, decreasing and increasing in acreage. On July 1, 1908 the Idaho National Forest was created from the northern part of the Payette National Forest, but rejoined the Payette again on April 1, 1944. The Big Creek Ranger Station was constructed as one of the many administrative sites of the then remote backcountry.<sup>4</sup> This site represents one of the "log cabin era" buildings built by the Forest Service. The early use of local materials – lodgepole pine and Douglas fir shakes – denotes the ingenuity required of Forest Service personnel in the establishment of these early administrative sites. The remoteness of the site precluded the use of milled lumber and manufactured materials to a great degree.

The 1911, 1912, and 1919 maps of the Idaho and Payette National Forests show vast, unsurveyed mountainous areas with very little definition of forest service activity besides some trails. Today, it requires three and one-half-hours to drive from McCall, Idaho to the Big Creek Commissary. In 1924, it took approximately the whole day to travel the same distance. Julian Rothery who was Supervisor on the Forest from 1910 –1912 expressed it this way.

In the early days, the Idaho [National Forest] was the last frontier, a rocky snow-buried land,... Perhaps the most significant development in my time was the awakening to the necessity of roads, trails and telephone lines. The fires of 1910 generally

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<sup>3</sup> William C. Tweed, Recreation Site Planning and Improvement in National Forests 1891 – 1942, (United States Department of Agriculture, FS-354), 2.

<sup>4</sup> James M. Hockaday, History, Payette National Forest, (McCall, Idaho: USDA, Intermountain Region, Forest Service, January 1968), 28-30.

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were so remote and inaccessible that no substantial effort could be made to control them; and in some cases were never discovered and only the next year would a Ranger find the old scar.<sup>5</sup>

If one has not visited this area of central Idaho, the remoteness of this rugged country now, and then, can only be imagined and be somewhat envisioned by comparing the development on the forest through historic maps. Specifically, the 1920 Payette National Forest map shows the road from the west deadending at the town of Edwardsburg (see map). Only the major drainages and mountain peaks were designated.

By 1924, however, numerous roads, trails, and administrative sites had developed. As an administrative site, the 1924 Payette National Forest map indicates the forest service site was called "Big Ck Hdqts" (see map). This map indicates telephone lines leading to other ranger stations and surrounding lookouts. By 1936, the Idaho National Forest Map indicates the landing strip had been developed. The next Idaho National Forest map in 1938 shows the Big Creek Ranger Station had been designated as a District Office.<sup>6</sup>

**HISTORIC FUNCTION**

The vicinity of the Big Creek site was first used in the early 1920s as ranger headquarters. Fred Williams tells of his experience.

The next season, 1922, headquarters was established in a set of old mining cabins on Smith Creek [two miles north of the present site] – the Station headquarters had been moved from Ramey Ridge – said cabin had been used as a barn, no floor or windows – it was quite a classy place. That fall we moved to Edwardsburg [one half mile south of the present site].... In 1923 we established headquarters at what is now Big Creek headquarters - the Ranger Station was a 7' x 9' tent, the warehouse and office consisted of two 14' x 20' tents and the cook shack was made of whatever old canvas we could find.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid., 31.

<sup>6</sup> See Idaho and Payette National Forest maps 1911 – 1941 for the development of the area.

<sup>7</sup> Hockaday, 33.

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Development of the Big Creek Ranger Station complex occurred over the next two years. The Commissary was first used in 1926 as an administrative building with multiple functions (see plans). It has three separate rooms on the ground level and two rooms on the second level. On the ground level, the west room was the commissary, which contained canned and dried foods, and other domestic supplies.

The middle section was the office where the Ranger had the use of a telephone switchboard for dispatching duties. As a District Office, this main telephone switchboard operated the backcountry telephone lines. The system was phased out in the late 1940s and early 50s with the advent of the 2-way radio. Above this room were the sleeping quarters for USDA Forest Service personnel.

The eastern end of the building was used for the storage of livestock tack. Above this tack room was where the fire fighting tools were stored. This multifunctional building was unique to the administration of the former Idaho National Forest, and for the management of the former Idaho Primitive Area.

