

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

## 1. Name of Property

historic name South Pass City Historic District (boundary increase, additional documentation, and name change)

other names/site number South Pass City State Historic Site, 48FR434

## 2. Location

street & number 675 Atlantic City Road

city or town South Pass City

state Wyoming code WY county Fremont code 013 zip code 86233

	not for publication
X	vicinity

## 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national X statewide local

Mary M. Hopewell, WYSHPO 1/6/2012  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register

☐ determined eligible for the National Register

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register

☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other (explain):

per Edson H. Ball  
Signature of the Keeper

2-28-12  
Date of Action

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## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
41	28	buildings
		district
16	4	site
38	8	structure
	2	object
95	42	<b>Total</b>

### 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

Previous nomination did not list contributing or noncontributing resources.

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Extraction – Extractive facility

Extraction – Manufacturing facility

Domestic – Single dwelling

Domestic – Hotel

Commerce – Department store

Commerce – Restaurant

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Culture – Museum

Recreation – Outdoor recreation

Domestic – Single dwelling

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Split log

Other: False front

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone

walls: Log

Steel

roof: Asphalt

other:

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### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### **Summary Paragraph**

The amended and expanded South Pass City Historic District is at the southern tip of the Wind River Range in Fremont County, Wyoming. It is situated at an elevation of 7,800 feet above sea level. The historic district includes the resources associated with the discovery of gold, the mining and milling industry, and the town of South Pass City, which developed because of the gold and then supported the mining industry. South Pass City, which is a Wyoming State Historic Site, is approximately two miles southeast of State Route 28, a modern paved highway. The town is built primarily on a stream terrace on the north side of Willow Creek between the mouths of the Altorus and Hermit Gulches. Willow Creek is a perennial drainage that flows southeasterly and cuts deeply through the surrounding high ridges. Altorus Gulch, a north-south ephemeral drainage, joins Willow Creek along the west side of the town, and several resources are located in the drainage. Hermit Gulch is a substantial drainage that flows into Willow Creek about one thousand feet east of the town and contains multiple mining resources. The Carissa mine and mill complex is located near the crest of a ridge about one-half mile northeast of South Pass City at an elevation of 8000 feet. Within the district numerous other minor shafts, adits, and prospect pits are scattered across the ridge slopes and intervening gulches, primarily associated with the multiple mining claims that followed the gold bearing quartz vein. The district encompasses the buildings, sites, structures, and objects that comprise South Pass City, Carissa mine and mill complex, the other mining resources, and the South Pass City cemetery. The period of significance for the historic district extends from the initial mining boom in 1867 until Wyoming State Parks, Historic Sites, and Trails (SPHST) assumed ownership in 1966 of part of the property and nearly all substantial mining in the district had ceased.

### **Narrative Description**

#### **South Pass City**

The South Pass City portion of the district is generally oriented along the east-west trending South Pass Avenue (now known as South Pass Main), which roughly parallels the north side of Willow Creek. Dakota Street trends north south and crosses South Pass Avenue just west of the Visitor Center (Building No. 2). It becomes a county road that continues north to the Carissa mine and mill, State Route 28, and Atlantic City. As such, it is the main access road into South Pass City (see sketch map). All of the streets in South Pass City are unpaved gravel or dirt roads. The portion of South Pass City that is administered by SPHST (east of Dakota Street) is closed to vehicular traffic. The majority of historic buildings front either side of South Pass Avenue. Boardwalks meeting the specifications of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) have been installed in many areas around the townsite, and due to the uneven terrain, some buildings are equipped with wooden steps. A visitor parking lot is located at the southwest corner of South Pass Avenue and Dakota Street. Several historic buildings (including the Superintendent's Residence, Building No. 34) are located along the north extension of Dakota Street, but most are privately owned and are not interpreted to the public. Likewise, buildings on the western extension of South Pass Avenue are primarily private property that are modern summer homes, cabins, garages, and small outbuildings.

South Pass City was first platted in 1868. It was replatted in 1902 with blocks generally oriented along South Pass Avenue and divided into 100' x 25' lots. The majority of the buildings in South Pass City consist of one-story log or wood frame commercial buildings, some with false fronts, and one-story log residences. Most of the commercial buildings date from the late nineteenth century and represent "boom town" vernacular or folk architecture. The commercial buildings and the residences that comprise South Pass City are generally composed of simple one-story, front or side-gabled log buildings. Most are single pen log cabins consisting of four log walls fastened together with corner-notching. Several of the buildings have received log additions. The merchants of South Pass City hoped that the mining camp would prosper and that they could eventually replace their false fronted buildings with permanent ones of stone and brick. However, South Pass City's nearly total economic reliance on its mines relegated the town to a series of boom and bust cycles that ultimately ended in failure, and the simple vernacular buildings remained.

Construction dates for buildings are based on previous research and documentation in the South Pass City Historic Site Building Inventory files, James L. Sherlock's *South Pass and Its Tales* (1978), and Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgan's *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold* (2004). Other dates have been obtained from the Fremont County

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Tax Assessor's Office. Traditional sources for building dates, such as building permits, city directories, and Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, are not available for the buildings and structures that comprise South Pass City. The South Pass City Historic District contains 137 resources; however, not every resource is assigned an individual number. For both the map and the nomination, associated resources such as outbuildings or multiple shafts within a mining claim are given one number; they are noted in this section and in the resources count.

**1. Rock House**

**Address:** Dakota Street

This one-story building was constructed with random rubble walls with cement mortar. It represents stone vernacular or folk architecture. It rests on a stone foundation with no basement and measures 15'6" NS by 23' EW by 7'5" height. The roof is a shallow front gable consisting of two layers of milled lumber with wood strips and has log purlins and ridgepole. There are hewn logs in the gable ends. There is a vertical slab door with log lintel on the west (facade). Windows consist of one 4/4-light double-hung window with log lintel on the west and one 4-light fixed window on the north. The building has been rehabilitated.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1868/; rehabilitated ca. 1990

**Status:** contributing building

**2. Dance Hall/Fee Booth**

**Address:** 129 South Pass Avenue

This tall one-story front-gabled log building was constructed with hewn logs with cement chinking. It represents log vernacular or folk architecture. It rests on a poured floating concrete slab with mortared rubble facing with no basement and measures 32' NS by 21' EW. It has a steep gabled roof covered with wood shingles and has a boxed cornice and side-slope metal chimney. The building corners are covered with painted wood trim. The north-south walls were constructed in two 16-foot sections connected with a hewn post, using a "slot and cleat" style of construction known as piece-sur-piece. The entrance is centered on the south side and consists of 6-light wood panel twin-leaf doors flanked by 12-light fixed windows with wood sash. There are no windows or doors on the other three elevations. There is decking for ADA on south and east elevations added in 1998 and remodeled in 2004. The interior contains one room with softwood floors and painted muslin covered walls and ceiling. The building has been recently rehabilitated.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1890; rehabilitated 2009

**Status:** contributing building

**3. Administration Building**

**Address:** 125 South Pass Avenue

This is a modern one-story wood frame building that houses administrative offices. The building consists of two main components. The rear (north) component measures 53'4" EW by 27' NW; the south component measures 48'7" EW by 13' NS. The roof has multiple shallow side-gables and is covered with wood shingles. It has a boxed cornice. The exterior walls are covered with board and batten siding. Windows are modern sliding units.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1991

**Status:** noncontributing building

**4. Tibbals Cabin**

**Address:** 111 South Pass Avenue

This is a one-story front-gabled log residence built in three stages, starting with two mortared native stone dugouts at the rear (14' NS by 23' EW). The second component was a free-standing single pen log cabin to the south (17' NS by 15'8"), the third was the connecting log segment (9'7" NS by 15'8" EW). The overall dimensions are roughly 41' NS by 15'8" excluding the extended dugout at the northeast corner. The building rests on a one-foot mortared stone foundation with no basement. It represents vernacular or folk architecture. The shallow gable roof is covered with milled lumber and exposed lumber strips resembling board & batten, and has a straddle-ridge corbeled brick chimney near the rear (north end). The roof is supported by log ridgepole and purlins. Uncoursed stone retaining walls abut the rear east side and rear of the building. The cabin was constructed with round logs with mortar daubing retained by nailed willow branches; corners are spiked and square-notched. The facade of the cabin has a 5-panel wood door with wood surrounds, and there are two 4/4-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds (one on south, one on east). The rear portion has smaller 6-light fixed windows on the east and west sides. The stone dugout has a lean-to roof, a wood frame facade, and a wood plank door with no windows. It has a dirt floor. The interior of the main cabin has log walls and wood floors; the south portion consists of a living room with muslin-covered ceiling and walls and painted molding; the middle addition contains the kitchen, which has exposed ceiling and old newspapers on the walls. The interior of the rear dugout is unfinished. In 1998, an ADA ramp and deck were added onto the south and southeast sides of the building.

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**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1870s (rear dugout); 1880s (front portion cabin); 1890s (middle addition); ADA ramp added in 1998

**Status:** contributing building

#### 5. Carissa Saloon

**Address:** 105 South Pass Avenue

This is a tall one-story front-gabled log commercial building with a wood frame false front. It represents vernacular or folk architecture. It rests on a stone foundation with no basement and measures 31'3" NS by 21'3" EW. The medium-pitched gabled roof is covered with wood shingles and has a straddle-ridge brick chimney at the rear (north end) of the building. Walls were constructed with round unhewn logs in two north-south segments using what appears to be a piece-sur-piece construction technique. The principal building corners are covered with wood trim so that the style of notching cannot be identified. The rear gable end has vertical rough wood siding. The full-facade false front has a single storefront with recessed entrance flanked by canted windows. East and west of the entrance are large 9-light fixed display windows with wood sash above a single slightly recessed kick plate panel. The canted windows consist of vertical 3-light windows with wood sash above a slightly recessed wood kick plate panel. The main entrance consists of twin-leaf 6-light wood doors, also with recessed wood panels below, and large 2-light transom above. The doors retain their original hardware. The false front above the windows is covered with 5-inch wood lap siding and a signboard inscribed "THE CARISSA." There is a molded cornice with six decorative brackets. The west side has a 6/6-light double hung window with wood sash and surrounds. There are no openings on the east side. The rear (north) side contains a wood panel door. There is a stone retaining wall at the rear that may represent the remains of an earlier store onsite. The interior consists of a large 1-room saloon with a bar along the west wall and a small enclosed storage area at the rear. The main room has wood floors and muslin-covered walls and wainscoting, as well as a wood paneled ceiling. In 1998, an ADA ramp and deck were added to the west, south, and east sides.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1898; ADA ramp installed in 1998; rehabilitated 2010; ADA ramp added in 1998

**Status:** contributing building

#### 6. Smith-Sherlock Company Store

**Address:** 99 South Pass Avenue

This building is similar in style and construction to the previous building, the Carissa Saloon. It also represents the vernacular or folk style of architecture and is a tall one-story front-gabled log structure with a tall wood frame false front. It rests on a stone foundation with no basement and measures 45' NS by 22'2" EW. The medium-pitched gabled roof is covered with wood shingles and has a straddle-ridge brick chimney at the rear (north end) of the building. Walls were constructed with round hewn logs with cement chinking in three north-south 15-foot segments utilizing what appears to be a variation of piece-sur-piece construction techniques. The ends of the logs were cut with a 2-inch tongue and were spiked in a channel made by nailing 2x2 lumber to a square 8x8 timber. The rear gable end is clad with vertical rough wood siding. The full-facade false front has a single storefront with recessed entrance flanked by canted windows. East and west of the entrance are large 9-light fixed display windows with wood sash above a single slightly recessed kick plate panel. The canted windows consist of vertical 2-light windows with wood sash above a slightly recessed wood kick plate panel. The main entrance consists of twin-leaf 8-light wood doors, also with recessed wood panels below, and a fixed 4-light transom above. The false front above the windows is covered with shiplap siding. There is a molded cornice with six decorative brackets. The west side has a 6/6-light double hung window with wood sash and surrounds. There is a 4-panel wood door on the north end of the east side. The interior consists of a large 1-room display and sales area; two wood panel doors lead to storage areas in the north portion of the building, stairs at the northwest corner lead to an upper storage area. The main room has wood floors, a beaded wood panel ceiling, counters on both sides, and shelves from the former post office at the rear. In 1998, an ADA ramp and deck were added to the west, south, and east sides and the interior restored in 1999.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1870; dismantled and moved to present location in 1896

**Status:** contributing building

#### 7. Houghton-Cotter Store/Mining Interpretive Center

**Address:** 95-97 South Pass Avenue

This is a low one-story side-gabled building (21'8" NS by 56' EW by 8' height) that rests on a 3-foot high native stone rubble foundation that also serves as the lower exterior walls. It has no basement. It represents the vernacular or folk architecture. The upper exterior walls consist of unfinished logs covered with rough sawn vertical boards nailed from roof line to three feet above grade. The roof is a shallow side gable; board & batten covers a pole roof supported by log ridgepole and purlins. Log ends are exposed on the rear, and there is a round metal chimney on the front roof slope near

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the west end. The east portion of the roof is slightly lower than the west portion. The main entrance is roughly centered in the facade (south side) and is a wood panel door sheltered by a small shed-roofed open vestibule. There is an inner aluminum storm door. There is one 6-light fixed window with wood sash on the west portion of the facade, and one 4-light fixed window on the west side. There are no window or door openings on the rear (north) or east sides. The interior has a N-S log partition just east of the entrance, dividing the interior into two main rooms with drywall and carpet. The interpretive center includes glassed-in displays, an assay office, and a generic mill model depicting amalgamation, concentration, and cyanide recovery systems. The roofline was lowered by two feet in 1910.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1867-1874; reconstructed as an interpretive center in ca.1970; ca. 1990 board and batten roofing added; ADA boardwalk was installed in 1998

**Status:** noncontributing building

#### 8. The Cave/Fort Bourbon

**Address:** 89 South Pass Avenue

This is a low one-story front-gabled concrete, brick, and native stone building partially dug into the south side of the north valley slope. It rests on reinforced concrete footings poured on excavated bedrock and has no basement. The overall dimensions are 43'6" NS by 19' EW. The building represents vernacular or folk architecture. The south portion is a concrete addition and measures 14'6" NS by 19' EW. Some of the concrete on the southwest corner has broken away, revealing some stone rubble. The original north portion (29' NS by ca. 17' EW) was built of locally kilned bricks. The gabled roof is clad with corrugated tin supported by wood rafters, log ridgepole, and purlins. The front gable end is covered with vertical wood planks. The main entrance is centered in the facade of the south portion and consists of a vertical slab wood panel door with wood surrounds. North of the entrance is a 6-light fixed window with wood sash and surrounds. There is a similar window on the south end of the east elevation. There are no other exterior door or window openings. The interior consists of two rooms with dirt floors; the ceiling consists of wood poles laid flat on a timber frame. A thick mortared native stone wall separates the two rooms and has an opening with a metal vault-like door. The rear room is faced with brick; the southern wall with the door is 2'6" thick. The front concrete addition is not original, but was added between 1926 and 1935.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1867-1868; south addition ca. 1930s; rehabilitated in 1985

**Status:** contributing building

#### 9. Sherlock House

**Address:** 87 South Pass Avenue

This is a tall one-story log residence built in a "T" configuration. It represents vernacular or folk architecture. The main component on the west is front-gabled and measures 31'4" NS by 15'2" EW; the east extension is side-gabled and measures 15'3" NS by 12'6" EW. The east extension is placed 11'3" south of the back (NE) corner and 5'2" north of the front (SE) corner. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation with central piers faced with stone in the front portion. There is a partial basement. The exterior walls are log except for the facade (south side) which is wood frame with clapboard siding. The west wall consists of two log segments connected by a central post that appears to use piece-sur-piece construction techniques. Logs are chinked with daubing on willow strips. The principal building corners are covered with wood trim so that the style of corner-timbering cannot be determined. The medium-steeply gabled roof is covered with wood shingles and has a boxed cornice and straddle-ridge corbeled brick chimney on the rear component. There is a flat wood deck with one step on the facade. The main entrance is centered in the facade and consists of a single five-panel wood door with wood surrounds. It is flanked by 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds. There are similar windows on the north portion of the west wall, the south side of the east portion, and the east wall of the rear portion. There is a single wood door on the north side (rear) of the west component. The rear gable end is covered with vertical boards. The interior is divided into three rooms: front parlor, rear kitchen, and east bedroom. Ceilings are pressed tin; walls are covered with wallpaper reproductions or muslin; floors are covered with tongue and groove fir flooring over plywood subflooring (2003). The building has been modified and remodeled over the years; a front porch and rear lean-to were razed prior to the 2002-2003 restoration and a front deck added in 2002.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1890; rehabilitated 2002-2003

**Status:** contributing building

#### 10. Restroom Building

**Address:** South Pass Avenue, east of Sherlock House

This modern small one-story front-gabled wood frame building contains public restrooms. It measures 11' NS by 17'8" EW and rests on a poured concrete foundation. The exterior walls are clad with board and batten siding and the gable roof is covered with wood shingles.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1998

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**Status:** noncontributing building

#### 11. Schoolhouse

**Address:** High Street

This is a one-story front-gabled log building resting on a one-foot stone foundation with no basement. It measures 31'EW by 19'2" NS, and there is a small wood frame vestibule (6'9" EW by 6'6" NS) on the east side. The medium-pitch gabled roof is clad with wood shingles and has a boxed cornice and a straddle-ridge corbeled brick chimney near the west end. Wood shingles also cover the gable ends. The walls are constructed of hewn logs with cement chinking with wood corner trim that hides the corner-timbering technique. The vestibule is a small gable-roofed addition constructed with vertical board lumber and has one wood entrance door with a plexiglass door for interpretive purposes. Windows are 4/4-light double-hung units with wood sash and surrounds (two on south side, three on north side). The interior has a wood floor and fiberboard walls and ceiling. It has been furnished with two rows of old-fashioned desks. The building is a single pen log cabin that represents vernacular or folk architecture. The building was moved from its original location (current parking lot) in 1911 or 1920s and a vestibule added 1970.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1890; rehabilitated in 1915, 1974, 1991

**Status:** contributing building

#### 12. Cody Cabin

**Address:** 57-59 South Pass Avenue

This is a small side-gabled one-story log residence resting on a low stone foundation with no basement. It measures 14'4" EW by 12'4" NS and rests on a low stone foundation with no basement. The shallow gabled roof is covered with board and batten siding over log purlins and ridgepole; it has open eaves with exposed log ends; there is a rear slope brick chimney near the northwest corner. The exterior walls are composed of round logs with cement chinking that are joined by hog trough style corners, in which the end-grain of logs are nailed to vertical planks at right angles to each other. The entrance is placed near the west end of the façade (south side) and consists of a single 4-panel wood door with wood surrounds. East of the entrance is one 6/6-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds. The only other opening is a small fixed 6-light window with wood sash and surrounds on the east side. The building is a single pen log cabin and represents vernacular or folk architecture.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** late 1890s

**Status:** contributing building

#### 13. Riniker Cabin

**Address:** 41 South Pass Avenue

This is a small one-story front-gabled log residence resting on a poured concrete foundation with mortared stone facing; there is no basement. It measures 21' EW by 15' NS, and the entrance faces east. The shallow gabled roof is covered with board and batten siding over log purlins and ridgepole, and it has open eaves with exposed log ends. The exterior walls consist of round logs with cement chinking and full square notching at the corners. The entrance is placed near the south end of the east side and consists of a single 6-panel wood door with wood surrounds. North of the entrance is one 6/6-light fixed window with wood sash and surrounds; a similar window is placed on the west side. There is a 4/4-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds on the south side. The building is a single pen log cabin and represents vernacular or folk architecture.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1890-1898; rehabilitated in 2000

**Status:** contributing building

#### 14. Slack/Morris Cabin

**Address:** 38 South Pass Avenue

This is a modern reconstruction of a historic-era cabin. It is a one-story front-gabled log building resting on a two-foot concrete foundation with mortared native stone facing; there is no basement. It measures 27'2" NS by 16'9" EW. The shallow gabled roof is covered with wood shingles and has log ridgepole and purlins with exposed log ends. The exterior walls are constructed with round logs with fiberglass insulation and joint/daubing compound; the logs are joined with corner posts. The entrance is centered in the facade (north side) and consists of a 5-panel wood door. It is flanked by 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds and narrow wood strip sills. The rear (south) and east sides each have a rectangular fixed light window with similar surrounds and sills, and there is a wood door entrance accessed by steps and a small stoop on the south side. The interior is divided into two rooms with wood floor and drywall. It has been interpreted as a printing office and contains E.A. Slack's original printing press used to print the *South Pass News*. East of the site is an interpretive sign about Esther Morris, whose original cabin was located near this cabin.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1976; remodeled in 2003-2004

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**Status:** noncontributing building

**15. Blacksmith Shop**

**Address:** 58 South Pass Avenue

The blacksmith shop is a one -story elongated front-gabled log building (40'6" by 21' EW) resting on a stone foundation with no basement. The shallow gabled roof is covered with corrugated metal and supported with log purlins and ridgepole. End gables are covered with sheet metal. There is a side-slope metal chimney. The walls consist of round logs hewn flat on the inside with cement chinking and joined with corner posts and spikes. The long walls are constructed in two segments with slot and cleat joints that resemble piece-sur-piece techniques from the outside. The facade (north side) has a large twin-leaf hinged barn door of vertical planks. The rear (south side) has a pedestrian entrance with a vertical slab door. Windows are generally 5/5-light fixed units with wood sash and surrounds and narrow strip sills (1 on south, 1 on west, 2 on east). The interior has a dirt floor and contains a stone forge, rotary-type bellows, and work bench.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1915-1930; rehabilitated ca. 1980

**Status:** contributing building

**16. Sherlock Garage**

**Address:** 78 South Pass Avenue

This garage is a one-story front-gabled log building (33'5" NS by 13'4" EW) resting on a poured concrete foundation with no basement. It represents vernacular or folk architecture. The shallow gabled roof is covered with corrugated tin and has log purlins and ridgepole exposed on the rear (south side). The walls consist of full round logs (two segments of logs on N-S walls) with cement chinking and saddle notching. The facade features a tall false front consisting of vertical boards with wood surrounds. The main entrance is centered in the false front and consists of twin-leaf wood garage doors. There is a pedestrian entrance on the south with a vertical slab door with wood surrounds, and there is fixed 2-light window with wood sash and surrounds near the south end of the east side. New roofing was installed in 2003 and sill logs were replaced in 2006.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1920s (constructed from reassembled log cabins from other South Pass City locations); rehabilitated in 1999 - 2003

**Status:** contributing building

**17. Ice House**

**Address:** 84 South Pass Avenue

This is a small one-story front-gabled wood frame building that may have served as an ice house, although there is no insulation in the walls to suggest this use. It represents vernacular or folk architecture. It measures 13' NS by 11' EW and faces south. It rests on a wood foundation with no basement. The moderately pitched gabled roof is covered with wood shingles. The exterior walls are clad with horizontal wood sheathing (1x10s). The end gables are covered with vertical sheathing. The only opening is a single door in the facade (south side), which is a vertical slab wood door. In 1998, the building was stabilized, a north-facing window was covered over, new sill beams were installed under the building, and wood shingles were added to the roof.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** early 1930s; rehabilitated in 1998

**Status:** contributing building

**18. Ervin Store**

**Address:** 76 South Pass Avenue

This is a modern building constructed as a workshop and later used as a theater. It is a one-story front-gabled log building with a wood frame false front painted white. It measures 40'2" NS by 20'4" EW and rests on a poured concrete foundation with no basement. The gabled roof is covered with wood shingles and has exposed timber rafter ends and a side-slope metal chimney. The walls are constructed with full round logs, two segments on the north-south walls, and the logs are joined at the corners and segments with vertical wood posts. The facade faces north and features a tall wood frame false front. The lower portion contains vertical board and batten siding and a centered entrance consisting of twin-leaf wood doors with narrow ten-light (2 horizontal by 5 vertical) windows. The entrance is flanked by identical windows that resemble the doors. There are narrow wood panels beneath each row of lights in the windows and doors. The upper cornice consists of molding also painted white. Windows are generally 6-light fixed units with wood sash and surrounds (two on east and west sides, one on rear or south side). The south side also has a pedestrian entrance with a wood panel door and small shed overdoor. The interior is one room with wood floors and exposed log walls. The building was moved in the winter 2005-2006 from its former location on the east side of Building No. 16 to its current location just east of Building No. 19.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1972-1977; remodeled in 2006

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**Status:** noncontributing building

#### 19. South Pass Hotel

**Address:** 90 South Pass Avenue

This is a tall two-story front-gabled wood frame hotel (40'8" NS by 26'8" EW) resting on a poured concrete slab mounted on concrete pier system grounded on underlying bedrock. There is no basement. The moderately-pitched gable roof is covered with wood shingles and has a side-slope brick chimney (west side). The exterior walls (east, south, and west) are covered with rough vertical board and batten siding. The facade (north side) is covered with painted (white) horizontal wood siding. All trim is painted a contrasting dark brown. The gable-shaped molded cornice extends 12 inches above the roofline and has a 9-inch overhang and 12-inch bargeboard. There is a second-story 4-foot deep balcony supported by four square 4x4 posts. The railing is 32-inch high latticework. There are three evenly spaced first-floor entrances along the facade. The entrances contain wood twin-leaf doors, each leaf with an 8-light pattern (2 horizontal by 4 vertical) above a narrow vertical recessed panel. Three second-story windows are aligned above the entrances and consist of 6/6-light double-hung units with wood sash and contrasting surrounds with gently angled headers. There are 6-light fixed windows with wood sash and surrounds (three on the second-story east side, two on the second-story rear or south side). First-story windows include one 4/4-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds on the east side, one 12-light fixed window with wood sash and surrounds on the east end of the south side, and a similar 16-light window on the west end of the south side. There is a one-story log shed-roofed addition (10'6" NS by 12'4" EW) on the rear (south) constructed with full round logs with square notching. The addition contains a single 4-panel wood door with wood surrounds and a window consisting of twin 6-light sliding units with wood sash and surrounds. A narrow alleyway separates the hotel from the restaurant to the west. However, there is no access, and the west wall of the hotel is not visible. The interior features wainscoting and wallpaper and wood floors. The first floor contains the lobby and three rooms; the second floor contains nine rooms with muslin and/or wallpaper. This building represents vernacular or folk architecture.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1868; frame lean-to replaced with log addition between 1905-1911; complete reconstruction 1970-1971, interior alterations 1996

**Status:** noncontributing building

#### 20. Restaurant

**Address:** 92 South Pass Avenue

This is a one-story wood frame false front commercial building (51' NS by 23'7" EW), resting on a reinforced concrete perimeter foundation wall and three concrete block piers in the center of the building. It has no basement. The medium-pitched gable roof is covered with wood shingles. It has flush eaves and a straddle-ridge corbeled brick chimney. The exterior walls are covered with wood shiplap siding with corner trim. The false front on the facade (north side) rises several feet above the first story and is separated from the first story by wood molding. It is also covered with horizontal clapboard siding. It has a molded wood cornice and decorative curved brackets. The main entrance is centered in the first-story facade and consists of twin leaf wood doors, each with 6 lights above two narrow wood panels. There is a fixed 3-light transom above the doors. The entrance is flanked by 9-light display windows with wood sash and surrounds. Windows are generally 6/6-light double-hung units with wood sash and surrounds; there are three on the west side, two on the rear (south side), and at least one on the east side (which is closely adjacent to the hotel to the east). The south side contains a single door. The interior has four rooms: dining room, kitchen, pantry, and lobby, and retains wood floors and tin ceilings. There is a connecting passageway to the hotel. The building represents vernacular or folk architecture.

