

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 15 1985

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Historic Resources of Yellowstone National Park (Partial Inventory:
Lake Fish Hatchery Historic District)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Yellowstone National Park

N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

N/A

N/A VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

At large

STATE

Wyoming

CODE

065

COUNTY

Park

CODE

029

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	N/A PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
Multiple	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Park Service

STREET & NUMBER

655 Parfet

CITY, TOWN

Denver,

N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Yellowstone National Park

STREET & NUMBER

N/A

CITY, TOWN

Yellowstone National Park

STATE

Wyoming

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE List of Classified Structures Survey

DATE

June 1975 and September 1983

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lake Fish Hatchery Historic District nomination is a portion of the Multiple Resource Nomination for Yellowstone National Park.

The Lake Fish Hatchery Historic District is on the north shore of Yellowstone Lake which is the largest mountain, high altitude lake in the United States at 7,733 feet above sea level. The lake is approximately 20 miles long and 14 miles wide. The lake harbors five fish species: cutthroat trout, longnose dance (probably present although its existence in the lake is not certain), redbside shiners, lake chub, and longnose suckers. The former two are native; the latter three were introduced in the mid-1900s.

To the east of the Lake Fish Hatchery Historic District is the main concession area for the Lake area, consisting of a hotel, lodge, cabins, dorms, ranger stations, and various support facilities. The open area in the vicinity of the lake development consists of various grasses, predominately tufted hairgrass, various sedges, and graceful cinquefoil. There are no known rare or endangered plant species. Back from the lake, lodgepole pine are predominant with scattered forests of Englemann spruce and subalpine fir. Both the threatened grizzly bear and bald eagle are present in this area.

The Fish Hatchery Historic District consists of nine buildings, none of which are presently being used by Fish and Wildlife Service for their original purpose. Although the Fish and Wildlife Service does maintain a small staff in some of the buildings, the buildings themselves are under the control of, and are owned by, the National Park Service.

Building Number 725--Messhall/South District--The structure is the present South District Office for Yellowstone National Park. It was formerly the messhall for the Fish and Wildlife Service and was built in 1930. It measures 1,588 square feet. Like the other structures in this group, it is of exterior log frame construction. The gabled roof is oriented east/west in a roughly rectangular pattern. There is a gabled extension to the west and a shedded front porch and single rear porch on the north and south facade. The structure rests upon a concrete foundation, has reverse board-and-batten siding behind the log framing. The gable roof is covered with a double course of cedar shingles. Windows are six-light casements and double-hung. The structure is painted brown with dark green trim. Condition of the structure is very good.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park

SPECIFIC DATES 1930

BUILDER/ARCHITECT The Fish and Wildlife Service

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The buildings of the Lake Fish Hatchery Historic District have both local and state significance for their architecture and for their role in the conservation policies of the National Park Service under Criteria A and C,

In 1872, Congress established Yellowstone National Park ". . . for the benefit and enjoyment of the people and for the preservation, from injury and spoilation of all timber mineral deposits, natural curiosities or wonders. . . , and their retention in their natural condition." From this, Federal policies have evolved concerning hunting and fishing in the National Park Service.

When Yellowstone National Park was created about 40% of its waters were barren of fish. Park administrators early expressed an interest in developing these areas for additional sport. Until 1883 both hunting and fishing were allowed in Yellowstone as the only practical way to feed visitors evolving from a frontier subsistence policy. By the early 1880s there were enough hotels and restaurants to allow a ban on hunting. At the same time, fishing was restricted to sportsmen and a few commercial enterprises who supplied the hotels. This continued until 1917.¹ In 1889, the United States Fish Commission began fieldwork in Yellowstone. A fish cultural station was in operation on Yellowstone Lake ten years later. "It was the beginning of a gigantic hatchery operation that in the next fifty-seven years would yield 818 million trout eggs for use in other waters (mostly outside Yellowstone.)"² In 1911, the Yellowstone Park Lake Station was made a substation of the Federal hatchery at Bozeman, Montana. Facilities were primitive in those days. The fish hatching ponds were wooden troughs outside. These were consistently damaged by bears and the eggs destroyed. A permanent two-story log hatchery building and another log building were constructed on Hatchery Creek near the Lake Hotel in 1912, along with a collecting station at Clear Creek in 1913. The Columbine Creek collecting station was built in 1914 and a cottage for the superintendent a few years later. After 1913 this complex was called the Lake Hatchery. W.T. Thompson, who was superintendent of the U.S. Fish Hatchery at Bozeman, also had charge of the summer station at Yellowstone Lake. These buildings no longer exist. In 1917 the Bureau "was authorized by law . . . to act as advisors to the states regarding fisheries legislation"³ and a tie between the Federal and State levels was established. In the meantime, the Federal hatcheries program expanded and by 1937 the Bureau operated 88 major fish hatcheries throughout the U. S. The administration of Lake hatchery was handled after 1951 through Spearfish, South Dakota. This jurisdiction was later changed to Bozeman, Montana, and eventually to Saratoga, Wyoming.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Annual Report of the Director of the National Park Service to the Secretary of the Interior. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1931, 1932.