These early administrative sites would have had a ranger stationed at the site. As the site map, drawn in 1996 indicates, other structures were associated with the complex, including a dwelling, woodshed, outhouse, and tent platforms.<sup>8</sup> In the early 1940s the complex was upgraded and new buildings were constructed across the road and west of the airfield. At this time the functions of the commissary changed. The switchboard operations and ranger's office moved to the newer facility. The commissary building continued to be used for storage of livestock feed and repair of tack.<sup>9</sup>

**SEASONAL USE TODAY**

The Idaho Primitive Area, established in 1931, was renamed the River of No Return Wilderness in 1980. The name was legislatively changed to the Frank Church - River of No Return Wilderness in 1984. The historic commissary building remains a part of the Big Creek Ranger Station today as a livestock facility serving the wilderness area. It's continued use is maintained through Forest Service facilities funding. The fencing and corrals have been replaced over the years. Evidence of earlier fence posts can be observed in the ground close to the alignment of the existing fence. The ranger's dwelling burned down in 1986. The woodshed was removed in 1990 after

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<sup>8</sup> Peter Preston, Big Creek Ranger Station Complex as it appeared in 1940. Basic layout taken from USFS Development plan dated 1940. This site map was researched and drawn by Peter Preston August 11, 1996.

<sup>9</sup> Larry A. Kingsbury, archaeologist on the Payette National Forest, McCall, Idaho. Oral interview.

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Section 106 review. It is unknown when the other structures were removed (see 1996 site plan). The Big Creek Commissary represents the oldest and largest, multi-room, multi-functional, log building related to wilderness management on the Payette National Forest today. This building and associated corrals are seasonally used today by livestock packers. Livestock tack, feed, and maintenance tools are stored in this building.

**ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT**

Architecturally, the Big Creek Commissary exhibits a continuity of design, materials, construction techniques, color, and details. The use of locally available lodgepole pine, and Douglas fir trees for the building reveals the resourceful abilities of the USDA Idaho National Forest personnel. A circa 1929 photograph reveals that there was an adequate supply of tall, straight timber for the construction of the Commissary. Logs were carefully chosen in the forest for the construction of the buildings. Logs were selected for diameter, length, and straightness. All the logs used in the commissary building were peeled. It is likely that the logs were cut and left to dry prior to construction. The trees were felled with crosscut saws and axe. Mules were used to drag the logs to the building site. Many weeks, days, and hours were spent in preparation of the logs. Bark on each log had to be removed with drawknives. Logs were cut to length and shaped with adzes, and handsaws.

What is unusual about the Big Creek Commissary is the size of the log building, and the internal supporting horizontal log diaphragm system used to strengthen and stiffen the roof. The internal log diaphragm is a feature no longer used in construction of USDA Forest Service buildings. This type of log construction originated with the Scandinavian design tradition.<sup>10</sup> The origin of the plan for the commissary is unknown. The rustic design was used out of necessity, based upon the availability of materials, skilled craftsman, and the isolation of the setting from towns with sawmills. Logs were the only available building material and the construction techniques were known to the builders and acceptable by the agency directed to manage the forest resources.

The Big Creek Commissary is representative of the "log cabin era" of construction. USDA Forest Service personnel no longer construct buildings of logs. Inventories of other administrative sites on the Payette National Forest and on other forests south of the Salmon River yield on other log building of this scale or design. Only two other sites on the Payette have structures of this era; a log cabin at Cold Meadows Guard Station, circa 1925, and a cabin at Hays Ranger Station built in 1913. The last log structure built on the Payette National Forest was at Krassel Work Center in the early 1970s.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Terry G. Jordan, *Texas Log Buildings: A Folk Architecture*. (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1978), 84.

<sup>11</sup> Kingsbury.

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**Books**

\_\_\_\_\_. Engineering Handbook, Building Construction Section. USDA FS Intermountain Region, 1946.

\_\_\_\_\_. Building Construction Manual. USDA FS Region Four Washington DC, US Government Printing Office, 1935.

Hockaday, James M. History, Payette National Forest. Payette National Forest, McCall, Idaho, USDA Intermountain Region, Forest Service, January 1968.

\_\_\_\_\_. Idaho National Forest. USDA Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Ogden, Utah, US Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1941.

