



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See 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 or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Shawnee

other names/site number 5PA.4177, Shawnee Historic District

2. Location

street & number 56016 - 56114 Frontage Road; 55919 - 56278 Hwy 285; 31 - 36 W. Shawnee Rd; 54 - 152 Waterworks Rd. [N/A] not for publication

city or town Shawnee [N/A] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Park code 093 zip code 80475

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [x] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [x] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [ ] nationally [ ] statewide [x] locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title: Edward C. Fuchs, State Historic Preservation Officer; Date: 5-13-10

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- [x] 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 [ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] other, explain [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Signature: Elson H. Beall; Date: 7-8-10

Shawnee  
Name of Property

Park County, Colorado  
County/State

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
38	11	buildings
1	0	sites
1	1	structures
0	0	objects
40	12	Total

### Name of related multiple property listing.

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

N/A

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling  
Domestic/Hotel  
Commerce/Department Store  
Government/Post Office

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling  
Domestic/Multiple Dwelling  
Commerce/Department Store  
Government/Post Office

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup>/Early 20<sup>th</sup> C. American: Rustic  
Late 19<sup>th</sup>/Early 20<sup>th</sup> C. American: Commercial  
Late Victorian: Edwardian

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone, concrete  
walls log, plywood, stone, wood  
roof shake, asphalt, wood  
other

### Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

**DESCRIPTION**

The small rural community lies in a broad valley along the North Fork of the South Platte River in the northeastern quadrant of Park County. The closest larger town is Bailey, about five miles to the east. Most of the houses and buildings face generally northeast across the valley and sit along the base of a long low hill. U.S. Highway 285 runs just to the valley side of the town, and the buildings are spread along the highway and its frontage road or on several small roads parallel to and uphill from the highway, these being West Shawnee Road and Waterworks Road. The valley is flat as it stretches about half a mile to the river, along which an early road used by the Denver-Leadville stagecoach line, and where the 1878 Denver South Park and Pacific Railway (later Colorado and Southern) lines were laid (now removed). The hill behind the town is partially covered with trees. Several of the properties back up to U.S. Forest Service lands which are part of Pike National Forest.

The district is a single contiguous area. All of the properties are located along U.S. Highway 285 and its frontage road, on West Shawnee Road but facing the highway, or in a second line of homes uphill from the frontage on what is Waterworks Road. The town is oriented to the valley, with all the houses facing toward the river. All of the buildings are on the hill rising from the valley floor. Trees rise behind the town and several small stone outcroppings are visible among the trees. Local stone and timber was used in the buildings and the many retaining walls and landscape features throughout the district. Off the highway, the roads are unpaved. Built over time as a seasonal recreation community, the majority of the buildings were and are residential. The few commercial buildings included a post office/general store, a coffee shop, several guest houses (Lambert House and Grand View Lodge) and the Shawnee Lodge (burned in 1929). Local industries (ice, timber, and ranching) utilized facilities outside the town boundaries. The proposed district includes a portion, but not all, of the buildings within the current town of Shawnee.

Only one building has a non-domestic use: the Post Office and Trading Post (5PA853). One home has a gallery business within the property, called the Shawnee Mountain Gallery at the Tolpo house (5PA850). One multi-unit building is a mix of residential and office as rental and called the Shawnee Apartments (5PA3918). All of the remaining properties are single dwellings. Several, however, were previously businesses or community properties, including the Grand View Hotel (5PA1592), the McArthur House (now Lambert House, 5PA1585), the Shawnee Apartments (formerly Price Garage, 5PA3918), and Stoneleigh (once a YMCA site, 5PA1586). Several of the primary resources have historic outbuildings.

The majority of the buildings in the district are homes which were constructed in the Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movement style, many as Rustic properties. Thirteen houses are examples of this style of architecture, and exhibit a range of architectural elements typical of Rustic design. The log-faced walls and porch decoration of the Tolpo house (5PA850) and the wide porch, stone basement walls and gently-sloping roofline of Stoneleigh (5PA1586) are examples of the variety of Rustic style in the community. Smaller buildings with typical Rustic features are the Oker Cabins (5PA3919), the Knight/Walker House (5PA3916), the Winner House (5PA3923) and the Graham House and its log garage (5PA1591).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

Two homes are in the Late Victorian and Edwardian style. The Grand View Hotel (5PA1592) has been extensively remodeled on the exterior over the years but retains Late Victorian design elements such as a high cross-gable roof, tall double-hung sash windows with decorative treatments, bay windows, and asymmetrical massing. The Lambert House (5PA1585) has many of the same characteristics, blended with Edwardian elements such as a wrap-around porch and decorative shingles.

Only two contributing homes date prior to the founding and platting of the town of Shawnee in 1900: the Grand View Hotel, constructed in 1886, and the Lambert House, built about the same time. One earlier building, a barn dating to the 1870s, is an outbuilding on the Lambert property (5PA1585). Eleven buildings were constructed during the first decade of the Twentieth Century, the town's earliest years. These range from the Shawnee Post Office and Trading Post (1900, 5PA853) to the Rische house (1900, 5PA1588), the circa-1905 Oker cabins (5PA3919, non-contributing), the 1901 Cara Glen (5PA1587), the 1903 large barn, now house, adjacent to the Grand View Hotel (5PA1593), and the 1904 Walker House (5PA3917). Four properties date to the decade 1910-1920. Included in this group are the 1911 Knight/Walker House (5PA3916), the 1915 Robinson House (5PA1588) and the 1917 Shawnee Apartments (5PA3918). Two houses were built in 1921, these being the 1921 Graham House (5PA1591) and the 1921 Cochran House (5PA3921). Three homes date to the decade of the 1940s: the 1941 Pearson House (5PA3920), the 1949 Winner House (5PA3923), and the 1949 Fanestil House (5PA3924). Only one contributing property was built after 1950: the 1953 Russell House (5PA3922).

Of the single dwellings, thirteen remained seasonal. Five are known to have been converted to year-round occupation. Half of the contributing buildings had been remodeled within the past 20 years; however, half remained only minimally altered on the exterior. Many of the exterior alterations included new windows, new or reinstalled decks and porches and paint color changes. Despite these changes, most of the buildings retain many of the character-defining features of the community including log construction, decorative split-log details, cobblestone and un-cut stone foundations, brick chimneys, broad hipped rooflines, deep roof overhangs, and double-hung sash windows.

**Description of Resources within the District**

The following paragraphs describe all the resources within the district, divided into contributing and non-contributing categories. Within each category, resources are listed in address order. For each resource, the street address, state identification number (when assigned), date of construction and photograph reference number (for contributing resources only) are given. Photograph numbers refer to the photographs included as part of this nomination and are identified on the map of the district. Following these individual descriptions of the resources is a table providing a complete list of all resources and their contributing/non-contributing status by address number.

**Contributing Resources**

*56078 Frontage Road, 5PA1593, 1903, Photograph 1.*

Built in 1903 as the barn for the Grandview Hotel (5PA1592), this large rectangular building has framed upper floor above a stone lower level and foundation. The large support beams for the upper floor are visible on the exterior, as are the brick segmental arches of windows piercing the stone walls of the lower level. Although the upper level is now a medium grey color with white trim, historic photographs

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

show light-colored siding and a small carriage overhang. Currently, the building has a shed roof covered exterior stair to the second-story entrance and a metal roof. The original barn carriage door opens toward the former hotel, with a brick course trimming the top of the doorway. While originally used as an animal barn, historically the building was a carriage house. According to County Assessor records, the building converted to residential use by 1937.

*56084 Frontage Road, 5PA1592, 1886, Photographs 2, 3.*

Known at various times as the Fairview Hotel, the Grand View Hotel and the Grand View Lodge, this Late Victorian/Edwardian home was one of the earliest built in the community, pre-dating the founding of the town. It is a classic L-shaped plan with a simple cross-gable, a projecting gable with bay window, brick chimneys, double-hung sash windows and a two-story porch. The recently-applied siding is vinyl and the porch is made of composition plastic; however, with the exception of the missing roof overhang on the second story of the porch, the overall appearance and basic massing of the building closely resembles historic images. This was the home of J.W. Price, considered the founder of Shawnee, also used it as a hotel, listing it in a business directory as the Grand View Hotel. The first post office for Shawnee was housed in the building until 1900. The hotel changed hands frequently after Price's death in 1933, and remained a hotel into the 1950s. It is now a private residence.

A large attached garage on the east side of the building is new, but sits on the footprint of an earlier house addition. It matches the main building in exterior finishes.

A small shed-roofed cabin sits in front of the main house along the frontage road. The asphalt shingle building retains its original windows, but is now covered with vertical plywood siding. Several shed additions are visible on the rear. The 6-panel door has two cuts for lighting.

*56114 Frontage Road, 5PA1590, 1901-1905, Photograph 4.*

The one-story cabin with a deep front porch is constructed of horizontally-laid logs with notched overlapping corners. Two-over-two double-hung windows with painted trim pierce the log walls underneath the shingle siding of the gables. Two brick chimneys and a shed addition are visible on the rear of the building. The front porch is the distinguishing feature in many historic images of the building, first owned and probably built by town founder J. W. Price. It was a seasonal residence following its sale by the Price family in 1951, when it became a rental property used by several year-round residents of the community.

A historic wood outhouse sits at the rear of the property. It features vertical plank siding, a front-gable roof and a single center door.

*55918 Hwy 285, 5PA850, 1904, Photograph 5.*

Built for the widowed Callie Brinker Thomas by her father-in-law Hugh Thomas in 1904, this Rustic style log house with Craftsman details sits on stone piers and a stone foundation. The stone was quarried locally, possibly at one of the several commercial quarries slightly downriver from Shawnee. Built into the slope of the hill, the lower level is exposed facing the main road, with a prominent gable and a broad enclosed porch on the main façade. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Diagonal and patterned log decoration and a decorative frieze with the first owner's initials "H T" incorporated into the log design. Callie Thomas used the property as a seasonal residence, as did several subsequent

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

owners. New owners in 1980 converted the home to year-round use and winterized the building. The following year, the current owners began a series of renovations and rear additions to the building and opened the Shawnee Mountain Gallery.

A historic wood-framed icehouse sits behind the main house, and is constructed with vertical logs beneath a shed roof and north-facing entrance.

*56006 Hwy 285, 5PA3924, 1949, Photograph 6.*

Built in 1949, this Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Style Rustic home has horizontal plank siding with cobblestone facing on the lower level. A gentle-slope hipped roof, modest overhangs and a brick chimney rise above a broad front deck with a wooden post balustrade, the latter added to the building after 1974. The multi-pane windows appear unchanged from historic photographs, as does the enclosed porch. Built on what was the property of the historic Shawnee Lodge, which burned in 1929, the home was one of the first to be constructed as private residential development.

*56034 Hwy 285, 5PA3918, 1917, Photograph 7.*

Known historically as the Jim Price Garage and Dance Hall or the Price Brothers Garage, this building now houses the Shawnee Apartments. Built in 1917, this two-story building with a long gable extending the width of the building is mostly covered with horizontal siding painted white with white trim above concrete foundations. A small section of the façade is covered with facing brick. A historic diagonally-set original double door sits under a corner overhang on the west portion of the façade. Constructed by and for members of the Price family, the building was an expansion of the business enterprises of the family in the second decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The garage met the needs of the new automobile tourist industry, while the upper-level dance hall allowed community gatherings. It was converted to apartments in the 1970s; however, with the exception of the brick facing, the building retains its integrity of appearance, massing and materials.

To the east of the building and between it and the post office/trading post is a concrete retaining wall and stairway (non-contributing structure) to the rear second-story entrances. Double-pole handrails on each side of the stairway and pole and fencing along the upper terrace are unpainted metal.

*56048 Hwy 285, 5PA853, 1900, Photographs 8, 9.*

The Shawnee Post Office and Trading Post was constructed in several stages. The Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movement buildings incorporates elements of the period's commercial styling with the large windows and single large window in each of the double doors at the entrance to the Post Office. Horizontal siding on both floors, a defined belt course and broad hipped roof are character-defining features. The eastern portion of the building was the earliest, built in 1901, with the next two phases completed by 1917. The first portion has always been used as the community post office, while the western portion of the lower level has served as a local store. The upper level is living quarters for the owners, and includes an overhanging open porch on the second floor along the east side of the building, and wrapping to the south where it becomes the entrance to the living quarters. The porch's shed roof is supported by a series of wood columns.

Immediately behind the building are a small wooden shed and an outhouse. Each is sided with unpainted vertical planks under a shed roof.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

At a distance behind the building is a historic log barn/storage building. Two stories in height, it is built of horizontal logs on a foundation of concrete over stone. The lower level is chinked with light-colored concrete, while the upper level has little chinking visible. Wooden doors on both levels and windows on the upper level are trimmed with wood framing. The building is not cited in historical record, but was probably built at the same time as the post office (1901).

*56126 Hwy 285, 5PA1589, 1915, Photographs 10, 11.*

This 1915 log house with enclosed front porch is built into the slope and features a low-slope hipped roof, wooden shake-covered dormers with double-hung sash windows and a covered stair and landing at the house's entrance. Horizontally-laid notched logs comprise the lower level of the building. The wooden railing of the enclosed porch extends around the sides of the porch, which features multi-light windows. The original two-over-two double-hung sash windows remain, some covered by aluminum storm windows. One of several homes built for the Price family, this building may have been a rental home from its first construction. Materials found under the floorboards of the basement by the current owner in the late 1990s, including such items as ice picks, skates and horse gear, indicate relationship to the post office and ice businesses of the Price family, and the ranch business of the Fitzsimmons family, which purchased the building at some point in the late 1940s.

A two-car garage (non-contributing building) has concrete walls, a shallow gable roof, painted trim and side windows.

*56164 Hwy 285, 5PA3915, 1905, Photograph 12.*

The earliest portion of this building was constructed in 1905 and consisted of what is now the central main portion of the current home. The dark brown building with horizontal siding on the main level, asphalt roofing and vertical siding on the lower level has a hipped roof with two brick chimneys. The large wooden deck is accessed by an open stairway, with a non-historic carport below. A non-historic bay window was installed on the west elevation. The enclosed porch sits below a central dormer with hipped roof. Although several additions were built in the years following the initial construction, the house appears to have attained most of its current appearance by the 1920s, as shown in several historic images. The property passed through several owners after 1925, one being Roy Thompson, a local businessman with ties to the Grand View Hotel and the development of the Shawnee Lodge property after the 1929 fire.

*56178 Hwy 285, 5PA1588, 1900, Photographs 13, 14.*

This log-faced rustic house is dominated by an octagonal tower defining its northwest corner. Built circa 1900, the main body of the house has a mid-sloped gable with a shed roof screened front porch and a shed rear addition. The lower level is faced with diagonally-set log decoration. Secondary elevations feature vertical siding. The tower has flared overhanging eaves and large windows on each face trimmed with painted framing. While modified several times in the first decades of its history, the house acquired its current appearance by 1955. Conflicting details of the original construction cloud the first decade of the home's history, but the home passed to the Fontius family, owners of the famous shoe business in Denver and then to relatives of the Shawnee founders the Price family by the late 1920s.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

A historic (possibly circa 1900) garage at the front corner of the property is built of horizontal logs set on a concrete foundation with horizontal plank siding in the front-facing gable. A large vertical plank double garage door with original hardware is painted to match the siding and gable trim below a wood shingle roof with open eaves.

