

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 determinations 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 any 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.

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1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Entrance Station  
other names/site number Entrance Checking Station; Checking Station

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number Devils Tower National Monument not for publication   
city or town Devils Tower vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
state Wyoming code WY county Crook code 011 zip code 82714-0010

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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] 6-26-2000  
Signature of Federal Preservation Officer Date

National Park Service  
Federal agency

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

[Signature] 6/12/00  
Signature of commenting official Date

Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office  
State agency

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- 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):

*James P. ... 7/25/2002*

Signature of Keeper      Date of Action

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

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>  1  </u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>  1  </u>	<u>      </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register   0  

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

Devils Tower National Monument Multiple Property Submission

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Government Sub: government office  
Domestic Sub: single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Government Sub: government office

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: NPS Rustic

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation sandstone

roof wood shingles

walls log

other stone

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) SEE CONTINUATION PAGES)

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)

- X 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.
X 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.) N/A

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a 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.

Areas of Significance Architecture; Social History; Politics/Government

Period of Significance 1941-1950

Significant Dates 1941

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder W. G. Carnes; Howard W. Baker; Civilian Conservation Corps

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) (SEE CONTINUATION PAGES, ITEM E)

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 #

Primary Location of Additional Data

\_\_\_ State Historic Preservation Office
\_\_\_ Other State agency
\_x Federal agency

\_\_\_ Local Govt.
\_\_\_ University
\_\_\_ Other

Name of repository: Devils Tower National Monument

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM Reference (SEE CONTINUATION PAGE)

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) (SEE CONTINUATION PAGE)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) (SEE CONTINUATION PAGE)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathy McKoy, Historian, Intermountain Region, Denver Support Office
organization National Park Service date Jan. 11, 1996; revised April 15, 2000
street & number 12795 W. Alameda Parkway telephone (303) 969-2878
city or town Lakewood state CO zip code 80228

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets (INCLUDED)

Maps INCLUDED:

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
Entrance Station site map (shows setting after 1999 changes).

Photographs INCLUDED:

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items: Photoxeroxes of one historic photograph; floor plan.

Property Owner

name Devils Tower National Monument
street & number P. O. Box 10 telephone 307-467-5283
city or town Devils Tower state WY zip code 82714-0010

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Entrance Station  
Crook County, WY  
Devils Tower National Monument  
Multiple Property Submission

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**ITEM 7 DESCRIPTION**

Setting and Location

Devils Tower National Monument is located in the Belle Fourche River Valley of the Black Hills of northeastern Wyoming. Devils Tower is a unique and dramatic monolith of igneous rock (phonolite porphyry) that rises 867 feet from its base, visually dominating the surrounding countryside. The entrance station is located just inside the monument boundary on State Highway 110, approximately one-half mile west of State Highway 24. The Belle Fourche River is about one-quarter mile west of the building. A commanding view of Devils Tower is afforded visitors from the entrance station.

The building's immediate setting includes bur oak, green ash and cottonwood trees and a small area of bluegrass lawn. Beyond the lawn area are silver sage, smooth brome and leafy spurge. A graveled service drive and parking spaces are located about 25 feet west of the building. A small, modern (1981) fee collection kiosk is located about 25 feet south of the entrance station on an island in the entry road. The kiosk is log-faced and somewhat compatible with the entrance station. (It replaced an earlier fee station, constructed in 1957.) While the undeveloped character of the setting inside the monument boundary has changed little since the historic period, the area adjacent to and just east of the boundary has become heavily developed commercially. Developments include several general stores, a KOA campground and cafe, and a post office.

In 1999 a number of changes to the entrance station's immediate setting occurred, all relatively minor and confined to the rear (northwest and north) of the building. To provide accessibility, a four-foot wide concrete path was constructed from the parking area to the entrance station's back door. Installation of the access ramp to this door required removal of original flagstone pavers and replacement with a concrete landing. Minor modifications were also made to the original door and its frame to accommodate the changes. Also that year, in connection with interior rehabilitation (described later), a 500-gallon liquid propane tank was installed approximately 80 feet northwest of the entrance station, north of the graveled parking area. A solid wood fence screens the tank. A small air conditioner unit was located behind the entrance station at its northwest corner. Because all these changes are located to the rear of the building, the impact to the historic setting is minimal, particularly when viewed while approaching or entering the monument. (See map detail of the entrance station site plan, appended as additional documentation.)