IMACS Site Form. USDA, FS Payette National Forest, McCall, Idaho. On file at the Payette National Forest Supervisor's Office, 15 October 1984.

Jordan, Terry G. Texas Log Buildings: A Folk Architecture. University of Texas Press, Austin, 1978.

Kingsbury, Lawrence A. Request for a Formal Determination of Eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places, PY97-1207, 1997. On file at the Payette National Forest Supervisor's Office, 15 October 1984.

Steen, Harold K. The Origins of the National Forests. Durham, North Carolina: Forest History Society, 1992.

Tweed, William C. Recreation Site Planning and Improvement in National Forests, 1891 – 1942. United States Department of Agriculture, FS-354, 1980.

United States Department of Agriculture, Payette National Forest Investment and Depreciation Records. Payette National Forest, Supervisor's Office, McCall, ID, 1933.

West, Terry L. Centennial Mini-Histories of the Forest Service. United States Department of Agriculture, FS-518, 1992.

**Maps and Drawings**

Idaho National Forest maps. 1912, 1919, 1926, 1930, 1936, 1938, 1940, and 1941.

Payette National Forest maps. 1911, 1920, 1924, 1928, 1934, 1935, 1938, 1941, 1953, 1960, and 1966.

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Preston, Peter. Big Creek Ranger Station Complex as it appeared in 1940. Basic layout taken from USFS development plan dated 29 Feb. 1940. Preston researched the site and developed the map, floor plan, and drawings. 11 August 1996.

***Oral Interviews/Correspondence***

Kingsbury, Larry A. Archaeologist on the Payette National Forest, McCall, Idaho.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**

**Continuation Sheet**

**Section number**   10   **Page**   1   **Name of Property** Big Creek Commissary  
**County and State** Valley, Idaho

**Verbal Boundary**

The boundary of the Commissary building, and corral measures 200 feet north to south, by 200 feet east to west, encompassing one acre of grassy meadow east of the Big Creek airfield.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries contain the fenced corral and commissary building. The square shaped historic site includes the area with the commissary building as well as the livestock corral, and landscape present during the period of significance.