*56216 Hwy 285, 5PA1587, 1901, Photographs 15, 16.*

Cara Glen, or Little House, is an example of the Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movement. Built in 1901 as the summer residence of Joseph Little, the Shingle-style house features an asymmetrical façade with a wide porch, exterior stair and octagonal tower. The exterior shingles are painted blue with white trim pierced by a mix of small-paned fixed glass windows, large-pane non-historic windows and multi-light windows over broad baseboards. A painted-post balustrade surrounds the porch, which has a shallow shed-style covering supported by shingle-covered square posts. Little is known of the first owner except his name and the \$1800 construction cost of the home. It was used as a summer residence until the current owners acquired the property in 1977.

A historic shed behind the house has an asphalt shingle gable roof, vertical board-and-batten walls and a double door entrance. The shed is painted to match the house.

*56242 Hwy 285, 5PA1586, 1901, Photographs 17, 18.*

Built in 1901, this stone and wood shingle house known as Stoneleigh has a series of side and rear gable additions dating to the period 1960-1965. The asymmetrical façade is mostly two stories in height with painted wood shingle siding and contrast window, door, porch and eave brackets. A rusticated stone-faced lower level has a deep porch and an open patio faced with stone up to the level of the porch windows. The western addition is concrete block painted to match the shingle siding, as is a rear addition. The house sits on property purchased prior to 1900, but not developed until acquired by an Ambassador Adams who built a summer residence with large Italian-inspired gardens. The house sold in 1921 and passed through several owners until 1948 when it was acquired by the Denver YMCA as a seasonal retreat and group facility. The interior was reorganized to accommodate dormitory areas and large bath facilities. Sold again to single family owners in 1960, the interior was again extensively remodeled, while the exterior renovations continued through several owners until the 1970s.

Landscape features include extensive stone walls, a stone-pier entrance gate to the property and stone-bordered pathways. Like the stone used on the house, the stone is probably of local origin, similar to outcroppings in several areas along the North Fork of the South Platte River.

A large historic shed/garage to the rear of the house has a gable roof, painted siding, and pairs of multi-light windows on north and south elevations.

*56278 Hwy 285, 5PA1585, ca 1886, Photographs 19, 20, 21, 22, 23.*

This classic Late Victorian, Edwardian home sits up the slope from the main road and faces across the valley. One of the earliest buildings in Shawnee, the home was probably constructed in the mid-1880s. The asymmetrical façade with a front-facing gable, a central peaked roof and a side-facing gable also features a wide covered front porch with wooden balustrade. Horizontal siding is painted a light color with contrasting eave, window, cornice and gable color. Decorative shingles in gables and a decorative



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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 7

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

cornice are defining features. The one-over-one double-hung sash windows are topped by shallow pediment lintels. The house has been known as Green Gables, the Green Gables Ranch, the Peace and Quiet Guest Ranch and the McArthur House. It has been used as a hotel/guest home for many of its years. Following the ownership by C. H. McArthur, a prominent businessman in the timber, ranching and political arenas, the building was expanded at the rear to accommodate the hotel needs of guest operation. By the 1970s, the house was once again a single-family residence.

A non-historic garage with living quarters above (non-contributing building) sits to the rear of the house. It has a gable roof, small aluminum framed windows and horizontal siding painted to match the main house.

Three historic outbuildings are important and contributing buildings. The icehouse is original to the main building and was built to accommodate ice from the Maddox Ice Company, a Denver business which harvested ice from the Shawnee Valley lakes. Its gable roof of wood planks is covered with composition shingles. The walls of split half-logs are set horizontally on the frame structure. Three doors (two new) open to separate portions of the building over the new concrete foundation.

The large barn to the east of the main house may be the oldest remaining building in the community. The original central portion of the barn is of horizontal laid logs notched and overlapped at the corners. The single wide-plank door is centered under a steep gable standing-seam metal roof, along a wall faced in vertical logs. On each side of the main section is a shed addition of vertically-set planks with a door entering each addition. While some local history identifies this barn as being associated with rancher Azel Slaughts, recent research by the property owner questions this attribution, dating the barn to the 1870s, when some of the earliest transportation networks were built in the region along the river corridor.

A small historic shed with a steep gable roof covered in wood shingles sits to the rear of the property. The rough-sawn planks of the walls are set vertically with a single doorway.

*31 West Shawnee Road, 5PA3922, 1953, Photograph 24.*

This 1953 one-story frame house, exhibiting no identifiable style, is covered in shingle siding has a single gable extending the breadth of the house and is topped with a standing-seam metal roof. Small extensions on each side orient to the rear of the house and intersect with the main gable of the building. A small landing on the façade leads to the main door and is accessed by a diagonal stair from the west end of the building. Windows open to the façade on the main floor and the partially-visible lower level. Built on the property which was the Shawnee Lodge, this lot was acquired by Roy Thompson, a local businessman and land developer. The first owner, a Mr. Carlson, acquired the land and constructed this summer residence. Since 1974, the property has changed ownership numerous times, but retains its essential appearance.

*36 West Shawnee Road, 5PA3923, 1949, Photograph 25.*

Built in 1949, this Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> century American Movement building in the Rustic style is a log siding and shingle house with one chimney and one stovepipe rising through the roof at the peak of the front-facing gable. The rustic stone foundation was constructed of salvage stone from the Shawnee Lodge. Large plate-glass windows and a rear shed addition were added before 1970, as per county

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 8

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

assessor records. Logs face the main and lower levels, while unpainted shingles cover the gable above the base of the eave. A large deck is surrounded by balustrade of unpainted posts and newels, possibly replacements of an earlier balustrade. The building sits on property which was part of the Shawnee Lodge until the 1929 fire, and was then acquired and sold as a home lot by Shawnee businessman and developer Roy Thompson as land for a seasonal residence, which it remained for most of its history.

*54 Waterworks Road, 5PA1591, 1921, Photographs 26, 27.*

This frame house sits on a stone basement-level stone foundation. The cross-gabled roof is penetrated with a brick chimney with decorative cap. The main level and gable ends are covered with painted whole-plank horizontal siding. A large glass-enclosed porch with non-historic windows stretches the width of the main façade over a central shed-roof entrance at a lower-level door. The 1921 house was built by the two sons of Shawnee founder James Price, and was one of the few residences constructed during the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in the community as a year-round residence. The home's ownership has remained in the hands of descendants of the original builders since its construction.

The historic garage/shed to the west of the main building is of log construction with a gable roof and a shed addition on the north side. Horizontal logs comprise the walls to the base of the gable, where vertical split log planks fill the gable face. Family history tells that this garage was built at another location in the town in 1891 and moved to this location at a later date, but no documentation has been located.

*128 Waterworks Road, 5PA3916, 1911, Photographs 28, 29.*

Known as the Knight House or the Finesilver House, this small frame house is painted dark brown with white trim, and is an example of the Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movement, Rustic style. The overhanging eaves extend the length of the roofline with a low front porch covering much of the façade. The porch shed roof is supported by square wooden posts with a lattice facing between the post covering the simple cross-bars and railings. Built in 1911, the house was constructed for Stephen Knight, President of the Colorado National Bank and his family for summer use. The property stayed in the Knight family for several generations, eventually being sold to Denver resident, United States District Court Judge Sherman Finesilver, who continued to use the house as a summer residence. The home was winterized after it was acquired by Timothy Walker in 1990, a descendent of the owners of the adjacent property.

This property has several significant outbuildings, all of which date to the period of the house's original construction. All but the outhouse are wood with wood roofs, painted in dark brown with white trim to match the main house. An outhouse sits back toward the upper road. It has a gable roof and wide plank vertical siding. The outhouse is painted dark brown with no trim.

A small shed sitting at the rear of the property has a shed roof and is almost square in footprint. One entrance door faces the main house and the horizontal siding sits below a shed roof.

Along the west portion of the property is a narrow shed which might have served as a chicken coop. The ship-lapped siding sits beneath low-slope shed roof.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

The long and narrow bowling alley with a shallow gable roof and four-light fixed windows was built for Knight's wife, who was not as interested in fishing as her husband. The single-alley "Ladies' Bowling" had a short alley, wooden pins and a mattress to stop the balls, all fed by a gravity return trough and seating for guests. Both Knight guests and ladies of the Shawnee community enjoyed the bowling activities.

*136 Waterworks Road, 5PA3917, 1904, Photographs 30, 31.*

The Walker House, a side-gable building with wrap-around porches is a 1904 example of the Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> century American Movement, in the Rustic Style. A stone faced basement sits below a framed upper story with dark painted horizontal shingle siding with white trim on the eaves, corner-boards, window surrounds and frames. A glass-enclosed front porch wraps around the northeast corner of the house, and an octagonal addition extends on the northwest portion of the façade. A stone chimney rises on the rear side of the main gable. The windows on the rear of the house are replacements. Hebert and Ethel Walker built this home close to the Mrs. Walker's family summer home in the Bailey area, which her family of avid fishermen had visited since the 1870s. The family lived in Denver and was active in civic and religious affairs. Son Harold, a Presbyterian minister serving in Illinois, continued the summer travel to the home as he continued to upgrade the property. The house remains in family hands and has been winterized.

A historic shed at the rear of the property has an asphalt-shingled shed roof, and is built into the slope below the road. The lapped horizontal siding is painted dark brown, with a single entrance door facing the house.

*148 Waterworks Road, 5PA3920, 1941, Photograph 32.*

Built sometime between 1910 and 1915, the Pearson cabin is a log house with a partial basement opening below a broad north-side porch facing across the Shawnee valley. In 1941 Mr. Wonder added log siding, resulting in its current appearance. It is an example of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century American Movement in the Rustic Style. The main gable runs side-to-side above the porch with overhanging eaves on all sides. A large, deep recent deck steps out from the house along the width of the façade and rests on heavy wooden posts with square post railing and balustrade around the perimeter of the deck. Two shed-roof dormers with vertical siding penetrate the main gable, and several large fixed-light windows face north across the deck. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, and the house sits on a concrete foundation. Cited as the Bennett House in early records of the Shawnee Water Association, this home came into the Pearson family in the 1920s when Mel Pearson's brother-in-law, Hugo Tjernlund, bought the cabin.

*152 Waterworks Road, 5PA3921, 1921, Photographs 33, 34.*

This frame house is entered from the north through an old enclosed shed-roof porch on ground level. The hipped roof is crossed by a single gable over the east side porch near a stone chimney. The house is sided with frame horizontal ship-lap with contrast paint at the windows and paneled multi-light doors. A west doorway leads to a stair, narrow deck and unattached garage. Park County records state a 1921 construction date for this building, which is probably correct. The first recorded owners were Gwendolyn Lewis and Beverly Olds, and Olds still owned the property into the 1970s, about the time the two porches were enclosed and the walkway constructed.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 10

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

The garage is noted as a historic (possibly circa 1925) fire hose station and opens to the road at the rear of the property. It features asbestos shingle, a hipped roof with exposed rafters, concrete base and flush panel doors. A multi-light window faces to the front and is painted to match the house trim.

*Frontage Road, 5PA366, 1894, Photographs 35, 36.*

The Shawnee cemetery is located on the tract of land between Frontage Road and Highway 285. Its prominent location at the front of the town makes it easily accessible to visitors and an identifying feature at the entrance to the town. While originally the Price family's cemetery, it became the town's cemetery in 1900. Containing twenty-eight burials, the earliest burial was infant Perry James Price in 1894 and the last burial was Mary Ella Tyler in 1965. The majority of the burials fall within the period of significance.

**Non-Contributing Resources**

*56016 Frontage Road, 1974*

This 700 square foot cabin was built in 1974 of unpainted hardwood frame siding. The unpainted wood planks and frames surround metal windows. Metal windows are surrounded by unpainted wood trim.

*55956 Hwy 285, 1987*

This house, built in 1987, is on the site of an early house lost in a fire. Built of materials which are similar to other buildings in the district, it is a framed rustic log, two stories in height, with a metal roof. A deck on the upper level extends below a front-facing gable.

*56064 Hwy 285, unknown*

This low wooden building is historic in origins, but extremely altered from its historic appearance. Visible in historic photographs from the 1930s, this building housed a coffee shop on land between the old Grand View Hotel barn and the highway. At that time, it was unpainted wood with simple window trim and signage. It features new siding in medium grey with white trim at the present, sitting on a stone-faced foundation.

Two small sheds to the rear are of unpainted plank siding with shed roofs.

*100 Waterworks Road, 1918*

This 1918 house has been significantly altered in recent decades. It is a "raised ranch" style with new vinyl siding, new windows, multiple additions, a prominent garage and a recent metal roof. A façade deck is covered with a canvas awning on a metal frame. A large decorative entrance gate enclosed a yard with an extensive collection of outdoor art.

A large garage sits beside the house, and is sided and painted to match the house.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 11

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

**RESOURCES WITHIN THE DISTRICT**  
Listed in address order

State ID Number	Property Address	Type	Contributing to District	Date/Est.
5PA366	Frontage Road	cemetery	Yes	1890
none	56016 Frontage Road	residence	No	1974
5PA1593	56078 Frontage Road	residence	Yes	1903
5PA1592	56084 Frontage Road	residence	Yes	1886
		garage	No	c.1990
		cabin	No	c.1930
5PA1590	56114 Frontage Road	residence	Yes	1901-1905
		outhouse	Yes	1905
5PA850	55918 Hwy 285	residence	Yes	1904
		icehouse	Yes	1904
none	55956 Hwy 285	residence	No	1987
5PA3924	56006 Hwy 285	residence	Yes	1949
5PA3918	56034 Hwy 285	apartments	Yes	1917
		stairway	No	c. 1940
5PA853	56048 Hwy 285	post office/store	Yes	1900
		shed	Yes	1910
		outhouse	Yes	1910
		barn	Yes	1901
none	56064 Hwy 285	store	No	unknown
		shed	No	unknown
		shed	No	unknown
5PA1589	56126 Hwy 285	residence	Yes	1915
		garage	No	unknown
5PA3915	56164 Hwy 285	residence	Yes	1905
5PA1588	56178 Hwy 285	residence	Yes	1900
		garage	Yes	1900
5PA1587	56216 Hwy 285	residence	Yes	1901
		shed	Yes	c.1910
5PA1586	56242 Hwy 285	residence	Yes	1901
		landscape features	Yes	unknown
		shed/garage	Yes	c.1920
5PA1585	56278 Hwy 285	residence	Yes	ca 1886
		garage	No	unknown
		icehouse	Yes	c.1900
		barn	Yes	c.1875
		shed	Yes	c.1900
5PA3922	31 West Shawnee Road	residence	Yes	1953
5PA3923	36 West Shawnee Road	residence	Yes	1949
5PA1591	54 Waterworks Road	residence	Yes	1921
		garage	Yes	1891

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 12

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

none	100 Waterworks Road	residence	No	1918
		garage	No	unknown
5PA3916	128 Waterworks Road	residence	Yes	1911
		outhouse	Yes	c 1911
		shed	Yes	c. 1915
		shed/coop	Yes	c.1915
		bowling alley	Yes	c.1915
5PA3917	136 Waterworks Road	residence	Yes	1904
		shed	Yes	c. 1904
5PA3920	148 Waterworks Road	residence	Yes	1941
5PA3921	152 Waterworks Road	residence	Yes	1921
		garage	Yes	1925

Shawnee  
Name of Property

Park County, Colorado  
County/State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

# \_\_\_\_\_

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

# \_\_\_\_\_

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation

Entertainment/Recreation

Community Planning and Development

### Periods of Significance

1900-1960

### Significant Dates

N/A

### Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

N/A

### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Colorado Historical Society

Park County Historic Preservation Office

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 13

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

**SIGNIFICANCE**

The Shawnee Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A in the categories of Transportation, Entertainment/Recreation, Community Planning and Development. The period of significance is 1900-1960. Included in this historic district is a small historic cemetery, in use during the period of significance, but not presently. The cemetery meets the burden of Criterion Consideration D, but is not required to as it is "a cemetery that is nominated as part of a district but is not the focal point of the district."