Physical Description

The entrance station is a small rectangular one-story log building set on a sandstone foundation. The exterior walls are reverse saddle notched logs with "chopper cut" ends, chinked with full sapling poles, and painted brown. The gable roof is covered with wood shingles; it includes a central stone chimney and metal vent pipe. The roof has overhanging eaves with exposed purlins and rafters. There are two louvered vents, one located under each gable end.

An 8 x 14-foot entrance porch over a flagstone entry is located on the southeast corner of the building. A 6-foot wide flagstone walk remains between the entry and the edge of the entrance road. The building has one Z-braced front door with 2-light window and one boarded over front door with fixed 6-light window; one Z-braced rear

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door with 4-light window; one 4-light fixed casement and one double 4-light casement on the north elevation; two sets of 8-light triple windows on east and south elevation; and one double 8-light window on the west elevation. All door and window sashes are wood. A metal-capped concrete cistern is located in the back yard. The building is in good condition but is in need of painting or staining.

As late as 1998, the interior retained some original features and its original floor plan. The layout consisted of a bathroom, bedroom, and small living area that had a small kitchen with built-in wood cabinets. (Other original built-ins were bunk beds and a table, but these were removed at an unknown date.) Interior walls and ceilings were fiberboard with 3-inch fiberboard battens. Floors were varnished 1/2-inch hardwood in the living room and rolled linoleum in the bathroom. While the bathroom had an old sink, it also had a non-historic toilet and metal shower stall. The living/kitchen area floor was linoleum tile over fir. The bedroom and living/kitchen area each retained a historic metal ceiling light fixture, missing original globes. Exposed electrical metal conduit was added to the interior some time after construction.

By the 1990s, the interior of the entrance station was in very poor condition. While it retained some original historic features (mentioned above), a number of non-historic additions detracted from the original appearance, such as exposed electrical conduit on the walls and modern bath fixtures. More problematic was the very poor condition of the interior. There were numerous large cutout holes in the fiberboard walls and floors were heavily worn or damaged. In 1995 the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (WYSHPO) concurred with a Determination of Eligibility for the entrance station which evaluated the interior as noncontributing to the historic significance of the building. Plans were made to rehabilitate it.

Interior Modifications

With a serious shortage of workspace for its employees, the monument undertook extensive rehabilitation on the interior of the entrance station in 1999, thereby converting the interior space into two offices and bathroom.<sup>1</sup> The most important changes are described as follows. In the old living/kitchen area the counter, millwork base, backsplash, sink, cabinets, and linoleum were all removed. Throughout the interior, original interior wall and ceiling finishes were removed and replaced with insulated 1/2-inch gypsum board. All (4) interior doors and doorframes were replaced (the two historic exterior doors were retained). In the bathroom, the linoleum (and wooden subfloor), plumbing fixtures and metal shower stall were removed. The bathroom floor was refinished with sheet vinyl over plywood, a modern toilet and sink were installed, along with storage shelves. Shelves were also installed in a closet and in the old kitchen pantry. The original wood floors in the two living areas (old kitchen and bedroom) were retained and refinished. These two rooms now serve as office spaces, lighted by ceiling-mounted fluorescent fixtures. (The two original light fixtures for these rooms were retained and replaced but are non-working.) A few other modern light fixtures were also installed. The building's plumbing, sewage and electrical systems were replaced and modernized. Propane heating and electrical cooling systems were added, along with modern electrical and phone outlets.

<sup>1</sup> All work was done in compliance with Section 106 and was determined to have "no adverse effect" on the historic property by the WYSHPO.

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Exterior Modifications

One of the two front doors has been boarded up. Repairs were made to deteriorated sill logs and projecting corner log crowns in August 1990.

Integrity

The building retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting (except to the east), design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The flagstone walkway and entry stoop beneath the porch are contributing features of the building. Besides the addition of the parking spaces and picnic area, current plantings do not reflect what was depicted on original plans for the building. The larger site is not considered eligible as a designed landscape and is excluded from the boundary.