The building was rehabilitated as the Grecian Bend Saloon in 1971 and again in 1995-1996 as a restaurant. One of the chimneys and a lean-to porch on the south side have been removed. ADA boardwalks were installed in 1998.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1899; rehabilitated in 1971, 1995-1996; ADA ramp added in 1998

**Status:** contributing building

#### 21. Sherlock Barn/Livery Stable

**Address:** East of the corner of Price & Grant Streets

This is a one-story front-gabled log barn (40' NS by 26'8" EW) resting on a mortared stone foundation with no basement. The gently-pitched gable roof is covered with board and batten and has purlins and ridgepole, exposed on the ends. The walls are constructed with full round logs (three segments on the long sides, two on the rear) with cement chinking and square and/or saddle notching. The joints are described as slot and cleat panels that are spiked but outwardly resemble piece-sur-piece construction. The logs on the south wall are flat hewn. The entrance is located on the facade (north side), which consists of large doors that swing outward; the west door is Dutch-style; the east door is a single swinging panel constructed of vertical planks nailed to inside "Z" bracing. Two ceiling rafters extend 3-4 feet above the barn doors. There is a small 1-light fixed window high on the wall at the west end of the north wall, providing light for the tack room. The interior has plank flooring and flat-hewn logs. The space is divided into a central isle, five stalls, feed troughs and a

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tackroom at the northwest corner. The building represents vernacular or folk architecture. A lean-to hay shed dating from about 1900 was removed in 1969.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1868-1890s (exact date of construction unknown; it is either an original building from about 1868, or it was built later, ca.1890s, from parts of other buildings); rehabilitated in 1998

**Status:** contributing building

## 22. Exchange Saloon

**Address:** 96-98 South Pass Avenue

This is a commercial property consisting of two components: a tall one-story front-gabled log building that measures 28' NS by 20'3" EW, and an attached lower shed-roofed lean-to log addition that has a false front and measures 28' NS by 13'4". It rests on concrete piers with timber supports. Native stone is dry laid under the timbers. The larger and taller component on the east has a medium-pitched gable roof that is covered with wood shingles and has a straddle-ridge corbeled brick chimney near the rear (south side). The east and south walls are constructed with flat hewn logs with cement chinking and square corner posts; the east wall has two segments of logs joined by the cleat and slot technique using spikes that resemble piece-sur-piece construction. The south side has vertical planks in the end gable, and there is a single 4-panel wood door with wood surrounds. The north side consists of a wood frame facade with clapboard siding. The front gable extends slightly above the roofline and has a boxed cornice and contrasting trim. A simple secondary cornice separates the main story from the front gable. There is a square wood post at the northeast corner. The main entrance is centered in the facade and consists of twin-leaf 8-light wood doors and a fixed 3-light transom with wood surrounds. The entrance is flanked by identical 12-light display windows with wood sash and contrasting wood surrounds. The lean-to addition on the west was also constructed with hewn logs with cement and sapling strip chinking and square notching with spikes. The shed roof is covered with board and batten roofing and has a small metal chimney. It rests on the same stone foundation as the larger building. The south side (rear) contains a 6/6-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds; there are no openings on the west side. The facade features a wood frame false front, the height of which is the same as the upper roof slope of the shed roof and the low point of the gable roof of the adjoined building. It is also covered with clapboard siding and has a boxed cornice. It contains a single 4-panel wood door with contrasting wood surrounds, and a 6/6-light double-hung window with wood sash and contrasting wood surrounds. The interior contains wood floors, wainscoting and muslin wall coverings, and a wood roof; there is a saloon with a bar in the east portion and a card room in the west portion. There are Sheetrock partition walls between the two components. A signboard atop the central gable pitch reads "THE EXCHANGE." The building represents vernacular or folk architecture. A major rehabilitation was started in 1973. Sheetrock partitions with tempered glass, trim and muslin were installed in 1997 and ADA boardwalks were added in 1998.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1868 (east building); 1868-1890 (west building); passage between saloon and cardroom constructed in 1890; rehabilitated in 1973, 1996; ADA ramp added in 1998

**Status:** contributing building

## 23. Miners Exchange Saloon

**Address:** NW corner of Price & Grant Streets

This is a commercial log false front building (26'9" EW by 19' NS) resting on a stone foundation. It represents vernacular or folk architecture. The building faces east and was constructed with full round logs with cement and sapling chinking; corners use 1/2 dovetail notching. The moderately-pitched gable roof is covered with wood shingles and has a side-slope corbeled brick chimney. There are horizontal boards in the rear end gable. The facade consists of a wood frame false front with an extended molded cornice and vertical board and batten siding. A simple secondary cornice separates the false front from the lower facade, which contains a central entrance with twin-leaf 8-light wood panel doors flanked by large 4-light fixed windows with wood sash and contrasting surrounds. Below the windows are beaded wood panels. There are four flat pediment columns across the facade, flanking the windows and doors. There is a short boardwalk along the facade. The south side contains one 6/6-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds, and the rear (west side) has a single oak four-panel door with wood surrounds and a small 3-light fixed window low on the wall. The interior contains one large room with rough sawn flooring, muslin-covered walls, and a bar and billiard table. Double doors were installed post-1973; ADA boardwalk and ramp were installed 1998; interior muslin and new trim were added in 1997.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1890 (archaeological evidence suggests an earlier onsite building probably dating from 1868); rehabilitated in 1997; ADA ramp added in 1998

**Status:** contributing building

## 24. Sweetwater County Jail

**Address:** Grant Street

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This is a one-story front-gabled log building (32' NS by 20' EW) resting on a stone foundation with no basement. The gently pitched gable roof is covered with board-on-board roofing and has log purlins and ridgepole; the square log ends are exposed on the facade and the eaves are extended on the east and west sides. The walls are constructed with round and hewn logs; the north-south walls were constructed in two segments. The segments are joined by a splice that is an upright squared log with 1"x2" boards nailed onto the upright log creating a mortise that resembles piece-sur-piece construction. Corners are similarly constructed. The south-facing facade contains a centered entrance with a wood plank door, flanked by identical 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds. There are no other openings in the building. This building was originally constructed as a jail, and the north portion is divided from the south and has a heavy wood jail door. There are four cells at the rear, and there is a flat ceiling consisting of small logs whose ends are visible on the exterior. The south portion of the interior has a plank floor and vertical board walls. There is a plank board ceiling, and the ridgepole and purlins are exposed. The front room (south end) was also used as a school room (probably late 1870s-early 1880s), and there is still evidence of cursive handwriting (lower case alphabet) above the door and windows on the south wall. The building represents vernacular or folk architecture. A partial concrete footer was installed in 1978, topped with rubble stone and masonry and sill logs and the roof replaced. Exterior window and door trim added in about 1995.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1870; rehabilitated in 1978, 1991, and 1995

**Status:** contributing building

**25. Libby Cabin**

**Address:** South Price Street

This is a tall one-story side-gabled log building (17' NS by 21' EW) resting on a concrete block and stone foundation with no basement. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with wood shingles; it has boxed eaves and a straddle-ridge corbeled brick chimney. The walls are constructed with full round logs with cement chinking and wood post corners. Vertical boards fill in the gable ends. The facade faces north and has a wood stoop, stairs, and railing. It contains a centered entrance consisting of a wood panel door and wood surrounds, flanked by identical 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds painted a contrasting white. There is a similar wood door on the east, and one 4/4-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds on the rear (south side). The interior has two rooms and a wood floor, and muslin covered walls. In the early 1900s, the cabin was used as an isolation ward (pest house). The building represents vernacular or folk architecture. Sheetrock was added and doors and windows replaced in 1953. The building was moved in 1968 to Carissa mine property and returned to original location in 1991. Window on the south wall was replaced in 1968; doors replaced post-1973; chimney and front steps reconstructed and concrete block foundation was added in about 1991.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1899; rehabilitated in 1953, 1991

**Status:** contributing building

**26. Carr Butcher Shop**

**Address:** 106-108 South Pass Avenue

This is a one-story front-gabled log building (18'4" NS by 34' EW) resting on a 1-foot concrete foundation faced with stone; there is no basement. The medium-pitched gable roof is covered with wood shingles; it has boxed eaves and a straddle-ridge corbelled brick chimney. The walls are constructed with both hewn and full round logs with cement chinking and wood corner boards. The north and south walls were constructed in two segments using a slot and cleat technique that resembles piece-sur-piece construction from the outside. All doors and windows have wood surrounds painted a contrasting white. The north side has a wood panel door with wood surrounds, and there are two 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds. There is a similar entrance and window on the east side (main entrance), and a similar window on the south side. The interior is one large room; the east half has pine flooring, the west half has compacted dirt. There is a meat cooler in one corner. The building represents vernacular or folk architecture. The building had an extensive foundation repair in 1991. An ADA deck added to front entrance in 1998-1999.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1898; rehabilitated in 1998-1999; ADA ramp added in 1998

**Status:** contributing building

**27. Main Restroom**

**Address:** County Road opposite Dance Hall (Bldg. No. 1)

This is a modern small one-story front-gabled wood frame building that contains public restrooms. It measures 20' NS by 25' EW. It has a shallow-pitched gable roof clad with raised seam steel roof, and the walls are covered with steel siding. There are panel doors on the east and west sides.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1970s; moved to present location in 1996

**Status:** noncontributing building

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## 28. Maintenance Shop

**Address:** 30 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a large one-story ell-shaped modern shop of pole-barn construction (overall 100' EW by 46' NS). The north portion (100' by 30') has a shallow gable roof covered with ribbed steel. The walls are covered with faux board and batten siding. There are three large overhead doors on the flat-roofed south portion. There is a 12-light fixed window on the west end of the north side, a direct set 2-light window (side-by-side) in the north end of the west wall, and pedestrian doors on the south and east sides.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1970s-1990s (in stages); east addition for artifact storage built in 1989

**Status:** noncontributing building

## 29. Larson and Farr Cabin

**Address:** 14 Dakota Street

This is a one-story front-gabled log cabin (18' NS by 26' EW) that faces generally east and rests on a concrete block and native stone foundation with no basement. It represents vernacular or folk architecture. The shallow-pitched gable roof is covered with tarpaper and has a side-slope round metal chimney. The roof has open eaves with exposed ridgepole and purlins that support the roof. The end gables are also clad with tarpaper. The walls are constructed with round logs using "hog trough" corners filled in with triangular-shaped log trim. The long walls are built in three segments using slot and cleat construction that resembles piece-sur-piece techniques from the outside. The main entrance is located at the south end of the facade and consists of a wood panel door covered by a wooden screen door. There is a covered-over entrance on the west end of the south side that is no longer used. Windows are generally 4-light fixed units with wood sash and surrounds. Two window bays in the west side and one bay in the south side are currently boarded over. There is a 6' by 18' deck on the facade with two wood steps and log railing.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1939

**Status:** contributing building

## 30. Matson and Klenck Cabin

**Address:** 22 Dakota Street

This is a one-story front-gabled log cabin (37' EW by 16' NS) that generally faces east and rests on a poured concrete footer with no basement. The shallow-pitched gable roof is covered with tarpaper and a side-slope round metal chimney. It has boxed eaves with exposed log ridgepole and purlins in the gable ends. The walls are constructed with hewn logs with cement chinking and corner post construction. The main entrance is located near the south end of the facade (east side) and contains a 1-light 4-panel wood door with wood trim. North of the entrance is a 4/4-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds. The south wall contains a similar window near the east end, as well as a horizontal 8-light fixed window with wood sash and surrounds, and a secondary entrance with wood storm door. There is a shed-roofed log addition on the rear (west side) of the main cabin (6' by 16') of similar construction; it contains a 4x4-light horizontal sliding window with wood sash and surrounds and has a metal chimney. There is a second shed-roofed addition attached to the rear. The west side has a roofless round log addition with saddle notched corners located near the rear; it contains one window opening. In the ell of the west and north additions, there is a small flat-roofed vertical log addition with corrugated tin roof. This building represents vernacular or folk architecture.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1880

**Status:** contributing building

## 31. Guest Cabin

**Address:** Dakota Street

This is a small one-story side-gabled log cabin (16' NS by 14' EW) resting on a poured concrete foundation with no basement. The medium-pitched gable roof is covered with cedar shingles and has moderately extended open eaves with exposed rafter ends. The gable ends are clad with horizontal wood siding. The walls are constructed with milled or machined log kit style logs with three square faces and butt joint corners. Asphalt shingles and caulk is used as daubing/chinking between courses. The facade faces generally east and contains the entrance, which has 1-light wood panel door with screen door and is sheltered by a gabled overdoor. It has a small 3'x3' wood stoop on log runners. South of the entrance is a 2/2-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds and angled lintel. There are similar windows on the north, south, and west sides. The interior is divided into two rooms and has 12" x 12" peel and stick vinyl floor tiles and short nap carpet. The building represents vernacular or folk architecture. The building was moved to its current location from South Pass Main in 1990 and placed on new poured concrete foundation.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1950; moved in 1990, remodeled in 1999-2000

**Status:** noncontributing building

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**32. Jean Chipp Cabin**

**Address:** 28 Dakota Street

This is a one-story side-gabled log cabin with a wood frame addition, resulting in an irregular footprint. The original log cabin measures about 26' NS by 15'5" EW; with the wood frame additions, the overall dimensions are about 43' NS by 22'5" EW. The building rests on a concrete and stone foundation with no basement. The shallow-pitched gable roof is supported by log ridgepole and purlins whose ends are exposed on the north side. The eaves are moderately extended, and the roof is covered with dirt. The north-south walls are constructed with two segments of full round logs using slot and cleat joints that resemble piece-sur-piece construction from the outside. Corner trim covers the notching style from identification. A straddle-ridge corbeled brick chimney protrudes from the roof. There is an entrance near the north end of the facade (east side) consisting of a 6-panel solid core wood door. South of this entrance there is a large 6/6-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds. In the south portion of the log component, there is a horizontal 4x4-light sliding window with wood sash and surrounds. There are two wood frame additions on the south and west sides of the log component. The south addition is recessed 8 feet from the facade and contains the main entrance, also a 6-panel solid core wood door, with a small stoop. The west shed-roofed addition extends 7 feet west of the log component. The walls of the additions are covered with horizontal board and batten siding. The building represents vernacular or folk architecture. At least one of the wood frame additions dates from the 1970s and a sod roof was added in ca. 1977.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1869; rehabilitated ca. 1979, 2005-2006

**Status:** contributing building

**33. Storage/Greenhouse**

**Address:** Dakota Street

This is a one-story front-gabled wood frame cabin with a false front and a shed-roofed greenhouse attached on the south side. The cabin measures 12'5" by 15' EW and rests on concrete piers with no basement. The gable roof is covered with tarpaper. The exterior walls are covered with board and batten siding, and facade features a square false front with the same siding. The main entrance is centered in the facade (east side) and consists of a z-braced wood slab door; it is flanked by identical 6-light fixed windows with wood sash and surrounds. The shed-roofed addition on the south measures 9' NS by 15' EW. The roof has exposed rafters and is covered with plexiglass panels. There is a 1-light wood door on the east, and there are several large plexiglass windows around the perimeter of the greenhouse. The building is currently used for storage. The building was moved onsite in the 1990s from the back of the Sherlock House; the greenhouse addition was added at later date.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1975; moved to current location in 1990s

**Status:** noncontributing building

**34. Williams House/Superintendent's Residence**

**Address:** 54 Dakota Street

This is a one and one-half story gable-roofed log residence with an irregular footprint. Overall dimensions of the main house are 41' NS by 39' EW. It rests on a 1-foot concrete and stone foundation. There is a recent shed-roofed wood frame enclosed porch addition on the rear (west side) that measures 27'3" NS by 9' EW on the south and 17'6" EW on the north and rests on a helical pier system. The main log building has steeply pitched cross-gabled roofs covered with cedar wood shingles and boxed eaves; the front gabled segment has the highest ridge line and a straddle-ridge brick chimney. The walls are constructed with hewn logs with cement chinking and wood corner trim. The walls have slot and cleat joints that resemble piece-sur-piece construction from the outside. The front-gabled portion faces east and contains the main entrance, which has a 3-light hollow wood door with 3-light transom. There are two 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash, wood surrounds, and wood screens. The rest of the windows are similar. The front gable end is covered with horizontal wood siding and contains a centered 6-light in-swinging casement window with false shaping (triangular-shaped molding) with 1 diamond and 2 half-diamond lights. The west-facing gable end is covered with horizontal wood siding and has two 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds. The side gable ends are also covered with horizontal wood siding; the side-gabled component contains two windows on the east side of the south end and one window on the east side of the north end. The southwest corner of the main building has a flat-roofed addition that fills in the ell and contains one 6/6-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds. The northwest corner of the main building has a shed-roofed addition that also fills in the ell and contains a similar window. The shed-roofed rear addition is covered with vertical wood siding and contains an entrance on both the north and south sides and has numerous large 1/1-light double-hung windows with vinyl surrounds. The property is set off by a decorative wrought iron railing, and there is a board sidewalk leading to the main entrance, which has two wood steps and small stoop. The interior contains stairs with a landing to the upper-story bedroom; wooden stairs leading to a basement. The building represents vernacular or folk log

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architecture. The rear addition is recent (1998) but not visible from the street and is not permanently attached to main house.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1885; rehabilitated in 1976, 1999

**Status:** contributing building

### 35. Marrin House

**Address:** 64 Dakota Street

This is a one-story log and wood frame side-gabled cabin (32'7" NS by 27'7" EW). The original log core (14' by 28') now has a wood frame shed addition (20' by 28') on the rear (west side) and a new roof. The gable and shed roofs are covered with tarpaper and have open eaves with exposed rafter ends. There is a front slope round metal chimney. The exterior walls of the core building consist of round peeled logs with cement chinking that are only visible on the south and west sides. The principal building corners are covered with wood trim hiding the method of joinery. The south log wall has a slot and cleat joint that resembles piece-sur-piece construction from the outside. The remainders of the walls are covered with vertical grooved wood paneling. The facade or east side has two 2/2 light double hung windows with wood sash. The south side has a pair of 2/2-light double-hung windows with wood sash and shutters. Windows in the shed addition are 1 x 1-light horizontal sliding units. There is an entrance at the south end of the facade with a 1-light wood door with aluminum storm door. The side gables and rear addition are covered with vertical wood siding. There is a vertical sliding window on the south side of the rear addition; the south side has a wood panel door with aluminum storm door and concrete pad and an elongated 8-light fixed window with wooden sash and shutter. The large wood frame addition is recent and does not conform to the original house, and the building is in need of maintenance.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1942; remodeled in 1983

**Status:** noncontributing building

**Outbuilding:** one-story side-gabled log garage (16' x 14') resting on an informal loose rock foundation. The walls are constructed with round logs with cement chinking and corner posts. The gable roof is covered with tarpaper and supported by log ridgepole and purlins. The east side of the outbuilding has a twin-leaf wooden garage door. The south side has a two-light fixed window with wood sash.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1940

**Status:** contributing building

### 36. John Bane House

**Address:** 80 Dakota Street

This is a one-story wood frame hipped box residence (26'7" NS by 24'6" EW) that represents the Folk Victorian style of architecture, the only remaining example in South Pass City. The hipped roof has extended boxed eaves and is clad with asphalt shingles. It has a straddle-ridge corbeled brick chimney, and there is also a side slope round metal chimney. The exterior walls are covered with clapboard siding. The south side or facade has an open full-facade hipped-roofed porch with spindle work detailing and supported by four square wood posts. The entrance is centered in the facade and has a wood door covered by an aluminum storm door. Windows are generally 2/2-light double-hung units with wood sash and wood surrounds (two on the south, four on the east, and one on the west). There is a wood frame shed-roofed addition (8'6" by 24'6") on the north side. It is covered with vertical wood siding and has a 3-light wood panel door and small 4-light fixed window on the east. A wood frame, gable-roofed addition (8' by 12'6") on the west side has a small 2-light sliding window on the west.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1904; addition in 1987

**Status:** contributing building

#### **Outbuildings:**

a) one-story side-gabled log barn (26' NS by 20' EW) with a shed-roofed addition on the south (14' NS by 17' EW). The main portion of the barn (north side) has a gently-pitched gable roof supported by log purlins and ridgepole. It is covered with slab logs and corrugated tin. The walls are constructed with full-round V-notched logs. There is a twin-leaf wooden barn door on the west. The addition has a pole roof covered with tin and a slab wood door on the east.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1930

**Status:** contributing building

b) one-story side-gabled log garage/shed (17' NS by 39' EW) built in two sections. The gently-pitched gable roof is supported by a log ridgepole and purlins and is covered with tarpaper. It rests on an informal rock foundation. The walls are constructed with round logs using ½ dovetail and square notching. The west component is the garage and has a twin-leaf garage door constructed with vertical wood planks. The west side of the building is also covered with vertical wood

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siding. The north side has a wood panel door and a 2-light sliding window. The south side contains side by side 4-light sliding windows with wood wash and surrounds. The east component is joined to the garage with vertical wood posts, probably of slot and cleat construction. The south side contains a twin-leaf vertical plank door and a 4-light fixed window, and there are small windows on the east and north.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1940

**Status:** contributing building

c) a one-story front gable log barn resting on a loose rock foundation. It is built in two segments (slot and cleat joinery) with full round logs and cement chinking using saddle notching on the west side and corner posts on the east side. The east component measures 16' NS by 13' EW, and the west component measures 16' NS by 15' EW. It has a gently pitched gable roof supported by log purlins and ridgepole visible on both ends and is covered with board and batten roofing. The west side contains a large single z-braced vertical wood hinged door. The east side has a large opening with a door near the northeast corner. There are two shuttered windows on the north side. The interior consists of two large rooms. The building was constructed by SPHT, but it is located on Snowden property and is therefore associated with the above property as an outbuilding.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1996