The town of Shawnee, Colorado has played a significant role in the history of Colorado. The community is associated with the history of transportation in the Rocky Mountain region, sitting along the route of the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railway construction line, later the Colorado and Southern Railway. Industry around Shawnee provided timber for the railroad construction, and the railway was the transportation vehicle for shipping timber, ice and other local products to markets in Denver. The railroad also enabled the town's growth as a recreational community. From its founding, Shawnee was significant as the site of summer and tourist facilities, including a large lodge and hotel in addition to the many private seasonal homes, some of which remain seasonal today. Located along the North Fork of the South Platte River, the town was a popular location for day-trip visitors from Denver, providing recreational opportunities including fishing, hiking and picnic dining. With the advent of the automobile, the closing of the railroad access, and the completion of Highway 285 as a national road, Shawnee remained a popular seasonal and tourist destination. The period of significance, beginning with the town's formal founding in 1900 and ending in 1960, reflects the historic and continuing importance of the community in the area of recreation. The town is significant for its role in community development and entertainment/recreation in this region of Park County, as an early Post Office, the site of many early homes and settlers, a rail stop for both passengers and freight, including ice, timber, livestock and hay, and as a day-trip for recreation along the South Platte River.

The town retains significant integrity in a number of categories. The location and setting have not measurably changed since the early years of the town's founding. Almost all of the buildings along the highway and immediately adjacent retain integrity of appearance to the period of significance, and the overall setting of the community - stretched along the highway with the hills behind and facing across the river valley - is almost unchanged when compared to historic images of Shawnee. Most of the buildings retain their original core designs, despite some exterior alterations, but all are in their original locations and retain historic relationships with neighboring properties. With a few exceptions, the building exteriors show evidence of the original construction materials, and reflect traditional workmanship of construction and decorative elements appropriate to the styles of the properties. Overall, the community of Shawnee is significant for its historic contributions to Colorado and retains a high level of integrity of properties and buildings.

**Prehistory and Exploration**

The rich regions of the eastern Rocky Mountains were home to native peoples for thousands of years. Indigenous groups roamed the upper woodlands and the river and creek valleys in cycles of use, seeking game animals, plant foods and material resources plentiful through the area. While some bands and extended families established camps and seasonal settlements in rock shelters and



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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 14

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

protected spots on the landscape, most sites in the heart of the mountain region were occupied on a seasonal basis.

The principal drainage of what is now called the North Fork of the South Platte River was one such seasonal encampment area with its resources of wood, fish and game, among others. Until the middle of the nineteenth century, bands of Ute, Cheyenne and Arapaho wandered the valley and surrounding highlands, occasionally joined by other Plains peoples. While living primarily at lower elevations during the colder seasons of the year, these groups followed the animal migrations. After the Spanish settled the American Southwest in the early seventeenth century, the horse was introduced and ushered in broad cultural change. Native peoples more efficiently followed the large bison herds of the plains and the migrating large animals of the mountain foothills and meadows, including the areas which are now portions of northeastern Park County. While no long-occupation archaeological sites are recorded within the current town of Shawnee, many sites and camps are located in close proximity to the valley and neighboring towns.<sup>1</sup>

With the opening of the nineteenth century and the accompanying expansion of the American national boundaries to the west, the Rocky Mountains became the focus of intense regional exploration. Several important creeks whose canyons opened into the South Platte River were avenues to the heart of the mountains, offering possible routes to the plateau and basin region further to the west. In addition, these valleys provided access to the many beaver and game animals of the region whose pelts and fur were eagerly sought by eastern markets in the first half of the century. Trappers and traders traversed the canyons, and probably were some of the earliest Euro-Americans to encounter what is now the Shawnee Valley along the river.

With the gold strikes of 1858 along Clear Creek, the region was over-run with prospectors, laborers and supply businessmen in search of quick riches. Gold-seekers flooded the mountains from around the globe, following the creeks, filing mountainside claims, cutting trees for construction and mines, and carving roads and trails across the landscape. More than 100,000 migrants crossed the plains to the Pike's Peak region. Moving into the heart of the mountains, they pushed the natives from their traditional homelands and hunting grounds. In 1862, the Homestead Act was signed by President Lincoln, allowing eligible individuals the opportunity to purchase 160-acre holdings of surveyed government land. By the end of the 1860s, most indigenous bands were gone and, within another decade, all were relocated to government reservations in Oklahoma or the southwestern region of the state. Colorado attained statehood in 1876, further solidifying control of the expansive region. By 1880, the land was open for settlement and development with the mountain regions offering a wealth of resources for homesteaders and developers.

**Settling the Mountains**

The gold played out quickly in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, and those who had traveled west seeking fortunes often made the decision to stay and settle in the newly-opened land. Many sought to establish homes and farms on the eastern plains, while others chose to move into the creek valleys and

---

<sup>1</sup> E. Steve Cassells, *The Archaeology of Colorado*, Revised Edition (Boulder, CO: Johnson Books, 1997), 95-99, 228.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 15

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

high meadows of the mountain core. Although limited by colder temperatures, higher elevations and shorter growing seasons, these early homesteaders founded the earliest of the mountain ranches across the mountain passes west of Denver. Several early operations were established along the South Platte River near present-day Shawnee during the 1870s.

In the early years, access to these ranches was by wagon generally over rough roadways carved through the forested areas of the foothills and ridges. Although a number of well-used toll roads and commercial wagon roads were constructed by private groups into many areas of Park County in the 1860s and 1870s, few came into the Shawnee Valley or along this segment of the river prior to the construction of the railroad. Ranchers drove cattle by foot to the markets in Denver, stopping to feed their livestock in the meadows and low-altitude parks along the route. The forests provided lumber for local construction and for wagon shipment to the growing cities at the base of the mountains, and the region gradually developed an early timber industry providing logs and lumber for building construction, mining operations and railroad development. By the 1870s, ice was harvested from area ponds and creeks and also packed for transport to Denver. Beginning in 1878, thousands of railroad cars carrying timber and ice traveled east along the North Fork of the South Platte River.

By the middle of the 1870s, events in the boom town of Leadville began to shape the future of the entire South Platte Valley. Although Leadville sits near the headwaters of the Arkansas River, which emerges from the mountains near Pueblo, Leadville's location made it more easily accessed via other drainages, and over the surrounding passes on its north and east. The gold strikes of that region slowly diminished by the early 1870s and the rush to cross the passes into Leadville's California Gulch ended. However, the mountains around Leadville were full of silver and by the middle of the decade, the opening of a new-technology smelter for silver processing started a second boom for miners. Access by rail was the greatest need, and railroad companies were incorporated to develop rail lines across the most promising routes.<sup>2</sup> One of these routes lay along the North Fork of the South Platte River, known as the Platte Canyon, from Waterton to above Bailey, across into South Park and thence north to Breckenridge and south to Leadville.

**Early communities**

An early recorded settlement in the area around present-day Shawnee was the ranch of Azel Slaghts, who came to the valley in 1860. A native of Ohio, Azel Slaght was born in 1825, married Harriet Ward in 1844, and became the father of two children before the family moved to Wayne County in northern New York State. Soon after the move, Harriet died, as did her mother. Azel married Harriet's sister Alice about 1857 or 1858, and soon thereafter, began the journey west. In 1859, Alice gave birth to a son in Nebraska, and the next year, the family completed the journey across the plains to Colorado. In 1860, the Slaght family established a home along the banks of the North Fork of the South Platte River, and the property was recorded,<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>Carl Abbott, Stephen J. Leonard and David McComb, *Colorado – A History of the Centennial State*, Revised Edition (Niwot, CO: Colorado Associated University Press, 1982), 102.

<sup>3</sup>Jane Gilsinger, "Slaghts," unpublished manuscript, 1998, Park County Local History Archives, Bailey, CO.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

The closest official site was the town of Granite Vale, a short-lived settlement within a few miles of current Shawnee, and the site of a post office from about 1863 to January of 1870, although the early date is disputed in some references. While cited on Elbert's 1866 *Map of Colorado Territory, Central Gold Region*, the size and composition of the community is unclear. What is known is that Azel Slaghts served as Postmaster for Granite Vale, that there was a posted stage stop at the site, and that several notices regarding the post offices are documented in the public record.<sup>4</sup> Over the course of the 1860s, the Slaghts ranch became a well-known site as small town, accommodations for guests and a stop on the Denver-Leadville stage line.

The Slaghts ranch was described by the *Rocky Mountain News* in 1868:

Slaghts's Ranch, on the Platte, Denver and Buckskin road is a pretty place, the comfortable home of the weary and hungry traveler... Mr. S. cultivates some 200 acres, cuts all the hay he wants near home.... He is now building a sawmill with which to cut his own lumber. Mrs. S. treated us to aqua-dente in a milk pan, which we considered the full measure of hospitality.<sup>5</sup>

By 1870, the site had grown in size and diversity of industry. The ranch operations expanded to raise oats, barley, potatoes, winter wheat and rye. The sawmill produced lumber for local use and shipment to other communities and guest accommodations were more regularly requested. In 1872, the publication *Out West* noted in its column "Farming Matters" a citation from the *Central City Register* about "A Mountain Ranch" to the west:

[Slaghts]... at an elevation of nearly 8000 feet above the sea level. To one not familiar with mountain farming in Colorado, the productiveness of the soil at this high elevation is surprising. ... Mr. Slaght informed us that he raised over 40,000 pounds of potatoes from fifteen acres of ground, besides large quantities of barley and oats. He has also one of the best stock ranges in the country – keeps 100 head of stock and very rarely feeds any ... except in heavy snow storms.... About 60 tons of hay are cut annually.<sup>6</sup>

Four years later, reports of tourist enjoyment of this valley appeared in the Denver newspapers, citing Slaght's as "a comfortable place to stop." The owner had completed a new house and the site was increasingly known as a welcoming hotel on the road between Denver and Fairplay, attractive to both leisure and business travelers.<sup>7</sup> Slaght became active in civic life, as a county commissioner, justice of the local township for Park County, and postmaster.

In 1877, the Slaghts sold their 640 acre ranch with its houses, sawmill and farm buildings to Ezra Fairchild, who laid out a new village and changed the name to Fairville. The name of the post office was changed in 1878 to Fairville, but only for a few years. Several small businesses operated in the "new town of Fairville" in 1879, including the general merchandises of L. H. Whitney and Jonathan

---

<sup>4</sup> Steve Morehead, "Granite Vale, Colorado: Location and Identification of a Territorial Post Office," *La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History* (March 1992): 47-57.

<sup>5</sup> Gilsinger, 1998.

<sup>6</sup> "Farming Matters," *Out West*, 12 December 1872.

<sup>7</sup> Gilsinger, 1998.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 17

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

Blanch, blacksmith shops of G. Kruse and R. H. Gardener, restaurant of Culbert and Horn, livery stable of Head and Wonder and hotel of J. McNasser. Additional enterprises over the following four years included hotels of Herrick and Co., Chas Winkler, and W. K. Clay, lumber mills of W. H. Hildebrand and C. J. Morris, cattle dealer Judson Flowers, Justice of the Peace C. M. Taylor, and general store owner J. W. Price.<sup>8</sup> The Fairville listing disappeared from the *Colorado State Business Directory* in 1885.

The Slaght's name, however, continued in common use, even after the arrival of the railroad the following year. The town was sold to W. W. Montellins of Denver in 1880 who soon thereafter built a new hotel to attract both traveling and seasonal visitors. In 1882, the name of the post office reverted to Slaghts. By 1886, the locale was known as a premiere fishing area and summer community, complete with resort amenities of hotels, railroad access, neighboring towns, and regular mail and newspaper delivery.<sup>9</sup> The town was cited as "a favorite summer resort" in the 1890 *Colorado State Business Directory*, continuing its listing through 1900.<sup>10</sup>

### The Coming of the Railroad

Even before the first train steamed into Denver from the main Union Pacific transcontinental line through Cheyenne, Wyoming in 1870, plans were underway to extend the linkage of the rails. Investors envisioned lines to the south through Colorado Springs and Pueblo to Santa Fe and the American Southwest, and into the mountains along creek drainages leading to the easiest of the high passes toward the rich mineral centers of the Colorado Territory. By 1872, the train line to Pueblo was complete, and work had begun on small narrow-gauge tracks leading to the central mountains and the western ranges of Colorado.

One of the companies founded that year was the Denver, South Park, and Pacific Railroad (DSP&P, generally known as the South Park). Colorado Governor John Evans was one of the principals of the corporation. The company planned to construct a narrow-gauge rail line from Denver to Morrison, thence up the South Platte Canyon, crossing South Park and Poncha Pass into the San Luis Valley to the community of Del Norte and onward into the rich mining areas of the southwestern San Juan Mountains on the way to the Pacific. Planning for steam locomotives on three-foot tracks, the company laid its first rails from Union Station in Denver to Morrison. Not much progress was made until the Leadville boom in 1878 diverted the company leadership from the far west, making the high-altitude town its target destination. The line never reached either the Pacific or the San Juan Mountains region. However, a total of 339 miles of mainline and narrow-gauge track was eventually built, crossing the Continental Divide several times (twice over 11,000 feet in elevation) and penetrating the narrowest of river canyons along the South Platte and the Arkansas rivers.<sup>11</sup>

The South Park line was shorter, with a rail route of only 170 miles between Denver and Leadville by way of the Platte Canyon, than that of its major competitor, the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad

---

<sup>8</sup> *Colorado State Business Directory*, various dates 1879-1885.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>10</sup> *Colorado State Business Directory*, various dates 1890-1900.

<sup>11</sup> Lucius Beebe and Charles Clegg, *Narrow Gauge in the Rockies* (Berkeley, CA: Howell – North, 1958), 124.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 18

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

(D&RGRR). The race to be the first railroad into Leadville was intense, and the South Park construction was revived in earnest with the track reaching the fork of the South Platte River at the young settlement known as South Platte by the spring of 1878. Continuing the line at a furious pace, crews reached the famed geologic feature Dome Rock on June 7, 1878. Getting to the small settlement of Buffalo Creek on June 17, the train arrived in Pine Grove on July 8. Within weeks, the tracks extended to what is now Bailey, some 47 miles from Bear Creek Junction outside Denver. The small settlement of Slaughter was just five more miles up the river and the rails soon arrived. Progress over Kenosha Pass was slower, and the line eventually reached Buena Vista in 1880.<sup>12</sup> Facing opposition in building a line up the narrow Arkansas River Valley, the South Park joined with the D&RGRR to share tracks for the final segment. In addition, the South Park, now under the control of the Union Pacific, constructed a second line into Leadville by way of Como and Breckenridge known as the Leadville High Line, completed in 1884.<sup>13</sup>

The construction of the railroad through the Platte Canyon, especially through the segments on either side of the confluence of the North Fork into the South Platte, was an engineering achievement in its day. Several commentators labeled the canyon as almost impassable and the work of preparing a roadbed represented one of the most difficult track construction efforts in the Rocky Mountain region. Laid out by the South Park's chief engineer Leonard Eicholtz, the work included both blasting steep canyon walls to create the long sections of railroad bench and grading the line to between 60 and 137 feet of rise per mile of track in the narrow canyon. Additional challenges faced crews when the rails continued up the long route toward Kenosha Pass. Rails were supplied from Cincinnati, Ohio, and the bridges from Chicago, but the enormous number of railroad ties came from the forested hills above the canyon.<sup>14</sup> The few settlements along the route soon included sawmills and lumber yards to meet the demand for ties during the 1878 season and subsequent years.