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

**National Register of Historic Places**

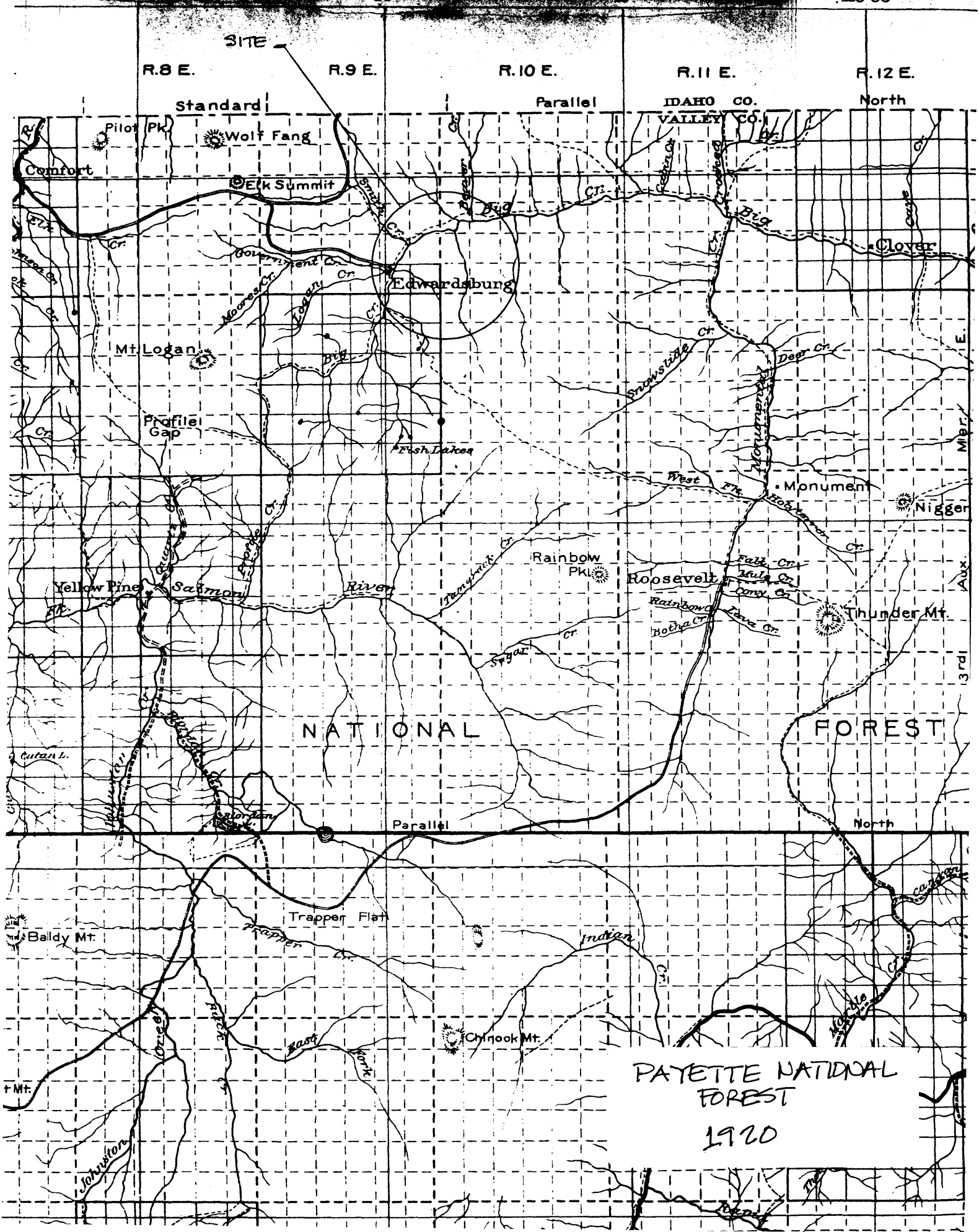
**Continuation Sheet**

**Section number** Additional Page 1 **Name of Property** Big Creek Commissary  
**County and State** Valley, ID

PHOTO LOG

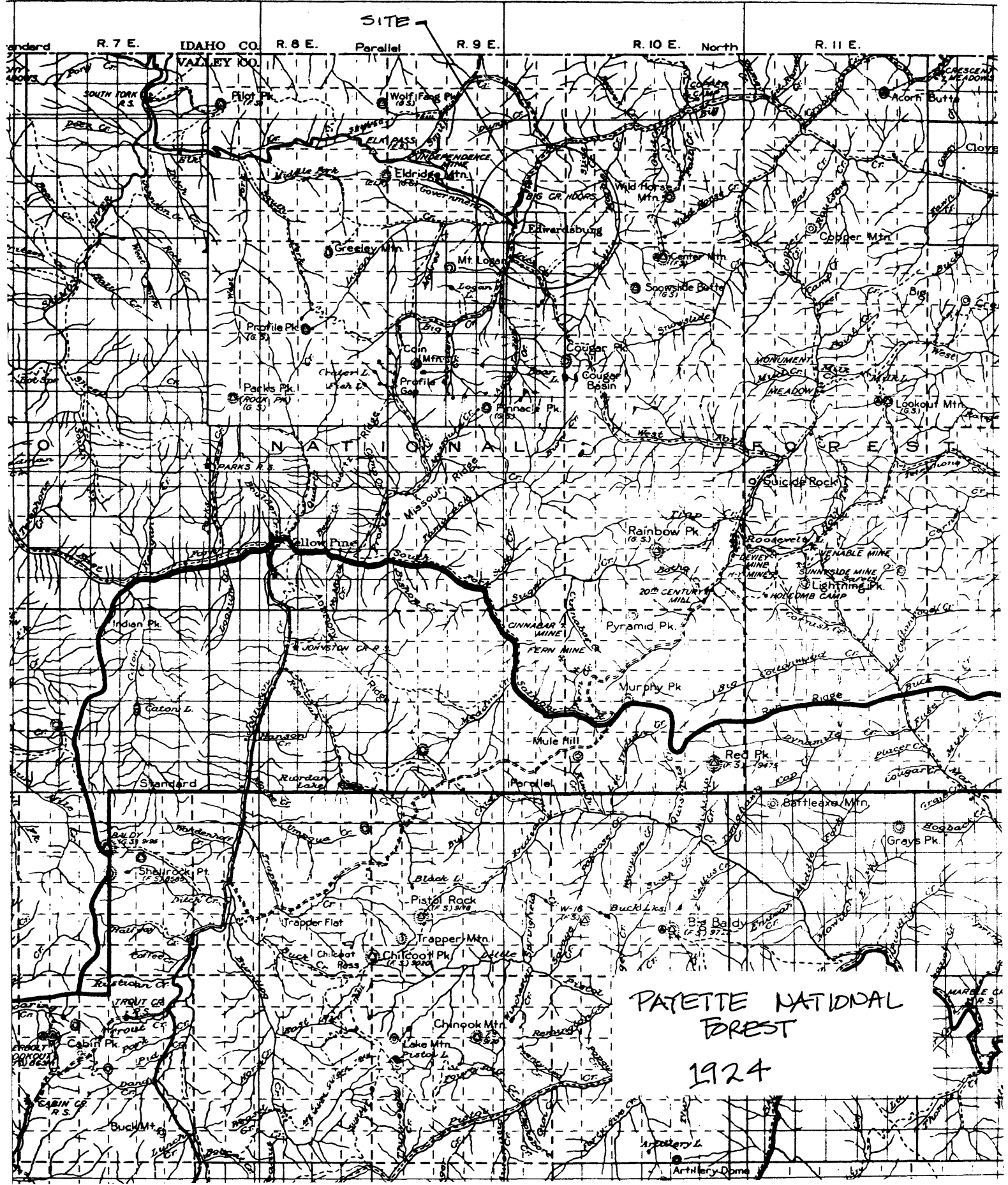
All photographs taken by Larry Kingsbury on June 30, 1998. Negatives located at the Payette National Forest Supervisor's Office in McCall, Idaho.