**ITEM 8 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Significance

The entrance station is significant under criterion C as an excellent architectural example of the rustic design philosophy that dominated National Park Service (NPS) construction projects during the Great Depression. It is also significant under criterion A for its association with the public works programs of the New Deal and with the early administration and development of the monument. The entrance station is significant under the areas of Architecture (as an example of NPS rustic architecture); under Social History (as an example of work executed by the Civilian Conservation Corps); and under the Government/Politics (as a facility which housed a government office in a national monument.) The period of significance dates from the building's final date of completion in 1941 to 1950, the end of the historic period as defined by the National Register of Historic Places.

The design of the entrance station is based on plans drawn up by the NPS Landscape Division in 1933 for the Caretaker's Cabin at Aspenglen Campground, Rocky Mountain National Park (NP-RM 3046A). That cabin has since been removed. In 1939, the NPS Branch of Plans and Design drew site plans for the HS-4 (NM-DT 2000A) and in 1941 additional plans were drawn to specify interior furnishings, so the building could double as a residence (NM-DT 2002B). The building was under construction as Job No. 118 with Emergency Relief Funds from 1939 to 1941. N. F. Joyner reported to the NPS Director, however, that it was occupied by June 1940 as it was "near enough to completion to be useable." The 1941 Job Completion Report indicates the cost for labor was \$3542.22 and for materials, \$987.72 (total \$4529.94). The date of final completion was July 21, 1941.

According to the Job Completion Report, the entrance station was constructed "for use of rangers engaged in collecting entrance fee and dispensing information to visitors." The building also was needed as a seasonal (summer) residence, thus was designed to accommodate occupancy. The report described that the building was equipped "with closet, pantry and bath... a cistern for collection of rain water, hand pump for elevation of this water to a tank in the attic, and complete plumbing in bath and kitchen sink; a cesspool some distance from the building; gasoline lamps for lighting; bunk beds and built-in kitchen cabinets and table make up the facilities installed." It added:

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A good job was secured at a cost not unreasonable when it is considered that we constantly were short of promised skilled labor. Monument personnel contributed much in the way of time to the prosecution of the job. Occupancy of the building have [sic] proven it to be satisfactory in all respects.

Time was also spent in fine grading and landscaping and planting around the building. Plantings consisted of native shrubs on the south side of the building and a number of cottonwoods on the northwest and northeast areas of the site. None are there today. It is also highly unlikely that lawn, which currently surrounds much of the building, was there historically as it would not have been in keeping with the NPS designers' landscape philosophy of the time.

**ITEM 9 BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Daugherty, John, "Devils Tower National Monument: A History of National Park Service Developments Through 1966." Unpublished manuscript, National Park Service, Intermountain Region, Denver, CO.

Mattison, Ray H. "Devils Tower National Monument, A History," unpublished manuscript, National Park Service, 1955.

Devils Tower National Monument archives:  
Job Completion Record, Job No.118 (park building files records); architectural blueprints; Custodian's monthly reports (Joyner to NPS Director for June 1940).

National Park Service, Intermountain Region, Denver Support Office: National Register and park building record files. Denver, CO.

**ITEM 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**UTMs**

The UTM's for the entrance station are Zone 13, E 523820; N 493720.

