# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

#### SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

NAME		
HISTORIC	Redick Lodge (Chambers Lodge)	
AND/OR COMMON	Chambers Lodge	
	a of Pinedole	
street & NUMBER F <del>remont Lake</del>	Bridger-Teton National Forest	
CITY, TOWN	Pinedale wich to VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First
STATE	CODE Wycming 056	COUNTY CODE Sublette 035
CLASSIFICA	TION	
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP STATUS	PRESENTUSE
	PUBLIC X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTUREMUSEUM
	PRIVATEUNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIALPARK
· · · · ·	XBOTHWORK IN PROGRES	SEDUCATIONAL X_PRIVATE RESIDE
SITE		ENTERTAINMENTRELIGIOUS
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENTSCIENTIFIC
•	BEING CONSIDEREDYES: UNRESTRICTED	DINDUSTRIALTRANSPORTATIO
	NO	MILITARYOTHER:
REGIONAL HEADQUARTE	United States Forest Service, Re 324 25th Street	egion 4, Intermountain Region
CITY, TOWN		STATE
	Ogden VICINITY OF	Utah 84401
LOCATION (	OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC	Pinedale Ranger District	Bridger-Teton National Forest
STREET & NUMBER		
	Box 220	
CITY, TOWN	Den ala 1 a	STATE
	Pinedale	Wyoming 82941
REPRESENT	ATION IN EXISTING SURVEY	S the second sec
TITLE		
	tion Commission, Survey of Histor	ic Sites, Markers and Monuments
DATE		AL X_STATECOUNTYLOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR	13079 IEVISEU 1373	
SURVEY RECORDS	Wyoming Recreation Commission	604 East 25th Street
CITY, TOWN		STATÉ
	Cheyenne	Wyoming 82002

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK	DNE
XEXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	XUNALTERED	X ORIGINAL	SITE
XGOOD	RUINS	ALTERED	MOVED	DATE
	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Redick Lodge complex is situated on the northwest bank of upper Fremont Lake, a large crescent-shaped body of water held within a narrow valley by a moraine dam left by retreating glaciers. The lake sits in a ruggedly sculpted region which is characterized by a large number of glacier-carved lakes, quite high with an elevation of around 7500 feet, on the western slope of the Wind River mountain range. Located within a designated Primitive Area in Bridger-Teton National Forest, the Lodge is accessible only by the lake or by the Summit Lake pack trail from the south. As one of only two such recreational retreats to have been built in the area (the other being the Chambers' lodge on the shore of nearby Chambers Bay), the complex rests in a pristine setting, relatively isolated from other development. It is perched atop a rocky ridge within an aspen-fir forest, overlooking the lake toward a spectacular view of Fremont Peak and the Wind Rivers to the northeast.

The Lodge itself faces generally north, with its west facade toward the lake. Unpretentious and structurally expressive in the tradition of the Western Craftsman style, it is sited organically, responding to the terrain and resting comfortably within the surrounding forest. The building is finely hand-crafted using local labor and native materials - granite stone and Douglas fir. It sits upon stone rubble foundations, and its walls are exclusively horizontal logs-in-panels, planked on top and bottom to 6" widths and laid with 1x spacers inbetween. The windows are inswinging casements, either paired (in the living room) or singular (in all other rooms), the doors five-panel with brass hardware; both windows and doors display plain board enframements. Interior finishes and furnishings, hallmarks of this rustic style of architecture, feature the natural finishes of native materials - the soot-blackened stone of the fireplace and hand-rubbed, varnished wood of logs, planks and boards. Most of the furniture in the Lodge has been manufactured in the machine shop on the site.

The building's massing consists of the main section, nearly square at 43'8"x38'1", adjoined by a 31'2"x12'6" front porch and a 24'2"x13'5" rear wing. Access to the porch, which forms an ell along the north and east sides of the building, is from two stone stairs; the porch is partially enclosed by a log wainscot. Inside, the floor plan is dominated by the large living room placed in the northeast corner of the Lodge. The living room is both the physical and social center of the Lodge and is outfitted graciously with hand-crafted furniture, Indian rugs, built-in window seats and a baby grand piano in the corner. This great room is adjoined directly by four small sleeping chambers on its south and west sides and by a small hallway in the southwest corner. The hall leads to the bathroom and the kitchen in the main section and from the kitchen to the dining room in the rear wing.