**The Price Family and the Town of Shawnee**

J. W. Price, a native of England, was born near Worcester County in 1841 and started his work life in the shipyards. Marrying Catherine Mary Boume in about 1863, he traveled to New York City several times during the following years. In 1869, he moved his family, then including three small children, and settled in Marion County, Illinois where he purchased 320 acres of land. Three more children, two of whom survived childhood, were born in Illinois. On the advice of doctors, Price headed west in search of health, employment and a new home for his family. In 1877, he arrived in the Platte Canyon area, where he joined a logging crew preparing railroad ties for the planned railroad construction. He sent for his family and settled in temporary quarters in the now-abandoned settlement of Slaughter, just a half mile east of what is now Shawnee.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>12</sup> David Rainey, "The Platte Canyon Railroad," *Historically JeffCo* 1, no.1 (Summer 1988): 6; Mallory Hope Ferrell, *The South Park Line* (Mukilteo, WA: Hundman Publishing, 2003), 19.

<sup>13</sup> Beebe and Clegg, 125.

<sup>14</sup> Ferrell, 19.

<sup>15</sup> Cora Price Wells, "Recollections," unpublished manuscript, Park County Local History Archives, Bailey, CO.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 19

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

In 1886, Price homesteaded 160 acres west of Slaghts, and was awarded the patent four years later. In 1889, he gave a tract of land to the railroad following the railroad's relocation of its station from Slaghts. In the new space, the railroad sought to create their own town and resort area, so they built both a hotel and a depot, and named them both "Shawnee." Due to their friendly business relationship with the Shawnee Tribe in Oklahoma, the railroad wanted to name the town in tribute to the tribe. The railroad constructed the large lodge on the parcel from Price and began to promote tourist accommodations in the new community. Price, who owned and operated a store in Slaghts, continued to promote Shawnee and, before 1889, completed construction of the Fair View Hotel in the new community. He soon changed the name to the Grand View Hotel. For at least a few years, the building also served as the Price family residence.<sup>16</sup>

Price was appointed postmaster of Slaghts in 1898, but two years later, the post office was relocated to Shawnee. J. W. Price's son Harry, who had served as his father's assistant, was appointed postmaster, a position he retained for over 50 years. The family built the small first portion of the new building west of the hotel. It housed the post office, then and now leased to the government, on the first floor. Harry Price and his family moved to quarters on the upper level in 1901 or 1902.<sup>17</sup>

J. W. Price platted the town of Shawnee on his property in 1900 and filed the plat and ownership roster with Park County later that year. He sold lots for residential development and summer cottages. Having been the proprietor of the Price Store in Slaghts, he was interested in similar commercial ventures in the new town. While continuing to manage and expand business at the Grand View Hotel (5PA1592), he opened a small shop for cigars, candy and sundries in the hotel. By 1910, he decided to build a store in Shawnee and soon thereafter added a large wing to the post office. The store and post office quickly became and remains the center of the town's daily social gatherings.<sup>18</sup> J. W. Price died in 1933. His son Harry continued as postmaster, and joined with his brother James in managing the hotel, operating a garage, continuing the general store management and investing in local development. Harry Price retired in 1940 from his work at the post office, but remained involved in other family enterprises.<sup>19</sup>

**Scenery and the Leisure Industry**

The greatest boost to local physical and economic growth along the North Fork of the South Platte Valley was the immediate popularity of the region as a tourist destination. Even before construction of the railroad, several geological locales were named and widely published as scenic wonders. These vistas included the open meadows of Shawnee and the dramatic approaches to the passes above South Park, as well as the canyon narrows along the eastern portion of the river's course. Added to these attractions was the drama of the railroad itself, winding through the narrow curves beneath high steep rock cliffs and passing through open valleys and creek outlets. Famed photographers of the era,

---

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> Dwight Wells, "History of Shawnee," unpublished manuscript, 1975, Park County Local History Archives, Bailey, CO.

<sup>18</sup> "Mr. Shawnee," *Canyon Courier*; 29 October 1959.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 20

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

including William Henry Jackson, took advantage of the rail access to the area to create memorable images of the natural surroundings.

The Denver, South Park, and Pacific Railroad quickly began to promote the South Park Line as a venue for sightseeing in the heart of the mountains. While the primary intent of the railroad construction had been transport of industrial and mining products and equipment, passenger traffic soon became a significant portion of the company's business. As early as June 1878, even before the tracks reached Bailey or Slaughter, the Denver newspapers announced a new picnic area along the South Park Line in the canyon. Two years later, several towns along the river were featured as tourist destinations.<sup>20</sup>

To attract leisure travelers the rail road produced numerous brochures, pamphlets and tourist guides to the region. Boasting incomparable vistas and topography, the company commissioned impressive photographs, staged images of visitors at sites along the rail line, built additional stations and train stops at scenic areas and developed package deals including transit, meals and fishing equipment for day trips. One such publication, entitled "South Park and the Alpine Pass," described the experience: "The scene from the [train] car window was the loveliest on the continent...the writer or the painter has never lived who could convey ... the surpassing beauty and grandeur of this spot." In 1886, the company organized a "Photographers' Special" train with numerous stops in the Platte Canyon; one of the cars was equipped with a darkroom for processing large glass plate negatives. Noted photographers Jackson and George E. Mellen of Colorado Springs both took advantage of this special train service.<sup>21</sup>

When traffic increased, the company added more train capacity and upgraded tourist services. By the 1885 publication of *Croft's Gripsack Guide of Colorado*, the book noted that "two express trains leave Denver daily over this road, and both fully supplied with all the modern equipment – Pullman, drawing-room sleeping cars, etc." During the following decade, the railroad built hotels and resorts throughout the region, promoted fishing, hiking and picnic activities and instituted the weekend "Fish Train" that left Denver early in the morning and returned at dusk, transporting fishermen to and from the trout-laden Platte Canyon. Resorts flourished in the area; many were listed in the business directories of Pine Grove, Buffalo Creek and Foxton in what is now Jefferson County, and Park County's Glen Isle, Bailey and Shawnee after the turn of the twentieth century. The Denver press reported the resorts "attracted crowds" in great numbers. The area was still featured regularly in regional news and advertising, with the *Rocky Mountain News* highlighting the canyon in 1934 with the headline "South Platte Canon a Virtual Paradise."<sup>22</sup>

Although short-visit tourist traffic was an increasingly important part of the area economy, long-term and seasonal visitors were also attracted to the area. Like many of its neighboring communities, most of the

---

<sup>20</sup> *Rocky Mountain News*, 5 June 1878, p. 4, and 20 October 1880, p. 4.

<sup>21</sup> Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad, "South Park and Alpine Pass," brochure (Denver, CO: Passenger Department, South Park Line, 1886), 6; Ferrell, 215.

<sup>22</sup> George Croft, *Croft's Gripsack Guide of Colorado* (Omaha, NE: The Overland Publishing Company, 1885; reprint, Boulder, CO: Johnson Publishing Co, 1981), 46; *Colorado State Business Directory* (Denver, CO) 1900, 1910, 1920; *Denver Times*, 14 June 1901, p. 9; *Rocky Mountain News*, 15 August 1934, p. 9.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 21

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

homes constructed in the small town of Shawnee were commissioned by owners who lived most of the time in Denver or cities to the east, spending summer months in the mountains. Some came for health reasons, but most for cooler weather and scenic beauty. Families relocated for the summer while their fathers and husbands commuted to the retreats from Denver for the weekends. With over 30 named train stops in the canyon and across the hills from South Platte to Como by the 1920s, most residents were easily served by the railroad.<sup>23</sup> Improved access for automobiles after about 1910 increased the tourist activities and allowed seasonal residents more opportunity for regional travel.

One of the premiere destinations of the central mountains region was the Shawnee Lodge, an elegant and sophisticated hotel with rustic architectural elements. J. W. Price, founder of Shawnee sold the land on a warranty deed to the Colorado and Southern Railroad in 1899, the year after the railroad company incorporated and took control of the train lines going up the North Fork of the South Platte River through the Platte Canyon and Shawnee to South Park, Gunnison and Leadville. The railroad built a station in 1900, no longer standing, about half a mile from the town across the North Fork valley, and listed Shawnee on its timetables. The following year, the company began work on two large hotels for summer tourists at points along the route. One of these, the Shawnee Lodge, was built just to the west of the Shawnee Post Office (5PA853).

The Shawnee Lodge was a popular destination for visitors whether they came for a few nights or the entire summer. Built in the style of a summer lodge from the famed Adirondack Mountain resorts, the Lodge dominated the landscape of the town as the largest building. Most photographs of the town illustrate the size, scale and elegance of the hotel. Styled with rustic elements in log, stone, and decorative woodwork, the Lodge was widely publicized in company brochures and regional publications. It was listed as early as 1903 in the *Colorado State Business Directory* with the "C. & S. Ry, props" notation, and E. A. Thayer as manager. Other individuals were listed as proprietor over the next years, including L. F. Schirk, whose name also appears as the owner on a railroad publication about mountain resorts. The Shawnee Lodge remained popular until its loss to fire in August 1929.<sup>24</sup>

**Ice and Water**

One of the most important seasonal industries was that of ice harvesting. Prior to electric refrigeration, blocks of ice were used to keep perishable foods cold. In Colorado, mountain watercourses were often dammed to create small ponds and lakes which froze in the cold winter temperatures. "Harvesting" the ice on the lakes was a profitable business enterprise, especially when the lakes were close to railroad lines for easy preparation and shipment to Denver. Ice was packed in straw or other insulating material and stored for distribution to homes and businesses across the region.

Shawnee, with its flat meadow and valley within a short distance of the railroad depot, was one such attractive location for ice industry development. In the summer of 1902, William Clay Maddox, founder

---

<sup>23</sup> Colorado and Southern Railway, "Platte Canon Time Card and Fares" time card, summer 1927, Colorado and Southern Railway Collection, Stephen Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO.

<sup>24</sup> *Colorado State Business Directory*, various dates; Lee Heideman, *Homesteaders, Moonshiners and Frontier Law* (Conifer, CO: Magic Wordweaver Press, 2004).



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 22

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

of the Maddox Ice Company of Denver, visited Shawnee in search of suitable locations for ice ponds. Liking the local conditions for ice production, Maddox purchased 312 acres of meadowland east and north of the town for \$3500 in cash. The property deed was dated January 1, 1903 and work began within months on the damming of a reservoir and the construction of ice houses and other company buildings. By the following winter, the lake was large and very much an attraction for local ice skaters. Fearing contamination of the water, Maddox allowed skaters, but forbade fires on or near the lake.<sup>25</sup>

By the winter of 1904, the Maddox Ice Company crews were active in cutting ice in the community. That year, thirty train loads of twenty cars each left the Shawnee Depot for Denver, the local ice storage houses were full, and the town's residents were supplied with enough ice to last the year. Much of the ice was sold to the railroad to refrigerate shipments of food across the county. The ice from Shawnee was analyzed on a regular basis to guarantee its purity, but increasing contamination from continued residential, agricultural and tourist development in the Shawnee Valley and upstream, combined with the technology of electrical refrigeration led to a decline in the need for ice harvesting as an industry. The abandonment of the railroad through Shawnee in 1937 brought the closure of the Maddox Ice Company operations, the sale of the property and the draining of several of the ponds to create ranch meadows.<sup>26</sup>

Water was a significant issue in the community in the early decades. Among the first water rights in the area were those to the Slaght's Ditch and the Price Ditch, both from Starvation Gulch, a tributary draining into the river from the south. A later set of water rights was claimed from the Kennedy Gulch, also a north-draining watercourse. These sources and the river provided sufficient water during most seasons for the area ranches, ice industry holdings, homes and tourist accommodations.

Concerns began in the 1920s when community members moved to formalize the distribution and management of water to private homes. Disagreements regarding the water right held by the Shawnee Lodge property were unresolved, and just months before the Lodge burned in 1929, community members organized to establish a corporation known as the Shawnee Water Consumers Association. A Denver attorney W. W. Garwood convened the first meeting and assisted with the formal incorporation of the group. Roger Knight was chosen as the first president and Mae Davis served as the founding secretary. Membership was \$40, which included a water tap for properties within the town.<sup>27</sup> While most of the town's homeowners at the time became charter members, several did not.

Following the loss of the Shawnee Lodge to fire in August of 1929, the property was vacant for two years until its acquisition in 1931 by Mr. Debernardi, who soon thereafter claimed a greater perpetual water right off Kennedy Gulch than was documented. Property owners who shared in nine prior rights protested, but Debernardi was unwilling to negotiate, instead removing the pipeline from Kennedy Gulch to Shawnee, leaving many property owners without water. To meet local needs and establish independent water sources, Roger Knight dug a well at the river and created a reservoir from spring

---

<sup>25</sup> Harold Warren, *Bits and Pieces of History Along the 285 Corridor: From Denver to Kenosha Pass* (Bailey, CO: KR Systems, 1994), 37.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>27</sup> Vincent Tolpo, "Shawnee Water Consumers Association: A Dry History," unpublished manuscript, in possession of the author.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 23

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

water behind the town with above-ground piping to many of the seasonal homes in the town. Water ran from May to September. The few year-round homes, including those of the Price family, the Grand View Hotel and the Soll and Fitzsimmons ranch houses, were supplied with water through underground pipes from the spring-fed reservoir.<sup>28</sup>

By the 1940s, the Association was working on a completely winterized system for Shawnee. Members deeded rights-of-way for pipelines and agreed to share costs of continued expansion of services and facilities. When Roy Thompson purchased the Shawnee Lodge property and subdivided the land for sale into a number of small lots, the water system extended its service to this area. The Association continued its work to provide reliable water for community residents, eventually adding additional pipes from the Kennedy Gulch and completing the concrete reservoir and pump system that they still use.<sup>29</sup>

#### Prominent Shawnee Homeowners

Shawnee was from its founding, and remains today, a small community of year-round residents with a larger population of seasonal homeowners. The town's beautiful setting, abundant fishing and easy access to the Denver area made it an attractive location for summer leisure, and many prominent individuals chose this community as a seasonal home, including the selected few profiled in the following paragraphs.