**Status:** noncontributing building

### 37. Ridge Brown Cabin

**Address:** 141 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a modern one-story side-gabled wood frame cabin resting on a poured concrete foundation with no basement. It has a moderately-pitched gable roof covered with grooved metal roofing and a side slope round metal chimney. The exterior walls are covered with vertical grooved wood paneling. Windows are modern sliding units, and the wooden doors and windows have aluminum storm coverings. There is a deck on the south and east sides.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1988

**Status:** noncontributing building

**Outbuilding:** one story, wood frame, side gabled detached one-car garage resting on a poured concrete slab. Exterior walls are covered with vertical groove wood paneling. The gable roof is clad with raised seem steel.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1980

**Status:** noncontributing building

### 38. Trudy Brown Cabin

**Address:** 145 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a one-story front-gabled log-kit cabin resting on a concrete block foundation with no basement. It has moderately-pitched gable roof covered with wood shingles and has a side slope round metal chimney. The walls are constructed with engineered grooved logs. The facade or east side has a nine-light wooden door covered by an aluminum storm door. Windows are modern casement units. There is a wood deck with railings on the east side.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1961; moved to present location in 1977

**Status:** noncontributing building

### 39. Niles Log Storage Cabin

**Address:** 194 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a one-story front-gabled log cabin (21' by 23') resting on an informal stone foundation with no basement. The gently-pitched gable roof is constructed with poles covered with wood deck with tarpaper roofing and supported by log purlins and ridgepole. The walls are constructed with hewn logs using dove-tail notching. There is a small gabled-roofed log addition centered on the west side; its roof is covered with tin sheeting. The south wall has a large opening that has been filled with modern fabric, and there is a pedestrian door. The window in the south side is a 1/1-light double-hung unit with wood sash and surrounds; there is a boarded-over window on the north side. The building is in need of maintenance; the west addition may not be original, and it appears the south side has been altered.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1900

**Status:** contributing building

### 40. Niles Cabin

**Address:** 194 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a one-story side-gabled log cabin with numerous additions (overall dimensions measure 43' EW by 28' NS). The northwest portion of the building (16' by 25') contains the original log core. Its gently-pitched gabled roof is covered with

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grooved metal roofing and has a boxed cornice and a side-slope metal chimney. The north side has hewn log walls with cement chinking and wood trim covering the corners. Windows are paired 8/8-fixed light units with wood sash and wood surrounds. The west side has one double-hung window and a small fixed-light window. There is a large shed-roofed addition (approx. 18' EW by 26' NS) on the east side that is covered with vertical wood siding and has 2-light sliding windows. There is a small shed-roofed vestibule with an aluminum storm door on the north side of this addition. The south side consists of another one-story wood frame addition (12' NS by 31' EW), which has a second entrance, modern windows, and a wood deck (6' x 30'). The original log cabin is completely surrounded by additions

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1890 (original core); additions in 1983, 1984; remodeled in 1998

**Status:** noncontributing building

**Outbuilding:** a detached wood frame front-gabled garage/shop with shed addition on the east side resting on a concrete pad (40' square). The exterior walls are clad with board and batten siding, and the roof is clad with ribbed metal sheeting.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1996

**Status:** noncontributing building

#### 41. Niles House

**Address:** 195 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a one-story front-gabled log-kit cabin (30' EW by 44' NS including deck) resting on a poured concrete foundation with no basement. The gently-pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has exposed rafter ends and a side-slope round metal chimney. The walls are constructed with square-notched engineered logs, and there is vertical wood siding in the gable ends. There is a wood deck with wood railing on the south and east sides, and there are two single wood panel doors, one on the south and one on the east, with aluminum storm doors. Windows are large 2-light casement units.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1983

**Status:** noncontributing building

#### 42. Wall House

**Address:** 179 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a one-story side-gabled wood frame residence (24' EW by 38' NS) resting on a cement block foundation with no basement. The gently-pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has extended boxed eaves and a front-slope metal chimney. Walls are covered with vertical grooved wood paneling. The entrance faces east and consists of a large 1-light door. Windows are modern 1-light and 2-light casement units. There is an open wood deck with railing on the east.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1996

**Status:** noncontributing building

**Outbuilding:** A large wood frame side gabled 2-car garage. The south side has a metal overhead garage door and a 16-light window. Exterior walls are clad with vertical grooved wood paneling with wood shingles on the south side. There is a pedestrian entry on the east side and an eight-light fixed window.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1996

**Status:** noncontributing building

#### 43. Mellecker House

**Address:** 169 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a 2-story wood frame front-gabled house (overall dimensions 51' by 37') with a gabled roof covered with grooved metal roofing. The exterior walls are covered with board and batten siding and wood lap siding on the second story. The second story facade contains single and paired 2-light vertical sliding window units. Most of the south side (facade) is obscured by a large 1-story shed-roofed greenhouse, which has a shed-roofed extension on the west and a shed-roofed 1-car attached garage on the east.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1977; greenhouse addition in 1984

**Status:** noncontributing building

#### 44. Farr House

**Address:** 149 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a 1-1/2-story side-gabled log-kit house (24' NS by 40' EW) resting on a poured concrete foundation with no basement. The steep-pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles on a wood deck supported by rafters, log purlins and ridgepole. The walls are constructed with engineered logs, and the south corners taper in toward the top. The

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entrance is centered in the facade (south side) and has a wood panel door with aluminum storm covering; windows are generally large 1-light fixed units, and there is a hipped bay window on both the north and south sides; there is also a secondary entrance on the north. The east side has a second-story balcony with wood railings.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1980

**Status:** noncontributing building

**Outbuilding:** This is a one-story front-gabled log storage shed (15' by 18'). The building has round logs, cement chinking and hog trough corners. The roof is covered with corrugated tin and supported by log ridgepole and purlins. There is a shed-roofed addition (9' x 18') whose walls and roof are covered with corrugated tin. Window bays are boarded over, and there is a wood panel door in the facade or south side. The building has deteriorated and is in need of repair.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1939

**Status:** contributing building

**45. South Pass Trading Company (Masonic Building)**

**Address:** 60 West South Pass Avenue (Main)

This is a 2-story log and wood frame front-gabled building (24' EW by 35' NS) with a wood frame false front and no basement. The gable roof has open eaves with exposed rafter ends and is clad with wood shingles, and there is a straddle ridge corbeled brick chimney. The first-story walls are constructed with round logs with cement chinking and square notched corners. The second story walls are clad with board and batten siding. The facade (south side) features a tall plain false front covered with clapboard siding; the second story is slightly recessed. The second story contains two 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash and wood surrounds. The first story facade has a centered entrance consisting of twin-leaf wood panel 1-light doors flanked by 12-light fixed display windows with wood sash and surrounds. A painted signboard sits above the entrance. The facade also has a wood deck-sidewalk and log hitching rails. The east side has a set of wooden stairs leading to a second story entrance.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1969

**Status:** noncontributing building

**46. Ridge Brown Garage**

**Address:** B Street

This is a one-story, wood frame, side-gabled, 3-car garage. The gable roof has extended eaves and is covered with tarpaper roofing. The exterior walls are covered with vertical groove wood paneling. The building consists of three garage bays with 2-light overhead wooden garage doors.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1980

**Status:** noncontributing building

**47. Brehe House**

**Address:** 15 B Street

This is a split-level wood frame house (28' EW by 48' NS). The rear (north) portion (18' by 28') of the building is original. The main portion, or addition, of the house faces south and has a moderately-pitched gable roof with extended boxed eaves and is covered with asphalt shingles with a side slope round metal chimney. The exterior walls are clad with wood lap siding. The building contains two levels; the lower level consists of a 1-car garage with metal overhead door on the facade (south side), as well as a wood panel 2-light door and a 2-light sliding casement window. The second story has a slightly protruding facade. The ground slopes up toward the back so that the rear section is a one-story component, which has a front-gabled roofline (facing east) and contains a second entrance and wood deck on the east. Windows are generally 2-light vertical sliding units or large 1-light fixed window with 1/1-light double-hung sidelights.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1980; remodeled in 2001

**Status:** noncontributing building

**48. Sorrel House**

**Address:** 45 B Street

This is a one-story wood frame side-gabled residence (24' EW by 28' NS) resting on a concrete block foundation with no basement. The moderately-pitched gable roof has extended boxed eaves and is clad with wood shingles with a front-slope round metal chimney. The exterior walls are covered with vertical grooved wood paneling. The facade faces east and contains the main entrance (a wood panel door with oval light) and three large 1/1-light windows with aluminum storm coverings. Other windows are double-hung 1x1-light. The east side has a shed-roofed open porch with wood railings; the deck extends around the south side of the house. The south side contains sliding glass doors and a fixed one-light

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window. There is a lower gable-roofed wood frame addition (16' by 22') on the north, which contains an entrance and window on both the east and west sides. Its roof is covered with green tin roofing.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1979; addition in 2000

**Status:** noncontributing building

**Outbuilding:** a front-gabled, 1-car log garage (17' x 21') with twin wood-hinged "X"-braced doors on the facade or south side. The roof has open eaves and is clad with asphalt shingles. The walls are constructed with full round logs with saddle-notched corners. There is a pedestrian entrance with a wood door in the west side and a small boarded over window bay in the east side.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1991

**Status:** noncontributing building

#### 49. Stone Fireplace

**Location:** South Pass Avenue between Buildings 3 and 4

This site consists of the stone fireplace base that is speculated to be the location of the first school house in South Pass City and may have been the private home/school headed by Judge Stillman. The ruins are located between the buildings in a grove of aspen on the north side of South Pass Avenue. The site consists of 20+ native stone (schist) slabs piled on top of one another near the bottom of a ridge slope. They constitute the remains of the stone chimney for the one-room log schoolhouse. More archaeological and archival research is needed to positively confirm its identity. It is considered a contributing element to the district for its archaeological potential under Criterion D.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** contributing site

#### 50. Collapsed Log Building

**Location:** Northeast corner of South Pass Avenue and Washington Street

This site consists of a collapsed log building with a rectangular-shaped building base (22' E-W x 16' N-S). Its two-to-three courses of round logs are hewn flat on the inside and square-notched and spiked at the principle building corners. There is an opening for a door on the south side, and a possible window bay on the east side. Though its building date and function remain unknown, it is an example of log construction methods in South Pass City.

**Estimated date:** unknown

**Status:** contributing site

#### 51. Stone Foundation

**Location:** North of Building 9

This site consists of a stone foundation dug into the hillside behind or north of the Sherlock House (No. 9). The foundation is approximately 21' N-S x 15'6" E-W. The random ashlar walls are well-crafted and utilize a mud/clay mortar that has weathered out in many places. The rear or north wall has a maximum height of about 6' and has a large rectangular opening (4'6" x 4' high) that contained a fireplace. The opening is supported by a 7" x 8" rectangular timber lintel. The height of the east and west walls gradually diminishes from north to south. The south wall is a maximum of 2' high. It has a possible door opening near its center that is about 3' wide. This foundation represents the remains of what was known as the Custer Street Rock House. It is believed to have been built during the first mining boom, ca. 1868-1872, and later the residence of Dr. Walter Lovejoy in the 1880s. Limited archaeological excavations were conducted on this site in 1995 by the Archaeological Field School sponsored by Western Wyoming Community College, Rock Springs. It is considered a contributing element to the district for its archaeological potential under Criterion D.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** contributing site

#### 52. Horse and Wagon Bridge

**Location:** Crosses Willow Creek at Price Street

The Horse and Wagon Bridge has fourteen-foot long abutments on each bank constructed with stone-faced concrete piers topped by full round log cribbing with saddle notching. The abutments also act as approaches and are capped with a log deck. The bridge deck (16' long x 13' wide) is constructed with log stringers supporting a log deck consisting of 26 hewn logs spiked to the stringers. The original bridge was constructed in ca. 1867-68. The bridge was partially stabilized in about 1945. In 1995, SPHST reconstructed the bridge.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868; stabilized ca. 1945; reconstructed in 1995

**Status:** noncontributing structure

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**53. Wolverine Mine Adit**

**Location:** West side of Washington Street

The Wolverine Mine Adit consists of a timbered mine adit that is approximately 75 feet long. In 1996, the adit portal was altered by SPSHT for interpretive purposes. The portal is lined with dry laid stone on both sides, a timber roof covered with soil, and a wood slab door. Narrow gauge tracks and ties have been laid on the floor of the adit, exit the adit, and a ore car placed on them. The Wolverine Adit is within the Wolverine mining claim that became a part of the group of claims that constituted the Carissa mine. However, this adit was never seriously developed. In 2001, a one-half scale five-stamp mill was erected outside the entrance. All changes are recent and not necessarily historically accurate, and substantially alter the historic integrity of this resource.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** noncontributing structure

**54. Ten Stamp Mill**

**Location:** East side of Washington Street

A portion of a ten-stamp California quartz mill, believed to be a part of the Sturman & Company Quartz Mill (No. 99), dates from ca. 1870. It was moved to this particular location in the South Pass City State Historic Site in 1994-95 to prevent vandalism and placed on a concrete foundation. While historically significant as the last quartz mill that operated in the district, the stamp mill no longer possesses integrity of location or setting and has been separated from the remainder of the original millsite with which it was associated.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1870

**Status:** noncontributing structure

**55. Monument and Marker**

**Location:** South of Building 7

A central stone monument with a brass plaque is flanked on either side by concrete obelisks with concrete bases. The central monument constructed with native stone faces south and commemorates the founding of the Sate Historic Site. The concrete obelisk to the west of the monument bears a circular brass plaque identifying the Oregon Trail/Lander Cutoff 1857. The east obelisk bears a circular brass plaque for the Oregon Trail, 1843-1868. These monuments do not actually depict the location of either trail and have been moved more than once.

**Estimated date:** 1966

**Status:** noncontributing object

**56. Esther Hobart Morris Monument**

**Location:** West of the reconstructed Slack/Morris Cabin, Building 14

A granite marker with a bronze plaque commemorates Esther Hobart Morris, the first female judge in Wyoming.

**Estimated date:** 1935

**Status:** noncontributing object

**57. South Pass City Cemetery**

**Location:** ¼ mile south of South Pass City

The South Pass City Cemetery sits on a ridge top on the south side of Willow Creek and the gravel county road passes the cemetery on the west. A log rail fence encloses a rectangular area that is approximately 134' E-W by 257' N-S. Only a small number of graves are marked. However, two plots that have formal engraved headstones are surrounded with wrought iron fences.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** contributing site

**Mono Lode Mining Claim and Carissa Mine and Mill Complex**

There are 17 mining claims within the South Pass City Historic District and they follow the vein of quarts in which the gold was located. Each claim may have multiple adits, shafts, and prospect pits, which were all attempts to locate and extract the quartz. The Carissa lode, within the Mono Lode mining claim, was the first major gold vein in the Sweetwater region. The discovery of Carissa lode in 1867 precipitated the rush to the area. This addition to the historic district contains numerous mining related resources that were not included in the original nomination. Many of the components of mines are necessary to define, the definitions follow:

Adit: a horizontal passage into a mine

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Arrastra: an early structure for crushing or milling ore, which consists of a circular depression where drag stones, hard rocks, are pulled over ore

Collar: an improved opening or entrance to a shaft

Drift: secondary horizontal passage that provided access to the vein

Levels: horizontal passages that are generally evenly spaced and connected to a mine shaft

Ore Pile: deposits or low-grade ore that was removed from a mine

Portal: an improved opening or entrance to an adit

Prospect pit: shallow holes that are failed attempts to locate or reach the vein of quartz

Shaft: a vertical passage into a mine

Tunnel: a horizontal passage into a mine, with openings at each end

Spoil Pile: deposit of rock or waste that was removed from a mine

**58. Carissa Mine**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

The Carissa mine is a dual compartment approximately 400 foot deep shaft, with five levels. It contains "more than 2,300 feet of drifts [that] were driven over a total strike length of at least 750 feet." The mine and collar are enclosed in the reconstructed shaft house. Currently only the mine collar and approximately 20 feet of the dual shafts are visible. The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, for reasons of health and public safety, filled approximately 20 feet of the shaft with polyurethane foam; however, the mine shaft and 5 levels are intact and the polyurethane foam is removable. The mine was enlarged from 1867 until 1954 when significant mining activity ceased. Since the mine is no longer operational, the pumping of water stopped and the shaft and levels are filled with water.<sup>1</sup>

**Estimated date:** 1867

**Status:** contributing structure

**59. Glory Hole**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

Glory Hole is the first excavation used to access the Carissa lode and is located southeast of the shaft house and the current operating shaft. It is believed to be the first substantial mine shaft in Wyoming and is the first mining claim in the state. The shaft is approximately 60 feet deep with an opening that is approximately 80 feet in length and 20 feet wide. As it is not encapsulated, collapsed, or filled with polyurethane foam, it is inherently dangerous for anyone to gather measurements that are more accurate. Glory hole is surrounded on the north and east sides by solid rock and the west and south sides by a wood fence and walkway, which allows for interpretation by SPHST.

**Estimated date:** 1867

**Status:** contributing structure

**60. Antonie Shaft**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

The Antonie shaft is a gold rush era mining resource. It is 30 feet south of the Glory Hole and also located along the quartz vein. The approximately 90 foot-deep shaft is partially filled with polyurethane foam, and then covered with a layer of local dirt and rocks. The opening of the Antonie shaft is currently seven feet deep. The south and east sides are solid rock while to the north and west are dirt and spoil piles.

**Estimated date:** 1867

**Status:** contributing structure

**61. Carissa Mill**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

This is an industrial building consisting of a multi-level structure designed for the processing of ore. The building consists of several components on a steep slope that drops to the southwest. Although the building is oriented at about a fifty-five degree angle, it will be described using cardinal directions (the side facing slightly northeast will be considered "east"). The approximate overall dimensions of the building are 154'6" NS by 141' EW. It is a timber frame building, and the roofs and exterior walls are covered with varying sizes of corrugated sheet metal. The building has a basic pegged mortise and tenon timber braced frame that allowed it to be dismantled at its original location in Atlantic City and moved to its current location and reassembled in 1929. The roof is supported by 2 x 10" joists and trusses spaced two feet apart. Most of the windows consist of 12-light fixed sash that have the appearance of 6/6-light double-hung units; these replacement units consist of aluminum sash and frame and wood trim.

<sup>1</sup> W. Dan Hausel, Report of Investigations No. 44. South Pass City State Historic Site research files.

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The tallest component (A), where the milling process begins, is located at the highest point and faces east. It measures approximately 30' NS by 23'6" EW by 26'5" high (at the lower roofline) and has a gabled monitor roof with moderately extended open eaves with exposed rafter ends. There is a door opening in the top gable end and a smaller first-story 1/1-light window on the east side; the north and south sides each have one 6/6-light window.

The next lower level (B) consists of a large side-gabled structure that is attached to the west side of A and is partially wrapped around the north and south sides of A. It measures approximately 58' NS by 46' EW, including a gable-roofed extension on the south. There is a small gable-roofed extension at the northwest corner of B. This level has several doors and limited fenestration. The few openings are filled with multi-light fixed sash and the replacement 12-light sash used on level A.

West and downslope from B is component C, a large building segment with an asymmetrical side-gabled roof (south side) that has a small gable-roofed extension near the east end of the south side. The main component measures approximately 130' NS by 39' EW. A tall round metal chimney supported by guy wires extends from the east roof slope. This level has many doors and more fenestration. Evenly-spaced windows in the east, north, and west walls have the 12-light replacement sash. The west side has a monitor roof with nine 6-light fixed windows.

Component D is downslope and west of C. It has a shed roof and measures approximately 22'6" EW by 154'6" NS. There are four evenly-spaced gabled dormers, each with 6-light fixed windows on the west side. The west side rests on a concrete and stacked rock foundation. The west side has twelve evenly-spaced 12-light windows. The north side contains a twin-leaf wooden door and a wood panel pedestrian door.

The interior of the mill contains several levels arranged to process ore. Component A (the east and highest level) contains the coarse ore bin. Component B contains fine ore bins. Other equipment still intact includes one rake thickener, four agitation ranks, and crushers used in the cyanide gold milling process. The twenty-stamp mill and equipment for the amalgamation process installed in the mill in 1929 were removed in "1946 and replaced with a closed ball mill grinding circuit suitable" for the cyanide process. Some of the grinding circuit equipment was later removed.<sup>2</sup>

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** The original mill was constructed in 1904 or 1905 in Atlantic City and was moved onsite in 1929; it is currently being rehabilitated.

**Status:** contributing building

## 62. Hoist House

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

This is a one-story wood frame side gabled industrial building that houses the mine hoist machinery. It consists of a large central portion with east and west additions. The roofs and exterior walls are covered with corrugated metal sheeting. The main structure (36'5" EW by 34'6" NS) is a tall side-gabled building. There are two boarded-over entrances on the south side; the one on the west is a large garage-type opening, and the one in the middle of the facade is a single door with transom. East of the entrances is a window bay, which consists of the framing for a double-hung window that is missing the glass panes. The north wall has hinged twin-leaf wood doors and one 6/6-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds. There are two wood frame shed additions on the west side. The addition on the south (12' E-W by 20' N-S) has three windows with 6-light fixed sash. North of this addition is a smaller recessed shed-roofed addition (10'6" E-W by 9' N-S) with a small window opening on the north side. The east addition (13' E-W by 34'6" N-S) also has a shed roof whose upper roofline corresponds to the lower gable ends. The south side of this addition has a 6/1-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds. The east side has three windows with varied sash. The interior contains the steam hoist, which has been converted to electric. The essential building is intact.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1929

**Status:** contributing building

## 63. Headframe, Shaft House, and Trestle

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

A reconstructed headframe, shaft house, and trestle connect the hoist house to the Carissa mill. The reconstruction followed the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Reconstruction and was built to the 1929 era. The four-post derrick with diagonal backbrace headframe is partially enclosed in the shaft house. The four posts are 51 ½ feet and extend the full height of the head frame. The headframe incorporates the original sheave wheel. The two-story shaft house with

<sup>2</sup> Prospectus of Mica Mountain Mines, Inc. 20 Nov 1947, South Pass City State Historic Site research files.

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gable roof abuts the hoist house on the north. The primary entrance is on the east side; a secondary door on the west side was used to remove waste from the mine. The east elevation extends out slightly to accommodate a small machine shop with shed roof. Light is provided through six fixed windows under the eaves and three additional windows on the west elevation. The south elevation is dominated by the rail trestle, which extends to the mill. The trestle is supported by wood timbers set in concrete foundations. The trestle was used to transport ore from the mine to the mill. SPHST uses this area for interpretation of hardrock mining.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 2003

**Status:** one noncontributing building, two noncontributing structures

**64. Mill Office**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

This is a one-story, front-gabled log building (26'6" NS by 25'6" EW) resting on a partial concrete foundation, and on a stacked rock foundation on the west and south sides. The moderately-pitched gable roof has extended boxed eaves and is covered with galvanized corrugated steel and tarpaper. There is a side-slope round metal chimney. The roof extends to the west, giving it an asymmetrical appearance. The walls are constructed with hewn logs with chinking and "hog trough" corners. The logs extend into the upper gable ends. The facade faces generally south and has a 4' by 25' wood deck and two entrances with wood panel doors. Between the entrances is a 6/6-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds. The east and north sides each contain a similar window. The north side also has an entrance with a door covered with horizontal wood planks. Recently hewn sill logs are visible on the north. The west side contains two multi-light windows. Because the earth slopes down on the west, the space below the logs is covered with vertical boards. The space between the wood deck and ground on the south side is open. The interior is divided into four rooms with plasterboard walls. The walls have baseboard molding and dropped ceilings.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1898-1906; there have been minor alterations over time, but it remains essentially as built

**Status:** contributing building

**65. Reagent Shed**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

This is a small one-story wood frame shed-roofed building (12'4" by 12'4") resting on a dry-laid stone foundation. The roof is covered with board and batten roofing. The walls are wood frame covered with varying lengths of board and batten siding. The entrance faces east and is located near the southeast corner. It consists of twin-leaf hinged vertical board doors. There are no other openings. The building is perched on the edge of a gully; a 12' stone retaining wall is located below grade on the west side of the building to reinforce its foundation.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1899; a smokestack depicted in an earlier photo has been removed

**Status:** contributing building

**66. Cook House**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

This is a one-story wood frame side-gabled cook house (30'4" EW by 24'3" NS) with an associated dugout and outhouse. It rests on a dry-laid stone foundation with no basement. The main portion of the building has a moderately-pitched gable roof with extended boxed eaves. The roof is currently covered with green rolled asphalt roofing and has a front-slope brick chimney. The wood frame walls are also covered with green rolled asphalt roofing, which was probably the original fabric. There are two small wood frame additions. On the facade (north side) is a small shed-roofed vestibule (4' by 10') with an east-facing five-panel wood door. On the west side near the rear is a lower shed-roofed addition (5'6" by 6'4") with one south-facing window covered with corrugated tin. The south side has a wood door covered by an aluminum storm door and is located near the west end. East of the entrance are two 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds. There is an open deck along the west 16 feet of the south side. Windows on the east and west sides consist of 6-light fixed units with wood sash; one of the windows on the west side is boarded over. The north side contains two 4-light fixed windows with wood sash, one on each side of the vestibule. The interior is divided into three main rooms, with a dining room occupying the north half, and the kitchen and cook's quarters equally dividing the south half. In addition to being a cookhouse and dining facility, the building has served as employee housing. It represents vernacular or folk architecture. The roof and walls are currently covered with tarpaper, and one window is boarded over.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1929-30

**Status:** contributing building

**Outbuilding:** A dugout located south of and downslope from the house is connected to the house by a 5' by 18' flat-roofed wood frame structure; near the south end of the structure on the west side is a wood-covered entry with a trap door

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and steps down into the dugout. The dugout is rock covered with earth (ca. 18' by 20'); it has a wooden vent near the south end. The interior dimensions are 8' x 14'6".