Annual Report of the Superintendent of the National Parks to the Secretary of the Interior. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1916, 1920, 1922.
(see continuation sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1, 2 | 5 | 4, 7 | 3, 7, 5 | 4, 9 | 3, 2 | 8, 5, 0 |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See continuation sheet)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan A. Tenney

ORGANIZATION

National Park Service

STREET & NUMBER

655 Parfet

CITY OR TOWN

Denver

DATE

January 6, 1984

TELEPHONE

(303) 234-2764

STATE

Colorado

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Alvin J. Baston

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE *William B. Bushong*

TITLE

Chief Historian, National Park Service April 24, 1985

DATE

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

William B. Bushong

DATE

6/25/85

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Building Number 726--Fish Hatchery

The large exterior log-framed building is a fine example of the log exterior framing found in the area. Although it no longer serves its original function as a fish hatchery, it has been retained for use as storage by the Fish and Wildlife Service. It was transferred to National Park Service management in 1959. The structure itself was constructed in approximately 1930. The building faces south over Yellowstone Lake. It is at the south edge and down a bank from the other buildings in the complex. It is constructed in a modified rectangular form, having one story open to the roof. Square footage of the large structure is 3,464. It rests upon a concrete foundation with a cement plaster finish. The walls have exterior log framing with notable use of massive corner logs with doubled logs equal in size spaced along the wall surfaces while medium-sized logs frame the window openings. Reverse board-and-batten sheathing is used inside the framing. The gabled roof is covered with wood shingles doubled every course. Structural details include extended log wall plates, purlins, rafters, and ridgepoles. The structure has six-light hopper type windows and is painted brown with green window and roof trim. There is an attractive arched log truss on the sidewall and a large rubblestone chimney which extends through the roof. Condition of the structure is fair. The paint has worn away and rafters, although they have been cut beneath the eaves, show several areas of extensive decay. The concrete steps to the entry are deteriorated as is the plaster finish of the cement foundation.

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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Building No. 729--Residence and Office

The structure is a large, L-shaped plan single-story structure designed with the typical exposed log frame features of other buildings in the area. The square footage equals 2,173 feet. A long, covered porch on the south facade appears to be a later addition. The structure has a concrete foundation, reverse board-and-batten siding behind a log framework, and a gabled roof with log wallplates, purlins, and ridgepoles, covered with cedar shingles and doubled every course. Windows are six-over-one double-hung and the structure is painted brown with dark green trim. Interior features include a living room open to the roof with varnished treatles and rafter poles. Door handles are of elkhorn. The structure serves during summers as the headquarters for the Fish and Wildlife Service operations in much of the park, providing quarters for the Chief Fieldman and office space. It was constructed in 1932 by the Fish and Wildlife Service and is now owned by the National Park Service. Deterioration includes various areas of rot on the walls, most notably toward the sills. The large, extended purlins which project beyond the eaves are in good condition.

Building Nos. 730 and 731--Residences

These buildings are two of three residences built in the group which is now owned by the National Park Service but were owned and are still used by the Fish and Wildlife Service. These buildings, constructed in 1931, are of typical exterior log frame construction. Their layout is an L-shaped plan with the front entry facing south. They are one story in height and have three rooms and a bath. They rest upon a concrete pier foundation and the walls are of reversed board-and-batten siding behind a log framework. The gable roofs have extended wall plates and ridgepoles. The

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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

Building No. 732--Garage

wood shingles are doubled every course. Window sashes are typically twelve-over-one double-hung. There are multi-light transoms above the fixed plate windows. The structures are painted brown with dark green trim and are in good condition. They measure 465 square feet each.

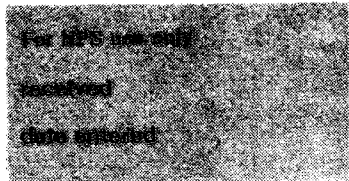
The structure is a six-bay garage built ca. 1930. It is part of the assemblage of exterior log-framed buildings constructed by the Fish and Wildlife at that time. It faces south on a major east/west axis and is used as a vehicle and boat storage and as a shop by the Fish and Wildlife Service, although the National Park Service now owns the building. The structure measures 24 feet by 81 feet and rests upon a concrete foundation, and has walls of reversed board-and-batten siding behind a log framework. The gable roof is covered with cedar shingles which are doubled every course. Windows are six-light hopper type and doorways are double track overhead with multi-fixed lights. The structure is painted brown with dark green trim. Alterations since construction include the changing of one door to a modern, overhead type and the cutting back of rafter ends. Condition of the structure is very good.