<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Direction of View</u>
1.	North and east elevations	SE
2.	South and west elevations	NE
3.	East elevation	W
4.	South and east elevations	NW
5.	South and west elevations	NE
6.	North and east elevations and corral	SW
7.	West elevation, gable end	E
8.	West elevation, window	E
9.	North elevation, door to tack room	SE
10.	West end, interior, structural diaphragm	up
11.	West end, interior, structural diaphragm	S
12.	West end, interior, loft above commissary	S
13.	East end, interior, tack room	E



PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST  
1920

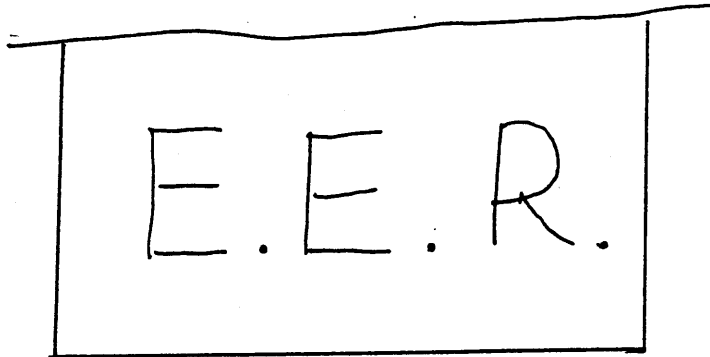
40' 30' 20' 10' 115'