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1929-1930

**Status:** contributing building

**67. Log House**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

This is a one-story front-gabled log house (12'8" NS by 18'4" NS) resting on recently installed sill logs with no basement. The medium-to-steeply-pitched gable roof has 1x8" sheathing on 2x4" rough sawn lumber, currently covered with green asphalt rolled roofing. The eaves extend 9 inches on all sides, and small rafter ends are exposed on the east and west sides. The roof has a side-slope opening for flue. The walls are constructed with hewn logs with nailed cement chinking and wood post corners. The logs extend to the peaks of the gable ends. The east and west walls used two log segments joined by a wood post. Windows on the east, south, and north sides have been replaced with replica units. The facade generally faces south and contains the only entrance, a wood panel door with boarded-over window, reached by one wood step. The building represents vernacular or folk log architecture. The roof is currently covered with green asphalt rolled roofing, reflecting the 1929-1930 era; a small shed-roofed addition on the south (not historic) has been recently removed.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1898; moved to current location in 1929 to accommodate the Carissa mill

**Status:** contributing building

**68. Bunkhouse**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City

This is a one-story side-gabled wood frame bunkhouse that rests on a rough rock foundation. It measures 45'11" EW by 24'7" NS. The medium-pitched gable roof is covered with green asphalt rolled roofing and has a front-slope brick chimney. The roof has extended boxed eaves, and there is wood trim at the corners, in the gable ends, and below the boxed eaves. The exterior walls are also clad with green asphalt rolled roofing. The south side has an entrance with a wood panel door sheltered by an open shed-roofed vestibule (9'8" EW by 4' NS) that has a dock-style wood plank floor. There are four window openings, two on each side of the entrance, which are boarded over. The main entrance is in the north side and consists of a plain wood door, which is flanked by 6/6-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds. There are also two boarded-over windows to the east. Both the east and west sides have two 6-light fixed windows lacking glass. The interior has a wood floor and is divided into seven rooms and a central hallway. This building represents vernacular or folk architecture.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** the building may have been constructed in 1898-99 as the Federal Gold Mining Company's office. When the Dexter Mill was moved and reconstructed on the Carissa grounds in 1929, it is possible that the old office was then moved to this location.

**Status:** contributing building

**69. Midwest Mine Office**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

This is a one-story side-gabled wood frame office building that rests on a concrete foundation with no basement. It faces generally south and measures 31' EW by 17' NS. The medium-pitched gable roof is covered with green asphalt rolled roofing and has two straddle-ridge brick chimneys. The roof has extended open eaves with exposed rafter ends. The exterior walls are also covered with green asphalt rolled roofing. The south side or facade contains two entrances, each with a wood panel door. To the east of each entrance is a 6/6-light double-hung window with wood sash and surrounds. The east and west sides have a similar window, and the west side also has a 1/1-light double-hung window. The north side contains a small 1 x1-light horizontal sliding window. There is an ell-shaped wood deck with partial railing on the facade. The interior is divided into three front rooms and one large rear room. The building represents vernacular or folk architecture.

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** 1929 by Midwest Mines Corporation

**Status:** contributing building

**70. Dugout/Powderhouse**

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

This is a dugout that generally faces south and measures 17' NS by 11' EW. It has a partially collapsed gable roof covered with logs with sawed ends, some broken planks, and a layer of dirt. The roof has log purlins and ridgepole. Log corners are connected with posts and round spikes. The gable roof is at ground level. The entrance faces south and has a strap-hinged door consisting of two layers of wood planks. Dirt is mounded up around the dugout on the east, west, and

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north sides. The dugout has a dirt floor. The interior dimensions are 9' x 16'. The south wall has a pronounced lean, and the roof is partially collapsed

**Estimated date of construction/alteration:** ca. 1900

**Status:** contributing building

#### 71. Carissa Spoil Piles

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

The Carissa spoil piles, located down an incline and southwest of the reconstructed shaft house, are extensive and consist of multiple waste piles from nearly a century of intermittent mining. A second set of spoil piles, also from the Carissa mine, are located approximately 1000 feet south of the mine complex.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1867

**Status:** contributing site

#### 72. Charlie's Folly Loading Dock

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

Within the Carissa spoil piles is a 1980s wooden loading dock used by Charlie Johnson, a local resident who continued the tradition mining the Carissa lode. In 1984, he attempted to access the first level of the Carissa through the very unstable spoils pile, earning the name Charlie's folly. The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality collapsed Charlie's folly; leaving only the loading dock.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1984

**Status:** noncontributing site

#### 73. Federal Gold Mining Company Foundations

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

The foundations for the Federal Gold Mining Company's mill are located in and under the spoil piles of the Carissa mine. The visible portion of the foundations consists of concrete and timber footings. The stepped terrace upon which the mill was situated is also evident. The foundations ruins, while partially covered by spoil piles and the remnants of Charlie's Folly, are contributing.

**Estimated date:** 1898

**Status:** contributing site

#### 74. Federal Gold Mining Company Mill Dump

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

The remnants of the Federal Gold Mining Company mill are located southeast of the Carissa Mine Company complex. The Federal Gold Mining Company mill was demolished in the mid 1930s and moved to the current location to make room for the additional spoil piles. The dump was partially burned and left open to the elements; however, SPHST staff still use the dump to gain a better understanding of the technology employed in the Federal Gold Mining Company mill.

**Estimated date:** ca. mid-1930

**Status:** contributing site

#### 75. Stone House Adit

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

The Stone House adit is located downslope and to the west of the Carissa mine and mill amidst the spoil piles. It served as an access point to the Carissa mine and provided entry to the second level of the mine; however, much of the adit is collapsed, cutting off access to the mine. The adit portal was partially enclosed by a stone, log, and wood entrance room or house. The collapsed adit covers the roof of the entrance room in dirt and waste. A log roof, dry laid stone wall, and milled lumber wall remain. The southern entrance to the room is still evident.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1867

**Status:** contributing structure

#### 76. Modern Trash Dump

**Address:** 675 Atlantic City Road

Southeast of the Carissa mine and mill complex is a modern trash dump. It is composed of cars and trucks, refrigerators, and general trash. After the mine and mill closed in 1954 and prior to the state ownership in 2003, local residents used this as a trash dump. It is noncontributing as its use is outside the period of significance and is not associated with any mining activity.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1940s

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**Status:** noncontributing site

#### 77. Snowden/Marrin Log Cabin Dump Site

**Location:** North of the railroad grade above Altorus Gulch

The dump consists of debris from a 1940s fire that destroyed the original Marrin log house. The log house was a gold rush era house located on Dakota Street that burned due to an electrical fault in the ceiling wire. The remains were removed by the Marrins prior to construction of the present house on the same location.<sup>3</sup>

**Estimated date:** ca. 1940

**Status:** noncontributing site

#### Hermit Gulch

This large gulch and drainage is located east of the Carissa mine and mill complex and partially within the Homestake mining claim. This region contains integral elements of the mining system required to operate the mill complex, as well as various gold rush era mining resources. Hermit Creek is the location of one of the initial gold discoveries in the region.

#### 78. Mill Pond Complex

**Location:** Approximately ¼ mile east of the Carissa mill

The mill pond, mill pond dam and headgate, and the mill pond pump house provided water to the Federal Gold Mining Company mill. The small pond is in Hermit Gulch surrounded by willows. The dam consisting of a combination of earthen fill and concrete incorporates a wooden headgate and is located on the southeast edge of the pond. Both are somewhat functional today. The mill pond pump house is a ruin with only concrete foundations and remnants of the wall remain. A willow currently grows in the center of the former structure. A reliable water supply was critical for the operation of the mill system. The mill required approximately 1600 gallons of water to process one ton of ore, at its peak processing approximately 70 tons of ore per day.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1900

**Status:** two contributing sites, two contributing structures

#### 79. Homestake Mine

**Location:** ½ mile uphill from the mill pond

The Homestake mine is an adit that is located west and slightly uphill from the mill pond foundations. It is an approximately 800-foot adit that is partially collapsed and overgrown with willows. The adit is open; however, due to health and human safety concerns, it cannot be accessed. The spoil piles, which are adjacent to the adit, contain three waste piles and one ore pile. On the ore pile, there is evidence of recent attempts to crush and pan the ore. The Homestake adit is located along the gold bearing quartz vein, just east of the Mono lode claim.

**Estimated date:** 1871

**Status:** contributing structure

#### 80. Mill Pond Adit

**Location:** 100 yards uphill from the mill pond

The Mill Pond adit is approximately 100 yards southwest of the mill pond, located west and up the gulch from the pond. This is an approximately 30-foot adit with a portal that is now enclosed. The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, required for reasons of health and public safety, that a wood door and frame be installed. SPHST staff believes that the adit was used to prove up the claim.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1900

**Status:** contributing structure

#### Small Mine Resources

The following resources are within mining claims that generally followed the vein of gold bearing quartz in which the Carissa lode was located. These shafts or adits were attempts to access the valuable quartz in the area. According to surveys completed by the Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist, over 150 smaller prospect pits are found within the boundary of the South Pass City Historic District. However, at this time, there is no other known record or documentation of those prospect pits.

#### 81. Cuba Mine and Shaft House

**Location:** South of the abandoned railroad grade and on the ridge midway between Altorus Gulch and the Carissa mine

<sup>3</sup> James Sherlock, *South Pass and Its Tales* (New York: Vantage Press, 1978), 28.

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Atop the Cuba mine shaft is a one room log building; this shaft house is constructed of peeled logs with saddle notching and a low pitched gable roof. The remains of a lean-to are visible on the west side of the building. The Cuba mine is not reclaimed. In addition, to the presence of the shaft house and mine shaft, the Cuba mining claim also has a significant stretch of the gold rush era Carissa ditch (No. 104) running across it.

**Estimated date:** 1898

**Status:** one contributing building, one contributing structure

#### 82. Franklin Mine and Associated Ruins

**Location:** On the western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade

The Franklin mine, located in the Gould and Curry lode claim, consists of the ruins of three log buildings, which are believed to be the remains of shaft houses, and eight partially reclaimed mine shafts. The shaft houses were of log construction with saddle notching, but are now ruins with some partial walls remaining. The largest mine shaft is now filled and covered with waste from a spoil pile and the mine is only accessible through a corrugated metal collar. In addition, the shaft is enclosed by a buck and rail fence. The portal to the second shaft is now closed by a wood cover. Another shaft still contains the remains of a portal. The remaining five shafts vary in width and depth, but are partially filled with slack and waste rock.

**Estimated date:** 1899

**Status:** eight contributing structures, three contributing sites

#### 83. Washington Shafts

**Location:** Upslope and northeast of the Carissa mine

The Washington shafts are in the Mono Lode mining claim. The two shafts are within 10 feet of each other; one shaft is 40 feet deep and the second 70 feet deep. The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality enclosed the two shafts with a buck and rail fence. The Washington shafts were worked during the gold rush.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** two contributing structures

#### 84. Sherlock Shaft

**Location:** Upslope and northeast of the Carissa mine

The Sherlock shaft is in the Mono Lode mining claim and is close to the Washington shafts. It is approximately 120 feet deep and was filled with polyurethane foam and capped with local dirt and rock by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality for reasons of health and public safety. The Sherlock shaft was worked during the gold rush and the Mono Lode claim was then purchased by the Federal Gold Mining Company when they consolidated the claims in 1896.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** contributing structure

#### 85. Polly Perkins Shafts

**Location:** Approximately ¼ mile southwest of the Carissa mine

Within Polly Perkins mining claim are three shafts. They are filled with polyurethane foam and capped with local dirt and rock by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality for reasons of health and public safety. The Polly Perkins shafts were worked during the gold rush and the Polly Perkins mining claim was purchased by the Federal Gold Mining Company when they consolidated the claims in 1896.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** three contributing structures

#### 86. Young America Shaft

**Location:** Approximately ¼ mile southwest of the Carissa mine

The Young America shaft is in the Mono Lode mining claim and is located approximately ¼ mile southwest of the Carissa mine. It is approximately 85 feet deep and was partially filled with polyurethane foam and capped with local dirt and rock by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality for reasons of health and public safety. The Young America shaft was worked during the gold rush and the Mono Lode mining claim was then purchased by the Federal Gold Mining Company when they consolidated the claims in 1896.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** contributing structure

#### 87. Jeanette Shafts

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**Location:** Approximately ½ mile southwest of the Carissa mine

Within the Jeanette mining claim are two shafts and tunnel also located parallel to the vein of quartz. They were filled with polyurethane foam and capped with local dirt and rock by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality for reasons of health and public safety.

**Estimated date:** 1902

**Status:** three contributing structures

#### 88. Charles Dickens Shaft

**Location:** Approximately ¾ mile southwest of the Carissa mine

The Charles Dickens shaft is situated on an open plain southwest of the Carissa mine and is in the original Charles Dickens mining claim. It was filled with polyurethane foam and capped with local dirt and rock by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality for reasons of health and public safety. The Charles Dickens shaft was worked during the gold rush and the Charles Dickens claim was then purchased by the Federal Gold Mining Company when they consolidated the claims in 1896.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** contributing structure

#### 89. Uncle John's Shaft and Adit

**Location:** Approximately 1 ½ miles southwest of the Carissa mine

Uncle John's adit and shaft are in the original Alpine mining claim. The adit is located just north of Willow Creek at the base of the cliff wall. While the adit portal, which is approximately 40 feet from the cliff wall, is composed of dry laid stone walls with a peeled log roof, the adit is collapsed between the portal and the cliff. On the ridge above the adit is a shaft 50 to 60 feet deep that was used for ventilation of the adit. Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality required that for reasons of health and public safety the shaft be filled with polyurethane foam and covered with local dirt and rock. Uncle John's adit was worked during the gold rush and the Alpine mining claim was then purchased by the Federal Gold Mining Company when they consolidated the claims in 1896.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** two contributing structures

#### 90. Alpine Incline Shaft

**Location:** On a ridge southwest of the Carissa mine

The Alpine Incline shaft is in the original Alpine mining claim and situated along the quartz vein. A portion of the timber shaft collar remains. According to diaries, this mine was also worked in the 1880s. It was purchased in 1896 by the Federal Gold Mining Company when the claims were consolidated. The Wyoming State Geologist office mapped the shaft in the 1980s and as recently as the 1990s a commercial mine interest drilled a test core that revealed the ore to be low-grade. The shaft was then filled with polyurethane foam and capped with local dirt and rock by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality for reasons of health and public safety.

**Estimated date:** 1867

**Status:** contributing structure

#### Alturus Gulch

While mining activity in Alturus Gulch predates South Pass City, development in this location was quickly surpassed by the community to the south. Alturus Gulch, also known as Mormon Gulch, is a narrow ravine that is bisected by Mormon Creek, which runs north south. All mining resources within the gulch are gold rush era.

#### 91. Alturus Gulch Foundation 1

**Location:** Near entrance of Alturus Gulch

This Alturus Gulch foundation is located at the south end and near the entrance of the narrow ravine. Only a corner of the foundation remains and consists of five courses of dry laid stone.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1867

**Status:** contributing site

#### 92. Alturus Gulch Foundation 2

**Location:** Northern end of Alturus Gulch

Alturus Gulch foundation 2 is located at the northern end of the gulch surrounded by aspens. The ruin rests on a spoil pile, is rectangular, and consists of 3-5 courses of dry laid native stone walls.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1867

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**Status:** contributing site

**93. Altorus Gulch Adit 1**

**Location:** Midway down Altorus Gulch, between the foundation ruins

The adit enters the east side of the ravine wall and is partially obscured by vegetation. The spoil piles are approximately 100 feet from the adit portal and are clearly defined. Due to the large size of the piles, it is estimated that the adit is extensive; however, because of reasons of health and public safety, the adit cannot be entered.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1867

**Status:** contributing structure

**94. Altorus Gulch Adit 2**

**Location:** Northern end of Altorus Gulch

This adit is approximately 20 feet from Foundation 2 and is drilled into the hillside. The spoil pile, while substantial, is smaller in size than Altorus Gulch adit 1, indicating a shorter adit.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1867

**Status:** contributing structure

**95. Altorus Gulch Arrastra**

**Location:** Midway down the ravine west of Mormon Creek

The arrastra, slightly uphill, is the only resource in the gulch located west of the creek. There are two small open, circular areas surrounded by willows, aspens, and additional vegetation. Drag stones are located in both clearings. It is believed that this is the earliest milling site in the South Pass City Historic District and that the arrastra was noted by Rossiter Worthington Raymond in his 1868 report to Congress.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1867

**Status:** contributing structure

**Willow Creek**

The resources in this area span both sides of Willow Creek and are located just west of South Pass City. The Willow Creek area contains resources that are mining in nature, as well as residences and industrial resources.

**96. Brick Plant Ruin**

**Location:** On the south bank of Willow Creek and east of the abandoned railroad grade

The remains of the brick plant consist of two accumulations of bricks, probably outdoor kiln areas, and excavations into the hill slopes that are probably clay pits. The scant historic record for the site comes from James L. Sherlock, in which he states that "...there was a brick kiln about half a mile up Willow Creek on the south side of the creek. Brick clay was dug and brick was burned at this location." Two brick masons listed in the 1870 census for South Pass City, indicating that the brick plant was in use early in the town's history.<sup>4</sup>

**Estimated date:** ca. 1870

**Status:** contributing site

**97. Quartz Mill**

**Location:** On the south bank of Willow Creek and east of the abandoned railroad grade

This site consists of the remains of the Sturman & Company Quartz Mill located along the south bank of Willow Creek, a short distance east of the brick plant ruins. According to James L. Sherlock, it was a ten-stamp steam powered mill with a copper-plate amalgam-recovery process. The physical remains consist of the footings for heavy equipment; squared timbers in an "H" pattern within an area excavated into the hillside. An accumulation of mill tailings along the south bank of Willow Creek has been removed by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.<sup>5</sup>

**Estimated date:** ca. 1870

**Status:** contributing site

**98. Willow Creek Arrastra**

**Location:** West of the town and on north bank of Willow Creek

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., 4-8.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., 9-11.

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The Willow Creek Arrastra consists of a small round sunken clearing that is somewhat overtaken by willows. On the north side of the clearing is dry laid stone wall composed of 8 to 10 courses. Several drag stones and a drag hook are located in the clearing. This is believed to be one of the early milling locations in Wyoming.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** contributing structure

**99. Smith Site**

**Location:** West of South Pass City and on the south bank of Willow Creek

The Smith family attempted to settle on land south of town and across Willow Creek. The site contains concrete foundations, the ruins of a cabin, an outhouse, and a small storage shed.

**Estimated date:** unknown

**Status:** noncontributing site

**Linear Resources**

These resources are found throughout the sections and cross through various portions of the historic district.

**100. Wood Road**

The wood road is a two track that runs north/south and bisects the historic district. It emerges north of Willow Creek and west of South Pass City. SPHST staff believes the road was used by residents and miners to haul wood for fuel.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** contributing structure

**101. Atlantic City and South Pass City Wagon and Toll Road**

The toll road connected the mining towns of South Pass City and Atlantic City through Hermit Gulch. Constructed in 1869, it follows Hermit Creek emerging on the east side of South Pass City. The condition of the toll road is poor and some segments no longer remain; however, much of the road is visible in aerial photographs.

**Estimated date:** 1869

**Status:** contributing structure

**102. Carissa Ditch**

The Carissa ditch, constructed during the gold rush, diverted water from upper Willow Creek to Carissa Gulch. Starting in the northwest corner of the section, the ditch winds through the historic district, ending at South Pass City Road. During the period of significance, the ditch extended to the Carissa mine and mill complex; however, with maintenance of the road, portions of the ditch were obliterated.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1868

**Status:** contributing structure

**103. County Road**

The South Pass City County Road is a crowned and ditched county road that is the primary access road into South Pass Historic Site. It runs through the eastern portion of section 20, through the town, along the west side of the cemetery, and then exits the historic district.

**Estimated date:** Date of current road alignment is undetermined.

**Status:** noncontributing structure

**104. Railroad**

United States Steel began construction of the railroad spur in 1960 and completed it by 1962. The railroad passed on the south and west side of South Pass City along the ridge. United States Steel abandoned the railroad in 1980 and removed the rail and ballast; it is now a railroad grade that curves throughout section 20.

**Estimated date:** ca. 1960

**Status:** noncontributing structure

**105. Atlantic City Road**

Atlantic City Road is a crowned and ditched county road that connects South Pass City and Atlantic City. It branches off of the South Pass City road and runs through section 21, by the Carissa mine and mill complex.

**Estimated date:** Date of current road alignment is undetermined.

**Status:** noncontributing structure

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### **Integrity**

Overall, the South Pass City Historic District retains good integrity. The mining resources throughout the district have excellent integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. The shafts, adits, and prospect pits are in the same location and the district's setting has changed little from the period of significance. These resources lend to strong feeling and association; the district is easily recognizable as a mining region. Most of the smaller shafts and adits as well as the Carissa mine have been partially reclaimed by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality. This work, undertaken for reasons of public health and safety, was designed and implemented to retain the integrity of setting, feeling and association. These resources are either fenced, with buck and rail, or partially filled with polyurethane foam and then covered with rock and dirt. The integrity of workmanship, design, and material is lower. The depth or extent of the mines is no longer visible; however, the spoil piles remain and the historic use of the adits and shafts is still readably apparent. In addition, both the fences and the polyurethane foam are removable.

The buildings and structures of the Carissa mine and mill complex, whose designs are directly related to the mining and milling process, demonstrate the changes in technology over time. The historic resources retain good to excellent integrity in all seven aspects. The three reconstructed resources, the shaft house, headframe, and trestle, are critical for the interpretation of the mining process. The reconstruction of the buildings and structures met the Secretary of the Interior's Standards of Reconstruction.

The buildings in South Pass City generally retain a high degree of integrity, with the exception of the properties located outside the SPHST property. There are few intrusions within the district, and they are relegated to the west extension of South Pass Avenue; these primarily summer homes are not visible throughout the district and are of a compatible size, scale, and material. On the east end of the town, some alterations have taken place over the years, but the integrity of design, workmanship, and materials is still good. Most common are additions that generally reflect the original materials, and most are within the period of significance. Other typical changes consist of altered windows and doors, different siding, and roof alterations. Because the majority of the buildings are administered by SPHST, they are well maintained. Four of the buildings, the Slack/Morris Cabin (No. 14), the Ervin Store (formerly the Variety Theater No. 18), the South Pass Hotel (No. 19) and the Houghton-Cotter Store (No. 7) were reconstructed in the 1970s to reflect former buildings that had been razed. Although not all of the reconstructions are historically accurate or in their original locations, their designs and materials are compatible, roughly reflect the historic time period, and are not considered intrusive. A few of the buildings in South Pass City have been moved from their original locations, but most of those moves are within the period of significance and reflect the historic use of moving or adapting buildings in an area of scant resources. Overall, the town maintains good integrity.

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## 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

### Period of Significance (justification)

The amended and expanded South Pass City Historic District's period of significance begins in 1867 with the discovery and development of the Carissa lode. It extends through the numerous boom and bust cycles until 1966 when the state acquired South Pass City and it became a state historic site. At this time, virtually all significant mining ceased, although sporadic test drilling continued throughout the district and occasionally water was pumped out of the Carissa mine.

### Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Industry

Exploration/Settlement

Archaeology

### Period of Significance

1867-1966

### Significant Dates

1867, 1896

1929, 1954

1966

### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

### Architect/Builder

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

South Pass City Historic District is eligible under Criterion A as a representative gold mining camp, which experienced several boom and bust cycles over a period of nearly 100 years. The mining claims, South Pass City, and the Carissa mine and mill complex represent the most successful gold mining region in Wyoming. The South Pass City Historic District is also an example of the boom and bust mining industry cycle prevalent in the state. Although the mines in the Sweetwater mining region did not prove to be economically viable over an extended period of time, they drew thousands of people to the region, some of whom settled permanently and provided goods and services to the miners, making it significant in the areas of exploration/settlement as well as industry.