Building No. 733--Bunkhouse/Denver Service
Center Office

The former bunkhouse for the Fish and Wildlife Service is now a design office for the National Park Service. Its well-proportioned exposed log frame construction is typical of this nondescript building. Upon acquisition by the National Park Service ca. 1964, it was remodeled on the interior. The building dates to approximately 1930. It is rectangular in plan containing 2,295 square feet with a gabled roof axis extended east to west. There is a shed-roofed porch in the south elevation. The structure rests upon a concrete foundation, has walls of vertical board siding, and exterior vertical, horizontal,

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Continuation sheet

DESCRIPTION

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and diagonal log framing. The gabled roof has wall plates and ridgepole support arch rafters. There are pole rafters and the roof is covered with cedar shingles doubled every course. Windows are six-light double-hung. The structure is painted brown with dark green trim. Condition is basically sound although some of the support posts on the porch have rotted tips.

Building No. 735--Wash House

The structure is a small one story laundry building (const. date unknown) in the old Fish Hatchery area. Walls are of vertical reverse board and batten with exterior log trim in vertical and diagonal patterns. Windows are four and six light, wood framed. The gable roof is covered with double courses of wood shingles and has log rafters and purlins. An entry centered beneath the gable end has a gable overdoor, supported by wood posts and cross braced railing. The structure has a concrete foundation with some exterior rock work and is in very good condition.

Building No. 737--Oil House

This structure is a small, rectangular, gable-roofed building (const. date unknown) measuring 154 square feet. It is used for storing gasoline and other flammable materials. It has a gabled roof covered with double courses of shingles. Walls are of vertical, horizontal, and diagonal exterior log bracing. Windows are four-light casement and there are two entire, both with X-bracing, centered beneath the gable end and on the west-facing wall. The structure rests upon a concrete foundation and is in good condition.

The survey of the Fish and Wildlife Service complex at the Lake Fish Hatchery Historic District was completed by Chris Amos, an historian with Historical Research Associates of Missoula, Montana, under contract to the Rocky Mountain Regional Office of the National Park Service during the fall of 1983.

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The hatchery also had aquaria and exhibits. These were heavily visited by the public, providing a method by which the public was informed of the conservation philosophies of the times.

As early as 1920 the Annual Report of the Director of the National Parks indicated the Lake Hatchery was replenishing the depleted fish supply in the National Park Service. In 1922 the scale of the operations was increased with a new hatchery being established at Fish Lake. The annual report for that year proposed ". . . that a Federal hatchery be established in other national parks whenever that is feasible."⁴ This philosophy of using artificial means to replenish the fish in National Park System waters was soon to be abandoned. The old U.S. Fish Commission had been combined with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to form the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "While on the one hand the Park Service was supposed to be preserving native fish populations, on the other hand the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was supposed to mass-produce trout."⁵ The tension grew between the Fish and Wildlife Service and park managers. On at least three occasions Yellowstone officials tried to end Fish and Wildlife Service operations in Yellowstone National Park.⁶ In 1957 the hatcheries were shut down. The Fish and Wildlife personnel remaining would shift their attention to research. In 1958 the artificial propagation of fish at Lake was halted and the catch limited to a figure within the natural regenerative powers of the species. During the Mission 66 project the Lake Hatchery site was adapted to use as headquarters for the southern district for the National Park Service.

Even though the buildings which remain, built between 1930 and 1932, were constructed by Fish and Wildlife, they follow in whole or part the Rustic Architecture of the National Park Service and its policy of nonobtrusive design which flourished during the 1920s, 1930s, and early 1940s. The buildings are of wood with log framing and cedar shingle roofs. Most are painted a nonintrusive brown with dark green trim. Even though their use varies, the buildings blend with each other as well as with the natural surroundings and many of the concession and Park Service buildings to the east.

¹ John D. Varley and Paul Schullery, Freshwater Wilderness: Yellowstone Fishes and their World, Chapter 3, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming: Yellowstone Library and Museum Association, 1983. p. 100.

² Ibid., p. 101.

³ Transactions of the Second North American Wildlife Conference - 1937, American Wildlife Institute Investment Building: Washington, D.C., 1937, p. 84.

⁴ Annual Report of the Superintendent of National Parks to the Secretary of the Interior, Washington: Government Printing Office, 1922, p. 39.

⁵ Varley, p. 101.

⁶ Ibid., p. 101

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MAJOR

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CONTINUATION SHEET GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary begins at Point A which is 40 feet southwest of the southwest corner of Building #726 and proceeds in a northwesterly direction for 310 feet to Point B which is 22 feet northwest from the northwest corner of Building #735. The boundary proceeds 100 feet in a north north east direction to Point C which is 20 feet north of the northwest corner of Building #730 and then turns east southeast for 260 feet to Point D which is 40 feet northeast of the northeast corner of Building #737. From Point D the boundary proceeds 290 feet southeast to Point E which is 60 feet east of the southeast corner of Building #729 and then turns southwest for 310 feet to Point F which is 26 feet southeast of the southeast corner of Building #726. From here the boundary turns west and proceeds for 160 feet to Point A.

The boundary was drawn to include only the historical buildings which were associated with the Fish Hatchery. It excludes the more modern development to the north.