An early investor in the community was Hugh Thomas, who had moved to Colorado from Florence, Illinois in the 1880s. An active and prosperous real estate developer in Denver, his Denver home sat in the Curtis Park neighborhood. Seeking a seasonal home, he purchased land in Shawnee in 1901. Planning to build several houses on the property, Thomas began construction the following year on the lots (5PA850). Family friends joined him in the community and built a similar home immediately east of Thomas, who placed the entrance stairs of his home on the east side of the building in an effort to enhance the summer visiting between the families. Thomas' initials are incorporated into the front decorative railings of the main porch. When the house was completed in 1904, Thomas deeded the home to his widowed daughter-in-law Callie Brinker Thomas for her use as a summer resort residence with her three children. Callie was a musician by training. She came to Denver with her family and eventually rose to prominence as a performer in what became the Central City Opera. Her father founded the Brinker Institute of Music in the Denver building now known as the Navarre (5DV124), across from the Brown Palace Hotel (5DV110). This was the first co-educational institution for musical training west of the Mississippi at the time of its founding.<sup>30</sup>

One of the earliest news citations regarding early prominent citizens of Shawnee is from the *Fairplay Flume* in 1914, noting, "The C. H. McArthurs are now located most comfortably at the Green Gables Ranch which they recently purchased from Mrs. Belle Winslow. It is one of the finest homes in the

<sup>28</sup> Dwight Wells, "History of Shawnee," unpublished manuscript, Park County Local History Archives, Bailey, CO.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Vincent and Carolyn Tolpo, personal communication with author; "Shawnee Mountain Gallery: Our Home and Studios," unpublished manuscript, in possession of author.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 24

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

canon [sic].<sup>31</sup> Whether the Winslows were the first owners is unclear, but given the approximate date of house construction and the 1913 sale date to the McArthurs, this is a reasonable guess. A photograph caption states that the McArthurs moved from their ranch house to Green Gables in January 1914. The McArthurs were prominent citizens in the town and the county. A 1916 article announcing his appointment as Park County Treasurer called C. H. McArthur "an influential ranchman of Shawnee....a man of the highest integrity and an old-timer in this county."<sup>32</sup> From New York, he came to Colorado in the late 1870s and spent about a year in Leadville trying his hand at mining. He then engaged in the timber business in the Buena Vista area. He arrived in Park County in 1886 and built one of the most successful ranches in the Shawnee Valley. He is noted as "a life long Democrat" who served as a representative in the Colorado General Assembly. While in the statehouse, he secured funding for a bridge across the Platte for the benefit of the county.<sup>33</sup>

Stephen Knight of Denver and his family built a home on Waterworks Road (5PA3916) uphill from the main highway in 1911. It was the summer house for the family, without any amenities for winter use. Knight was the founder and President of Colorado National Bank and a leader in regional business, community affairs and state-wide financial endeavors for over 30 years. An avid fisherman, he traveled during the summer seasons to the Shawnee community and its neighboring areas for many years prior to purchasing two lots from Jim Price in 1910. The following year, the small house was completed. In 1928, Knight bought an extra lot from Jim Price and in 1929 established a right-of-way across the lot downhill from this property. Knight's wife was not as enthusiastic about fishing and sought other pastimes while in the mountains for the summer, and so built a single-lane "Ladies" bowling alley behind the house. The house and buildings stayed in the Knight family for several generations, passing to daughter Evelyn, with her estate managed by family member Roger, Junior, like his ancestor, a leader in the banking and financial services business community of Colorado. Evelyn's death in the early 1980s prompted the sale of the property to Denver District Judge Sherman and Anne Finesilver of Denver. Judge Finesilver was nominated by President Richard Nixon on 8 September 1971 to a seat vacated by William E. Doyle, and was confirmed by the Senate on 21 September 1971. He served as chief judge from 1982 until he assumed senior status on 31 May 1994, when he retired.<sup>34</sup>

Another Waterworks Road house (5PA3917) was built by Hebert Richards Walker and his wife Ethel Blake Walker in 1904. Mrs. Walker's family, the Blake family of the Bailey area, had spent summers in the valley of the North Fork of the South Platte River since before the arrival of the railroad in 1878, and traveled frequently by stage and wagon across Kenosha Pass to Alma. After her marriage, she continued to visit the Sлагhts area, living in summer tents before taking one of the new cabins near the small settlement. Her husband, a mining and construction hardware salesman for Morey Mercantile in Denver, was not as avid about fishing as his wife, but enjoyed the area enough to purchase two lots in the new town of Shawnee and begin to build a summer home in 1904, the same year in which his son Harold was born. The family lived in Denver at several locations in the Capitol Hill area of the city. They left their first home, a "double house" on East 12<sup>th</sup> Street in 1906, and rented a home at 261 Logan

<sup>31</sup> *Fairplay Flume*, 13 February 1914.

<sup>32</sup> *Fairplay Flume*, 16 February 1916.

<sup>33</sup> *Fairplay Flume*, 13 February 1914, 16 February 1916.

<sup>34</sup> Dwight Wells, Shawnee Water Association files, Park County Local History Archives, Bailey, CO; Timothy Walker, personal communication with author, March 2007.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 25

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

Street. Four years later, the Walkers purchased a home at 920 Lafayette Street where they would remain for many years. The family was active in local organizations and at Central Presbyterian Church.<sup>35</sup>

Their son Harold attended the University of Denver, graduating about 1925. He completed his education for the ministry and became pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Evanston, Illinois. With his family, Harold Walker continued to visit the house in Shawnee during the summer. He received the title to the home in 1947 and began a series of remodeling projects on the house. The family spent two months each summer, completing a project for each summer with the participation of the whole family. Most years, members of the congregation donated materials and arranged the delivery to the Shawnee site. During the years 1947 to about 1955, the family worked on porches, stone walls, interior paneling, kitchen reinstallation, and new windows. Harold Walker served for many years as the president of the Shawnee Water Consumers Association.<sup>36</sup> In 1975, the elder Walkers gave the property to their three sons. Timothy Walker, on the faculty of the University of Denver Law School and with a law practice in the Denver area, eventually assumed ownership. Like his father, he served his Shawnee neighbors as the president of the Shawnee Water Consumers Association.<sup>37</sup>

Ava Wilson moved to Shawnee with her husband Clifford in the mid-1920s. Owners of a profitable boarding house in Denver, they sold the business and traded a summer cabin in the Indian Hills area to purchase the Grandview Hotel (5PA1592) in Shawnee. Built in the late 1880s, the hotel needed considerable interior work, so in 1930, the Wilson's closed the twelve-room frame building. Repairs were completed in about three years, at which point many of the Wilson's boarding house guests made the trip to Shawnee to stay in the refurbished hotel. A noted cook, business in the dining room was busy, and Ava Wilson soon opened a coffee shop near the hotel. When her husband died in 1937, she managed both businesses, moving the post office into her coffee shop and serving as post mistress for the town for the next several years.<sup>38</sup> In 1941, Ava married Roy Thompson, a Shawnee resident who had helped with her businesses and who was involved with some real estate investment in the town. They sold her businesses in 1944 and moved to a ranch. Ava Thompson became active in community affairs, and in 1946, was elected the president of the Federated Women's Club of Bailey.

### Building the Community Center

Believing that the organization needed a permanent home, Ava Thompson approached Jesse Fitzsimmons, a Shawnee rancher, and he gave the group a small piece of land at the fork of the new and old roads to Bailey, just at the east edge of Shawnee, outside of the historic district. Community fund-raising events and donated materials from Moore Lumber of Bailey allowed construction of the Shawnee Community Center in 1948. Moore Lumber of Bailey contributed a large volume of the

<sup>35</sup> Timothy Walker, personal communication with author, March 2007; Gary Goodson and Timothy Walker, "Harold Blake Walker Memories," *More Historical Sketches of Shawnee: Including Historical Pictures of Bailey and Grant, Colorado* (Colorado: Creative Colorado Concepts, 1996).

<sup>36</sup> Timothy Walker, personal communication with author, March 2007.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid.

<sup>38</sup> Mary Helen Crain, *Canyon Courier*, undated and untitled article about Ava Thompson, Park County Local History Archives, Bailey, CO.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 26

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

building materials. Two local builders contributed major portions of the building work: Malcolm Wonder of Shawnee supervised volunteers in the carpentry while Ed Bell of Grant provided the labor for the roof. The center opened Christmas week of 1948, within a short time, all of the interior work was complete.<sup>39</sup> The building was owned and managed by the Women's Club for many years, and open for community use for special events, meetings, weddings, civic celebrations and local groups. For a time, the ownership was in the name of the Mountain Doers Women's Club. The building was deeded to Park County in about 1990, and remains in county ownership.<sup>40</sup> Beginning in about 1995, the Lambert-Wright-Roy Post 8661, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States took over operation and management of the center. Chartered in 1990, the VFW Post 8661 had met at the site since its founding. The charter membership of 49 had grown to over 220 in 2006. The group shares headquarters in the building with the American Legion and over a dozen other community organizations. As the only large gathering place and, other than the post office, the only public building in the town, it has been a central place in the life of the Shawnee community since 1948.<sup>41</sup>

**Shawnee in the Late Twentieth Century and Beyond**

During the second half of the twentieth century, Shawnee remained a small, mostly seasonal community, but did experience some growth. Several "new" homes were built after 1950 on the land that had been the Shawnee Lodge property, joining the few houses in town constructed in the 1940s. School district consolidation and the increasing development of the Highway 285 corridor brought change, as did the acquisition of some landholdings surrounding the community by the U. S. Forest Service.

Tourist accommodations were developed in several properties converted from private homes. During the late 1940s and 1950s, such places as the Peace and Quiet Guest Ranch advertised rooms and suites in what had been the Green Gables-McArthur House (5PA1585). The neighboring home, Stoneleigh (5PA1586), was owned for a period by a chapter of the YMCA and converted on the interior to dormitory-style rooms and large-occupancy kitchen and dining areas. Both homes were subsequently returned to single-family residences. The North Fork Ranch, River Ranch Outfitters and the Silver Tip Lodge were local tourist businesses listed in Shawnee from 1995 to 2000.<sup>42</sup>

While no large industrial facilities are located in the community, Shawnee has been the site for a number of small businesses, as noted in the *Colorado State Business Directory* listings for the late 1980s through 2000. In addition to leisure industry companies, businesses including Kenosha Construction, Microm Precision, Shawnee Motorcycle, Shawnee Mountain Gallery and Comfort Systems Mechanical LTD have established business addresses in Shawnee.<sup>43</sup>

---

<sup>39</sup> Ibid.

<sup>40</sup> James Hartford, Charter Commander, Lambert-Wright-Roy Post 8661, Veterans of Foreign Wars, personal communication with author, December 2006.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid.

<sup>42</sup> *Colorado State Business Directory*, various dates 1987-2001.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 27

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

Today, the community remains small, with a majority of the homes occupied only seasonally by owners whose primary residences are elsewhere. The Shawnee Trading Post (5PA853) continues as a meeting place in the community, described by the *Rocky Mountain News* in 1991 as "kind of like a town hall where locals swap views on topics from politics to the weather,"<sup>44</sup> but where visitors are welcome daily. Demographic information notes eight total establishments in town with 11 local employees in 2003, but this includes the U. S. Forest Service facility staff in addition to local businesses.<sup>45</sup> Town residents and homeowners have expressed interest in the community's history and preservation, participating generously in the present intensive survey of historic properties, and contributing to the documentation and interpretation of the community's past.

---

<sup>44</sup> *Rocky Mountain News*, 16 September 1991, p. 10.

<sup>45</sup> U. S. Census Bureau, "Zip Code Business Patterns (NAICS)," [www.uscensus.gov](http://www.uscensus.gov) accessed on 14 October 2006.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 28

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**Published Works**

- Abbott, Carl, Stephen J. Leonard and David McComb. *Colorado – A History of the Centennial State*, Revised Edition. Niwot, CO: Colorado Associated University Press, 1982.
- Adams, Kramer A. *Logging Railroads of the West*. Seattle, WA: Superior Publishing Company, 1961.
- Bauer, William H., James L. Ozment and John H. Willard. *Colorado Postal History: the Post Offices*. Crete, NE: J-B Publishing Company, 1971.
- Beebe, Lucius and Charles Clegg. *Narrow Gauge in the Rockies*. Berkeley, CA, Howell-North, 1958.
- Blecha, Arvid D. *Blecha's Colorado Place Names: A Genealogical and Historical Guide to Colorado Sites*. Prepared by Donald R. Elliott. Edited by Doris L. (Salman) Elliott. Denver, CO: Colorado Genealogical Society, 2001.
- Chappel, Gordon, Richardson and Hauck. *The South Park Line: A Concise History*, Colorado Rail Annual No. 12. Golden, CO: Colorado Railroad Museum, 1974.
- Colorado State Business Directory*. Selected years, 1884 to 1956 and 1988 – 2001. Denver, CO.
- Croft, George A. *Croft's Gripsack Guide of Colorado*. Omaha, NE: The Overland Publishing Company, 1885; Reprint, Boulder, CO: Johnson Publishing Co., 1981.
- Ellis, Richard and Duane Smith. *Colorado: A History in Photographs*. Niwot, CO: University Press of Colorado, 1991.
- Erickson, Kenneth A. and Albert W. Smith. *Atlas of Colorado*. Boulder, CO, Colorado Associated University Press, 1985.
- Ferrell, Mallory Hope. *The South Park Line*. Mukilteo, WA: Hundman Publishing, 2003.
- France, Lewis B. *With Rod and Line in Colorado Waters*. Denver, CO: Chain, Hardy & Co. Booksellers and Publishers, 1884.
- Goodson, Gary, Sr., compiler. *Slaghts/Fairville/Shawnee, Colorado: Historical Sketches, 1859 – 2005, Book IV*. Shawnee, CO: Self-published, 2005.
- Goodson, Gary R. and Timothy B. Walker, compilers. *Historical Sketches – Shawnee Colorado*. Shawnee, CO: Self-published, 1995.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *More Historical Sketches of Shawnee Colorado*. Shawnee, CO: Self-published, 1996.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 29

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

\_\_\_\_\_. *Slaghts/Shawnee Colorado – Part III, 1859 – 2001*. Shawnee, CO: Self-published, 2000.

Heideman, Lee. *Homesteaders, Moonshiners and Frontier Law: An Historical Journey from Aspen Park to Kenosha Pass*. Conifer, CO: Magic Wordweaver Press, 2003.

Kindig, R. H., E. F. Haley and M. C. Poor. *Pictorial Supplement to Denver, South Park and Pacific*. Golden, CO: Colorado Railroad Museum, 1985.

LaMassena, R. A. *Colorado's Mountain Railroads*. Denver, CO: Sundance, 1984

Morehead, Steve. "Granite Vale, Colorado: Location and Identification of a Territorial Post Office." *La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History* (March 1992): 47-57.

Noel, Thomas J., editor. *Buildings of Colorado*. Society of Architectural Historians, Buildings of the United States. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1997.

Noel, Thomas J., Paul F. Mahoney and Richard E. Stevens. *Historical Atlas of Colorado*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1994.

Poor, M. C. *Denver, South Park and Pacific: Memorial Edition*. Denver, CO: World Press, 1976.

Warren, Harold. *Bits and Pieces of History along the 285 Corridor: From Denver to Kenosha Pass*. Bailey, CO: KR Systems, 1994.

Woods and Poole Economics, Inc.; *State Profile 2004*. Washington, D. C., Woods and Poole, 2004.

**Personal Communications**

Cochran, Dale, property owner. Interview with author, March 2007.

Goodson, Gary, property owner. Interview and correspondence with author, November 2006.

Graham, Ronald, property owner. Interview with author, January 2007.

Lambert, Susan, property owner. Interview with author, August 2006, August 2009.

Mason, Freda property owner. Interview with author, November 2006, February 2007.

Nelson, Leona, property owner. Interview with author, August 2009.

Nelson, Leroy, property owner. Interview with author, August 2006.

Rische, Jeanne, property owner. Interview with author, February 2007.



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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 30

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

Szygielski, Michael, property owner. Interview with author, August 2006.

Tolpo, Vincent and Carolyn, property owner. Interview with author, May and August 2006.

Walker, Timothy and Sandra, property owner. Interview with author, March 2007.

Warner, Sharon, property owner. Interview with author, February 2007.

**Government Files**

Park County Assessor's Office, Fairplay, CO.

Park County Clerk's Office, Fairplay, CO.

United States Census Bureau. *United States Census, 1910-1930*. United States Census Bureau, Washington, DC.

\_\_\_\_\_. NAICS Zip Code Business Patterns Industry Code Summary, Zip Code 80475, 2006. United States Census Bureau, Washington, DC.

United States Interstate Commerce Commission. *Finance Docket No. 7132; In the Matter of the Application of the Colorado and Southern Railway Company for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Authorizing It to Abandon a Part of its Branch Line of Railroad Extending from Denver to Leadville, Commonly Known as its Platte Canon Line, Together with Certain Branches Thereof. Abstract of Record of Protestants and Intervenors: Denver, Colorado, February 26, 1936; Brief on Further Hearing for Colorado and Southern Railway Company, Chicago, Illinois, February 27, 1936; Abstract of Testimony Taken on Further Hearing: And Relied Upon by the Colorado and Southern Railway, Chicago, Illinois, February 27, 1936*. Chicago, IL, State Law Publishing Company, 1936.