South Pass City Historic District is also eligible under Criterion D for its potential to provide important information about the mining region's history. During its peak, the mining camp contained an estimated two hundred buildings, many of which were subsequently razed or cannibalized for materials. In addition, hundreds of prospect pits and other mining related resources are located throughout the historic district. Numerous archaeological investigations have already revealed that there are a large number of buried materials and deposits associated with the district. Future studies can aid in investigating the mining resources and identifying former building locations, their functions, and the life ways of the miners and the citizens of South Pass City.

Although the Sweetwater region produced the most gold in Wyoming and the gold rush of the late 1860s and the early 1870s was the largest in the state's history, it was significantly smaller than those of the surrounding states. Colorado, Nevada, Montana, and California all had larger gold rushes, in terms of number of people, number of rushes, and quantities of gold and silver extracted. Even though the Wyoming gold rush was comparatively small, the lure of gold continued to bring individual miners and larger investors back to the area for over 100 years. The South Pass City Historic District is located within the larger Sweetwater mining region. The region contains a few other mines; some, like South Pass City, were moderately successful. The expanded South Pass City Historic District represents one of the state's most significant mining resources and retains the majority of its components. As such, it is significant at the state level.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Early Area History

The area now referred to as the South Pass area or the Sweetwater Mining region was traditionally used as a transportation corridor rather than a place of settlement. Native American tribes used the area as a means of traversing between summer and winter grounds as well as part of their traditional hunting grounds. There is no known written record of South Pass until members of John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Company traveled from Oregon to St. Louis. Robert Stuart, the leader of that party, returning from Astoria, Oregon in 1812 discovered a relatively gentle passage over the Continental Divide near the south end of the Wind River Range. Twenty years later, in 1832, Captain Benjamin L.E. Bonneville took the first wagons over this South Pass, proving its practicality for wagon migration. Thousands of travelers, many of whom were gold seekers, passed through the region over the Oregon, California, and Mormon Pioneer Trails (referred to as the Oregon Trail in the remainder of the document) and South Pass in the following decades. Several forts along the Oregon Trail protected the travelers and provided the only settlements in the area. However, most people regarded the region only as another obstacle to be crossed in their travels west to Oregon, California, and the Salt Lake Valley.<sup>6</sup>

The use of the Oregon Trail severely declined with the construction of the transcontinental railroad. Wyoming, then a part of Dakota Territory, was sparsely populated, with few people settling in the territory; however, with the progression of the railroad, came an influx of people. In the late 1860s, as the railroad proceeded through southern Wyoming, several permanent communities formed along the route. Wyoming eventually became a territory in 1869 and a state in 1890.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, (Virginia Beach, VA.: Donning Company Publishers, 2004), 7-9.

<sup>7</sup> T. A. Larson, *History of Wyoming* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1978), 30; I. S. Bartlett, ed., *History of Wyoming*, vol. 1 (Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1918), 197.

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Although the Sweetwater region was historically used as a transportation corridor, until the gold rush there was no long-term settlement. Since the primary development occurred along the Union Pacific Railroad in southern Wyoming, the South Pass region and most of the territory were relatively isolated. The harsh climate contributed considerably to the lack of development of the area. At an elevation of 7,805 feet, the average annual precipitation is only 12 inches, the growing season is less than two and half months and the average mean temperatures range from 25 to 53 degrees. The isolation was an impediment to the miners, the mining industry, and the development of the region. In 1869, the nearest railroad was 100 miles to the south. The severe climate, high elevation, and distance from the railroad made materials, some natural resources, and fuel for power difficult to obtain.<sup>8</sup>

#### Mining and Milling Technology

In the Rocky Mountain Region, the methods of mineral extraction changed over time and varied by location. Placer mining, often the first method used, required little equipment or personnel, only a pan and one person. It involved removing dirt or sediment from rivers and streams, placing it in the pan, submerging it in water, and then inspecting for gold. Panning then often progressed to a rocker or sluice, which allowed the processing of a greater amount of sediment. In order to sort more gravel, some form of an elongated sluice box or "long tom" was frequently employed. In instances where the gold was attached to other minerals or rocks, a hand mortar or an arrastra mill was often constructed to separate the gold. In its simplest form, the arrastra consisted of a circular depression or paved circle of hard rocks or occasionally bricks with a vertical center post. A hard rock, often granite or basalt, and referred to as a drag or drag stone, was attached to the post. The ore was placed with water and a small amount of mercury in the arrastra and drag stones were pulled over the ore to crush the rock and separate the gold. The mercury would adhere to the gold particles to form an easily recognizable paste.<sup>9</sup>

Generally, in the Rocky Mountains, as gold and silver became more difficult to find and extricate, the method changed to hardrock mining. Depending on the size of the mine, the system employed varied in complexity. Using explosives, the initial adits and shafts were drilled into the ground or mountain side. Off of the adits or shafts, tunnels and drifts were blasted. In addition, levels or drifts, generally horizontal passages, were drilled at regular intervals, often at every 100 feet. The larger and more complex mines also required ventilation, pumps to remove excess water, as well as ditches, dams, and ponds to collect, hold and transport water to the mines and mills. Hoists were used to transport men, ore, and waste into and out of mines and then rails were used to remove the waste and the ore from mine portals and collars. Larger mining operations often employed all or a combination of the above features. These large operations would have dual or triple compartment shafts, allowing one shaft to transport men and the others for the removal of ore and waste. While the larger operations required additional capital, materials, and personnel, smaller mining claims often employed only one small shaft or adit.<sup>10</sup>

In both the larger operations and the smaller mining claims, once the material reached the surface, the waste would be transported by rail and dumped in spoil piles and the ore taken, again by rail, for further transport to a mill. The mills used various implements to separate the ore, which changed over time from the hand mortars and arrastras to stamp batteries, and metallurgical processes. A stamp battery "is a pestle that is raised by some form of power – typically water or steam, but sometimes by men or animals. Gravity causes the stamp to drop, crushing the ore." The metallurgical processes encompassed a variety of different chemical treatments intended to remove the gold. There is evidence that all of these milling methods were employed in the South Pass City Historic District.<sup>11</sup>

In nearly all of these operations, whether large or small, access to water was fundamental to success. The simpler methods of placer mines, sluices, and arrastras required water and were frequently located in close proximity to water if not immediately adjacent to creeks and streams. The larger mining and milling companies required vast reserves of water

<sup>8</sup> Julie Francis and Marcel Kornfeld, "South Pass City: General Introduction," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology, Number 3* (1984): 5; Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 7; Marion McMillan Huseas, *Sweetwater Gold: Wyoming's Gold Rush 1867-1871*, (n.p.: Cheyenne Corral of Western International Publishers, 1991), 53.

<sup>9</sup> Will Meyerriecks, *Drills and Mills: Precious Metal Mining and Milling Methods of the Frontier West* (n.p., 2003), 3-8, 191-193; Eric Twitty, *Basins of Silver: The Story of Silverton, Colorado's Las Animas Mining District* (n.p.: Western Reflections Publishing Company, 2008), 10, 32-33.

<sup>10</sup> Will Meyerriecks, *Drills and Mills: Precious Metal Mining and Milling Methods of the Frontier West*, 27; Eric Twitty, *Riches to Rust: A Guide to Mining in the Old West*, (n.p.: Western Reflections Publishing Company, 2002), 141-149.

<sup>11</sup> Eric Twitty, *Riches to Rust: A Guide to Mining in the Old West*, 37, 110-113; Will Meyerriecks, *Drills and Mills: Precious Metal Mining and Milling Methods of the Frontier West*, 194.

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to fully extract and process the ore, but were not always located near water, often resulting in extensive systems to divert, transport, and store water using ditches, pipelines, reservoirs, and pump houses.

Although the miners in the South Pass region used various methods, hardrock mining was the most extensively employed as the placer mining quickly played out. Frequently the mining claims, both large and small, also had various sizes of prospect pits, where attempts to locate a vein failed. In the South Pass City Historic District, the majority of prospect pits are located along the vein of quartz in which the gold was located. There are 18 named and known shafts and adits, and approximately 150 failed prospect pits within the historic district.<sup>12</sup>

The Gold Rush and Settlement

The earliest reports of mining in the South Pass area date from 1842, when gold was discovered by a Georgian traveling with the American Fur Company. According to the *Sweetwater Mines Newspaper*, he left to organize a company of men to fully exploit the area but was reportedly killed by Indians. It is probable that sporadic prospecting activity continued throughout the late 1840s and 1850s due to the proximity of the Oregon Trail. C. G. Coutant's *History of Wyoming* contains several accounts of early mining activity in the Sweetwater region. In 1855, experienced miners returning from the California gold fields found small deposits along the Sweetwater River. In 1860, a group of miners was reported to have worked the Strawberry Gulch area (about 12 miles southeast of South Pass City), and in 1862, fifty-two men prospected along Willow Creek in the vicinity of what would later become South Pass City.<sup>13</sup>

In 1864, a small detachment of soldiers from Fort Bridger, under the command of Lieutenant William H. Brown, camped along Willow Creek about 1 ½ miles southeast of the current town site. Their assignment was to protect emigrants on the Oregon Trail and the associated telegraph line. When off duty, some of the soldiers successfully panned limited amounts of gold from Hermit Creek and Willow Creek. In November the detachment returned to Fort Bridger where they formed the Lincoln Mining District for the South Pass area. The soldiers returned the following spring to protect the emigrant trail, but their mining efforts were unsuccessful due to constant Indian harassment and lack of milling facilities. After the discovery of the Carissa (originally Cariso) lode by Henry S. Reedall in June 1867, miners formed the Shoshonie [sic] Mining District. The discovery of the King Solomon lode in Hermit Gulch (about 1 ½ miles northeast of South Pass City) soon followed, and news of these discoveries reached Salt Lake City on July 1, Omaha on July 12, and Chicago on July 13, precipitating a rush to the South Pass region. However, on July 22, 1867, a force of Sioux and Cheyenne Indians attacked the fledgling mining community, killing several miners, and temporarily emptying the district. However, the lure of gold remained strong, and by mid-August two hundred miners were reported to be back in the area.<sup>14</sup>

Alturus City, the first mining camp established in the Shoshone Mining District, is located in Alturus Gulch about ¼ mile west of the Carissa mine. Two adits are located in the gulch and are rather extensive as is evidenced by the large spoil piles. In addition, it is believed that the Alturus arrastra was the location of the first milling in the region. In 1868, Rossiter Worthington Raymond reported to Congress on the status of mining in the territory. This report detailed the small mining claims in the Sweetwater region and the arrastra. However, Alturus City quickly faded into history as the fledgling mining camps of South Pass City and Atlantic City (about four miles northeast) soon expanded.<sup>15</sup>

South Pass City developed as a political seat for the area and a commercial center for the mines in the larger Sweetwater mining region. South Pass City and the immediate surrounding mining resources were part of a larger mining area, which also included Miners Delight, Atlantic City, and Lewiston. In addition to forming the Shoshone Mining District, the first miners organized Carter County in the fall of 1867 in what was then Dakota Territory, with South Pass City as the county seat. In 1869, when Wyoming Territory was organized, Carter County became one of the four original counties; however, the first territorial assembly changed the name from Carter to Sweetwater.

<sup>12</sup> Marion McMillan Huseas, *Sweetwater Gold: Wyoming's Gold Rush 1867-1871*, 41.

<sup>13</sup> C. G. Coutant, *History of Wyoming* (New York: Arno Press, Inc., 1899; reprint in two volumes, New York: Argonaut Press, Ltd., 1966), 639-649 (page citations are to reprint editions); Marion McMillan Huseas, *Sweetwater Gold: Wyoming's Gold Rush 1867-1871*, 6, 65; Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 16.

<sup>14</sup> C. G. Coutant, *History of Wyoming*, 637-648; Marion McMillan Huseas, *Sweetwater Gold: Wyoming's Gold Rush 1867-1871*, 7; Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 17-20.

<sup>15</sup> Marion McMillan Huseas, *Sweetwater Gold: Wyoming's Gold Rush 1867-1871*, 10; Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 25.

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South Pass City began in 1867 as a tent city with a scattering of log buildings. William A. Carter, the post trader at Fort Bridger for whom Carter County had been named, helped lay out the streets, blocks and lots (25' x 100') in October of 1867. South Pass Avenue was the main street and ran east-west in the Willow Creek Valley. The following September, James Chisholm, a reporter for the *Chicago Tribune*, seemed unimpressed in his eyewitness account.

There are some 50 dwellings but the greater part of them are either forsaken, or were never inhabited.... I see a number of stores in the main street, with attractive fronts all brand new - not one of which seem to have been occupied. One has to seek for the inhabitants principally among the humble looking dwellings built of logs or rubble stone which dot the back of the hill.

The lack of inhabitants, at that time, may be attributed to many of the residents relocating to Green River City for the winter to work on the railroad.<sup>16</sup>

Early population statistics for South Pass City vary widely and were often wildly exaggerated by promoters of the mining district. In 1868, the editor of one of South Pass City's early newspapers, the *Sweetwater Mines*, estimated the population of the camp at 3,000. A more sober estimate placed the population at 1,000. The territorial census of 1869 listed 742 residents for South Pass City, 650 for Atlantic City, and 125 for Hamilton City or Miners Delight. More Indians raids occurred that spring and summer, discouraging some of the gold seekers. Many of the experienced prospectors from California and Montana worked the most accessible placer deposits, and then moved on to other locations, as the lode mines were slow in developing since adequate milling facilities were few in number. The remote location slowed the delivery of materials needed to expand the mining operations. At the peak of the boom period, South Pass City may have had as many as 1,000 residents and over 200 buildings. By 1870, federal census records reveal a population of only 462, 81 of which were children under the age of eighteen. The census also listed 187 buildings in the camp.<sup>17</sup>

Placer gold was limited, and extraction from the quartz veins, in which the gold was located, required hardrock mining. The mines could vary between small mine claims and larger, well-financed companies with the additional personnel and equipment. The first stamp mill (six stamps) was erected in Hermit Gulch and started processing ore on July 20, 1868. Most of the ore came from the Carissa mine. Assays averaged between \$36 to \$47 of gold per ton. A second ten-stamp mill was built at the nearby mining camp of Miners Delight and processed \$60,000 of gold ore from January to July 1869, averaging \$40 per ton. A third ten-stamp steam-powered mill was built at Atlantic City and began operating on June 25, 1869. By 1871, there were twelve mills with 160 stamps operating in the Sweetwater Mining District.<sup>18</sup>

Accurate production figures for mines of the district were difficult to determine even for contemporaries. In August 1871, Surveyor-General Reed visited the Sweetwater mines and wrote a detailed account of the mining in progress as well as the production figures up to that date. Reed estimated that at least \$155,000 "in coin" had been produced during the year ending July 1, 1869, and during the following two years. Since the estimate was based on only the three best mines in the district, he believed that the actual output was probably higher. He reiterated that the district had been hampered by Native American attacks only the year before. Wells Fargo and Company shipped \$60,000 of gold in 1870 and \$36,000 in 1871 from South Pass City.

The Boom and Bust Cycles of the Sweetwater Mines

Hundreds of lode claims were filed within the South Pass City, Atlantic City, and Miners Delight area. Of these, only sixteen were documented as producing over \$10,000 worth of gold. The relatively small operation of this mining district is made clear from comparisons, "From 1867-72 less than \$2 million in gold was produced at South Pass, while in contrast the mines in Virginia City, Nevada yielded more than \$40 million during its boom years." The mining camp of Miners Delight, about 8 miles northeast of South Pass City, grew up around the Miners Delight Mine, which was called the "richest" lode in the district in 1871. It was developed by two shafts on a 3 1/2 foot wide vein and yielded about \$40 of gold per ton. A ten-stamp mill was erected to process the ore. The mine was worked from 1868 to 1874, and again from 1880 to 1882. Under new ownership in 1893, the mine workings were pumped out, but after the expenditure of considerable

<sup>16</sup> Lola Homsher ed, *South Pass 1868: James Chisholm's Journal of the Wyoming Gold Rush*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, (1960): 73-74; Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 12-13, 16, 20; C. G. Coutant, *History of Wyoming*, 649; I. S. Bartlett, ed., *History of Wyoming*, vol. 1 (Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1918), 162.

<sup>17</sup> Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 22-23; C. G. Coutant, *History of Wyoming*, 651.

<sup>18</sup> Marion McMillan Huseas, *Sweetwater Gold: Wyoming's Gold Rush 1867-1871*, 42-43.

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capital, the renewed effort met with little success. Other mining efforts in 1910, 1913, 1914, and 1925 also proved unsuccessful, and no serious effort was made to work the mine after that date. The Miners Delight and Carissa lodes were by far the best producing mines in the district. Their estimated total production to 1911 was \$1,200,000 and \$1,000,000, respectively, followed by the Caribou Mine (\$500,000), the Garfield Mine (\$400,000), the Victoria Regina Mine (\$350,000), and the Franklin Mine (\$300,000), also within the South Pass City Historic District.<sup>19</sup>

The initial gold rush days of South Pass City lasted until 1871 or 1872 followed by a dramatic exodus of people as the rest of the mining claims played out. South Pass City nearly disappeared after the first mining boom. As a result, the Territorial Legislature changed the Sweetwater County seat to Green River City in December 1873. Army Captain John Bourke spent the night at South Pass City in 1875 and commented "...the town is silent as the grave, over the crawling of Willow Creek upon which it is built." By 1880, the population was reduced to thirty-seven people. However, in 1885, South Pass City was revived when the Carissa mine was reopened, and hydraulic mining operations began along Rock Creek in Atlantic City.<sup>20</sup>

Although many of the other mines in the Sweetwater Mining District produced varying amounts of gold, all followed the same pattern of abandonment after the early 1870s, followed by brief periods of activity whenever interest was renewed in the district due to a new find, changing economic conditions, or new technology for processing the ores. By 1875, the mines of the Sweetwater District were reported as being essentially idle.

In addition to South Pass City, Atlantic City, and Miners Delight, a fourth camp known as Lewiston (about 12 miles southeast of South Pass City on Strawberry Creek) grew up in the Sweetwater Mining District as a result of the discovery of a lode in 1879. This find generated renewed interest in the region and many new claims were staked. The rest of the district was mined in a desultory fashion until a wealthy French capitalist, Emile Granier, began a grandiose ditch project in 1885 to divert the waters of Christina Lake, located high in the Wind River Mountains, into Rock Creek. An irrigation ditch or canal was constructed over the next two years to provide enough water for hydraulic mining of Granier's numerous claims along Rock Creek. The system originally consisted of over twelve miles of canal, ditches, and flumes. The construction project cost over \$200,000 and employed over one hundred workers. It was ready for use by the spring run-off in 1888. However, it had to be enlarged in order to carry sufficient water for hydraulic mining techniques. The ditch proved unsuccessful, although Granier's company continued hydraulic operations on Rock Creek below Atlantic City until 1892. It yielded only an estimated \$200,000 in gold and the company went bankrupt in 1893.

Granier's efforts created renewed interest in the Sweetwater mines and supplied employment for a large work force. Even as his company failed, many of the old workings were being reopened, and the Lewiston Camp experienced a short-lived boom in 1893-94 and additional mines opened near Miners Delight. Development and production lagged in most of the district throughout the late 1890s and the first decade of the twentieth century but never ceased altogether. However, in the early and mid 1890s the Federal Gold Mining Company quietly began buying all the mining claims near the Carissa and reopened the mine in 1896.

The Dexter Mining and Development Company of Rochester, New York, bought up most of the Granier company holdings. The new company controlled 3,000 acres of placer claims on Rock Creek. It utilized and expanded the Christina Lake Canal, which then had twenty-five miles of ditches and flumes, in order to conduct hydraulic mining experiments on its claims. In 1904 or 1905, it constructed the Dexter Mill to treat the ore from the company holdings and to do custom milling for other claims. Although the mill processed over 12,000 tons of ore, only about \$6,000 worth of gold was recovered. As a result, the company went bankrupt and then into receivership in 1914.

Although the Sweetwater mines were revitalized from 1911-1913, mainly due to new mineral discoveries in the Lewiston District, in 1914, production fell as the high cost of power forced the chief mines to lay idle. Herein lay one of the primary obstacles to the district's success. It was located far from major transportation systems and lacked sufficient water. The pattern of sporadic advances and declines continued in the early twentieth century. From 1906-1914, Fremont County and specifically the Sweetwater mines accounted for about eighty-five percent of Wyoming's gold production. However, total

<sup>19</sup> Michael Massie, "After the Bust: The South Pass City Mining Area Since 1872." *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology*, Number 3 (1984): 30; Marion McMillan Huseas, *Sweetwater Gold: Wyoming's Gold Rush 1867-1871*, 46.

<sup>20</sup> Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georger, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 23.

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production was minimal, with the highest production in 1913 when \$23,276 worth of gold and 115 ounces of silver were produced, and the lowest production in 1910 when only \$1,786 worth of gold and silver was produced.

In 1917, five reduction mills remained in the Sweetwater Mining District at the Carissa, Duncan, Mary Ellen, Miners Delight, and Dexter mines. All were idle except the Carissa, which was working intermittently on clean up. Placer mining continued in the district after most of the lode claims lay idle. Dredging operations were conducted along the Sweetwater River near the mouth of Burr Gulch in the 1920s and along Rock Creek during the Great Depression from 1933 to 1941, yielding about \$400,000 in gold and drawing the ire of local citizens and stockmen who complained that the creek had been ruined for fishing and livestock.

The Sweetwater Mining District experienced sporadic mining activity after the initial boom from 1867 to 1872. Several minor boom cycles were interspersed with long periods of inactivity or basic assessment work and limited development. The boom cycles occurred roughly from 1888-1899, 1909-1914, and 1934 to the early 1940s. This cyclical pattern has continued into modern times with the opening of the U.S. Steel Atlantic City Iron Ore mine in 1962, causing another boom that ended in 1983 when the mine closed.

The Carissa Mine and Mill

The Carissa mine, mill, associated buildings, structures, and sites are located within the amended South Pass City Historic District. The lode was first located by Henry S. Reedall on June 6, 1867. Two weeks later, Reedall's party was attacked by Indians, and three members were reportedly killed. The survivors fled but returned at the end of July and netted \$1,600 worth of gold from ore crushed in a hand mortar. The prospecting party also panned \$7,000 worth of gold from deposits eroded from the vein in Hermit Gulch below. In 1868, the Thurmond Company owned the Carissa, and then Thomas Roberts purchased it in 1869. Roberts convinced an English group of investors to purchase the mine for \$115,000. They made an initial payment of \$15,000, and then reneged on the remainder of the sum, leaving ownership of the property in question. As a result, the Carissa remained idle from 1869 to 1873, the heyday of South Pass City.<sup>21</sup>

In 1877, Bolivar Roberts purchased the Carissa mine. Roberts had gained experience in the mines of California, Nevada, and Utah before coming to Wyoming. He worked the mine for seven years without financial backing. On October 17, 1885, the Carissa Gold Mining Company was organized with Roberts as president and major stockholder; George W. Keel held the next largest block of shares. During their tenure, Roberts and Keel made several major improvements, including installing the ten-stamp quartz mill on Willow Creek (No. 97). The mill came into full operation in 1887. The gold bearing quartz vein was three feet in width and was worked through a 210-foot deep shaft. George Keel brought in four experienced men to help run the Carissa mine. One of the men, John J. Marrin, was brought in to operate the hoist. Marrin and his descendants continue to be associated with the South Pass City area. In 1889, Roberts obtained a mineral patent for the Mono Lode claim where the Carissa was located and continued intermittent mining operations for the next seven years.<sup>22</sup>

In July 1896, the Willow Creek stamp mill burned down; John Marrin and three partners then took out a lease on the Carissa property with an option to buy. However, the other stockholders wanted to sell the mine and approached Chicago businessman, Charles Van Sickel and lumber magnate John C. Spry. On October 14, the capital stock of the Carissa Gold Mining Company was purchased by Herman Bennett and Barney Tibbals, although most of the money was supplied by Van Sickel and Spry, and the latter became the major stockholder and president of the mine. The company, using various names so as to not rouse outside interest, quietly purchased the mining claims surrounding the Mono lode claim. The new owner did not want it known that one corporation was purchasing all the workings surrounding the Carissa. Tibbals was hired to oversee the on-the-ground operations under the name of the Federal Gold Mining Company. During this time, the Carissa mine was greatly expanded and improved. A new mill house with milling equipment was constructed that contained a ten-stamp mill with amalgamating plates and concentrating tables. The concentrates were then shipped to Denver where the bullion was extracted.<sup>23</sup>

The shaft house was combined with the mill. The main shaft was equipped with a single-drum hoisting engine. Other surface buildings included the manager's house, assay office, and storehouses. The depth of the workings was extended

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., 25-26.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., 27-29.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., 27-32.