PATETTE NATIONAL FOREST  
1924

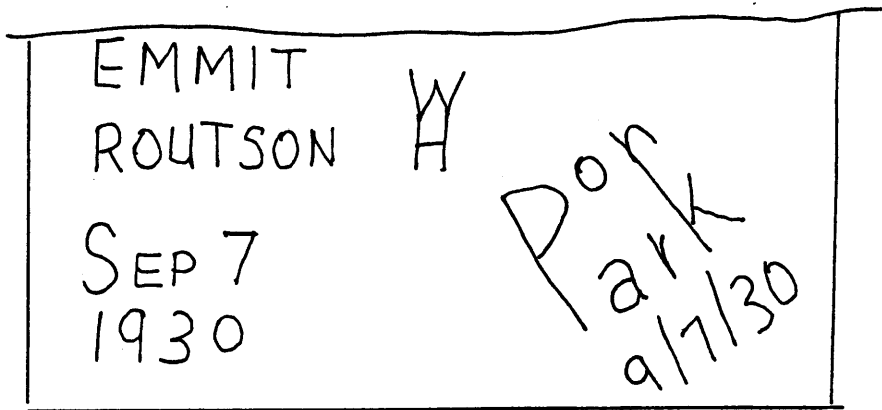
INSCRIBED CONCRETE FOOTINGS AT BIG CREEK COMMISSARY

PY-797



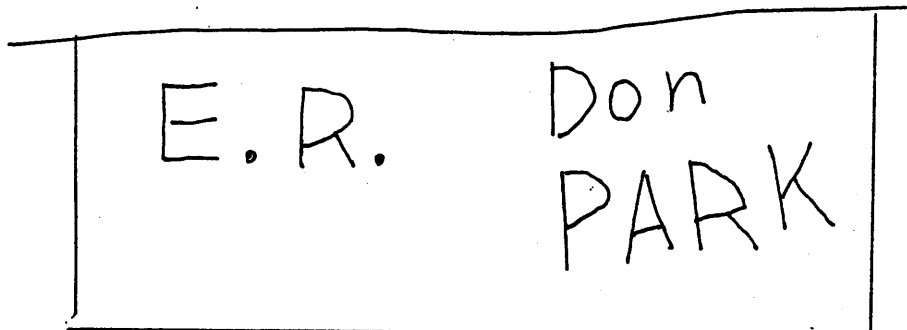
BLOCK 1  
EMMIT EUGENE ROUTSON

~14 IN



BLOCK 2  
EMMIT ROUTSON  
WALTER HINKLEY  
DON PARK  
SEP 7, 1930

~24 IN



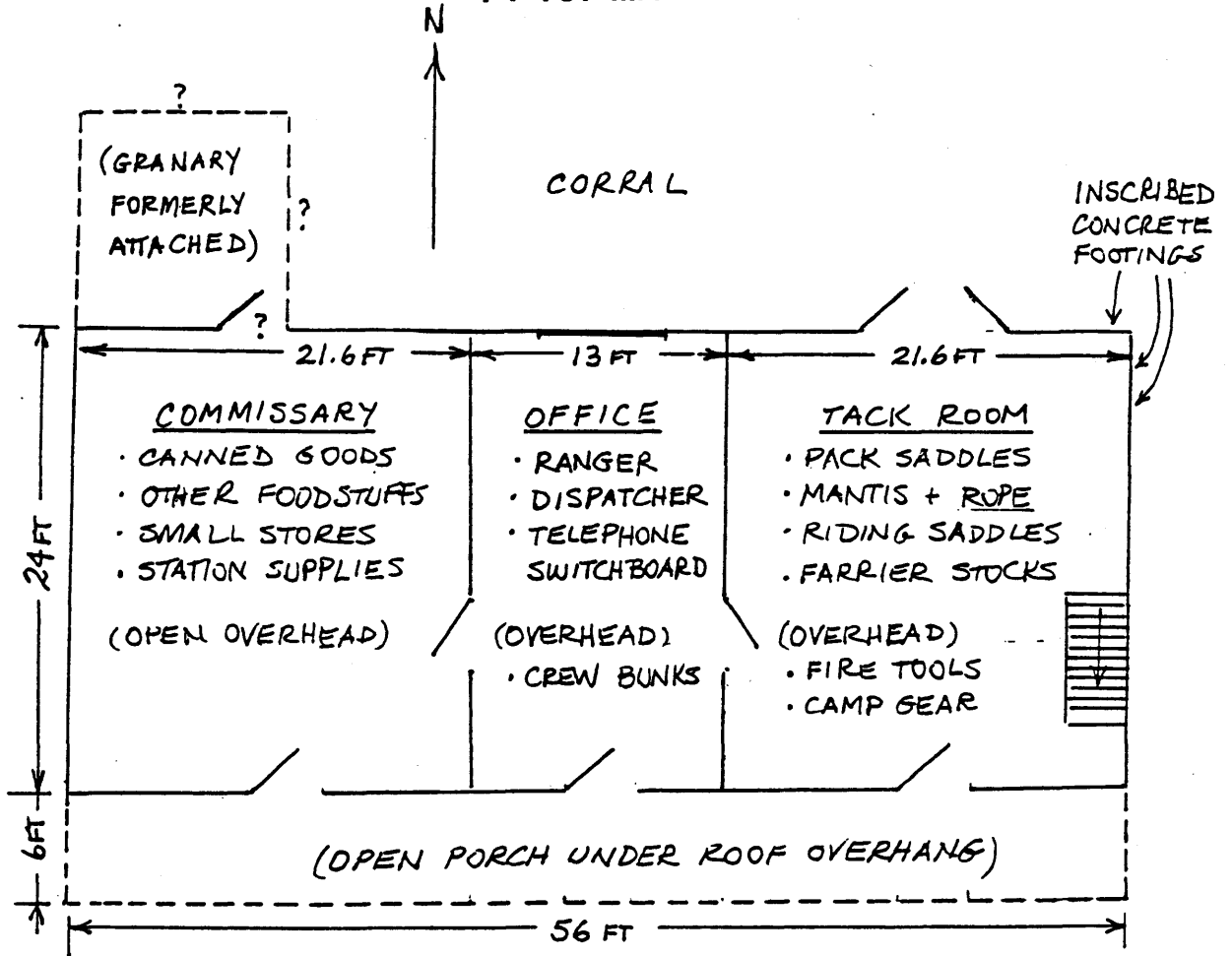
BLOCK 3  
EMMIT ROUTSON  
DON PARK

~24 IN

FOOTINGS AT NORTHEAST CORNER OF BARN (PNF #1303)  
BLOCK 1 ON NORTH FACE, BLOCKS 2 & 3 ON EAST FACE

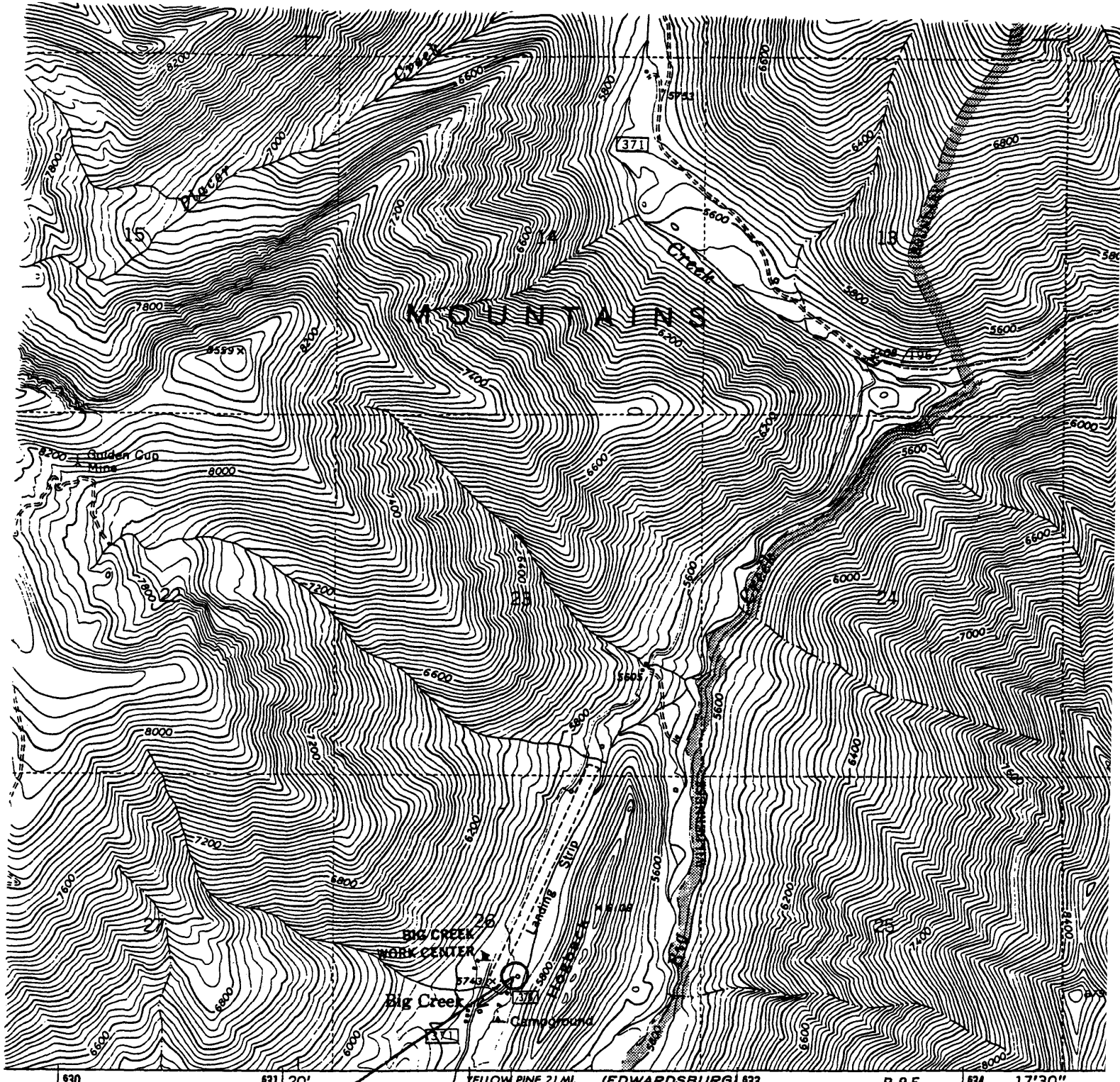
# BIG CREEK COMMISSARY

PY-797 MAP 2



BIG CREEK COMMISSARY (NOW CALLED BARN, PNF # 1303)  
 FLOOR PLAN AND FUNCTIONS, CIRCA 1939

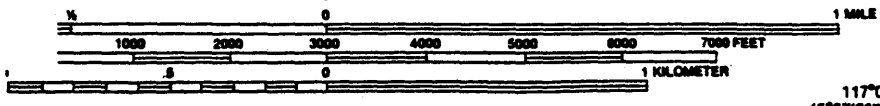
SKETCH BY PETER PRESTON, 12 JAN 1997



630 631 20' YELLOW PINE 21 MI. (EDWARDSBURG) 633 R. 9 E. 634 17'30"