**Archival Resources**

1000 Towns Writing Project. Stephen Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO.

Building and Neighborhood History Collection. Western History and Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library, Denver, CO.

Colorado & Southern Railway Collection. Stephen Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO.

Historic Site Files. Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 31

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

Park County Local History Archives, Bailey, CO.

Subject Files, Stephen Hart Library, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO.

Western History Photograph Collection, Western History and Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library, Denver, CO.

Shawnee  
Name of Property

Park County, Colorado  
County/State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 33

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

- |    |      |         |          |         |
|----|------|---------|----------|---------|
| 1. | 13   | 452050  | 4363735  | (NAD27) |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |         |
| 2. | 13   | 452300  | 4363520  |         |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |         |
| 3. | 13   | 452679  | 4363220  |         |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |         |
| 4. | 13   | 452547  | 4362919  |         |
|    | Zone | Easting | Northing |         |

The UTM reference point was derived from heads up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHP by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

[X] See continuation sheet

#### Verbal Boundary Description

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

#### Boundary Justification

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

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Anne Wainstein Bond, Independent Historian (for property owner)

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 10/28/2009

street & number 140 Elm St telephone 303-388-7634

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80220

#### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

##### Continuation Sheets

##### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

##### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

##### Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

#### Property Owner

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

name multiple; See continuation sheets

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 32

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The historic district boundary is shown on the included Sketch Map of the community. The listing of resources within the district (Section 7) identifies each in street address order, a total of 40 contributing properties. The boundary to the north is U.S. Highway 285, Frontage Road, and the Shawnee cemetery. The western boundary is the westernmost property in the town, and the eastern boundary is the easternmost property on the Frontage Road. West Shawnee Road properties are those adjacent to Frontage Road. The southern boundary of the district on the western portion of the district is immediately behind the first line of properties along Highway 285 and Frontage Road. On the east, the district's southern boundary is generally Waterworks Road, and is chosen to avoid recent construction and several older properties which have been significantly altered from their original appearance. Along the south edge of several properties, boundaries are marked by U. S. Forest Service lands.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The district boundary was drawn to include the largest concentration of the historically significant and architecturally intact properties within the community of Shawnee, Park County. The boundary encompasses the majority of the buildings in the community constructed prior to 1953 and the Shawnee cemetery which retain historical and architectural integrity from the significant period of the community's history.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 33

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

### USGS Topographic Map

Shawnee Quadrangle, Colorado  
7.5 Minute Series

UTM: 13/ 452050 E/ 4363735 N; 13/ 452300 E/ 4363520 N  
13/ 452679 E/ 4363220 N; 13/ 452547 E/ 4362919 N  
13/ 452440 E/ 4362919 N; 13/ 452444 E/ 4363207 N  
13/ 452069 E/ 4363483 N; 13/ 452033 E/ 4363696 N

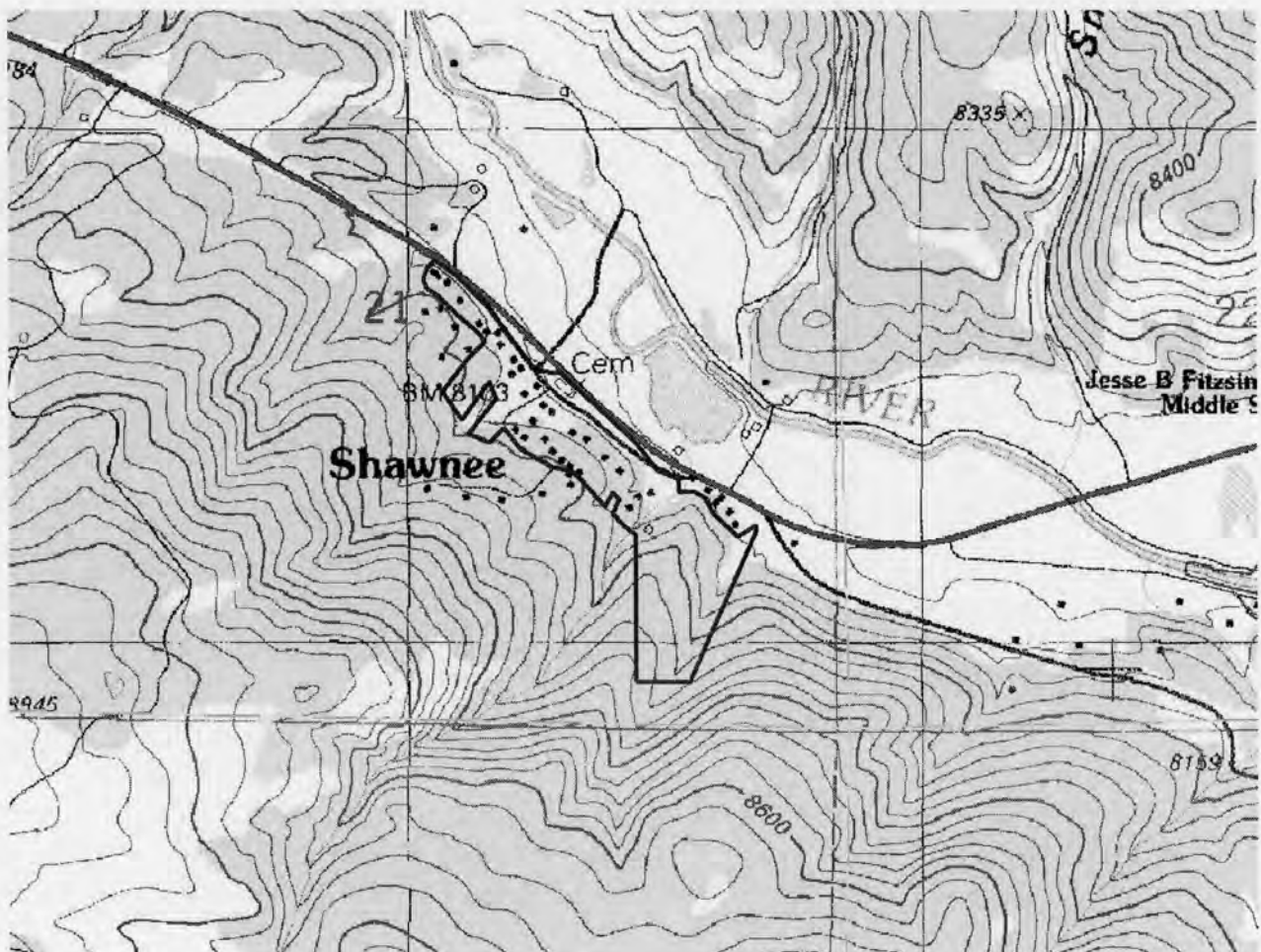
PLSS: 6<sup>th</sup> PM, 7S TN, 73 W RW, 21 Sec.

NW SE SE; N SE SE SE; SW SW NE SE;

NE SW NW SE; NW NW SE; SE NW SE;

SW SW SW NE

Elevation: 8103 feet



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

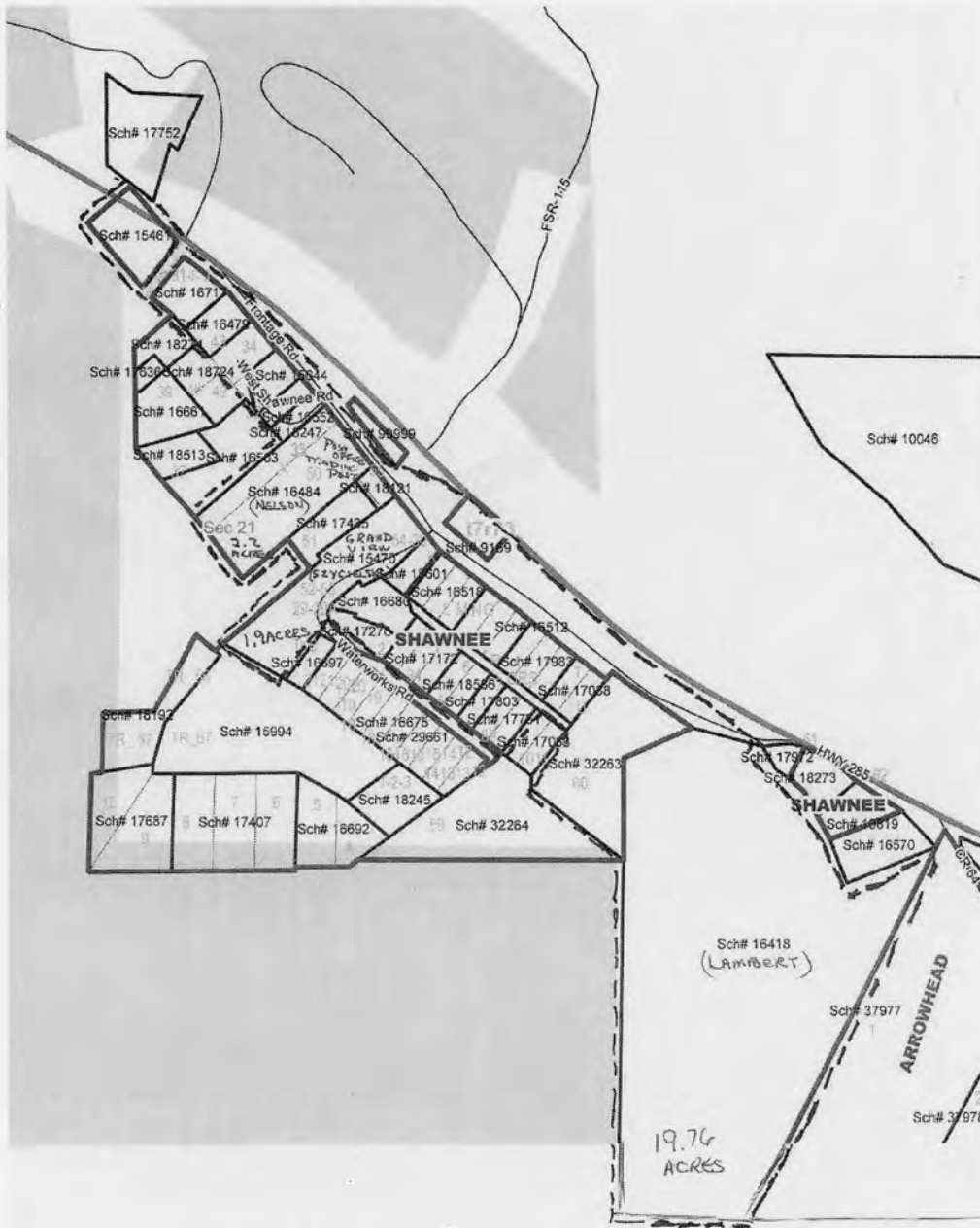
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 34

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

Sketch Map

Park County Local Landmark District Map, Park County Preservation Advisory Commission



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number      Page   35  

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

### PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to all photograph numbers except as noted:

Name of Property: Shawnee Historic District, Park County, Colorado  
 Photographer: Anne Wainstein Bond (1-34); Vincent Tolpo (35-36)  
 Date of Photographs: as noted  
 Negatives: Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado  
 Number of Photographs: 36

Photo No.	Photographic Information
-----------	--------------------------

1	56078 Frontage Road, 5PA1593; facing SW; 5/26/2006
2	56084 Frontage Road, 5PA1592; facing S; 5/26/2006
3	56084 Frontage Road, 5PA1592, garage; facing W; 5/26/2006
4	56114 Frontage Road, 5PA1590; facing S; 5/26/2006
5	55918 Hwy 285, 5PA850; facing SW; 5/26/2006
6	56006 Hwy 285, 5PA3924; facing SW; 11/15/2006
7	56034 Hwy 285, 5PA3918; facing S; 5/26/2006
8	56048 Hwy 285, 5PA853; facing S; 5/26/2006
9	56048 Hwy 285, 5PA853, barn; facing SE; 10/01/2009
10	56126 Hwy 285, 5PA1589; facing S; 5/26/2006
11	56126 Hwy 285, 5PA1589; facing W; 11/15/2006
12	56164 Hwy 285, 5PA3915; facing SE; 11/15/2006
13	56178 Hwy 285, 5PA1588; facing SE; 11/15/2006
14	56178 Hwy 285, 5PA1588, garage; facing S; 5/26/2006
15	56216 Hwy 285, 5PA1587; facing S; 5/26/2006
16	56216 Hwy 285, 5PA1587, shed; facing SW; 11/15/2006
17	56242 Hwy 285, 5PA1586; facing S; 10/01/2009
18	56242 Hwy 285, 5PA1586; facing SE; 5/26/2006
19	56278 Hwy 285, 5PA1585; facing S; 5/26/2006
20	56278 Hwy 285, 5PA1585, outbuildings; facing N; 11/15/2006
21	56278 Hwy 285, 5PA1585, ice house; facing S; 11/15/2006
22	56278 Hwy 285, 5PA1585, barn; facing SE; 10/01/2009
23	56278 Hwy 285, 5PA1585, shed; facing S; 10/01/2009
24	31 West Shawnee Road, 5PA3922; facing S; 10/01/2009
25	36 West Shawnee Road, 5PA3923; facing S; 11/15/2006
26	54 Waterworks Road, 5PA1591; facing SE; 5/26/2006
27	54 Waterworks Road, 5PA1591, log garage; facing SW; 5/26/2006
28	128 Waterworks Road, 5PA3916; facing SW; 11/15/2006
29	128 Waterworks Road, 5PA3916, outbuildings in background; facing W; 11/15/2006
30	136 Waterworks Road, 5PA3917; facing SW; 11/15/2006
31	136 Waterworks Road, 5PA3917, house and shed; facing N; 11/15/2006
32	148 Waterworks Road, 5PA3920; facing SE; 11/15/2006
33	152 Waterworks Road, 5PA3921; facing SW; 11/15/2006
34	152 Waterworks Road, 5PA3921, with garage; facing S; 11/15/2006
35	Frontage Road, 5PA366; Shawnee Cemetery; facing N; 5/2/2010
36	Frontage Road, 5PA366; Price family graves in Shawnee Cemetery; 5/2/2010

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 36

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

### Historic Image Log

Image No.	Image Information
H001	View of Shawnee ca 1900-1910 (Park County Historical Society)
H002	Tourists arriving at the Shawnee Depot circa 1900-1910 (Park County Historical Society)
H003	Aerial photograph of Shawnee vicinity, 18 September 1938 (US Forest Service)
H004	Aerial photograph Shawnee vicinity, 9 September 1946 (US Forest Service)
H005	Aerial photograph Shawnee vicinity, 16 September 1956 (US Forest Service)
H006	Shawnee Town Site and Depot, includes West end, 1914 Road Survey (Park County Historical Society, digitized by Brian Heber)
H007	Shawnee Town Site and Depot, 1914 Road Survey (Park County Historical Society, digitized by Brian Heber)
H008	Slaghts Town Site, Shawnee Schoolhouse, Maddox Ice House, 1914 Road Survey (Park County Historical Society, digitized by Brian Heber)

### Additional UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

5.	13	452440	4362919	(NAD27)
	Zone	Easting	Northing	
6.	13	452444	4363207	
	Zone	Easting	Northing	
7.	13	452069	4363483	
	Zone	Easting	Northing	
8.	13	452033	4363696	
	Zone	Easting	Northing	

The UTM reference point was derived from heads up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHP by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 37

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

### Historic Photographs



H001. View of Shawnee ca 1900-1910 (Park County Historical Society)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 38

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado



H002. Tourists arriving at the Shawnee Depot circa 1900-1910 (Park County Historical Society)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 39