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to 387 feet with five levels along the vein for about 750 feet. Between 1902 and 1906, the mine produced 2,800 tons of gold ore with lesser amounts of silver. Spry continued to try to sell the mine under the protests of Tibbals, who wanted to expand it. However, Spry could not find a buyer and ordered Tibbals to shut down operations to save on costs. The Carissa once again fell idle, but the workings were pumped regularly to free them of water. The Carissa was worked again from 1911 to 1913, and then was idle in 1914 due to the high cost of power in the district. According to Albert B. Bartlett, the State Geologist of Wyoming, intermittent development, assessment work, and test mill runs continued at the Carissa mine, but the overall depth of the main shaft and amount of underground workings remained essentially the same at the time of his report in 1926.

John Spry remained associated with the mine until his death in 1925. Marshall Graham, owner of the Midwest Mining Corporation, bought the Carissa mine from Spry's estate in 1929. He purchased the Dexter Mill near Atlantic City, and moved the building and its twenty-stamp mill to the Carissa site. The pegged mortise and tenon timber-frame joinery was disassembled and freighted four miles. Onsite assembly was conducted in 1929, just east of the Federal Gold Mining Company mill. In the mid 1930s, the Federal mill was dismantled and then dumped on the ridge to the east. Midwest Mining Corporation's actions were probably motivated by a 1926 report, which concluded that the best milling approach consisted of expanded amalgamation recovery of stamp-milled ores, based on the understanding that most of the gold was in a free state and needed to be crushed finely. The report recommended expanding the milling facilities to include the cyanide process then in use at a nearby mine and mill. The enlarged mill used a combined stamp milling-amalgamation process augmented by cyanidation. Ore was supplied to the mill via a trestle from the shaft house located next to the hoist house. The new operation pumped out the water and began to place new timbers in the mine; however, the company ran out of money, and work was suspended in 1930. The property was then tied up in litigation and was unproductive during the Depression and World War II years.<sup>24</sup>

The Mica Mountain Mining Company of Salt Lake City attempted to operate the mine from 1947-1949. During its short tenure, the company installed new mill equipment, possibly taken from the local Gold Dollar Mine and the Duncan Mine. It also replaced the rail trestle with a conveyor belt system. The twenty-stamp mill and the amalgamation system were replaced with mechanical concentrators and cyanidation. Despite its large investment, the concern sold the property after only two years to the Pioneer Carissa Mining Company, which produced 389 ounces of gold in 1949 and approximately 400 ounces as late as 1954. Once again, ownership became clouded by a lawsuit, and the property remained idle for the next twenty years. During this time, a portion of the milling equipment was removed. The issue of ownership was cleared by 1974, and again the Carissa went through a succession of short-term owners. In 1989, Consolidated McKinney Resources, Inc. utilized foreign capital to pump out the old workings, installed new mine timbers, and began core drilling to locate any major gold deposits. Two years later, the mine was sold to the Hol-Lac Gold Mines of Canada, which also conducted core drill testing. After two more short-term owners, the Carissa Mining Company sold the Carissa mine and mill to the SPHT in 2003 to expand the South Pass City Historic Site.<sup>25</sup>

Notable South Pass City Residents

Esther Hobart Morris has become one of South Pass City's most well known citizens. This fame is based on the premise that she authored the law that enfranchised women in Wyoming Territory, which was passed by the Territorial Legislature on December 10, 1869. The law was actually written and introduced by William H. Bright, South Pass City saloon owner and member of the Council of the Territorial Legislature, who was elected president of that body by his colleagues.

Esther Morris moved to South Pass City in July 1869 with her sons Robert and Edward Slack to join her second husband, John Morris. On February 17, 1870, Esther Morris was officially appointed justice of the peace of South Pass City by the Governor of the Territory to replace a man who had resigned. As such, she became Wyoming's first female judge and is thought to be the first in the country. Morris held the post for 8 ½ months and handled twenty-six cases. She left South Pass City in 1872 after the failure of her second marriage, moved to Laramie, and then to Cheyenne. Beginning in the 1890s, her role as the author of the women's suffrage legislation was promoted by her son Edward Slack, who owned the *Cheyenne Sun Newspaper*. Historian and University of Wyoming professor Grace Raymond Hebard then took up the cause, and in 1920, Hebard wrote a paper giving Morris the major credit. Thereafter, Bright's name faded into obscurity. Hebard also placed a monument, near what was believed to be the location of her house, honoring Morris. In 1955,

<sup>24</sup> James Sherlock, *South Pass and Its Tales*, 100-103; Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 34; .

<sup>25</sup> Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 35-36.

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Esther Morris was chosen as Wyoming's outstanding deceased citizen, and statues of her were placed in Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C. and in front of the Wyoming State Capitol.

Among the camp's most enduring residents were members of the Smith-Sherlock Family. Richard and Janet Sherlock, a Mormon couple, moved to the area from Utah in early 1868. Richard's poor health led to his death in 1873, leaving his wife Janet to raise and provide for five children. She leased the vacant South Pass Hotel in 1873 and also became the town postmistress, a position she held until 1908. To augment her income, she stocked dry goods and groceries and won contracts from stage and mail companies to provide meals and lodging for employees and passengers. She then acquired the old Exchange Bank building and opened the Exchange Saloon in association with her hotel.

In June 1875, she married James Smith, who owned several mining properties and several town lots and buildings. The couple ran freight teams that operated between the mines and the railroad. After the Carissa mine closed again, the Smith-Sherlock family combined several of their business interests in 1906 and formed the Smith Sherlock Company. The family continued to operate a store and restaurant but closed the South Pass Hotel in 1917. The building then served as a residence for the various family members. On October 3, 1923, Janet Sherlock Smith died. The Smith-Sherlock family descendants continued to live in South Pass City until the late 1940s. Several of the buildings that remain in South Pass City were associated with this family.

The Built Environment of South Pass City and the Carissa Mill Complex

The inhabitants of South Pass City built the initial residences and commercial buildings along South Pass Avenue to provide the shelter and the necessities of life during the late 1860s. Only a portion of the estimated 200 buildings observed in the city in 1868 remained for any length of time. During the subsequent busts and booms a few new buildings were constructed and the others were repurposed or demolished.

Most of the buildings that survive from the gold rush are commercial buildings that were often adapted for different uses. John Swingle, a Sweetwater County commissioner, carpenter, undertaker, and coffin-maker, built the Miners Exchange Saloon (No. 23) in 1868. The saloon stood vacant for years after Swingle left South Pass City in 1874. Around 1900, the building was occupied by two women who ran a hat shop that was likely a front for a brothel. The Sweetwater County commissioners arranged for the Sweetwater County Jail (Building No. 24) to be built by April 1870 and then expanded it later that year. After the jail was abandoned, the front room was used as a school and a painted alphabet is still visible on the south wall above the windows. William C. Ervin and his wife Catherine owned several businesses in South Pass City and built the South Pass Hotel (No. 19) by 1869. The Ervin's operated the property under the same name until they leased it in October 1871. Janet Sherlock purchased the hotel and restaurant a few years later and operated it until 1917. After she became postmistress, the post office was located in the hotel. The J.W. Liff & Company Bank erected a building (No. 22) in 1869. Despite the mining bust in the early 1870s, the bank remained in business until 1875 at which time Janet Sherlock purchased the building and converted it to the Exchange Saloon. The addition on the west side, used as a cardroom, dates from the 1880s.<sup>26</sup>

The Smith-Sherlock family also operated a general store in a building (No. 7) from 1875 until 1885. The building later served as a warehouse in support of Sherlock's mercantile business, which was relocated to the building next door. The Smith-Sherlock Company Store (No. 6) stood on its original location, east of the Carissa Saloon by 1870. It was moved and rebuilt at its current location in 1896 and served as an important commercial location in South Pass City. The post office was then located in two small rooms at the rear of the store and by 1916, a hand-operated telephone switchboard had been installed. In the 1920s, a gas pump was added for increasing automobile traffic. The Smith-Sherlock family used the nearby two-room dug-out cave completed with locally kilned bricks (No. 8) by the early 1880s as an additional storage area. After the flurry of building and mining activity at the time of the first gold rush, many of the buildings in South Pass City were demolished, moved, or the material reused during the slow years of the mid 1870s and the mid-1880s.<sup>27</sup>

Eventually new buildings were constructed during the upsurge of activity due to the construction and operation of Emile Granier's ditch project and then the Federal Gold Mining Co. acquisition. Evan J. Williams arrived in South Pass City in 1885 when he was employed to reopen the Carissa mine. In 1887 he rented a house (No. 34), probably built just prior to

<sup>26</sup> Marion McMillan Huseas, *Sweetwater Gold: Wyoming's Gold Rush 1867-1871*, 113; Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 73.

<sup>27</sup> Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 61.

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1885, that he occupied with his family through 1892. Birmingham O'Connor and George Dunn operated the Black Horse Livery Stable in a new building that was constructed for use as a stable. The existing stable building (No. 21) may have been built circa 1890 for the livery that remained in business until 1901. Will Sherlock and George Flick erected a Dance Hall (No. 2) during the early 1890s as a community center for dances, church services, and meetings.

As part of the commercial development of this time, Joe Blewett built the Carissa Saloon (No. 5) circa 1898; the saloon was operated until about 1916. Blewett purchased a building (No. 26) in July 1898 that changed hands several times and then was home to William J. Carr's butcher shop. Janet Sherlock built the Restaurant (No. 20) adjacent to her South Pass Hotel in 1899 to house the hotel's office, a dining room, and a kitchen.

Several residences were also erected during this boom time. The Tibbals Cabin (No. 4) was constructed sometime prior to 1896 and Barney N. Tibbals' brief occupancy. After he became the superintendent of the Carissa mine in October 1897, Tibbals moved to quarters at the mine and rented out the house to his mine foreman, Harry Libby. After he was fired from his job as foreman of the Carissa mine, Libby built a cabin (No. 25) for his family in the spring 1899. William Riniker, a Civil War veteran and miner, built a cabin (No. 13) during the 1890s and occupied it through at least 1910. John Sherlock built a house (No. 9) in preparation for his marriage to Lida Carr in 1897 and later expanded it with several additions. Evan J. Williams built a house (No. 36) in 1904 for his recently married daughter, Allie Williams Soulsberg. Another cabin (No. 12) was erected around the turn of the century by B.W. Moore, thought to be an investor in the Carissa Saloon.<sup>28</sup>

The increased development of the Carissa mine brought short-lived prosperity and growth to the mining camp. When the Federal Gold Mining Company purchased the Carissa mine and associated claims in 1896, it also claimed the majority of the South Pass City townsite. The town was resurveyed in 1902, and the company sold lots back to the building owners through quit claim deeds to encourage settlement and growth. By the 1900 census, South Pass City's population was listed as 142 residents, including 37 children. However, by 1910, the population of South Pass City had fallen to 70 residents.

Two buildings date to the 1910s when the South Pass City population was less than 100 residents. After the second purpose-built school burned in 1911, a school (No. 11) was constructed where the visitor parking lot is now located. It was dismantled and rebuilt at its present location on a rise, further from the creek, during the 1920s. The Smith-Sherlock family moved a building (No. 15) built during the first quarter of the twentieth century to its present location and used it as a blacksmith shop, machine, and repair shop.<sup>29</sup>

A few of the long-term residents built homes during the first half of the twentieth century. Richard Sherlock and Westler Kearney built a cabin (No. 17) during the 1930s, probably for summer use. John J. and Nettie Marrin built a house (No. 35) in 1942 after their previous home burned. John and Minnie Woodring built a cabin (No. 31) in South Pass City during the 1950s that has been relocated. The use of South Pass City for summer residency accounts for several of the dwellings in the district erected during the second half of the twentieth century. These buildings are primarily noncontributing; however, their presence is not intrusive. The summer homes are concentrated on the west end of Main Street, are of compatible materials and of appropriate scale.

After Janet's son, Peter Sherlock, died in 1947, the family sold its South Pass City interests to Fred Stratton in 1948. Stratton hoped to preserve the historic mining camp and its buildings and charge admission to the public, but the venture proved too expensive. He then sold his properties to John and Minnie Woodring, who ran the store, hotel, and restaurant for travelers, campers, and the few miners still living in the area. In 1966, they conveyed their property to the State of Wyoming via the Wyoming 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission. The core of the town then became the current South Pass City State Historic Site.

Two buildings represent the early state site administration period of South Pass City. The site Superintendent erected a building used as a workshop and public assembly space during the mid-1970s. It represents the vernacular vocabulary of South Pass City buildings and may have been based on the no longer standing W. C. Ervin store. The interest in Esther

<sup>28</sup> James Sherlock, *South Pass and Its Tales*, 62; Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 768-69.

<sup>29</sup> Thomas Lindmier and Cynde Georgen, *South Pass City: Wyoming's City of Gold*, 24.

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Morris' tenure in South Pass City is represented by a cabin (No. 14), also built during the mid-1970s on a foundation located near where Morris' four-room cabin stood. Though intended to be a reconstruction of Morris' home, it is not in the correct location and is not based on historic documentation.

The Carissa mill complex was occupied from the last years of the nineteenth century and has resources from that period, as well as from the reconstruction of the Dexter Mill during the late 1920s. Two small buildings date to the tenure of the Federal Gold Mining Company at the turn of the twentieth century and three others may also have been part of the earlier complex configuration. A mill office (No. 50) and a shed (No. 51) used for a variety of uses were built circa 1900. The dugout/powder magazine (No. 57) probably dates to the turn of the century. A log building (No. 53) may date from ca. 1897 when Barney Tibbals became the superintendent of the Carissa mine and resided on site. The bunkhouse (No. 54) may have been used by the Federal Gold Mining Company as its office or it may have been built after 1929.

In 1929, the Midwest Mining Corporation bought the Carissa mine. Midwest then purchased the Dexter Mill of the Timba Bah Company of Atlantic City, and moved the building and its twenty-stamp mill to its current location. This facility dominates the mill complex. The mill consisted of two separate sections in Atlantic City, but they were joined into one building on the Carissa site. This mill utilized the twenty-stamp mill and the amalgamation process to mill the ore. The Hoist House (No. 56) was constructed by the Midwest Mines Corporation at the time of the mill reconstruction, apparently reusing the Federal Gold Mining Company's steam hoist. Another mine office (No. 55) and cook house/residence (No. 52) were constructed as well. However, the Midwest Mining Company failed in 1930 and sold off some of the machinery to pay its debts. The twenty-stamp mill was likely salvaged during World War II scrap drives. After World War II, the Mica Mountain Mines, Inc., re-equipped the mill for cyanide recovery with gravity concentrators, and some of that machinery was also subsequently removed. Although there was periodic interest and work at the mine and mill, after World War II most significant mining stopped and little changes occurred on the property.

Archaeological Investigations

Aboriginal occupation of the general South Pass area probably spans at least 10,000 years. Documented prehistoric sites in the region suggest occupation of the area from Paleoindian times to groups which can be equated to the modern Shoshone. Ceramics found on Late Prehistoric Period sites suggest usage of the area also by Crow and Fremont groups, and possibly Athabaskan. During the Historic Period, the area was primarily occupied by the Shoshone and Arapahoe. Various archaeological excavations at South Pass City recovered prehistoric aboriginal artifacts from almost all excavations at buildings. In 1990, test excavations at a proposed relocation of the county road leading to South Pass yielded evidence of 8,000 years of prehistoric occupation at South Pass City itself, on the south side of Willow Creek.<sup>30</sup>

Archaeological investigations have been undertaken at various locations throughout South Pass City since the early 1970s. Summaries of those projects conducted between 1970 and 1984 have been prepared with several published reports, conference presentations, and other reports since then. One common result of all these excavations has been the multitude of artifact material found. There has been no formal archaeological excavation at South Pass City that has not resulted in collection of significant archaeological data. Similarly, there has been no construction project at South Pass City that has also not resulted in the discovery of additional archaeological and historical materials and features. One could say that no matter where subsurface investigations or construction projects are conducted, archaeological and historical materials will be found. This in itself illustrates the research potential of the archaeological materials still present at South Pass City.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>30</sup> George C. Frison, *Prehistoric Hunters of the High Plains*. (Second Edition. New York, Academic Press, 1991); George C. Frison, "The Wardell Buffalo Trap 48SU301: Communal Procurement in the Upper Green River Basin, Wyoming," *Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Anthropological Papers* 48, 1973; Danny N. Walker and Richard Reider, "Prehistoric Archaeology at South Pass City State Historic Site, Wyoming," paper presented to the 48<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, Plains Anthropological Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1990.

<sup>31</sup> Julie Francis and Marcel Kornfeld, "South Pass City: General Introduction," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984); Danny N. Walker and Richard Reider, "Prehistoric Archaeology at South Pass City State Historic Site, Wyoming," paper presented to the 48<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Plains Anthropological Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1990; Julie Francis, "An Archaeological Research Design for South Pass City State Historic Site: Cultural Change in A late Nineteenth Century Mining Town," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology*, Number 3 (1984); Dale Wedel, Danny N. Walker and Mark E. Miller, "Archaeological Investigations at a 1860s Residence at South Pass City State Historic Site, Wyoming," paper presented to the 48<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Plains Anthropological Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1990; Danny N. Walker and Todd Guenther, "Archaeological Investigations at South Pass City, Wyoming: The Search for Esther Hobart Morris's Cabin and a 1860s Record for Urban Renewal in Wyoming," paper presented to the 50<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Plains Anthropological Conference, Lawrence, Kansas, 1992; Todd

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During the first archaeological investigations in 1972, several probable 1870 buildings were mapped. Excavations were conducted to determine locations of various street intersections, but also at the corner of Price and Grant Streets, the Miner's Exchange Saloon, and at the probable location of the Esther Morris cabin. Field notes for several of these excavations have not been relocated. Later analyses of artifactual remains from these projects suggested deposition of artifacts from the mid-1880s through the early portion of the twentieth century. None of the foundation remains documented could be unequivocally associated with the gold rush era.<sup>32</sup>

The next archaeological investigations were in 1979 and 1980, when salvage excavations at the Dance Hall, Blacksmith Shop, and Miner's Exchange Saloon were undertaken. At all these buildings, archaeological work was not initiated until after their foundations had been trenched for stabilization purposes. Archaeological crews were called in after construction began and artifacts were found by the construction crew, usually with loss of associated contextual data. Analyses of materials associated with these buildings illustrate that many of the extant buildings post-date the original mining boom. For both the Dance Hall and Exchange Saloon, construction dates in the 1890s were inferred. A construction date in the 1930s was suggested for the Sherlock Blacksmith Shop.

More recent excavations at South Pass City have been conducted before stabilization or ground disturbing activities took place. In 1982 and 1983, portions of the Livery Stable were excavated. It was originally proposed that this building was most likely associated with the gold rush era of South Pass City. However, analyses of architectural data, stratigraphic information, historical data, and artifacts strongly suggested 1890s and early twentieth century dates for construction of the main building and later additions. 1983 excavations at the Cave showed only a small portion of one stone wall could possibly be associated with the initial mining boom.<sup>33</sup>

Before 1990, only three recent archaeological projects undertaken at South Pass City had not involved extant buildings. These were a survey and test excavation project of a proposed parking area and access roads, monitoring of backhoe trenches excavated along several streets to install a fire alarm system, and mitigation of features associated with the Carissa Tailings Project.<sup>34</sup>

The test excavations conducted for the proposed parking area survey provide, for all intents and purposes, the only sample of archaeological materials from residential areas of the town. The earliest Euro-American materials recovered were thought to date from the 1880s. Kornfeld suggested that, because of household maintenance activities, most materials associated with an individual residence would most likely be associated with abandonment of that building and not initial construction and occupation. Kornfeld also suggested trash dumps associated with such buildings may well contain the early occupation materials. Analyses of artifactual remains recovered from trash disposal areas found in the fire alarm trenching showed considerable variation between features. This suggested that such materials may be useful for inferring function and age of associated buildings.<sup>35</sup>

Francis and Massie discussed investigations of archaeological features along Carissa Gulch in the eastern section of South Pass City. These features were proposed to be associated with mining activities for the most part. Some were felt

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Guenther and Danny N. Walker, "Archaeological Investigations at the City Hotel/Sherlock Cabin, South Pass City State Historic Site, Wyoming," paper presented to the 49<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Plains Anthropological Conference, Lawrence, Kansas, 1991.

<sup>32</sup> Julie Francis, "An Archaeological Research Design for South Pass City State Historic Site: Cultural Change in A late Nineteenth Century Mining Town," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984) 134-135.

<sup>33</sup> Julie Francis, "An Archaeological Research Design for South Pass City State Historic Site: Cultural Change in A late Nineteenth Century Mining Town," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984) 135; Lucy Chronic, "The Cave: A Dugout Structure in South Pass City," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984): 119-125.

<sup>34</sup> Marcel Kornfeld, "Analysis of Some Residential Areas of South Pass City," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984): 105-118; Marcel Kornfeld, "Archaeological Resources Encountered During the Excavations of the Alarm System Trenches," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology*, Number 3 (1984): 75-86; Julie Francis, "Results of Monitoring and Preliminary Surface Survey Carissa Tailings Project, South Pass city State Historic Site, Fremont County, Wyoming," unpublished Cultural Resource Management Report prepared for Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, 1988, Available from Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Cultural Records, Laramie, Wyoming.

<sup>35</sup> Marcel Kornfeld, "Analysis of Some Residential Areas of South Pass City," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984); Marcel Kornfeld, "Archaeological Resources Encountered During the Excavations of the Alarm System Trenches," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984).

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to be related to residential areas. But some of the features investigated in 1989 are considered to date from the original mining boom period of 1868-1872.<sup>36</sup>

Between 1990 and 1993, archaeological excavations were also conducted at the Rock House, Tibbals Cabin, and the Sherlock House. Excavations at the Rock House revealed previously unrecorded construction details, including a major addition to the building front after the rear portion had been lived in for an undetermined amount of time. Historic uses of the building ranged from a miner's residence as its first use in 1867-1868, the first town jail in the late 1860s, a horse stable for mail runs at the turn of the century, and an automobile garage in the 1930s-1940s. This earliest use was confirmed by an extensive trash midden adjacent to the building.<sup>37</sup>

Excavations at the Sherlock Cabin in 1990 and foundation stabilization in 1991 revealed the building was placed directly over the City Hotel foundation. The minimal size of the City Hotel was determined, along with other structural information. Few dateable, or even identifiable, artifacts were recovered because of the intensity of the 1872 fire, which destroyed the hotel. Artifacts dating to the 20<sup>th</sup> century occupation of the Sherlock Cabin were numerous, primarily residential or child oriented types. Additional foundation stabilization in 2002 did not significantly add new information about the earlier hotel, again probably because of the continual occupation of the area by later buildings. Additional data on these later occupations were extensive.<sup>38</sup>

1990 and 1991 excavations at Tibbals Cabin yielded a large amount of data on various residential occupations dating between 1890 and the early 1970s. Early residential features dating between 1890 and 1920 included artifact dumps, food dumps and a bottle cache. The original construction of the log cabin incorporated two dugouts constructed earlier, perhaps during the original 1867-1872 boom. A small artifact collection from that time period confirmed this early construction date of the dugouts. Gardner and Johnson conducted additional excavations in the interior of the cabin before placement of a new floor in the building. Their main goals were to determine if a pre-Tibbals Cabin foundation was present in front of the dugouts and to determine if the 1990-1991 excavation features extended under the cabin or were limited to the outside of the extant building walls. No evidence was found of pre-1890 foundations at the location and the 1990-1991 excavation dump features were all placed after construction of the 1890 cabin.<sup>39</sup>

Gardner and Johnson continued investigations of additional buildings in 1994, primarily at the following buildings (some discussed above): Tibbals Cabin, South Pass Hotel lean-to, Ervin Store, Schoolhouse, Cody Cabin, Riniker Cabin, Livery Stable, and the Sweetwater County Jail. The original location of the South Pass Hotel lean-to was found to have been highly disturbed, primarily by the 1970 reconstruction of the Hotel. Excavations at the Ervin Store again revealed the building location was extensively impacted by the 1970 demolition of the store and reconstruction of the South Pass Hotel. Excavations however did uncover intact ports of the west and east sill logs and deposits associated with a lean-to shed along the east side of the building. Original foundation construction techniques were noted at the Schoolhouse but little or no evidence of earlier occupation was noted. No formal foundation was found under the Cody Cabin but evidence was found of at least two features predating the 20<sup>th</sup> century construction of the cabin. Excavations at the Sweetwater County Jail revealed that the jail had been built on top of an earlier residential building and its associated dump.

