

RECEIVED 2280
JAN 23 2008
by NRHP
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RECEIVED 2280 MB No. 10024-0018
JAN - 8 2008
by FPO
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

124

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 instruction 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 Shadow Mountain Trail
other names/site number Echo Mountain Trail; Lookout Mountain Trail; Pine Ridge Trail; 5GA.3376

2. Location

street & number Rocky Mountain National Park (ROMO) [N/A] not for publication
city or town Grand Lake [X] vicinity
state Colorado code CO county Grand code 049 zip code 80447

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 [] 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.)
Joe Wallis Acting F.P.O. JAN 22 2008
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria.
([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Mark Wolfe Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 12/26/07
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society
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
[] other, explain [] See continuation sheet.
Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 3.5.08

Shadow Mountain Trail
Name of Property

Grand 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

0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

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

Rocky Mountain National Park
Historic Park Landscapes In National and State Parks

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ outdoor
recreation
LANDSCAPE/ park
TRANSPORTATION/ pedestrian-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ outdoor
recreation
LANDSCAPE/ park
TRANSPORTATION/ pedestrian-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY
AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
OTHER: Rustic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation
walls
roof
other EARTH
WOOD
STONE

Narrative Description

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

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)

ENTERTAINMENT/ RECREATION
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Periods of Significance
1930-1945

Significant Dates
1930

Significant Person(s)
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
National Park Service

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:
Rocky Mountain National Park
Colorado Historical Society

Shadow Mountain Trail
Name of Property

Grand County/ Colorado
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 8

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

- 1. 13 428914 4452967 (NAD27)
Zone Easting Northing
- 2. 13 429380 4452185
Zone Easting Northing
- 3. 13 429311 4453423
Zone Easting Northing
- 4. 13 429594 4453110
Zone Easting Northing

The UTM points were derived by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation 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 Sierra Standish, contract position (RMNP contact- Cheri Yost)
 organization Rocky Mountain National Park date 10 November 2006
 street & number 1000 Highway 36 telephone (970) 586-1394
 city or town Estes Park state Colorado zip code 80517

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 Rocky Mountain National Park, U.S. Department of the Interior
 street & number 1000 Highway 36 telephone (970) 586-1394
 city or town Estes Park state Colorado zip code 80517

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 average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Shadow Mountain Trail Grand County/ Colorado
Rocky Mountain National Park MPS
Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPS

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

Location: Shadow Mountain Trail is on the west side of Rocky Mountain National Park. Trail begins midway along the eastern side of Shadow Mountain Lake. It can be accessed by using the Continental Divide Trail from the north or the south. The Shadow Mountain Trail climbs northeastward up the side of Shadow Mountain.

Setting: The trail is located in the thick lodge pole pine forest that covers the western side of Shadow Mountain.

Built: 1930

Materials: Earth, local rock, log/wood.

Destination: Shadow Mountain Lookout, near the summit of the mountain

Length of main trail to lookout: 3.3 miles. Trail width: Ranging from 2 to 4 feet

Significant built features: Shadow Mountain Lookout (building 0023, 5GA.300; National Register listed on August 2, 1978; NRIS78000279), dry laid rock walls, log and rock water bars and drains, switchbacks, and Shadow Mountain Reservoir

Significant natural features: Shadow Mountain and Grand Lake.

Trail tour:

The total Shadow Mountain Trail—4.8 miles—begins at the southeast corner of Grand Lake, at an elevation of 8,400 feet. The trailhead is situated a stone's throw from the water, in a neighborhood of condominiums. The trail begins by crossing through national forest property before reaching national park land. The first 1.5 miles constitute a segment of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail.

The Shadow Mountain Trail rises about 1,500 feet with flat or gradual grade. It therefore requires relatively few structures to support the tread. The trail does incorporate a few stonewalls, switchbacks, and erosion and drainage features made of log and stone. The initial 1.5-mile section follows the eastern shore of Shadow Mountain Lake, and thus remains fairly flat.

The trail's first several hundred feet appear to be an old road, but it soon narrows into an approximately 3.5-foot wide trail. After approximately one half of a mile, the pathway leaves Arapaho National Forest and enters into Rocky Mountain National Park. This route is thick with medium-sized lodgepole pines, a forest that often consists of closely aged-trees.

At the 1.5-mile mark, the Continental Divide Trail continues south while the Shadow Mountain Trail veers southeast up the mountain. The next 3.3 miles pass through heavy timber, turning northeast and southeast in a few wide, swooping zigzags. Long distance views are blocked by lodgepole pines. Near the top, the switchbacks get a little tighter, but the grade remains low. When the trail approaches the summit, it turns sharply to the west, heading toward the fire lookout tower. The tower is the end of the trail and is near but not on top of the mountain's summit.