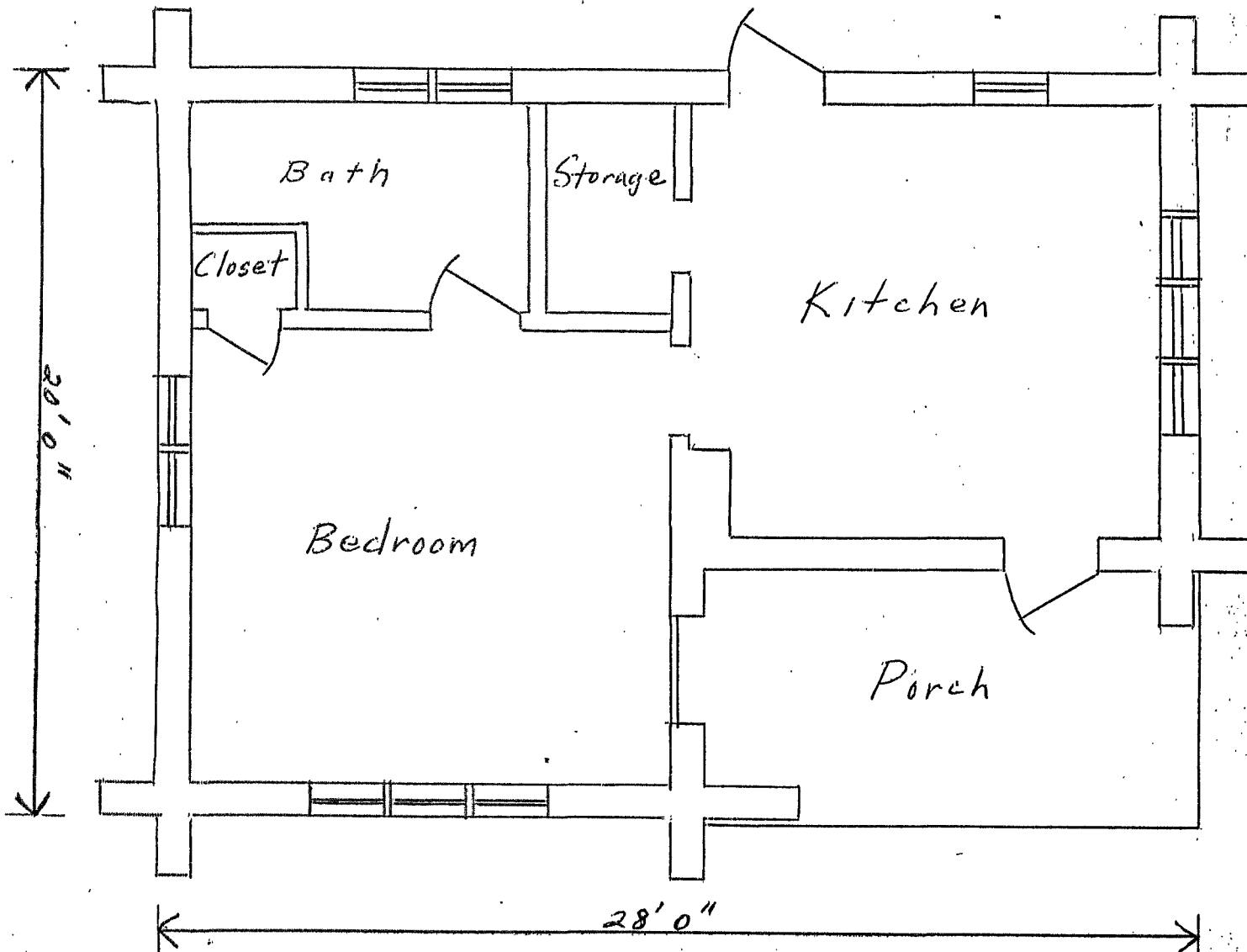
**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Beginning at a point approximately 10 feet southeast of the building on the north side of the entrance road, proceed north 30 feet, then proceed west 58 feet (behind the building). Then proceed 30 feet south to the north side of the entrance road; then following the north side of the entrance road proceed eastward for a distance of 58 feet to the point of origin.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