<sup>36</sup> Julie Francis, "Results of Monitoring and Preliminary Surface Survey Carissa Tailings Project, South Pass City State Historic Site, Fremont County, Wyoming," unpublished Cultural Resource Management Report prepared for Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, 1988. Available from Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Cultural Records, Laramie, Wyoming; Julie Francis and Mike Massie, "A Data Recovery Plan for the Carissa Tailings Project, South Pass City, Wyoming (48FR434)," unpublished Cultural Resource Management Report prepared for Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, 1988. Available from Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Cultural Records, Laramie, Wyoming.

<sup>37</sup> Dale Wedel, Danny N. Walker and Mark E. Miller, "Archaeological Investigations at a 1860s Residence at South Pass City State Historic Site, Wyoming," paper presented to the 48<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Plains Anthropological Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1990.

<sup>38</sup> Danny N. Walker and Todd Guenther, "Archaeological Investigations at South Pass City, Wyoming: The Search for Esther Hobart Morris's Cabin and a 1860s Record for Urban Renewal in Wyoming," paper presented to the 50<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Plains Anthropological Conference, Lawrence, Kansas, 1992; Dale Wedel, Danny N. Walker, and Alan Wimer, "Archaeological Investigations at Tibbals Cabin, South Pass City State Historic Site, Wyoming," paper presented to the 49<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Plains Anthropological Conference, Lawrence, Kansas, 1991.

<sup>39</sup> Dale Wedel, Danny N. Walker, and Alan Wimer, "Archaeological Investigations at Tibbals Cabin, South Pass City State Historic Site, Wyoming," paper presented to the 49<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Plains Anthropological Conference, Lawrence, Kansas, 1991.

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This short review of some of the major archaeological studies at South Pass City Historic District was provided to illustrate the type of archaeological data which has been derived from those buildings and features investigated over the years. It also illustrates the potential remaining throughout the district for archaeological data from other buildings and features. Several hundred features were recorded during that study, most related to mining activities, but many also related to residential and business activities.<sup>40</sup>

The current sample of archaeological data from South Pass City must also be viewed as biased towards the later occupation of the town and non-residential areas of town. There is no large sample of artifacts or documented features which can be definitely associated with the initial 1868-1872 boom and abandonment of the town. There are several reasons for this. First, most of the previous archaeological work has been confined to the alluvial deposits along Willow Creek in the central portion of town. This area receives considerable annual flooding, which may have destroyed many Early Historic Period deposits. Second, this same area of town has been continually occupied since the initial boom, thus receiving the most post depositional disturbance. Third, nearly all excavations have been confined to existing buildings. Many of these were not constructed until the second boom cycle during the 1880s and 1890s and were primarily non-residential in function. Fourth, no trash dumps, which may contain the earliest occupational debris, have been excavated in their entirety. Finally, given population estimates and the length of occupation, early mining period deposits may constitute only a small portion of the archaeological record at South Pass City.<sup>41</sup>

From initial excavations in 1973 to examine areas for artifacts or foundations as well as salvage work at several buildings throughout the 1970s and 80s, research questions have expanded to include chronological issues, dating techniques, patterns of artifact disposal, construction history, maintenance of buildings, changing uses of buildings, and different uses of areas of town. A detailed examination of artifacts associated with residential units should provide information as to diet, ethnicity, occupation and status, and household type. Since many of the previous excavations have been confined to the town, little attention has been paid to other resources. Additional research is required to gain further knowledge of the mining resources in the historic district. In order to examine assemblage variation, it is necessary to obtain a representative sample of all types of resources dating to all time periods. Only archaeological studies can provide these samples, thus illustrating how significant the archaeological resources are to this nomination and future research into the South Pass City Historic District. Some of the specific research questions that can be answered are as follows, but one must remember, additional questions will arise as the archaeological data continues to develop.

*To obtain a sample of 1868-1872 archaeological materials*

Some of the more important research questions center on patterns of economic and social change between the 1868-1872 boom period and later occupations of the town. Francis hypothesized that boom period remains should exhibit a high degree of functional diversity between commercial establishments of the community. Almost all goods would have been freighted into town, construction should be new, and there should be little re-use or curation of building materials. Importation of non-local foods, medicines, beverages, and consumable goods should also be high. One would also expect high disposal and replacement rates of these items.<sup>42</sup>

In contrast, there should be fewer specialty commercial businesses and lower diversity between residential units during later occupations. This would follow from diversification of the regional economy after 1872, collapse of the settlement into the old central business district and population decline. In addition, there should also be an increase in the rates of re-use and curation of construction materials, tools, and containers, reflecting declining economic conditions.

As discussed above, a sample of archaeological materials dating to the 1868-1872 mining period does not yet exist, with the possible exception of the Carissa Tailings project. Thus, it is not possible to test the hypotheses outlined by Francis or other evolutionary models on development of nineteenth century mining camps with the existing database. Any data from any single archaeological investigation will probably not be sufficient to test any evolutionary model of historic mining

<sup>40</sup> Richard Adams, "Results of Phase One: the Search for South Pass City," unpublished Cultural Resource Management Report prepared for Fremont County Historic Preservation Commission, 1994. Available from Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Cultural Records, Laramie, Wyoming.

<sup>41</sup> Julie Francis, "An Archaeological Research Design for South Pass City State Historic Site: Cultural Change in A late Nineteenth Century Mining Town," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984):143-144.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*, 138-142.

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camp. However, such information will add to the growing comparative database of early materials necessary to test such models.<sup>43</sup>

#### *Reconstruction of past lifeways*

Several different aspects of past lifeways in South Pass City could be addressed using archaeological data from South Pass City. These encompass specific aspects of domestic and commercial life in the town. Specific topics include feature use and correlation of historical records with material remains; subsistence studies of residents in the town; studies on economic and social buildings of residents; and degree of post-1870 occupation.

Kornfeld proposed the south central area of South Pass City might also be particularly suited to investigation of marginal activities. Specifically, certain activities occur only on the edge of settlements such as South Pass City. Such areas are often chosen for illicit and other socially condemned activities by children and adults. Little is known about marginal activities of mining towns. Any archaeological investigations in the south central portion of South Pass City should be investigated with such activities in mind.<sup>44</sup>

#### *Feature use and correlation of historic records with material remains*

Preliminary historic research suggests a range of activities took place during the initial boom, and shortly after, in both the central and south central portions of South Pass City. Recovery of functionally specific artifacts may permit specific inferences on feature use such that associations with specific businesses or persons may become possible.<sup>45</sup>

#### *Subsistence studies*

There is little specific information on the day-to-day life of miners and other residents of South Pass City. Sometimes the historic record is unclear and often contradictory about domestic life in South Pass City and other western mining camps. For example, based largely on data from California mining camps, Toulouse emphasized the exotic and continental nature of many bottled products shipped into western mining camps and concluded that life in isolated western mining camps was not as deprived as often thought.<sup>46</sup>

Probate records of the Henry Hardeman estate, filed in Atlantic City in 1869, tend to reinforce some of these notions of subsistence and types of consumable goods locally available. An inventory and appraisal of the estate included nutmeg, allspice, cloves, linen and silk thread, morphine, lobsters, mustard, creme of tartar, oysters, peaches, sardines, raisins, cinnamon, herring, sarsaparilla, and 43 gallons of whiskey. This shows the availability and usage of exotic items available.

Chisholm, however, paints a different picture of life in the Sweetwater Mining District. While the town of South Pass City scarcely rates a mention, Chisholm revels in the quiet and peaceful existence of Miner's Delight, compared with the "wild" railroad towns along the Union Pacific Railroad. Chisholm notes there was little whiskey. Meat lockers were filled with antelope, deer, elk, and bear. Other agriculture products were supplied from the Wind River valley.<sup>47</sup>

<sup>43</sup> Ibid., 138-144; Julie Francis, "The 1989 Archaeological Investigations of the Carissa Tailings Project at 48FR434, South Pass City, Wyoming; Wyoming AML Project 9B," unpublished Cultural Resource Management Report prepared for Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, 1991. Available from Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Cultural Records, Laramie, Wyoming; Duane A. Smith, *Rocky Mountain Mining Camps: The Urban Frontier*. Reprinted, Lincoln, University of Nebraska Press (1974); Michael Ostrogorsky, "An Idaho Model of Frontier Settlement," *North American Archaeologist* 3(1) (1982):79-83; Donald Hardesty, "An Archaeological Model of Victorianism on the Nevada Mining Frontier," paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, Denver, Colorado, 1983.

<sup>44</sup> Marcel Kornfeld, "Analysis of Some Residential Areas of South Pass City," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology*, Number 3 (1984).

<sup>45</sup> Marcel Kornfeld, "Analysis of Some Residential Areas of South Pass City," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984); Julie Francis and Marcel Kornfeld, "South Pass City: General Introduction," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984); Julie Francis, "An Archaeological Research Design for South Pass City State Historic Site: Cultural Change in A late Nineteenth Century Mining Town," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984).

<sup>46</sup> Julian H. Toulouse, "High on the Hawg or How the Western Miner Lived as Told by Bottles He Left Behind," *Historical Archaeology* 4 (1970):59-69.

<sup>47</sup> Lola Homsher ed, *South Pass 1868: James Chisholm's Journal of the Wyoming Gold Rush*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, (1960): 93, 103.

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Archaeological data district will also shed light on such questions of subsistence practices. Undiscovered dumps would likely yield considerable evidence of foodstuffs and consumable goods used by the occupants. It may be possible to address questions such as comparative reliance on wild versus domesticated animals and types of consumable goods imported into the region. Thus, a more complete picture of domestic lifeways than available from historic records might be obtained.

*Economic and social structure*

Erickson suggested there was considerable variability in ethnic groups and household types at South Pass City in 1870. 1870 census data show there were Americans, Europeans, African-Americans, Hispanics, and Chinese in South Pass City. In addition, those census data note presence of some 150 households, including 33 single male households, 50 multiple male households, 15 married couples with no children, 23 couples with at least one child, one unmarried couple, and several other types of household units.<sup>48</sup>

One would thus expect variation in artifact assemblages from residential areas, particularly between major artifact groups, that would be related to ethnicity and household structure. Differential distributions of Chinese ceramics between residential features may be an indication of the particular ethnic groups that occupied those features. There would also be variation in kitchen items, clothing, and personal items between all male households and households consisting of a married couple or married couples with children. Variation in artifact assemblages could also be related to occupation or business of the residents. An individual miner working a moderately successful claim could have less means of purchasing exotic consumable goods than the more successful merchant. Unsuccessful miners may also have had different subsistence practices. This latter group might have had a greater reliance on locally available wild meat products. Successful merchants or mill owners may have relied on domestic animals butchered commercially.<sup>49</sup>

Outlying buildings and dumps may prove most useful for these types of research questions. It may also be possible to make generalizations regarding differences in economic and social status between ethnic groups, household types, and occupation classes. This would again provide a more complete picture of life in South Pass City.

*Degree of post-1870 occupation*

Kornfeld suggested most features in the south central part of South Pass City were probably associated with the post-1870 occupation of the town. This is also the situation determined by previous archaeological investigations for the central portion of town, where most of the buildings are located. There is some suggestion, however, that earlier occupation might also be present. Additional unrecognized features might be datable to these time periods. If so, the archaeological data will increase the database, particularly for residential areas of the town. Of particular relevance are the above research questions of subsistence, culture change, and economic and social structure.<sup>50</sup>

**Significance**

The South Pass City Historic District is eligible at the state level under criteria A and D. The district is significant in the area of exploration/settlement as it represents the exploration of the Sweetwater mining region and the settlement of South Pass City. The design of the town reflects both the settlement patterns initially established and the reuse of buildings and materials in an isolated area with limited materials and transportation options. The historic district is also a representative example of the mining and mineral industry of Wyoming and the boom and bust cycle prevalent in the state. The Carissa mine and mill, along with the smaller mining claims, prospect pits, and arrastras illustrate both the changes in technology and the influx of new capital into the mining industry. The district is also significant under criterion D for its potential to provide important information about the history of the area. Archaeological excavation and research can provide further information on the buildings and structures within South Pass City as well as the mining resources throughout the district.

Criterion A

<sup>48</sup> Kenneth C. Erickson, "South Pass City: An Environmental Approach to the Documentary and Oral History Evidence," unpublished Cultural Resource Management Report prepared for the Wyoming Recreation Commission, Cheyenne, Wyoming, 1982. Available from Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Cultural Records, Laramie, Wyoming.

<sup>49</sup> Julie Francis, "An Archaeological Research Design for South Pass City State Historic Site: Cultural Change in A late Nineteenth Century Mining Town," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984).

<sup>50</sup> Marcel Kornfeld, "Analysis of Some Residential Areas of South Pass City," *Occasional Papers on Wyoming Archaeology* Number 3 (1984).

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South Pass City Historic District is significant in the area of exploration/settlement. In prehistoric times, various Native American tribes lived in or traveled through this area; the Shoshone and other groups used South Pass to move between their winter and summer hunting areas. Robert Stuart and the Astorians first crossed South Pass in 1812, followed twenty years later by Captain Bonneville and a company of wagons. There was periodic visitation and gold panning by Euro-Americans from the first recorded gold find in 1842 through the mid 1850s. South Pass City's proximity to South Pass led to immigrant travelers on the Oregon Trail venturing into the Sweetwater region. Soldiers from Fort Bridger staked mining claims and formed the Lincoln Mining District in 1864, but never stayed in the region for any significant length of time. Although many traveled through the area, South Pass City was not truly settled until the late 1860s.

After the discovery of the Carissa lode and the establishment of the Shoshone Mining District in 1867, the Sweetwater mining region began to rapidly develop. South Pass City, originally a tent city in the summer of 1867, was platted in October and with the onset of winter, the first buildings were constructed. In the same year, the citizens of South Pass City organized Carter County. As gold seekers flooded the area, South Pass City continued to expand and even at one time was proposed as the capital of Wyoming Territory.

The heyday of South Pass City was 1868 to 1872 and the settlement patterns established then are apparent. The original layout of the town is evident as the commercial and residential buildings are still aligned along the creek; the main street remains with the saloons, hotels, and business flanking both sides, interspersed with residences. The repurposing of buildings and structures illustrates the need to reuse buildings in an area with few material resources and located far from main transportation corridors. While four buildings were reconstructed in the 1970s, the others remain little altered. The feeling, association, location, and setting are good. The presence of summer homes, located in a small section west of the original South Pass City, do not compromise the essentially unaltered setting.

South Pass City Historic District is also significant in the area of industry as a significant example of the mineral industry and of the boom and bust cycle prevalent in Wyoming. Throughout the state's history, its economy relied on minerals, oil, and gas extraction, which typically followed a pattern of boom and bust. The South Pass City region is perhaps the first to experience this pattern with the initial boom in 1867 followed by a bust in the early 1870s. This pattern continued for the next 100 years with smaller periodic booms due to the influx of new capital or technological advancements.

The mining industry in the South Pass Historic District began as periodic placer gold panning along the Oregon Trail and limited attempts by 49ers returning from California. Only limited success was attained by these operations and no mines developed. However, after the initial mining district was established by soldiers and the discovery of the Carissa lode, the mining industry expanded through individual mining claims and the establishment of larger operations. This precipitated Wyoming's first and only substantial gold rush. Throughout the district, numerous operations were started varying in scale from small individual claims to larger operations closer in scale to the Carissa. Ironically, the Carissa mine was quickly established in 1867, but due to ownership disputes was not in operation from 1869 to 1873, the time of greatest activity in South Pass City Historic District. While the Carissa sat unused, the mining activity in the area continued at a fevered pace. As the smaller claims and some of the larger mines played out, the Carissa reopened with expanded operations.

Many of the smaller claims are evident throughout the district and the Carissa remains as a representative example of the larger operations that started in the late nineteenth century and continued to develop. These smaller mines, while partially reclaimed due to health and safety concerns still retain excellent setting, feeling, association, and location. The design, workmanship, and materials are not as evident because the shafts are filled with polyurethane foam capped with dirt and rock, but the mine openings, ore piles, and spoil piles remain.

Somewhat in contrast to the smaller mine workings, the design, workmanship, and material are good to excellent at the Carissa mine and mill complex. The mill and mine changed over the years, but nearly all changes are within the period of significance and reflect advancements in technology. Most changes coincide with smaller booms in the historic district as well as the larger Sweetwater mining region. The buildings associated with the Carissa mill and mine represent vernacular architecture used in the mining and milling processes. The imposing mill was built on a hillside to aid in the gravitation milling process and retains some of its early milling machinery. Since 2003, SPHST has rehabilitated the buildings and structures according to the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The setting and location are also excellent. There has been little development since 1966 within the mining portion of the district and it retains the feeling and association from the period of significance. The South Pass City Historic District was the center of the most successful gold mining region in the state, is the best surviving example of gold mining in the region, and typifies the boom and bust pattern of industry development in the state.

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#### Criterion D

The South Pass City Historic District is also significant under criterion D for its potential to provide important archaeological information about the history of the area, and more importantly, the lives of the people involved in its exploration, settlement, and mining beyond that available through the historic record. Lifeways of the Euro-American miners can best be examined in the context of how they adapted to life in harsh environment and the prehistoric archaeological data available at South Pass City has the potential to yield these data.

Although South Pass City once contained nearly 200 buildings, today fewer than thirty historic buildings remain intact in the town; the others have been lost to fire, cannibalization of building materials, natural deterioration, or other events. Archaeological excavations have been conducted around many of the buildings over the past 30 years during various stabilization projects. These archaeological excavations and associated research provided information on these buildings and structures not available through the historic record. There has been little or no archaeological research conducted on any of the visible or buried foundations scattered throughout the district. Future archaeological excavations around these sites can also provide additional information about the mining resources and the mining people, throughout the district.

Archeological investigations have been undertaken at various locations throughout South Pass City since the early 1970s. From initial excavations to examine areas for artifacts or foundations as well as salvage work, research questions have expanded to include chronological issues, dating techniques, patterns of artifact disposal, construction history, maintenance of buildings, changing uses of buildings, and different uses of areas of town. Since many of the previous excavations have been confined to the town, little attention has been paid to other resources. In order to examine assemblage variation, it is necessary to obtain a representative sample of all types of resources dating to all time periods. Additional research is required to gain further knowledge of the mining resources in the historic district.

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South Pass City Historic District  
Name of Property

Fremont County, WY  
County and State

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

☒ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other  
Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 86.3 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	14	681116	4705114	3	14	681508	4704890
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	14	681350	4705221	4	14	681732	4704937
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked on the accompanying USGS map.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The property includes all of Section 20, which was the boundary when originally nominated in 1970, and expanded to include the Carissa mine and mill complex, as well as the portion of the South Pass Cemetery in Section 29. The expanded boundary encompasses the primary mining claims associated with South Pass City mining region and includes the mining claims purchased in 1896 by the Federal Gold Mining Company. As little has changed since originally nominated in 1970, Section 20 retains integrity.

**11. Form Prepared By**

South Pass City Historic District

Fremont County, WY

Name of Property

County and State

name/title Rosenberg Historical Consultants, Kara Hahn (Wyoming SHPO), and Danny Walker (Wyoming SHPO)

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 2011

street & number 739 Creek Road telephone 307-632-1144

city or town Cheyenne state WY zip code 82009

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

**Name of Property:** South Pass City Historic District

**City or Vicinity:** South Pass City

**County:** Fremont

**State:** Wyoming

**Photographer:** Richard Collier

**Date Photographed:** 11 – 7 – 2006

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:**

Photo 1 of 26: Overview of district, view is northwest  
Photo 2 of 26: Overview of district, view is north, northeast  
Photo 3 of 26: Overview of district, view is northeast  
Photo 4 of 26: Resource 1, view is east  
Photo 5 of 26: Resource 29, view is northwest  
Photo 6 of 26: Dakota Street, view is southwest  
Photo 7 of 26: Dakota Street, view is north, northeast  
Photo 8 of 26: Resource 32, view is southwest  
Photo 9 of 26: Resources 33 and 34, view is north  
Photo 10 of 26: Resources 6, 7, 8, and 9, view is west, northwest  
Photo 11 of 26: Resources 17, 18, 19, 20, and 22, view is southwest  
Photo 12 of 26: Resources 22, 20, 19, and 18, view is south, southeast  
Photo 13 of 26: Resource 21, view is southeast  
Photo 14 of 26: Resources 24 and 25, view is southwest  
Photo 15 of 26: Resource 25, view is southwest  
Photo 16 of 26: Resources 26 and 5, view is west, northwest  
Photo 17 of 26: Resources 14 and 56, view is southeast

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Photo 18 of 26: Resources 53, view to west  
Photo 19 of 26: Resource 54, view is northeast  
Photo 20 of 26: Resource 78, view is southwest  
Photo 21 of 26: Overview of Carissa mine and mill complex, view is east  
Photo 22 of 26: Resource 67, view is northeast  
Photo 23 of 26: Resource 68, view is southeast  
Photo 24 of 26: Resources 64 and 65, view is north, northwest  
Photo 25 of 26: Resource 69, view to north, northwest  
Photo 26 of 26: Resource 66, view to north

**Property Owner:**

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

name \_\_\_\_\_  
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. 460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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

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

South Pass City Historic District

Name of Property

Fremont County, WY

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Continuation Pages Page 55

**10. Geographical Data**

UTM #,	Zone	Easting,	Northing
UTM 5	14	681739E	4704753N
UTM 6	14	681779E	4704760N
UTM 7	14	681739E	4704479N
UTM 8	14	681140E	4704482N
UTM 9	14	680697E	4703632N
UTM 10	14	680700E	4703593N
UTM 11	14	680657E	4703588N
UTM 12	14	680650E	4703631N

**Table 1. South Pass City Historic District: List of resources, status, and outbuildings**

Resource Number	Name/Description	Location/Address	Status
1	Rock House	Dakota Street	Contributing building
2	Dance Hall / Fee Booth	129 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
3	Administration Building	125 South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
4	Tibbals Cabin	111 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
5	Carissa Saloon	105 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
6	Smith-Sherlock Company Store	99 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
7	Houghton-Cotter Store/ Mining Interpretive Center	95-97 South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
8	The Cave/Fort Bourbon	89 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
9	Sherlock House	87 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
10	Restroom Building	South Pass Avenue, east of Sherlock House	Noncontributing building
11	Schoolhouse	High Street	Contributing building
12	Cody Cabin	57-59 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
13	Riniker Cabin	41 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
14	Slack/Morris Cabin	38 South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
15	Blacksmith Shop	58 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
16	Sherlock Garage	78 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
17	Ice House	84 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
18	Ervin Store	76 South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
19	South Pass Hotel	90 South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
20	Restaurant	92 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
21	Sherlock Barn/Livery Stable	East of NE corner Price & Grant Streets	Contributing building
22	Exchange Saloon	96-98 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
23	Miners Exchange Saloon	NW corner Price & Grant Streets	Contributing building
24	Sweetwater County Jail	Grant Street	Contributing building
25	Libby Cabin	South Price Street	Contributing building

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

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

South Pass City Historic District

Name of Property

Fremont County, WY

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Continuation Pages Page 56

Resource Number	Name/Description	Location/Address	Status
26	Carr Butcher Shop	106-108 South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
27	Main restroom	County Road opposite Dance Hall (Bldg. 1)	Noncontributing building
28	Maintenance Shop	30 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
29	Larson and Farr Cabin	14 Dakota Street	Contributing building
30	Matson and Klenck Cabin	22 Dakota Street	Contributing building
31	Guest Cabin	Dakota Street	Noncontributing building
32	Jean Chipp Cabin	28 Dakota Street	Contributing building
33	Storage/Greenhouse	Dakota Street	Noncontributing building
34	Williams House/ Superintendent's Residence	54 Dakota Street	Contributing building
35	Marrin House	64 Dakota Street	Noncontributing building
	Outbuilding	64 Dakota Street	Contributing building
36	John Bane House	80 Dakota Street	Contributing building
	Outbuilding	80 Dakota Street	Contributing building
	Outbuilding	80 Dakota Street	Contributing building
	Outbuilding	80 Dakota Street	Noncontributing building
37	Ridge Brown Cabin	141 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
	Outbuilding	141 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
38	Trudy Brown Cabin	145 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
39	Niles Log Storage Cabin	194 West South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
40	Niles Cabin	194 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
	Outbuilding	194 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
41	Niles House	195 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
42	Wall House	179 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
	Outbuilding	179 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
43	Mellecker House	169 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
44	Farr House	149 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
	Outbuilding	149 West South Pass Avenue	Contributing building
45	South Pass Trading Co. (Masonic Building)	60 West South Pass Avenue	Noncontributing building
46	Ridge Brown Garage	B Street	Noncontributing building
47	Brehe House	15 B Street	Noncontributing building
48	Sorrel House	45 B Street	Noncontributing building
	Outbuilding	45 B Street	Noncontributing building
49	Stone fireplace from school house	South Pass Avenue (between buildings 3 and 4)	Contributing site
50	Collapsed log building site	NE corner of South Pass Avenue and Washington Street	Contributing site
51	Stone foundation (Custer St. Rock House)	North of building 9	Contributing site
52	Horse and Wagon Bridge	Price Street at Willow Creek	Noncontributing structure
53	Wolverine Mine Adit	West side of Washington Street	Noncontributing structure