The Shadow Mountain Fire Lookout is a 3-story, rustic stone and wood tower that has been described as a "truncated windmill." Its 360-degree view surveys Grand Lake, Middle Park and the national park.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Shadow Mountain Trail Grand County/ Colorado
Rocky Mountain National Park MPS
Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPSSection number 7 Page 2 **Trail construction and alterations:**

In 1924 Ranger Fred McLaren and two companions scouted the mountain for a good fire lookout spot. The trail that they blazed—leaving the south shore of Grand Lake and heading southeast up the mountain—can be considered the first National Park Service route up the peak. This steep, direct route shares no alignment with the modern trail and is not consistent with Naturalistic Design.

In 1930, a trail was constructed from the Pole Creek Ranger Station (located about a mile east of the present Shadow Mountain Dam) to the site of the future lookout. Circumstances suggest that the trail as it climbs up the mountain may date to this 1930 construction: the 1930 trailhead shifted to the southwest and the modern trail also approaches the lookout by wrapping around to the southwest. The fire lookout itself was constructed, and then reconstructed, by June of 1933.

In 1945, the lower part of the trail was re-built to skirt a new lake. Shadow Mountain Reservoir would wash the western flanks of the mountain by 1946. In order to guarantee access from Grand Lake to the top of the mountain, the Bureau of Reclamation and the National Park Service signed plans in 1945 to create a new trail that would stay above the planned shoreline.

Shadow Mountain Trail integrity:

The trail retains a high degree of integrity. The upper section of the trail on Shadow Mountain (the segment being nominated) has changed little since the 1930 realignment; the lower portion (outside the nomination boundaries) follows the same route established in 1945 after the building of the Shadow Lake Dam. Park trail crews have replaced ephemeral features such log steps and log checks using lodgepole pines gathered on site.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Shadow Mountain Trail Grand County/ Colorado
Rocky Mountain National Park MPS
Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPS

Section number 8 Page 3

SIGNIFICANCE

The Shadow Mountain Trail is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, meeting the registration requirements set forth in the *Rocky Mountain National Park Multiple Property Listing*. The trail is eligible in the area of *Landscape Architecture*; the trail design reflects National Park Service (NPS) Naturalistic Design of the 1920s through the 1940s.

The Shadow Mountain Trail demonstrates the national trends described in Linda Flint McClelland's *Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks Multiple Property Listing*. In this second context, the trail is eligible under Criterion A in the area of *Entertainment/Recreation* for its connection to the twentieth-century movement to develop national parks for public enjoyment. The trail is also eligible under Criterion C in the area of *Landscape Architecture* for a design that reflects NPS Naturalistic Design of the 1920s through the 1940s. The period of significance begins in 1930 with the trail's construction and ends in 1945 with the reconstruction of the trail's lower portion.

Historical Background

Shadow Mountain—known as Pine Ridge (*aneXu haw a*) in Arapaho—has probably functioned as a lookout since prehistory. Its 360-degree view surveys Grand Lake, Middle Park and the national park. The mountain's modern identity originated with a 1924 reconnoiter trip by Ranger Fred McLaren. Along with two companions, he roamed the mountain in search of a good fire lookout spot. They blazed a trail from the south shore of Grand Lake up the southeast flank of the mountain. This steep, direct route can be considered the first National Park Service route up the mountain, but shares no alignment with the modern trail.

Despite McLaren's efforts, his trail was deemed unsuitable for general use. In 1930, the park built a longer and more gradual route. Not only did the new trail conform to Naturalistic Design—easing the travel experience of park visitors—but it would also serve the future fire lookout. Historic maps indicate that today's trail dates to this 1930 construction.

In 1931, the park installed a wood fire tower "in the shape of a truncated windmill." The following year, the park had more funding, and hired Elmer Wright of Estes Park to build a more permanent tower. Also called a "truncated windmill," the newer tower incorporated log and stonework. The lookout was used for firewatching until the late 1960s.

The 1930 trail proved to be a sustainable pathway for tourists. The *Grand Lake Pioneer* plugged it in 1941, advertising the Shadow Mountain Trail as a casual yet rewarding day trip for tourists:

Although Grand Lake is surrounded by more hikeable scenic marvels than any person could hike to in a summer's time, one trip—up Shadow Mountain—should not escape the vacationer, or anyone.

