

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Centennial Work Center  
other names/site number 48AB257

**2. Location**

street & number Medicine Bow National Forest /NA/not for publication  
city, town Centennial /XX/vicinity  
state Wyoming code 48 county Albany code 001 zip code 82055

**3. Classification**

Ownership of Property		Category of Property		Number of Resources within Property	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/>	private	<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/>	public-State	<input type="checkbox"/>	site		_____ sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/>	structure		_____ structures
		<input type="checkbox"/>	object		_____ objects
				<u>3</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
DEPRESSION-ERA USDA FOREST SERVICE  
ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEXES ON MEDICINE BOW  
NATIONAL FOREST, WYOMING

Number of contributing resources  
Previously listed in the National  
Register N/A

**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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.  See continuation sheet.

Wanda J. DeBois 2/9/94  
Signature of certifying official Date  
**Federal Preservation Officer**  
USDA - Forest Service

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Marilyn Bachus-Wade 1/24/94  
Signature of certifying official Date  
for John Keck  
State Historic Preservation Officer

**5. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register M. J. M. [Signature] 4/11/94
- 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:)

for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government: Government Office

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government: Government Office

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: USFS Rustic Architecture

Materials enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Wood: Log

Wood: Frame

roof Wood: Shingle

Metal: Tin

other \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

Summary

The Centennial Work Center is located in the Mullen Creek drainage on the western slopes of the Medicine Bow Mountain Range in southern Wyoming. It was originally built as a remote ranger station and converted into a work center when the Centennial Ranger District was consolidated with the Pole Mountain and Foxpark Ranger Districts into the Laramie Ranger District and headquartered in Laramie, Wyoming. It is situated in a grassy clearing surrounded by a mixed conifer forest on three sides and open sagebrush valley to the east. The land for the site was withdrawn from general forest use in 1940 and the site was called Centennial Ranger Station #2. It was intended to replace the original Centennial Ranger Station which was located about 1/2 mile to the south. The USDA Forest Service Facility has three contributory historic buildings built from 1938 to 1940 and two noncontributory buildings. One was built in 1978 and the construction date of the other is unknown. Present at the site are an Office/Dwelling, Dwelling, Shop/Garage, Flammable Storage shed and a Hydrant House. The nominated property is a good example of a Forest Service ranger station built during the Depression-era. It retains all of its original buildings in their historic setting with no apparent intrusions and only minor modifications. The buildings illustrate the use of standard architectural plans typical of the construction of ranger stations during the Depression. The Centennial Work Center retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Setting

The Centennial Work Center is located on the eastern slopes of the Medicine Bow Mountain Range at an elevation of 8440 feet. The buildings are surrounded by lodgepole pine, fir, spruce and aspen on three sides. To the east is the Laramie Valley and open sagebrush. Mullen Creek runs along the south side of the property. The site is designed to blend in with these surroundings.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)      Period of Significance      Significant Dates

ARCHITECTURE      1938-1940      1938

SOCIAL HISTORY      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

CONSERVATION      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_      Cultural Affiliation

\_\_\_\_\_      N/A      \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person      Architect/Affiliation

N/A      USDA Forest Service, Region 2

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The Centennial Work Center is significant under criterion "A" for its association with expansion of Forest Service administration from custodial superintendence to active resource management. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, it reflects the contribution of this Federal Works program to the expansion of Forest Service resource management during the 1930's. It is also significant under criterion "C" because it embodies a distinctive style of architecture developed by the Forest Service during the Depression-era. The use of standard plans was typical of remote Forest Service installations and the log building style conformed well with the forested surroundings. The buildings represent a distinctive Forest Service architectural design style and philosophy. The period of significance dates from 1938, when the first logs were cut to the completion of construction activities in 1940, corresponding with the end of the Great Depression and the disbanding of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Historic Contexts/Background

The Centennial Work Center is significant for its association with expansion of Forest Service administration from custodial superintendence to active resource management. (See "Depression-Era USDA Forest Service Administrative Complexes in the enclosed Multiple Property Form" for additional information).

See Continuation Sheet

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Grasso, Dennis N., Scott Thybony, Robert Rosenberg and Elizabeth Rosenberg  
1981 Class I Cultural Resource Overview of the Medicine Bow National Forest  
Including Thunder Basin National Grassland. High Plains Consultants,  
Laramie, WY.

Van, Stratton  
1993 Personal Communication. Notes on file, Supervisors Office,  
Medicine Bow National Forest, Laramie WY.

Operation Records for the CCC, National Archives, Denver Colorado.

USDA Forest Service Withdrawal, Facilities, Real Property, and Historical files,  
Medicine Bow National Forest, Laramie, Wyoming.

See continuation sheet.

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 hist. preservation office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Specify repository:

Medicine Bow National Forest

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of property 5 acres

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UTM References

1	<u>13</u>	<u>403160</u>	<u>4573360</u>	2	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	4	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of Centennial Work Center is delineated by the polygon whose center is marked by the following UTM reference: 13 403160 4573360. It is included within the lower 1/2 of Section 33 T.16N., R.78W. The boundary of the Centennial Work Center is shown as a solid line on the accompanying site plan.

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Boundary Justification

The present boundary is a smaller parcel of land than that land which was withdrawn from general Forest activities on May 9, 1940 (Site Plan in Withdrawal Files) for the purposes of constructing the Centennial Ranger Station Administrative Site. It now includes only a small area immediately around the buildings (Site Plan Engineering Files).