Typical of its genre the Lodge possesses a simple roof profile with exposed structural members. The living room and sleeping rooms are sheltered by the main

#### PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW \_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC -PREHISTORIC \_\_COMMUNITY PLANNING \_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE \_\_\_RELIGION \_\_\_1400-1499 \_\_\_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC \_\_\_CONSERVATION \_\_\_LAW \_\_\_SCIENCE \_AGRICULTURE \_\_\_1500-1599 \_\_\_ECONOMICS \_\_\_LITERATURE \_\_\_SCULPTURE X\_ARCHITECTURE \_\_\_1600-1699 \_\_EDUCATION \_\_MILITARY .....SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN ABT 1700-1799 \_\_\_\_ENGINEERING \_\_\_MUSIC \_\_\_THEATER \_\_\_1800-1899 \_\_COMMERCE \_\_\_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT \_\_\_PHILOSOPHY \_\_\_TRANSPORTATION X\_1900-\_\_COMMUNICATIONS \_\_INDUSTRY \_\_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT XOTHER (SPECIEV) recreation \_\_\_INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES 1920-24

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Otis Miller

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

8 SIGNIFICANCE

The idea for the Lodge was first conceived in 1916 by Nebraskan George M. Redick while on a scouting trip with officials of the Union Pacific Railroad. The railroad had considered building a hotel in Pinedale or on nearby Fremont Lake to serve as an overnight stop along the route from the railhead at Rock Springs to Yellowstone National Park, and Redick and the railroad men toured the lake in search of a suitable location. Although construction of the hotel was soon rejected as being prohibitively expensive, Redick himself was transfixed by the sylvan setting of the lake and returned the following summer with his family to locate a summer cabin site. They camped for two months on the south side of the lake, cruising the shoreline in a borrowed boat until they decided on a site on the northwest shore atop a rock bluff within a stand of Douglas fir. Not wasting time, that same summer they purchased horses and equipment, commissioned architect Otis Miller of Miles City, Montana to design the Lodge, and contracted with Forest Ranger E.E. McKee for a lease for the site and to mark the trees for the cabin logs in the canyon at the head of the lake.

Construction of the Redick Lodge was commenced in the summer of 1918. Under the supervision of the architect Miller, who stayed on site during that summer and the summer of the following year, a road was cut up to the site from a clearing alongside the bay, and work on the foundations was begun. Earlier that summer, the logs had been floated down to the clearing from the lake head, having been felled and stacked the previous winter. Standing dead timber was used exclusively for construction; the wood was therefore already dried and required no additional allowances for shrinkage. A large, one-cylinder sawmill motor was transported to the clearing from the upper Missouri River area and placed on concrete supports. (It remained in place until October of 1976, when it was shipped back across the lake to be restored.) The sawmill was used to produce all the lumber for construction, except the floorboards, windows and doors, which had been brought in from the Kellogg Lumber Company in Rock Springs.

The first building to be erected was the machine shop, which, equipped with saws, planer, lathe, press and other power machines and woodworking tools, was used with the sawmill for building and furniture construction. The Lodge was raised between 1920 and 1924, the barn and corral in 1923, and the root cellar in 1924; the three small sleeping cabins north of the Lodge were built later. An ice house was built along the lake shore. Ice was cut from the lake each January and stored

# 9 MAJOR BIBLI BRAPHIC REFERENCES

"History of Recreation - Upper Fremont Lake, Wyoming" unpublished manuscript by Wallace L. Chambers, M.D., Pinedale Ranger District, Bridger-Teton National Forest.

"Chapel of the Transfiguration" nomination to the National Register of Historic Places by Clayton B. Fraser.

## **10**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_6.44

SEE ADDENDUM FOR UTM #E & #F

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The boundaries of the nominated area coincide with the boundaries of the Special Use Permit granted by the U.S. Forest Service to the Chambers Historical Preservation Trust. They enclose an irregular area which includes all of the buildings shown on the site plan, the boatdock/sawmill bay and sufficient shoreline and surrounding land.