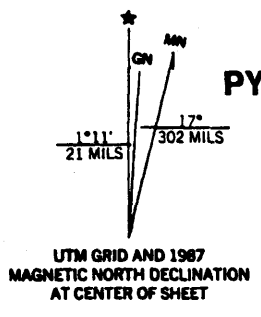
11 632190 4999410

SCALE 1:24 000



PY-797 MAP 1

CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET



- |   |                       |                      |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| National Forest Boundary                                      | Primary Highway       | Interstate Highway   |
| Alienated Land Within the National Forest Boundary as of 1987 | Secondary Highway     | U.S. Highway         |
| <b>TOWNSHIP AND SECTION LINE CLASSIFICATION</b>               |                       |                      |
| Surveyed, Location Reliable                                   | Improved Road, Paved  | State Highway        |
| Surveyed, Location Approximate                                | Improved Road, Gravel | County Road          |
| Unsurveyed, Protraction                                       | Improved Road, Dirt   | Primary Forest Route |
|   | Unimproved Road, Dirt | Forest Road          |
|   | Trail                 | Forest Trail         |
|   | Locked Gate           |                      |

117°07'3  
45°37'30"

# BIG CREEK RANGER STATION COMPLEX

AS IT APPEARED IN 1940

BASIC LAYOUT TAKEN FROM USFS DEVELOPMENT PLAN DATED 29 FEB 1940.

ALL FENCES SHOWN ARE NO LONGER STANDING; ALL BLDGS AND FEATURES SHOWN, EXCEPT COMMISSARY, ARE NO LONGER STANDING. FEATURES NOTED ON PLAT PROVIDED BY DAN LE VAN JR, RANGER STN RESIDENT 1928-1946. DATA FIELD CHECKED BY P. PRESTON, AUG 1996. PLAT AND NOTES PREPARED BY PETER PRESTON, 11 AUG 1996

SCALE: 1 INCH = 50 FT