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title James Heid, Forest Archaeologist  
organization USDA Forest Service - Medicine Bow NF date 9/18/93  
street & number 2468 Jackson St. telephone 307-745-8971  
city or town Laramie state WY zip code 82070

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Contributing Buildings

Office/Dwelling (#3524): The Office/Dwelling is a one-story, irregular shaped log structure with a rubble stone foundation and an open stone porch attached to the east side. The construction uses horizontal, saddle-notched logs. The roof is medium-gabled and is covered with wood shingles. A single panelled plywood door with one large pane in the top part leads from the porch into the interior of the structure. A second door is located in the west side of the building. It has three wood panels in the bottom and three window panes on top. Most of the windows are eight-pane casement type. The only exception is on the the west side where four-pane casement windows were installed when the garage was converted into a bunkroom. All of the windows have horizontal board shutters with the CCC tree emblem. The building contains an office/living room, kitchen, bunkroom, small utility room and a basement under the living room and kitchen. Originally the Office/Dwelling had a two-car garage, but it was walled off with logs and converted into a bunkroom in 1964. The building was constructed in 1938 and 1939 from standard Forest Service plans.

Dwelling (#3537): The Dwelling is a one-story, rectangular shaped log structure with a rubble stone foundation and an open stone porch attached to the southeast side. The construction uses horizontal, saddle-notched logs. The roof is medium-gabled and is covered with wood shingles. A vertical board door with six small panes in the top part leads from the porch into the interior of the structure. A back door on the west side is vertical board with a four-pane window in the top. Windows are either eight-pane casement type or six-pane casement type that open outward with the exception of a large single pane window on the east side. The six-pane windows are located in the bathroom and kitchen. All of the windows have horizontal board shutters with the CCC tree emblem. The buildings contains a kitchen, three bunkrooms, living room with stone fireplace, dining room, bathroom and a full basement. It was constructed in 1938 and 1939 from standard Forest Service plans. In front of the building is a brass plaque encased in stone that reads:

In Memory of  
Robert Fechner  
1933 C.C.C. 1939  
BY  
Laramie Chapter NO. 21  
Izaak Walton League

Fechner was the National Director of the CCC from 1933 until he died in 1939.

See Continuation Sheet

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Contributing Buildings

Garage (#3513): The Garage is a one-story, rectangular shaped, wood-frame structure with 1/2 log siding, concrete foundation and a full loft. It has two bays with overhead sliding doors, a two-room work space and two small storage rooms. The garage doors have six tiers of six wood panels in each. The fifth tier contains six windows instead of wood panels. They are not the original doors which were vertical-board with three sets of six-pane windows in each. The construction uses horizontal log siding with corner molding. The roof is medium-gabled and is covered with corrugated metal which is a replacement of the original wood shingles. It has three vertical board doors on the southern portion of the east side. Windows are six-pane casement type that open inward. It was constructed in 1938 and 1940 from standard Forest Service plans. An addition was made to the southern end of the building in 1962 that comprised 450 square feet and included three small rooms. It was done "in kind" and is indistinguishable from the original building.

Noncontributing Buildings

Flammable Storage (#3599): The Flammable Storage shed is a rectangular shaped wood frame building with log siding and a concrete foundation. The shed roof is medium-gabled and covered with wood shingles. It has a single metal door with a single pane window. It has one window in the west wall with two panes that slide horizontally. It was constructed in 1978.

Hydrant House (#3572): The Hydrant House is a small square shaped wood frame building. The shed roof is medium-gabled and covered with wood shingles. It has a vertical five-board wood door. The siding is horizontal-board. It has no windows and has a cement foundation. The building was originally a outhouse added to the site in 1957.

Integrity

The Centennial Work Center has undergone only very minor alterations to the buildings since it was first constructed. The garage of the Office/Dwelling was converted into a bunkroom in 1964 by removing the doors and replacing them with logs and reconstructing the interior. The Garage/Shop received an addition to the southern end in 1962 and the wood shingle roof was replaced with a corrugated metal roof. Both changes were accomplished "in kind" and are not intrusive. There are no buildings or structures outside the property boundary that impact the visual integrity of the complex. The complex possesses integrity of design, workmanship, materials, setting, feeling, and association and, therefore, is a good representation of a USDA Forest Service administrative complex from the depression.

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Historic Contexts/Background

The Centennial Work Center was constructed in 1938-1940 mostly by crews from the Mullen Creek Camp (F-36-W) under the direction of Foremen Turner and Scholtzer, and Carpenter Schantz (Inspection Letters, 1938-1940). The Mullen Creek Camp was located on the compound about 100 meters to the southeast along Mullen Creek. The Camp cut the logs and started the foundations in 1938. The Ryan Park Side Camp (F-22-W) also did some work on the site. The buildings were completed in 1939 and the landscaping in 1940. It was originally built as an administrative facility for the Centennial Ranger District to replace the original Centennial Ranger Station located about a mile to the southeast. It was converted into a work center when the Centennial Ranger District and the Pole Mountain and Foxpark Ranger Districts were combined to form the Laramie Ranger District headquartered in Laramie, Wyoming.



# CENTENNIAL WORK CENTER