### SEE ADDENDUM FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE COUNTY	CODE	
STATE	CODE COUNTY	CODE	
FORM PREPARED B	Y		· · · · · ·
Clavton B. Fraser, Pri	ncipal and Wallace L. Chambe	rs. Lodgeowner	-
ORGANIZATION		DATE	
Fraserdesign	· · · · ·	14 November 80	÷ .
STREET & NUMBER		TELEPHONE	
730 East Eighth		303-669-7969	:
CITY OR TOWN		STATE	· · .
Loveland		Colorado 80537	
Y		ONE	SIGNATURE
In compliance with Executive Order	11593, I hereby nominate this property to t		
Historic Preservation Officer has been	en allowed 90 days in which to present the		
evaluate its significance. The evaluat	ed level of significance isNational A	State Local	-
FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGN	ATURE CUM S. M.	Israacs JAN 2	0 1983
TITLE AGENCY PRESER	VATION OFFICER	DATE farment.	20,198
R NPS USE ONLY			
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PR	<b>ROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL</b>	REGISTER	
1 Franda M	" Cluband	DATE 3/18/8	r3
<b>DIRECTOR</b> OFFICE OF ARCHEOL	OGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION		

ATTEST

DATE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET Redick Lodge ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

roof, a shallowly pitched gable supported by a series of log trusses. These trusses, stripped of their bark and varnished, form a strong design element, giving spatial form to the living room as they freespan it. A similarly pitched shed roof springs from the building front over a portion of the porch; it is supported by pole rafters which bear upon log beams and columns. The dining room is covered by a smaller gabled roof which extends from the main gable at the rear and rests upon a log ridge pole. All roofs have as their exposed undersides partially stripped, planked log decking which is topped by 1" rough-sawn decking and composition roll roofing.

The single most notable feature of the Lodge is the massive fireplace and chimney centered on the east wall of the living room. The chimney actually serves a pair of stone-hearthed fireplaces, one facing into the living room and the other onto the covered porch on the other side; true to their romantic ideals, these somewhat overscaled fireplaces provide a sense of security and warmth, both figurative and real, for the building. Designed by Omaha architect George B. Prinze, the chimney was constructed using granite rubble collected by dynamiting large boulders.

The outbuildings clustered around the Lodge and to the north include: the machine shop-storage shed, the root cellar, pump house along the lake shore with its attendant water tank west of the Lodge, three small guest cabins, the barn and two privies. These structures are constructed in the same vernacular as the Lodge building, with log or slab siding being the rule. Like the Lodge, they are all single-story (with a loft over, in the case of the barn), gable-roofed buildings, made of native materials and furnished with hand-crafted articles. The individual structures and adjacent area have been preserved well by the Chambers family. The Lodge is still heated by the massive fireplace and smaller iron stoves; still not serviced by electricity, it is operated in the same manner as originally, with hot-and-cold running water being the only concession to modern technology. The appearance of the complex has remained virtually unchanged from its appearance of the 1920's when the Redick family occupied it.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Redick Lodge ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

in sawdust for use the following summer. The ice house was removed in 1957. Water for the complex was pumped from the lake to a storage tank located up the hillside from the Lodge; the water system was completed in 1919 or 1920.

The Redick family occupied the Lodge throughout the 1920's, spending summers there and often entertaining visitors, most of whom were people from the Midwest and their hometown of Omaha. Notable houseguests at the Lodge included King Gustoff of Sweden, Willis Peck, American Consul General to China, White House Advisor John L. McNab, and "Rubber Czar" William Jeffers, among a lengthy list of local friends. However, the Redick family fortunes plummeted during the Great Depression, and their last summer together at the Lodge was spent in 1931. George Redick died in 1936, and the Lodge was forgotten, standing abandoned and subject to pilferage of its contents.