The walk, or horseback ride, is not difficult or long.... If one is susceptible to ghosts and such, it might be wise not to travel thru the forests at night. All sorts of peculiar rocks and trees, along with creaky gates, are likely to give even a stalwart person the jitters.

Anyhow, it is best to take the trip in daytime. You can see farther. The trail, from the bottom of the mountain's south slope, is easy, well-kept, and well-marked. Like all the

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Shadow Mountain Trail Grand County/ Colorado

Section number 8 Page 4

Rocky Mountain National Park MPS

Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPS

trails around Grand Lake, it offers nature enthusiasts a wonderful opportunity to study trees, flowers, birds, rocks.

Reaching the top is a thrill. The view is magnificent, much greater than one would expect. From the top of the Fire Lookout, maintained by the Park Service, one can see a large part of the park and many miles of the west where the Park isn't. The ranger at the Lookout has a powerful pair of field glasses just for the purpose of helping hikers. Don't miss the Shadow Mountain trip. It's worthwhile. It is a good thing to get out of the valley now and then—gives a new idea of what is aroundabout.¹

Although rangers no longer staff the tower, the site still provides an excellent viewpoint, and continues to draw park visitors. The trail itself conforms admirably to NPS Naturalistic Design. As it weaves through the thick forest, the trail gradually ascends by following the contours of the mountain. Minimal trail structures are used.

¹ "Where Fires Are Spotted—See Rockies Anew with Hike to Shadow Mountain," *Grand Lake Pioneer*, July 26, 1941.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Shadow Mountain Grand County/ Colorado
Rocky Mountain National Park MPS
Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPSSection number 9 Page 5**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Buchholtz, C.W. *Rocky Mountain National Park: A History*. Niwot, CO: University Press of Colorado, 1983.

Clatworthy, Fred Payne. *Road and Trail Map of Estes Park and Vicinity, Colorado*. Estes Park, CO, 1915.

Estes Park, Colorado, and Surrounding Region. Burlington Route, 1910.

Grand Lake Pioneer, July 26, 1941.

McClelland, Linda Flint. *Building the National Parks: Historic Landscape Design and Construction*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998.

McClelland, Linda Flint. "Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks," National Register of Historic Places multiple property documentation form, August 8, 1995.

McWilliams, Carl and Karren McWilliams. "Multiple Resource Nomination for Rocky Mountain National Park," National Register of Historic Places multiple property document, August 1985, with revisions by Gregory Kendrick, February 1987. Sierra Standish, "Rocky Mountain National Park MPS (Additional documentation- Trails)," September 27, 2004.

"Motorists Guide, Rocky Mountain National Park, 1931," NPS brochure.

Musselman, Lloyd K. *Rocky Mountain National Park Administrative History, 1915-1965*. Washington, D.C.: Office of History and Historic Architecture, Eastern Service Center, July 1971.

Ramaley, William C. *Trails and Trailbuilders of the Rocky Mountain National Park*. Unpublished manuscript, 1970s. Estes Park, CO, RMNP library.

"Rocky Mountain National Park," NPS brochure, 1934.

"Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado," United States Department of the Interior, 1931.

Superintendent's Annual Reports. RMNP library.

Superintendent's Monthly Reports. RMNP library.

Topographic Map of Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado. USGS, 1947.

Toll, Roger. *Mountaineering in the Rocky Mountain National Park*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1919.

"Trail and Telephone Line, Shadow Mountain Area, Rocky Mountain National Park," trail design, 1945.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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

Shadow Mountain Trail Grand County/ Colorado
Rocky Mountain National Park MPS
Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPS

Section number 10 Page 6

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The trail is located entirely within Rocky Mountain National Park. Beginning midway along the eastern shore of Shadow Mountain Reservoir, the trail moves in broad zig zags up the western flank of Shadow Mountain. The boundary of this nomination extends a distance of 10 feet on either side from the centerline of the trail. The trail route is shown on the USGS topographic quadrangle map which follows.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes the resource and associated features such as (but not limited to) rock walls, and switchbacks. Though landscape features are important to the experience of the visitor traversing the trail and may contribute to the overall integrity of the trail, they are not included in this nomination.

UTM REFERENCES (cont.)