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado



**H003.** Aerial photograph of Shawnee vicinity, 18 September 1938 (US Forest Service)

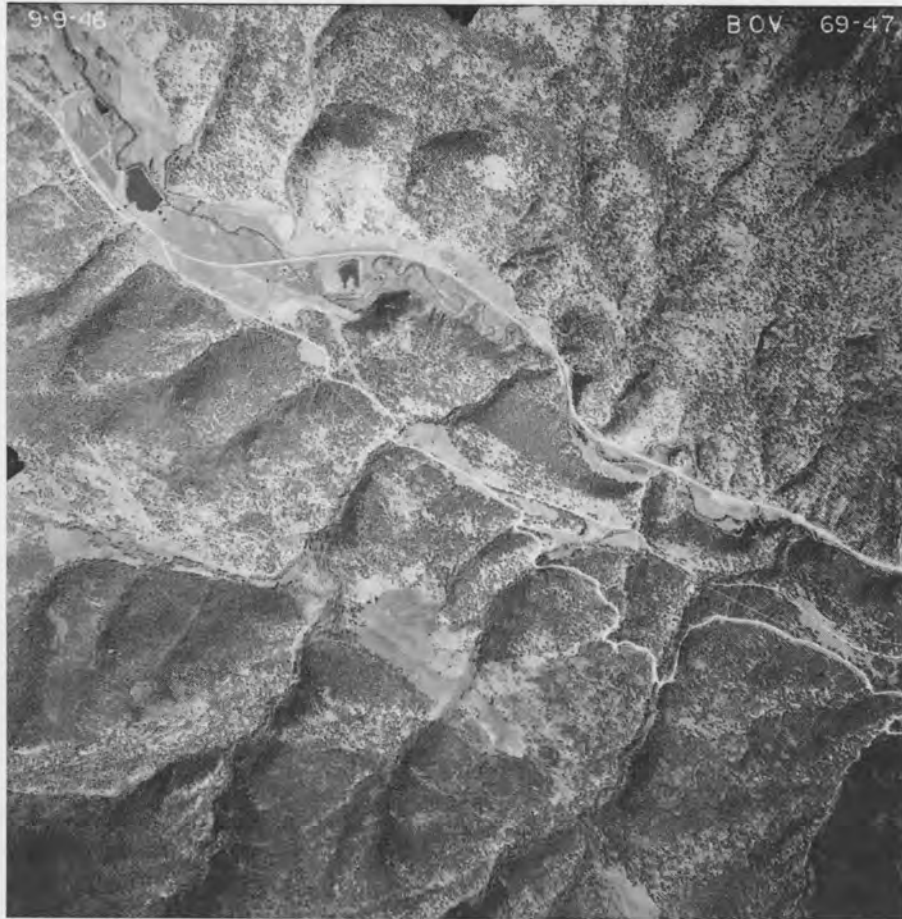
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 40

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---



**H004.** Aerial photograph Shawnee vicinity, 9 September 1946 (US Forest Service)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 41

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---



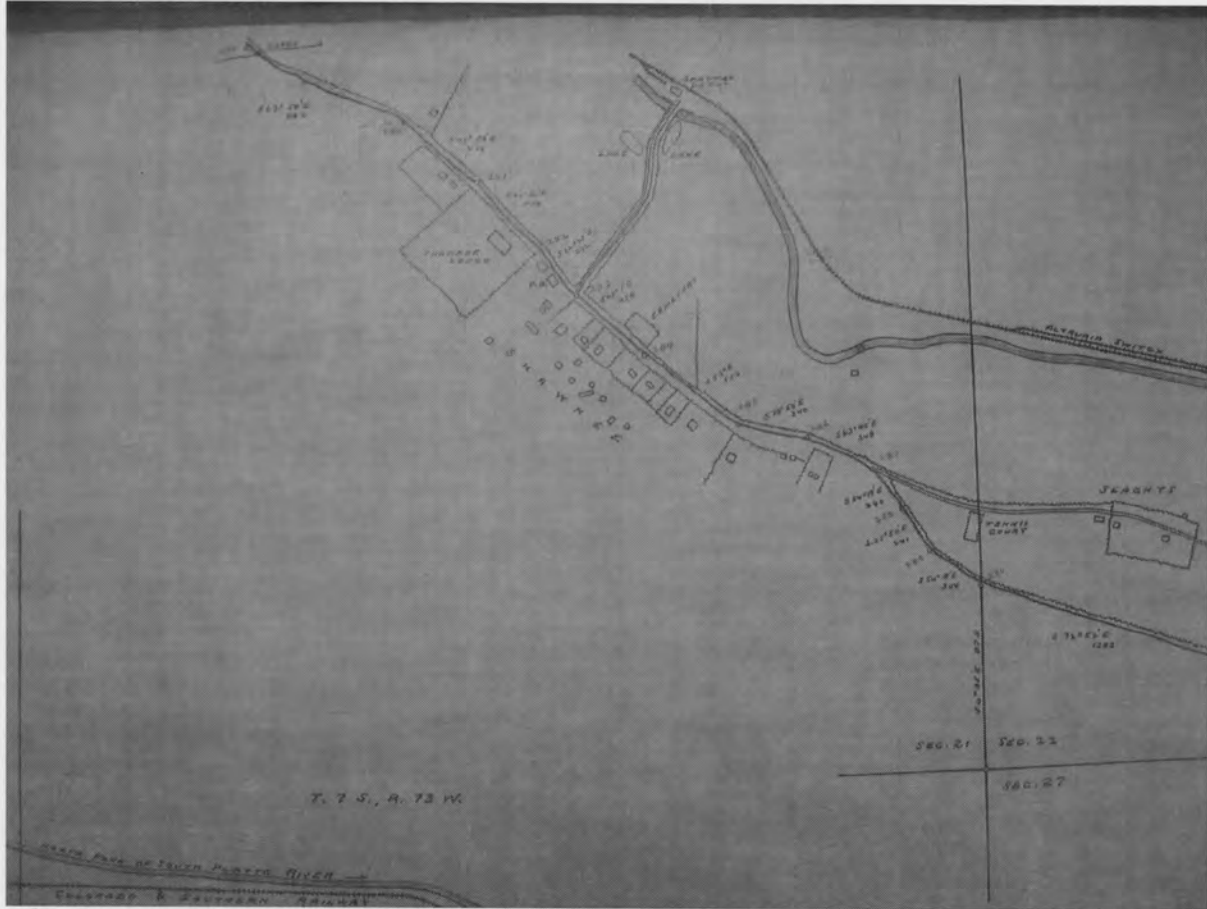
**H005.** Aerial photograph Shawnee vicinity, 16 September 1956 (US Forest Service)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 42

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado



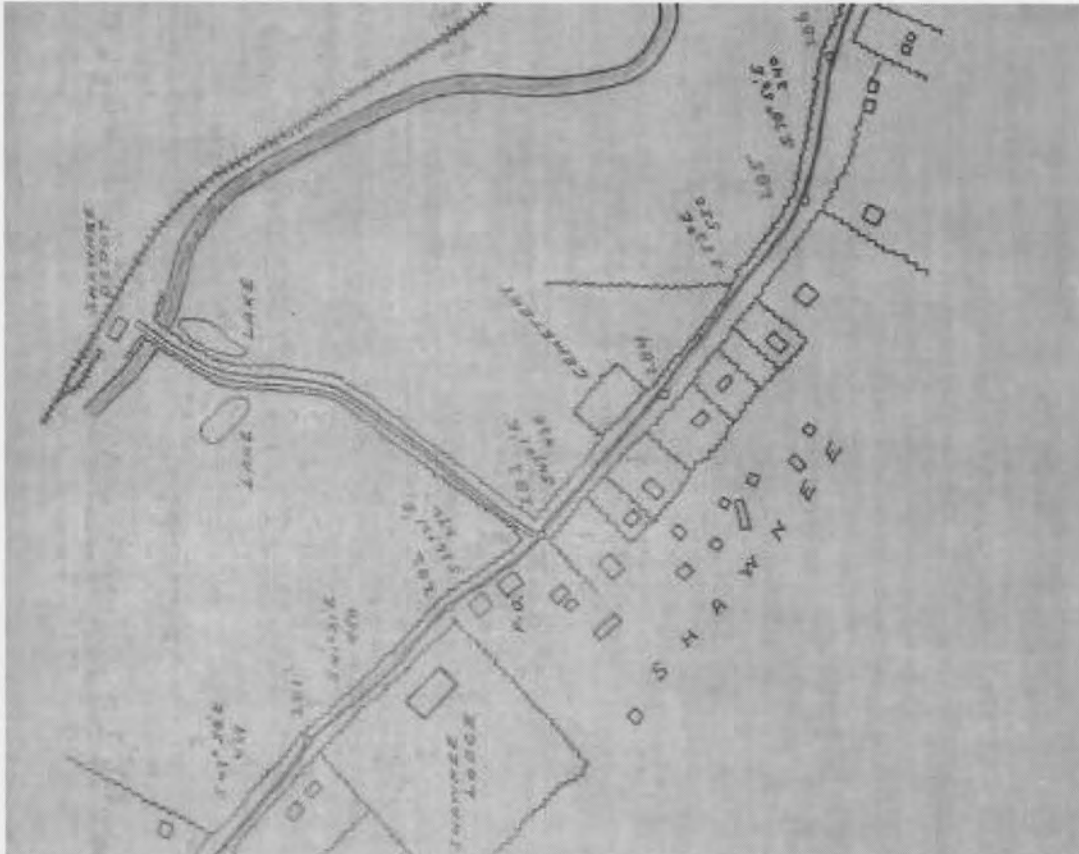
H006. Shawnee Town Site and Depot, includes West end, 1914 Road Survey (Park County Historical Society, digitized by Brian Heber)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 43

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado



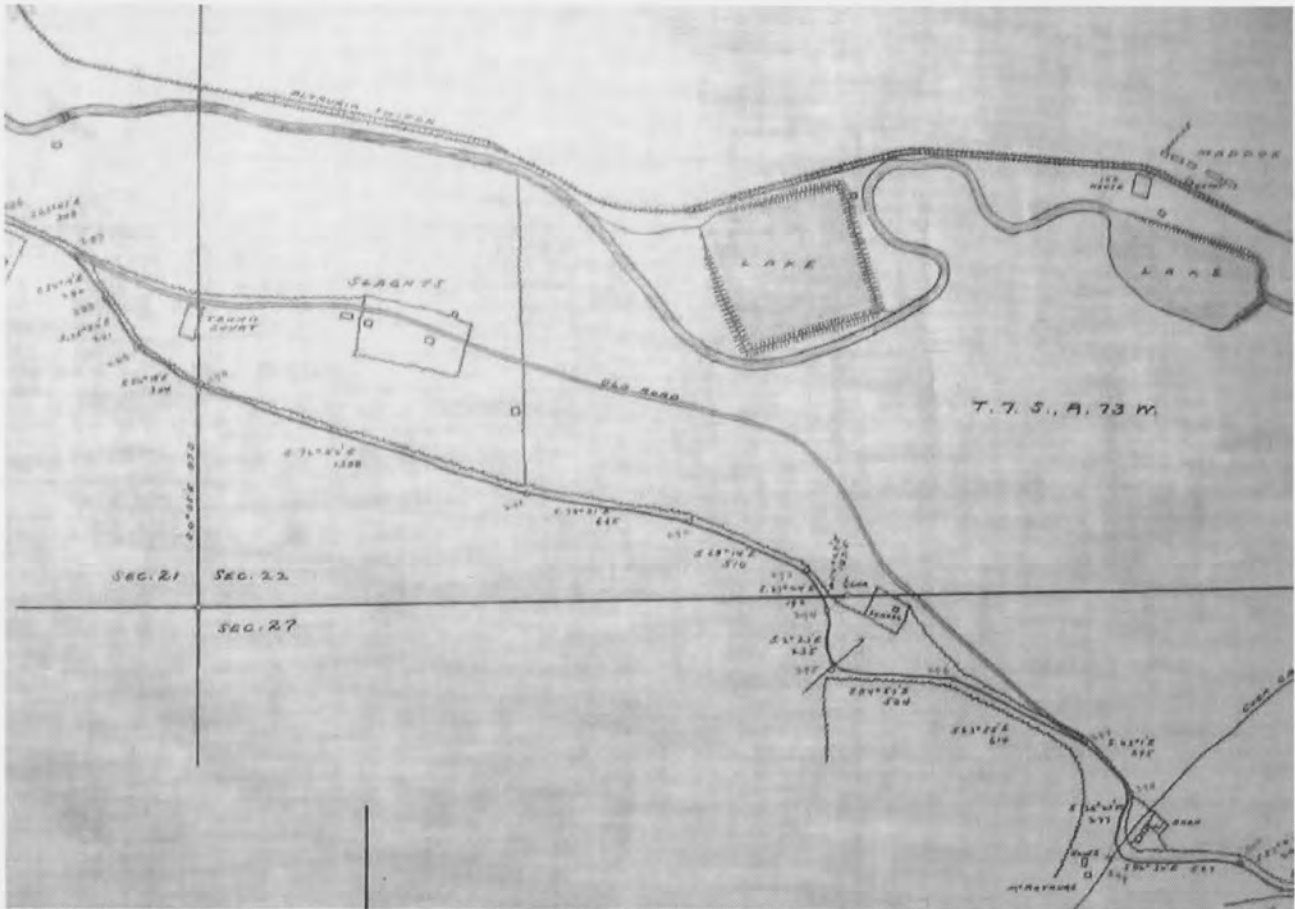
H007. Shawnee Town Site and Depot, 1914 Road Survey (Park County Historical Society, digitized by Brian Heber)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_ Page 44

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado



H008. Slaghts Town Site, Shawnee Schoolhouse, Maddox Ice House, 1914 Road Survey (Park County Historical Society, digitized by Brian Heber)



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number \_\_\_ Page 45Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

## List of Property Owners

Listed in Street Address Order

Property Address	Owner Name	State ID Number
Shawnee Cemetery Frontage Rd. Shawnee, CO 80475	PARK COUNTY	5PA366
56016 Frontage Rd. P. O. Box 165 Shawnee, CO 80475	DAVID and LAURA REID	
56078 Frontage Rd., P. O. Box 160 Shawnee, CO 80475	MIA FOLEY	5PA1593
56084 Frontage Rd. P. O. Box 116 Shawnee, CO 80475	MICHAEL SZYGIELSKI and MICHELLE BARRY	5PA1592
56114 Frontage Rd. 1719 So. Pennsylvania St. Denver, CO 80210-3130	SHARON V. WARNER TRUST	5PA1590
55918 Hwy. 285 P. O. Box 134 Shawnee, CO 80475	VINCENT and CAROLYN TOLPO	5PA850
55956 Hwy. 285 P. O. Box 284 Wheat Ridge, CO 80034	55956 US HWY 285 TRUST	
56006 Hwy. 285 P. O. Box 133 Colwich, KS 67030	STEVE and BEVERLY FANESTIL	5PA3924
56034 Hwy. 285 P. O. Box 215 Shawnee, CO 80475	LEONA NELSON	5PA3918
56048/56052 Hwy. 285 P. O. Box 215 Shawnee, CO 80475	LEONA NELSON	5PA853
56064 Hwy. 285	RUTH LAMPING	

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_ Page 46

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

P. O. Box 251  
Shawnee, CO 80475

56126 Hwy. 285  
P. O. Box 193  
Shawnee, CO 80475

BARBARA and LAWRENCE BEHL

5PA1589

56164 Hwy. 285  
P. O. Box 128  
Shawnee, CO 80475

PATTY LOU and GARY RAY GOODSON

5PA3915

56178 Hwy. 285  
2333 So. Harlan Ct.  
Lakewood, CO 80227

JEANNE RISCHÉ

5PA1588

56216 Hwy. 285  
and MIJA VAN VLEET  
P. O. Box 315  
Bailey, CO 80421

FREDA MASON, ERIC MASON

5PA1587

56242 Hwy. 285  
3753 McKinley St., N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20015-2509

KAREN and MICHAEL DAVIDSON

5PA1586

56278 Hwy 285  
56278 Hwy. 285  
Shawnee, CO 80475

SUSAN and WAYNE LAMBERT

5PA1585

31 W. Shawnee Rd.  
11072 Rosalie Dr.  
Northglenn, CO 80233-3558

BETTY E. RUSSELL

5PA3922

36 W. Shawnee Rd.  
P. O. Box 268  
Shawnee, CO 80475

DAVID E. WINNER

5PA3923

54 Waterworks Rd.  
645 So. Forest St.  
Denver, CO 80246

RONALD and ROWENA GRAHAM

5PA1591

100 Waterworks Rd.  
P. O. Box 138  
Shawnee, CO 80475

FLOYD and EMMA JONES

128 Waterworks Rd.  
13138 Whisper Canyon Rd.

TIMOTHY and SANDRA WALKER

5PA3916

Castle Rock, CO 80108

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_ Page 47

Shawnee, Park County, Colorado

---

136 Waterworks Rd.                      TIMOTHY and SANDRA WALKER                      5PA3917  
13138 Whisper Canyon Rd.  
Castle Rock, CO 80108

148 Waterworks Rd.                      CAROLYN L. PEARSON TRUST                      5PA3920  
2839 So. Winona Ct.  
Denver, CO 80236

152 Waterworks Rd.                      DALE and BARBARA COCHRAN                      5PA3921  
2590 Cody Court  
Lakewood, CO 80215

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Shawnee  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Park

DATE RECEIVED: 5/24/10                      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/23/10  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/08/10                      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/08/10  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000434

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    7-8-10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



DEER  
CROSSING  
STOP - LOOK - LISTEN

Shawnee Historic District

56078 Frontage Rd

5PA1593

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bonds74-R01-011

0-bonds74



Shawnee Historic District  
56084 Frontage Rd.