Two years later, in October 1938, the Lodge was purchased by Dr. Oliver Chambers of Rock Springs. Redick and Chambers had been the only two recreation residence leaseholders on Upper Fremont Lake, Redick's lease beginning in 1918 and Chambers' in 1924, and the Chambers family cabin was located several hundred yards away near Chambers Bay. (Further leasing of Forest Service land has subsequently been prohibited by the designation of the region as a Primitive Area in the early 1930's.) Chambers had bought the Lodge to maintain and protect it, with the thought that it could then be resold as a private residence. However, in 1940 Chambers' own cabin was burned to the ground by a kerosene water heater, and the family elected to move into the Redick Lodge. It has since remained in family hands and is presently maintained by Dr. Wallace Chambers, Oliver's son, of Salt Lake City.

The historical significance of the Redick Lodge, interesting chronology aside, is based upon its association with the early-day recreation industry in Wyoming, a form of commerce which has burgeoned into an economic mainstay for the region. Built at a time when dude ranches were beginning to flourish and the automobile was opening many areas to working class tourist trade, the Lodge typifies a distinct form of recreational retreat - the private seasonal residence placed in a spectacular Rocky Mountain setting. Like pencil magnate Berrol's AMK Ranch, Buffalo Bill Cody's Pahaska Tepee and the Rockefellers' JY Ranch, the Redick Lodge is, on a more modest scale, one of a relatively small group of recreational complexes - rustic playgrounds for the priveleged few.

The significance of the Lodge, however, is based not only upon its association with tourism in the area but also upon its representation as a locally prominent example of an architectural style which is significant in the architectural history of the region. This style, now referred to as Western Craftsman, is

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CONTINUATION SHEET Redick Lodge ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

arguably the most important rural architectural statement from the region to emerge during the period.

The Western Craftsman movement is in reality a provincial offshoot of the more widely publicized Arts and Crafts Movement which had swept as a reaction against the man-made confections of Victorianism first through England and then the United States. In the 1901 charter issue of <u>The Craftsman</u>, the seminal Arts and Crafts publication in America, Gustav Stickley, one of the early practitioners and biggest boosters of the Arts and Crafts philosophy, stated:

Present tendencies are toward a simplicity unknown in the past. The form of any object is made to express the structural idea directly, frankly, often almost with baldness.

Western Craftsman represents a stylized synthesis of this pared-back aesthetic with the pragmatic simplicity of the frontier log cabin, resulting in relatively simply massed structures. These were built using often retardaire construction techniques, learned and passed on informally among local journeymen. Although the Arts and Crafts Movement attracted such notable architects as the Greene Brothers in California and Frank Lloyd Wright in his early years, the Western Craftsman style, its bastard offspring, was largely populist in approach, relying upon the work of anonymous or little-known local craftsmen and receiving comparatively scant attention in the architectural journals of the time.

The style is most commonly associated with the dude ranches which had sprung up throughout the Rocky Mountain west during the early decades of the twentieth century; although it has been applied, often with picturesque results, to rural and small town lodges, railroad depots, post offices, gas stations, churches and other structures built during the period. As with its predecessor, applied ornamentation generally was eschewed in favor of the more "honest" approach displaying the individual structural elements of the building. These were made up most typically of locally timbered logs and planks. Another distinguishing characteristic of the genre is the liberal use of varnished wood for the interior finishes and handcrafted furniture usually found within the buildings.

As indicated by the structural description in Item Seven of this nomination, Redick Lodge strongly typifies the philosophy and characteristics of this regionally important style of building. As a well-preserved example of the Western Craftsman style and as a locally prominent recreational lodge, the Redick Lodge complex possesses the necessary level of architectural and historical significance to qualify it for enrollment on the Register.

## United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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### United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet Addendum

Item number

10

Sector Contractor

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date entered

Page 2

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#### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Legal Description: beginning at the bearing tree, marked on the site, in Section 19, T35N, R108W, thence N8 52'W 85.08' to Point No. 2; thence S68 21'W 474.02' to Point No. 3; thence S45 38'W 95.54' to Point No. 4; thence S8 18'W 587.00' to Point 5; thence S49 43'E 175.12' to Point 6, thence N50 57'E 366.52' to Point No. 7' thence N10 44'W 436.45' to Point No. 8; thence N48 06'E 400.66' to the point of beginning.