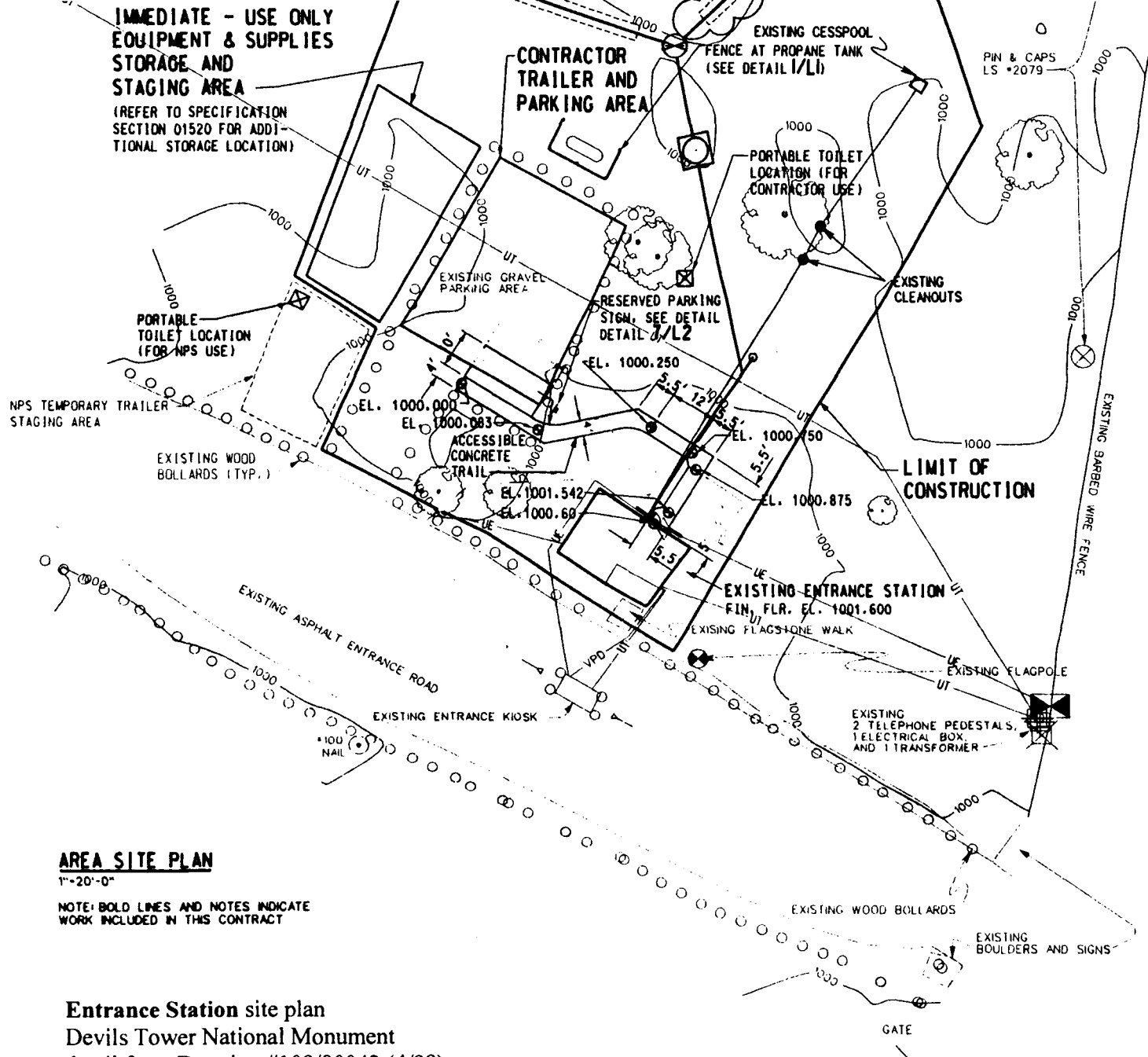
The boundary encompasses the entire building and 10 feet to each side of it, including the flagstone walkway. It excludes the entrance kiosk, which was added at a later date. The boundary also excludes the parking and small picnic area to the west of the building, which were not part of the original setting.





FLOOR PLAN  
BLDG NO. 4  
ENTRANCE CHECKING STATION  
Devils Tower National Monument

Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

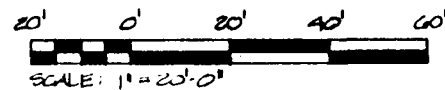


**AREA SITE PLAN**

1"=20'-0"

NOTE: BOLD LINES AND NOTES INDICATE WORK INCLUDED IN THIS CONTRACT

**Entrance Station site plan  
Devils Tower National Monument  
detail from Drawing #109/80042 (4/99)**



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**PHOTOGRAPHS**

- 1) Property: Entrance Station
- 2) Location: Devils Tower National Monument, Crook County, Wyoming
- 3) Photographer: Photos 1-7, Kathy McKoy; photos 8 & 9, Todd Suess
- 4) Date taken: Photos 1-7, July 1, 1992; photos 8 & 9, December 29, 1999
- 5) Location of negatives: Devils Tower National Monument

<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Direction of view</u>
1	Entrance Station (HS-4)	view to NW
2	"	view to NW
3	"	view to W
4	"	view to SW
5	"	view to SE
6	HS-4, altered door detail	
7	HS-4, door interior detail	
8	HS-4, old living/kitchen area (after rehabilitation)	
9	HS-4, bathroom (after rehabilitation)	

Historic photograph: photocopied and appended to nomination  
Entrance Station, 1939  
Devils Tower National Monument, Crook County, Wyoming  
Unknown photographer (negative: Devils Tower National Monument)

Floor Plan: photocopied and appended to nomination  
from Intermountain Region files, Denver Support Office (undated)

USGS map: photocopied and appended to nomination  
Site plan: appended to nomination