SPA1592

Park County  
Colorado

RPI      bond574-R01-003

0-bond574

2





Shawnee Historic District  
56084 Frontage Rd.  
SPA 1592

Park County  
Colorado

RPI Bond574-R01-013

0-bond574

3



Shawnee Historic District

56114 Frontage Rd.

SPA 1590

Park County

Colorado

4

RPI bond574-R01-012

0-bond574



Shawnee Historic District

55918 Hwy 285

SPA 850

Park County  
Colorado

RPI

bonds74-R01-001

0-bonds74

5



Shawnee Historic District

56006 Hwy 285

SPA 3924

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bonds74-R01-030

O-bonds74

6





NO ALCOHOL  
OR DRUGS

Shawnee Historic District  
56034 Hwy 285

SPA 3918

Park County  
Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-010

0-bond574

7



SHAWNEE TRADING POST

CASH ON HAND

CLOSED

OPEN

Shawnee Historic District

56048 Hwy 285

SPA 853

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-002

0-bond574

8



Shawnee Historic District

56048 Hwy 285

SPA 853

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-024

0-bond574

9



Shawnee Historic District

56126 Hwy 285

SPA 1589

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bonds74-R01-033

0-bonds74

10





Shawnee Historic District  
56126 Hwy 285

SPA 1589

Park County  
Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-015

0-bond574

11



12

Shawnee Historic District

56164 Hwy 285

SPA 3915

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bonds74-R01-014

O-bonds74



Shawnee Historic District

13

56178 Hwy 285

5PA 1588

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-031

0-bond574



50178

Shawnee Historic District

14

56178 Hwy 285

SPA 1588

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-007

O-bond574





Shawnee Historic District

56216 Hwy 285

SPA 1587

Park County  
Colorado

RPI      bond574-R01-006

0-bond574

15



Shawnee Historic District

56216 Hwy 295

SPA1587

Park County  
Colorado

RPI bond574-R01-017

0-bond574

16



Shawnee Historic District

17

56242 Hwy 285

SPA 1586

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bonds74-R01-026

0-bonds74



Shawnee Historic District

56242 Hwy 285

SPA 1586

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-005

0-bond574

18





Shawnee Historic District

19

56278 Hwy 285

5PA1585

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-004

0-bond574



Shawnee Historic District

20

56278 Hwy 285

SPA 1585

Park County  
Colorado

RPI bond574-R01-019

O-bond574



Shawnee Historic District  
56278 Hwy 285  
SPA 1585  
Park County  
Colorado

21

RPI bond574-R01-018

0-bond574



Shawnee Historic District

56278 Hwy 285 =

SPA1585

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-027

O-bond574

22





Shawnee Historic District  
56278 Hwy 285  
SPA 1585  
Park County  
Colorado

RPI bond574-R01-028

0-bond574

23



Shawnee Historic District  
31 West Shawnee Rd  
5PA 3922  
Park County  
Colorado

24

RPI bond574-R01-025

O-bond574



Shawnee Historic District  
36 West Shawnee Rd  
5PA 3923  
Park County  
Colorado

RPI bond574-R01-022

0-bond574

25



Shawnee Historic District

26

54 Waterworks Rd

SPA 1591

RPI

O-bond574

Park County

bond574-R01-009

Colorado





Shawnee Historic District  
54 Waterworks Rd

SPA 1591

Park County  
Colorado

RPI bond574-R01-008

0-bond574

27



Shawnee Historic District  
128 Waterworks Rd  
5PA 3916  
Park County  
Colorado

28

RPI bond574-R01-016

0-bond574



Shawnee Historic District  
128 Waterworks Rd  
SPA3916  
Park County  
Colorado

29

RPI bonds574-R01-029

O-bonds574



Shawnee Historic District

134 Waterworks Rd

SPA 3917

Park County

Colorado

30

MIKE'S <NO. 2 > 882 BH

4491 081 N N N N-12 AC+82 ACS-82 ACV-03

Color Crystal Archive  
Paper





Shawnee Historic District

31

136 Waterworks Rd

SPA 3917

Park County

Colorado

MIKE'S <NID - 11 > 006.BH  
4401 001 N N N-1-17 AC+02 W's-02 NOV-03



Shawnee Historic District

32

148 Waterworks Rd

5PA3920

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-032

0-bond574



Shawnee Historic District

33

152 Waterworks Rd

SPA 3921

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-021

0-bond574



Shawnee Historic District

34

152 Waterworks Rd.

SPA 3921

Park County

Colorado

RPI

bond574-R01-020

0-bond574





Shawnee Historic District

35

Frontage Rd.

5PA366

Park County

Colorado

Wolf, A1362, 05/13/10

6590176, Shawnee 00035\_0001

WILLIAM HENRY PRICE

1864—1949

DORA E. PRICE

1884—1951

BELoved MOTHER

JAMES PRICE

FEB. 4, 1866

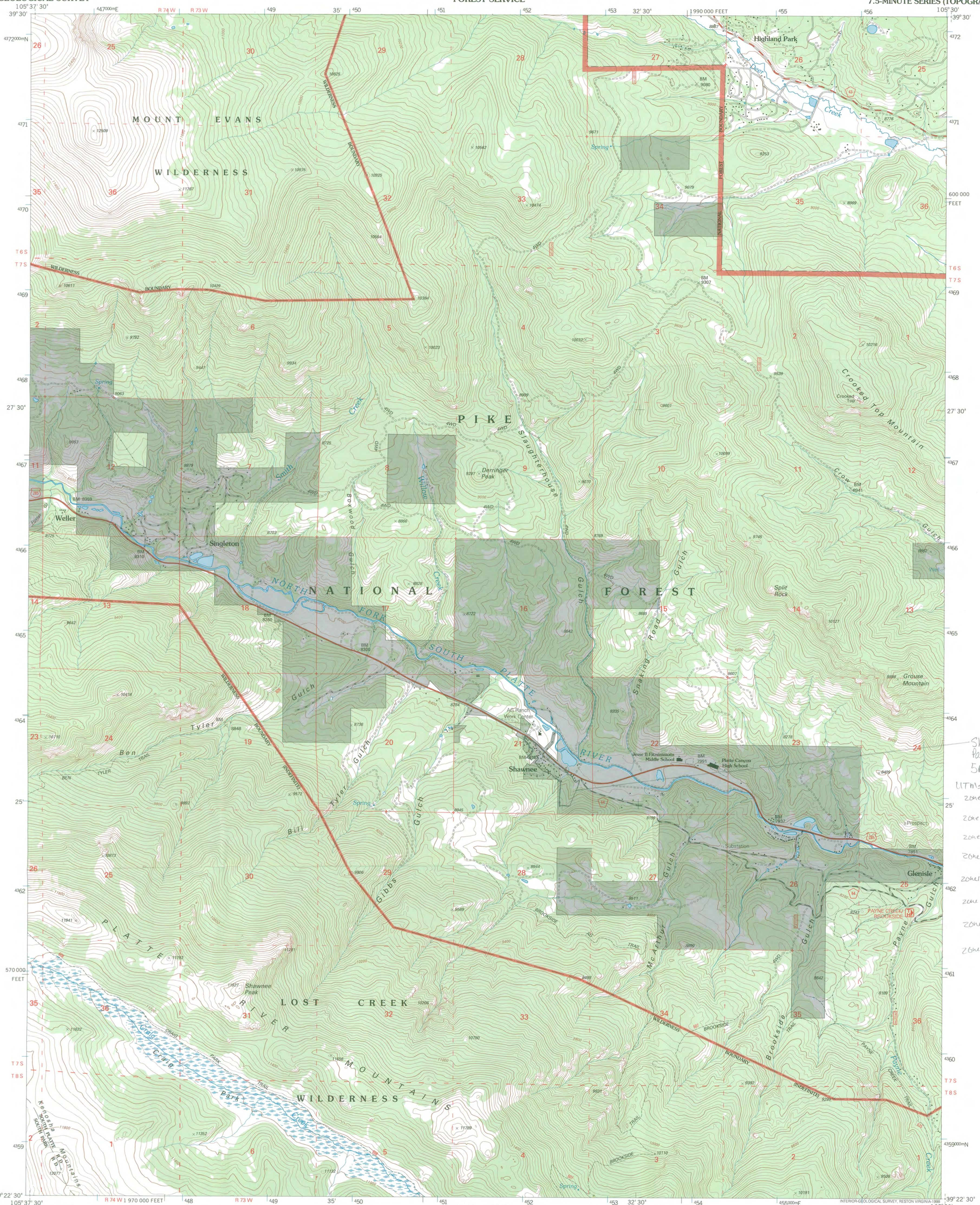
JAN. 30, 1931

Shawnee Historic District  
Frontage Rd.  
5 PA366  
Park County  
Colorado

Wolff, A1362, 05/13/10

0590176, Shawnee 00036\_0002

36



Shawnee Historic District  
Park County  
SPA. 41177

UTMs:  
Zone 13; 452050E  
4363785N  
Zone 13; 452300E  
4363520N  
Zone 13; 452679E  
4363220N  
Zone 13; 452547E  
4362919N  
Zone 13; 452440E  
4362919N  
Zone 13; 452444E  
4363207N  
Zone 13; 452667E  
4363483N  
Zone 13; 452833E  
4363696N  
(NAD27)

MAPSCO  
800 LINCOLN  
DENVER, CO 80203  
303-330-2373

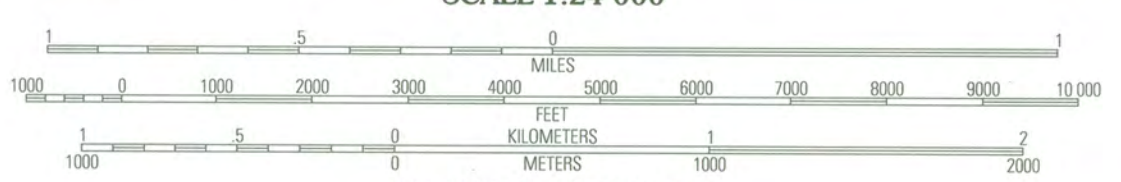
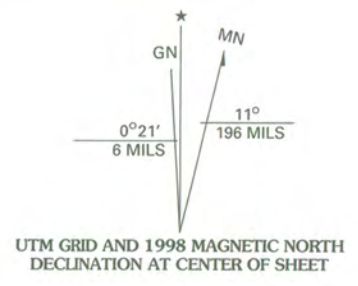


Produced by the U.S. Geological Survey  
Revised by the U.S. Forest Service

Areas outside the National Forest System lands may not have been revised  
Topography compiled 1983. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1988  
Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1996. Partial  
field check by U.S. Forest Service 1994

North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 10 000-foot ticks:  
Colorado coordinate system, central zone (Lambert conformal conic)  
Blue 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator ticks, zone 13  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks  
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute  
intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software

Non-National Forest System lands within the National Forest  
Inholdings may exist in other National or State reservations  
This map is not a legal land line or ownership document. Public lands are  
subject to change and leasing, and may have access restrictions; check  
with local offices. Obtain permission before entering private lands



CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
TO CONVERT FEET TO METERS MULTIPLY BY 0.3048



1	2	3	1 Mount Evans
			2 Harris Park
			3 Meridian Hill
			4 Mount Logan
			5 Bailey
			6 Observatory Rock
			7 Topaz Mountain
			8 Windy Peak

HIGHWAYS AND ROADS	
Interstate	1
U. S.	2
State	3
County	4
National Forest, suitable for passenger cars	5
National Forest, suitable for high clearance vehicles	6
National Forest Trail	384
Primary highway	1
Secondary highway	2
Light-duty road	3
Composition:	
Unspecified	1
Paved	2
Gravel	3
Dirt	4
Unimproved; 4 wheel drive	4WD
Trail	1
Gate; Barrier	1

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SHAWNEE, CO  
1994  
NIMA 4862 I NE - SERIES V877



**Linda Balough**  
**Director**  
719.836.4298  
[lbalough@parkco.us](mailto:lbalough@parkco.us)

**Park County**  
**Office of Historic Preservation**  
PO Box 1373  
Fairplay CO 80440



April 22, 2010

Stephen Turner  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
1560 Broadway, Suite 400  
Denver, CO 80202

Re: National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Shawnee Historic District,  
Shawnee, Colorado

Dear Mr. Turner:

Please find enclosed the National Register Nomination Review Form signed by the Chair of the Park County Board of County Commissioners and the Chair of the Park County Historic Preservation Advisory Commission.

It with great pleasure that Park County heartily recommends that the nomination meets required criteria for listing on the National Register under Criterion A. Shawnee contributed strongly to the importance of transportation to the development of Colorado, it was a prominent destination for recreation and entertainment during the railroad era, and it is an example of community planning and development of a recreational and summer home community.

Located overlooking both the South Platte River and Highway 285, Shawnee remains an excellent representation of Park County's history. We are also very proud of the way the residents of Shawnee have embraced the nomination of their community as a Park County Historic District and now, as a candidate for becoming Park County's first National Historic District.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Balough". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda Balough



HISTORY *Colorado*



May 17, 2010

Carol D. Shull  
Keeper of the National Register  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye "I" Street, N.W. 8<sup>th</sup> Floor (MS 2280)  
Washington, D.C. 20005-5905

Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to submit for your review the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Shawnee Historic District, Park County, Colorado (5PA.4177).

The State Review Board reviewed the nomination at its meeting on May 7, 2010. The board voted unanimously to recommend to the State Historic Preservation Officer that the property met the criteria for listing in the National Register.

We look forward to the formal listing of this property. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Heather L. Bailey  
National & State Register Historian  
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
History Colorado  
(303) 866-4683  
(303) 866-2041 (fax)  
heather.bailey@chs.state.co.us

Enclosures  
Registration forms  
USGS map  
Photographs  
Support Letter