

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received APR 19 1985
date entered MAY 16 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Tarryall School

and/or common Tarryall School

2. Location

street & number 31000 County Road 77 n/a not for publication

city, town Tarryall n/a vicinity of

state Colorado code 08 county Park code 047

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	n/a in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	n/a being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Community

4. Owner of Property

name Lake George Community Club; c/o Jack Smith, President and Midge Harbour

street & number Star Route 777 County Road 597

city, town Lake George n/a vicinity of state Colorado 80827

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Park County Court House

street & number

city, town Fairplay state Colorado

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date Ongoing federal state county local

depository for survey records Colorado Historical Society, OAHP

city, town Denver state Colorado

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Tarryall School is located in the small rural community of Tarryall (formerly known as Puma City), thirteen miles northwest of Lake George on Park County Road 77 just north of the junction of Park County Road 31. The school and teacherage are sited on the valley between the Tarryall Mountains and the Puma Hills. Approaching the school from the south is particularly spectacular with the small white frame schoolhouse dwarfed by the massiveness of Bison, North Tarryall and McCurdy peaks. The 1921 school represents a typical one-room schoolhouse, designed with symmetry and simplicity. It is rectangular in plan, one story high with a front (south) gable and capped by an open bell tower.

The front (south) gable end contains a central entrance with a window on each side. The windows are one-over-one with plain wood surrounds and measure approximately 28" by 65". A plaque placed over the front door in 1921 reads: "STATE OF COLORADO APPROVED STANDARD SCHOOL". There are three wood steps leading to a small platform just underneath the central door.

The east and west side walls are marked by two pairs of windows placed toward the rear of the building and are the same dimensions as the front windows.

The four-panel front door opens to a vestibule with a cloakroom to the right, a small kitchen to the left and one large classroom directly ahead. A back door at the rear of the classroom gives access to the two outhouses at the northeast corner of the property and the teacherage about 30' to the northwest. These are the only other buildings on the property.

The interior wood floors are original and in good condition. There is wainscoting throughout with plaster board walls above. There are two blackboards in the classroom which came from the 1898 razed building.

The teacherage at the rear of the schoolhouse is a small gable roof building approximately 15' by 25' with a storage or wood shed on the east side. The house dates to about 1930 when the former teacherage burned and is little altered since its construction. The exterior is covered with heavy tar paper and widely spaced battens. The roof is of rolled asphalt. There are three small rooms on the interior, finished in plywood.

At the rear of the school, to the east are two original outbuildings. Also on the east side of the lot is the playground with its original equipment. The property surrounding the school consists of eight lots, about 200' by 100', with a wire fence enclosing all but two lots which are used for parking.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1921 **Builder/Architect** Ollie Parker, carpenter/supervisor

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Tarryall School is significant as one of three extant one-room schoolhouses still in existence in Park County on their original sites and still retaining architectural integrity.¹ The school in Tarryall embodies the design characteristics of early 20th century construction for one-room rural schoolhouses in Park County and in Colorado. The school served children of ranchers, farmers, miners, and other residents of the Tarryall area from 1921 to 1949. It was the third school building to be located in the valley and the second on this site. The building was equally important in the social life of the surrounding rural mountain community and was used as a gathering place for church services, weddings, receptions, funerals and Grange meetings.

The history of the settlement of the Tarryall Valley dates to the late 1860s. The first homesteaders were miners discouraged with the gold mining in the camps of Hamilton and Tarryall above the town of Como, Colorado. Passing through the Tarryall valley en route from Colorado Springs and Canon City to the goldfields in Park County, miners were attracted by the beauty of the area and its warmer and protected climate. Although it was difficult to raise crops in the rocky soil, it was possible to grow potatoes, barley, oats and rye. The natural meadow grasses made very fine hay and cattle raising was soon underway on many large ranches.

As more settlers moved into the valley, a small log school was built ca. 1880 one mile south of the present school.² Population increased even further when in 1896 the valley experienced a mining boom with the discovery of porphyritic quartz. Word quickly spread and within a few weeks forty acres had been platted and named Puma City. The name was changed to Tarryall when the post office was established there that same year. By 1897 the population was more than 1000 and a larger school was needed to accommodate the growing number of children.³ In 1898 a new school was constructed in the town of Tarryall on the present site.⁴ A short time later a teacherage was built behind the school to house the teacher who had been living on neighboring ranches.

In the early 1900s, when the mining boom ended, Tarryall began to loose population; however the school continued to operate. Students came from Tarryall and the surrounding farms and ranches. Each year the school enrollment varied in number with children traveling on foot or by horseback. Grades one through eight were offered in the single classroom.

In 1921, the 1898 building had become too small and plans for the present building were drawn up by the residents of the area. The construction of the new school was a community project with Ollie Parker, a carpenter, in charge of the volunteer labor. The lumber for the building came from the local sawmill a few miles from Tarryall. A few years after this building was completed, the teacherage burned down and a new one was erected in its place. Beginning in the 1930s, the enrollment began to decline and the school finally closed in 1949. 5

9. Major Bibliographical References

Brown, Robert L. Ghost Towns of the Colorado Rockies. Idaho: The Caxton Printers, Ltd., 1968.
Harbour, Midge. The Tarryall Mountains and the Puma Hills. Colorado Springs: Century One Press, 1982.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property .45

Quadrangle name Tarryall

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	3	4	5	9	0	6	1	5	4	3	3	1	0	4	1	0
Zone			Easting						Northing							

B

Zone			Easting						Northing							

C

Zone			Easting						Northing							

D

Zone			Easting						Northing							

E

Zone			Easting						Northing							

F

Zone			Easting						Northing							

G

Zone			Easting						Northing							

H

Zone			Easting						Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Township 11 S; Range 72 W; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 5
Puma City Lots 38 thru 45, Block 16, Park County Colorado

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Midge Harbour, Historian/Project Manager (Ed. Barbara Norgren)

organization Lake George Community Club
Tarryall Association

date 10/18/84

street & number Star Route 777 County Road 597

telephone (303) 748-3489

city or town Lake George

state Colorado 80827

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Barbara Sudler

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 4-15-85

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Delores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

~~_____~~
National Register

date 5-16-85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet Tarryall School

Item number 8

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¹In addition to the school building in Tarryall, there are two others in Park County intact: one in Jefferson and another in Hartsel.

²Midge Harbour, correspondence, Historic Preservation Office files.

³Robert L. Brown, Ghost Towns of the Colorado Rockies, Caldwell, Idaho: The Caxton Printers, Ltd., 1968, pp. 286-287.

Midge Harbour, The Tarryall Mountains and the Puma Hills, Colorado Springs: Century One Press, 1982, pp. 42-43.

⁴Another source sets the construction date of the log school at 1905.

⁵Harbour, correspondence.

The existing school records show that the high enrollment of 35 children was in 1908-1909 and the low was from 1942 through 1947 with 10 students.