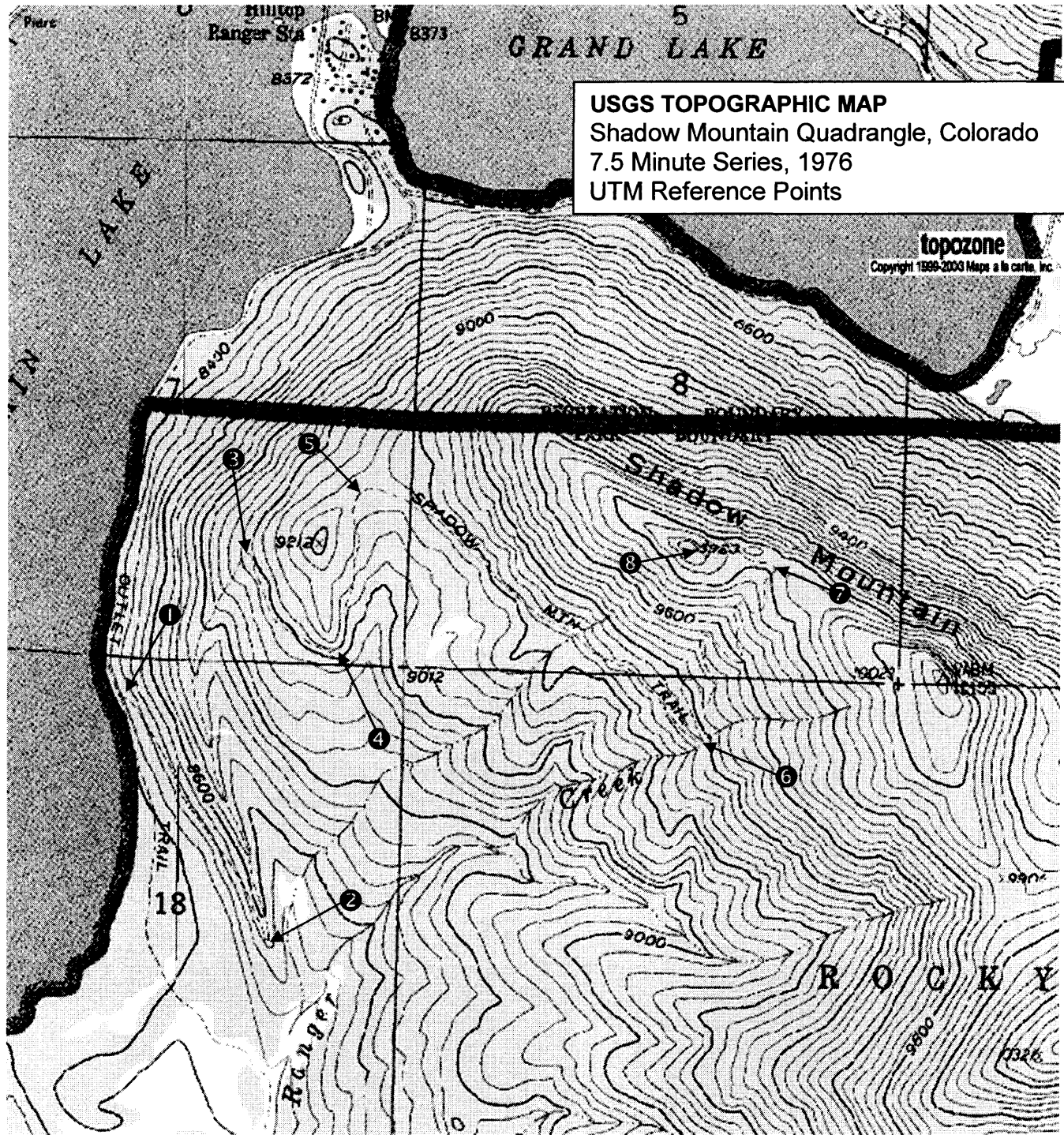
	Zone	Easting	Northing	(NAD27)
5.	13	429697	4453635	
6.	13	430762	4452821	
7.	13	431002	4453375	
8.	13	430744	4453437	

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Shadow Mountain Trail Grand County/ Colorado
Rocky Mountain National Park MPS
Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPS

Section number 10 Page 7



**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Shadow Mountain Trail Grand County/ Colorado
Rocky Mountain National Park MPS
Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks MPSSection number ___ Page 8**PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-5:

Name of Property: Shadow Mountain Trail
Location: Grand County/ Colorado
Photographer: Sierra Standish
Date of Photographs: October 2003
Negatives and Digital Files: Rocky Mountain National Park and TIF digital files
at the National Register in Washington, DC

<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Photographic Information</u>
1	Trail gradually ascends side of mountain, winding through forest of lodgepole pines.
2	Trail moving uphill through forest. Because the ascent is so gradual, minimal trail features are needed.
3	Switchback.
4	Fire lookout tower on summit of mountain.
5	View from the summit, looking northwest toward Kawuneeche Valley and Never Summer Mountain Range.