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

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

South Pass City Historic District

Name of Property

Fremont County, WY

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Continuation Pages Page 57

Resource Number	Name/Description	Location/Address	Status
54	Portion of ten-stamp mill	East side of Washington Street	Noncontributing structure
55	Monument and marker	South of building 7	Noncontributing object
56	Esther Hobart Morris Monument	East of building 14	Noncontributing object
57	South Pass City Cemetery	.25 miles south of South Pass City	Contributing site
58	Carissa Mine	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing structure
59	Glory Hole	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing structure
60	Antoine Shaft	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing structure
61	Carissa Mill	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
62	Hoist House	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
63	Headframe	675 Atlantic City Road	Noncontributing structure
	Shaft house	675 Atlantic City Road	Noncontributing building
	Rail Trestle	675 Atlantic City Road	Noncontributing structure
64	Mill Office	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
65	Reagent Shed	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
66	Cook House	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
	Outbuilding	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
67	Log house	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
68	Bunkhouse	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
69	Mine Office	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
70	Dugout/Powder House	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing building
71	Carissa Spoil Piles	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing site
72	Charlie's Folly	675 Atlantic City Road	Noncontributing site
73	Federal Gold Mining Company Foundations	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing site
74	Federal Gold Mining Company Mill Dump	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing site
75	Stone House Adit	675 Atlantic City Road	Contributing structure
76	Modern Trash Dump	675 Atlantic City Road	Noncontributing site
77	Snowden/Marrin Log Cabin Dump	North of the railroad grade above Altorus Gulch	Noncontributing site
78	Mill Pond Complex – Mill Pond	Approximately ½ mile east of the Carissa mill	Contributing site
	Dam	Approximately ½ mile east of the Carissa mill	Contributing structure
	Headgate	Approximately ½ mile east of the Carissa mill	Contributing structure
	Pump house	Approximately ½ mile east of the Carissa mill	Contributing site
79	English Adit	½ a mile uphill from the mill pond	Contributing structure
80	Mill Pond Adit	¼ a mile uphill from the mill pond	Contributing structure
81	Cuba Mine and Shaft House - Adit	South of the abandoned railroad grade and on the ridge midway between Altorous Gulch and the	Contributing structure

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

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

South Pass City Historic District

Name of Property

Fremont County, WY

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Continuation Pages Page 58

Resource Number	Name/Description	Location/Address	Status
		Carissa mine	
	Shaft House	South of the abandoned railroad grade and on the ridge midway between Altorous Gulch and the Carissa mine	Contributing building
82	Franklin Mine and Associated Ruins – Shaft	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing structure
	Ruin A	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing site
	Shaft B	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing structure
	Shaft C	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing structure
	Shaft D	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing structure
	Shaft E	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing structure
	Ruin F	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing site
	Shaft G	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing structure
	Ruin H	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing site
	Shaft I	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing structure
	Shaft J	On western edge of the historic district and south of the abandoned railroad grade	Contributing structure
83	Washington Shafts – Shaft A	Upslope and northeast of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
	Shaft B	Upslope and northeast of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
84	Sherlock Shaft	Upslope and northeast of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
85	Polly Perkins Shafts – Shaft A	Approximately ¼ mile southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure

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

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

South Pass City Historic District

Name of Property

Fremont County, WY

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Continuation Pages Page 59

Resource Number	Name/Description	Location/Address	Status
	Shaft B	Approximately ¼ mile southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
	Shaft C	Approximately ¼ mile southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
86	Young American Shaft	Approximately ¼ mile southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
87	Jeanette Shafts – Tunnel A	Approximately ½ mile southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
	Shaft B	Approximately ½ mile southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
	Shaft C	Approximately ½ mile southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
88	Charles Dickens Shaft	Approximately ¾ miles southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
89	Uncle Johns Shaft and Adit - Shaft	Approximately 1 ½ miles southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
	Adit	Approximately 1 ½ miles southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
90	Alpine Incline Shaft	On a ridge southwest of the Carissa mine	Contributing structure
91	Altorus Gulch Foundation 1	Near entrance of Altorus Gulch	Contributing site
92	Altorus Gulch Foundation 2	Southern end of Altorus Gulch	Contributing site
93	Altorus Gulch Adit 1	Midway down Altorus Gulch, between the foundation ruins	Contributing structure
94	Altorus Gulch Adit 2	Northern end of Altorus Gulch	Contributing structure
95	Altorus Gulch Arrastra	Midway down the ravine west of the Mormon Creek	Contributing structure
96	Brick Plant Ruins (48FR5048)	South bank of Willow Creek, west of town	Contributing site
97	Sturman and Company Quartz Mill (48FR5047)	South bank of Willow creek, west of town	Contributing site
98	Willow Creek Arrastra	West of the town and on north bank of Willow Creek	Contributing structure
99	Smith site	West of South pass City and on the south bank of Willow Creek	Noncontributing site
100	Wood Road	North south road that bisects historic district	Contributing structure
101	Atlantic City to South Pass City Toll Road	Hermit Gulch	Contributing structure
102	Carissa Ditch	Cross all of section 20	Contributing structure
103	South Pass City Road	Runs through eastern portion of section 20	Noncontributing structure
104	United States Steel Railroad	Ridge south and west of South Pass City	Noncontributing structure

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

South Pass City Historic District

Name of Property

Fremont County, WY

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Continuation Pages Page 60

Resource Number	Name/Description	Location/Address	Status
105	Atlantic City Road	Branches off of South Pass City Road – runs near Carissa mine and mill complex	Noncontributing structure

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

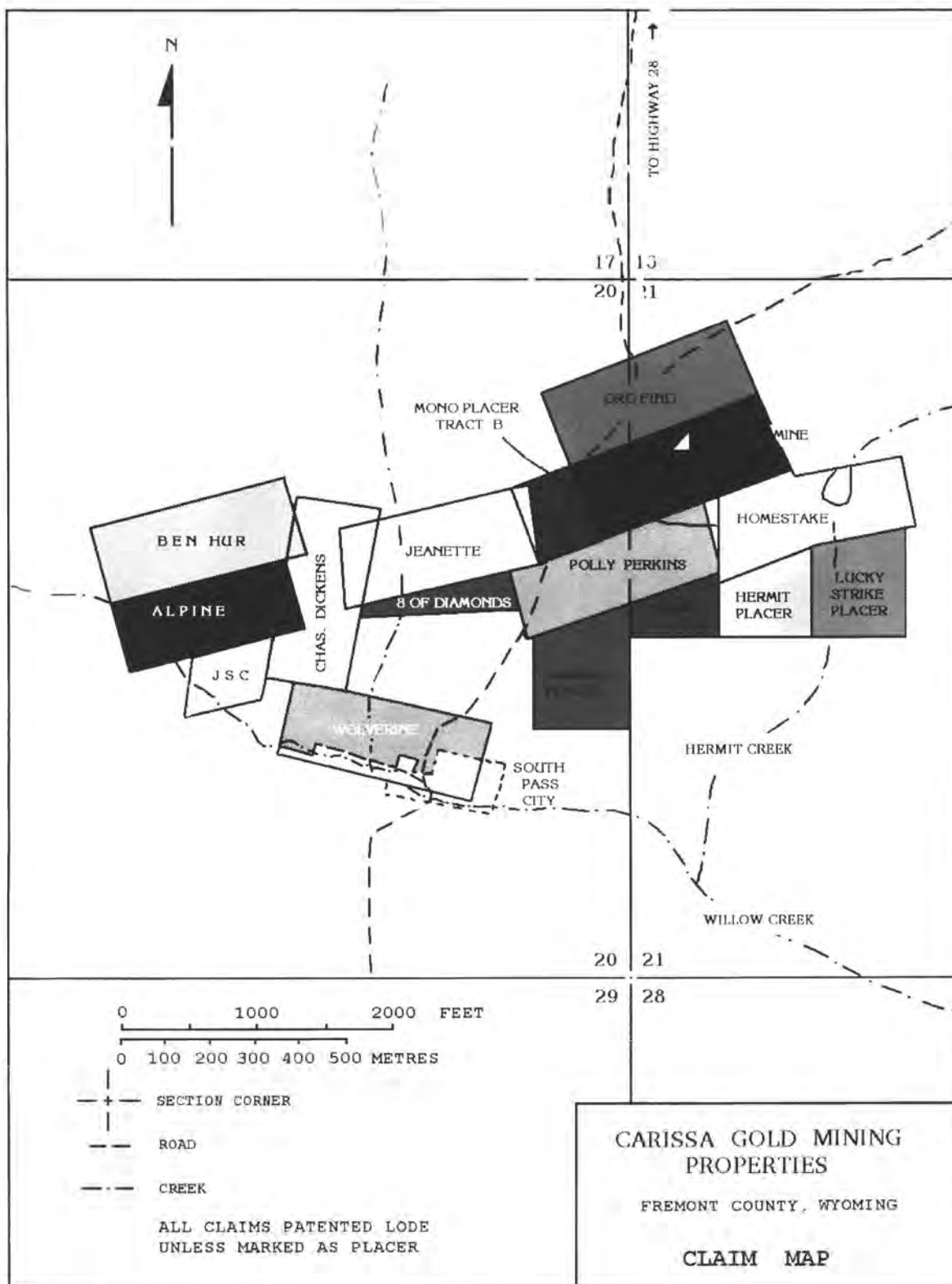
South Pass City Historic District

Name of Property

Fremont County, WY

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Continuation Pages Page 61

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

South Pass City Historic District

Name of Property

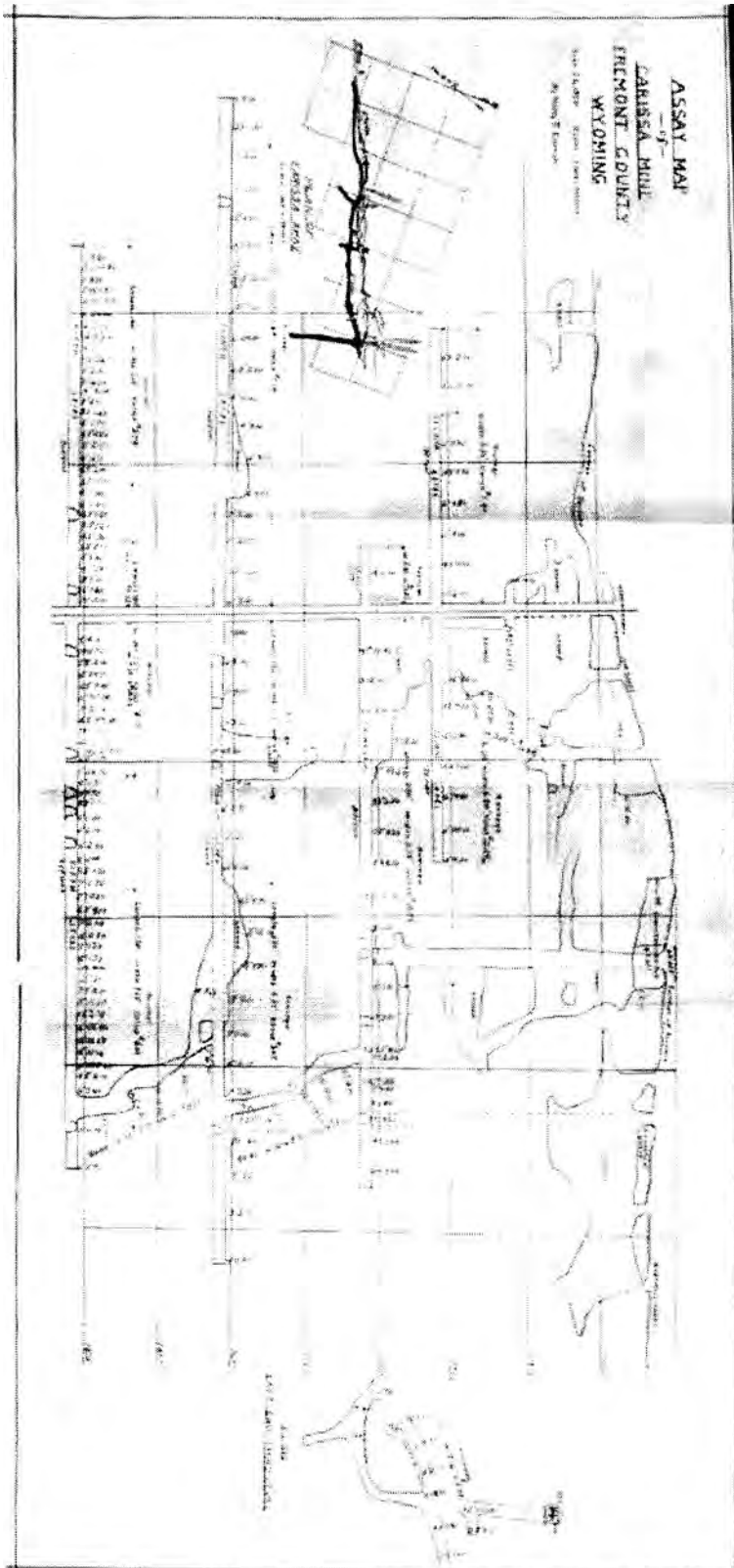
Fremont County, WY

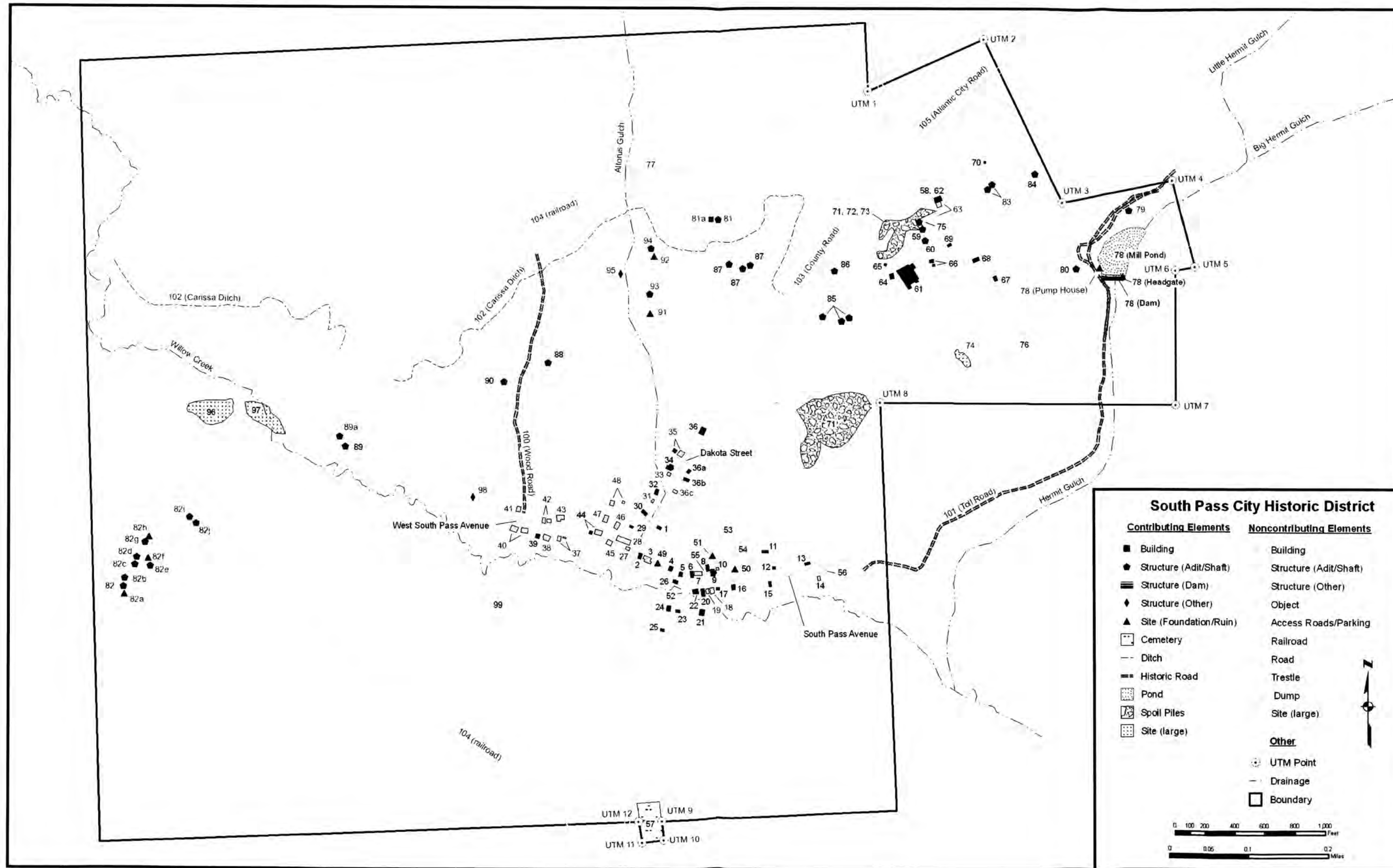
County and State

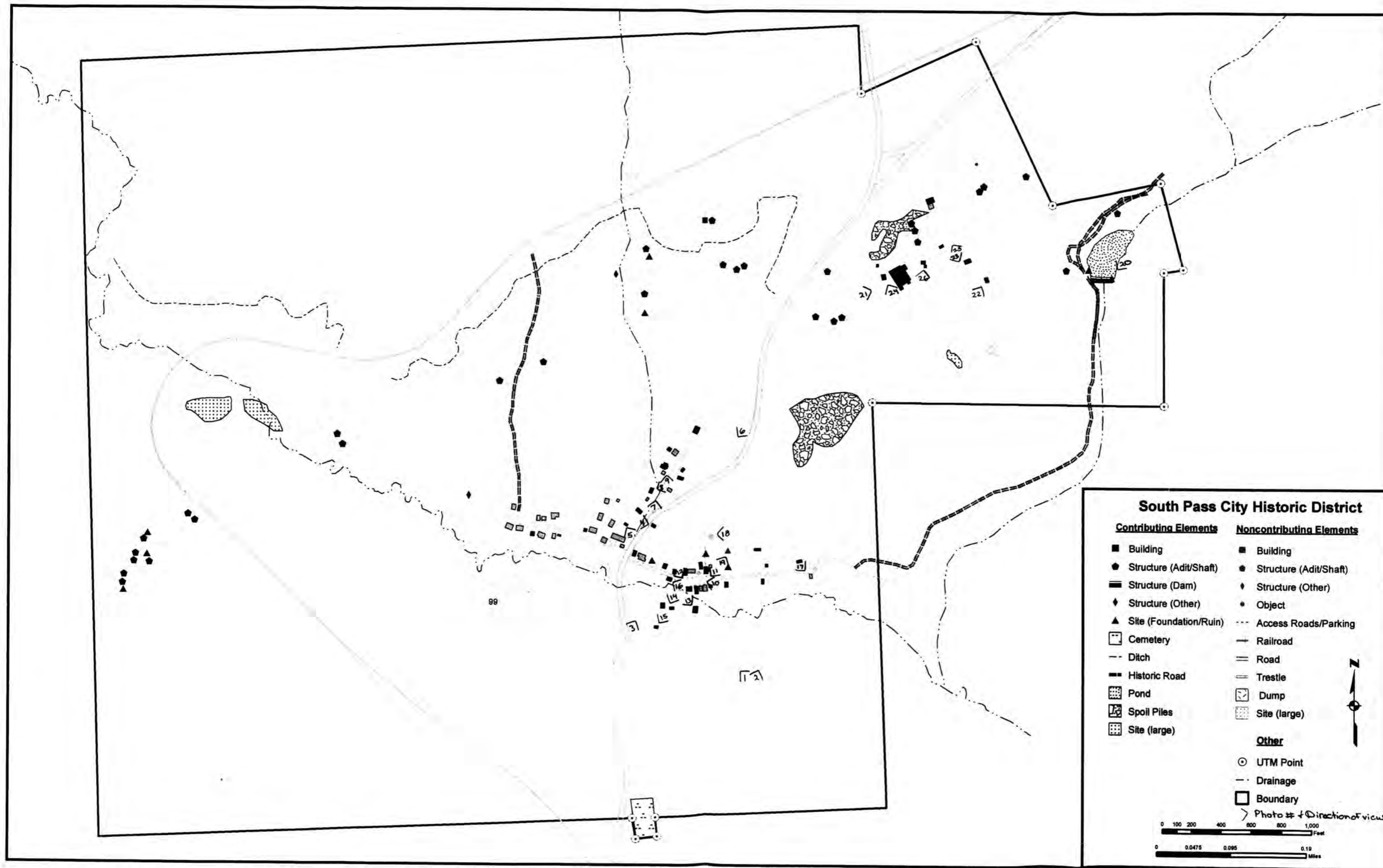
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Continuation Pages

Page 62







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY South Pass City Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: WYOMING, Fremont

DATE RECEIVED: 1/13/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/28/12  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 70000670

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 \_\_\_ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

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.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY South Pass City Historic District (Boundary Increase)  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: WYOMING, Fremont

DATE RECEIVED: 1/13/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/06/12  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/21/12 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/28/12  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12000055

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 2-28-12 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.



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Overview

Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View is NW

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

SouthPassCity Historic Site, Overview

Located at SouthPassCity Historic District, Wyoming

Looking at the East end of SouthPassCity Avenue

Fremont County

View to NNE

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Overview

Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to NE, shot from road south of South Pass City

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Rock House (1)

Located on Dakota Street,

South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to East

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Larson + Farr Cabin (29)

Located at 14 Dakota St.

South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View is NW

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

6

South Pass City Historic Site, Streetscape  
Located on Dakota Street at  
South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to SW

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

7

South Pass City Historic Site, Looking up Dakota Street

Located on Dakota Street in

South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to NNE

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Jean Chipp Cabin (32)

Located at 28 Dakota St. in

South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to SW

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Williams House (L) (34)

Marrin House (R) (35)

Located at 54 + 64 Dakota St.,

South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to North

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Streetscape

Located at 99, 97-95, 89+87 South Pass Avenue, (6, 7, 8, 9)

South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View is WNW

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, South side of South Pass Avenue (17, 18, 19, 20, 22)

Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to SW

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

12

South Pass City Historic Site, Streetscape (22, 20, 19, 18)

Located on South Pass Avenue at

South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View is SSE

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Livery Stable (21)  
Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming  
Fremont County  
View to SE  
Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Libby Cabin (L) (25)  
Miners Exchange (C) (23) & the Sweetwater Jail bldg. (R) (24)

South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to SW

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Libby Cabin (25)

Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming  
on South Price Street.

Fremont County

View to SW

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Streetscape (26 & 5)

Located on South Pass Avenue,

South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View is WNW looking at the Carrisa Saloon (R)

Tibbles Cabin (C) + Carr Butcher Shop (L)

Photographer: Richard Collier



WIFE & OFFICE USE BY  
ESTHER HOBART MORRIS  
FIRST WOMAN JUSTICE  
OF THE PEACE  
IN THE WORLD  
FEB. 14, 1870

AUTHOR WITH W. H. BRIGHT  
OF THE FIRST  
SOLAL SUFFRAGE LAW  
DEC. 10, 1869

11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site,  
Slack/Ester Hobart Morris Cabin + Monument (14, 56)  
Located at 38 South Pass Avenue,  
South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming  
Fremont County  
View to SE  
Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

South Pass City Historic Site, Wolverine Mine Adit & Ore Cart (53)

Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to west

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-8-2006

19

South Pass City Historic Site, Stamp Mill (54)

Located on the east side of Washington Street in  
South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View is NE

Photographer: Richard Collier



9-10-2009

Carrisa Mine, Dam & Headgate (78)

Located just east of the Carrisa Mine at  
South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View is SW

Photographer: Richard Collier



9-10-2009

21

Carrisa Mine & Mill Complex (61-65)

Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View is East

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-2006

Carrisa Mine & Mill Complex, Log House (67)  
Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming  
Fremont County

View to NE

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-2006

Carrisa Mine + Mill Complex, Bunkhouse (48)

Located at the South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to SE

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-2006

Carissa Mine & Mill Complex, Mill office & Reagent Shed (44 & 45)

Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to NNW

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-2006

Carrisa Mine + Mill Complex, Mine Office (69)

Located at the South Pass City, Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to NNW

Photographer: Richard Sillier



11-7-2006

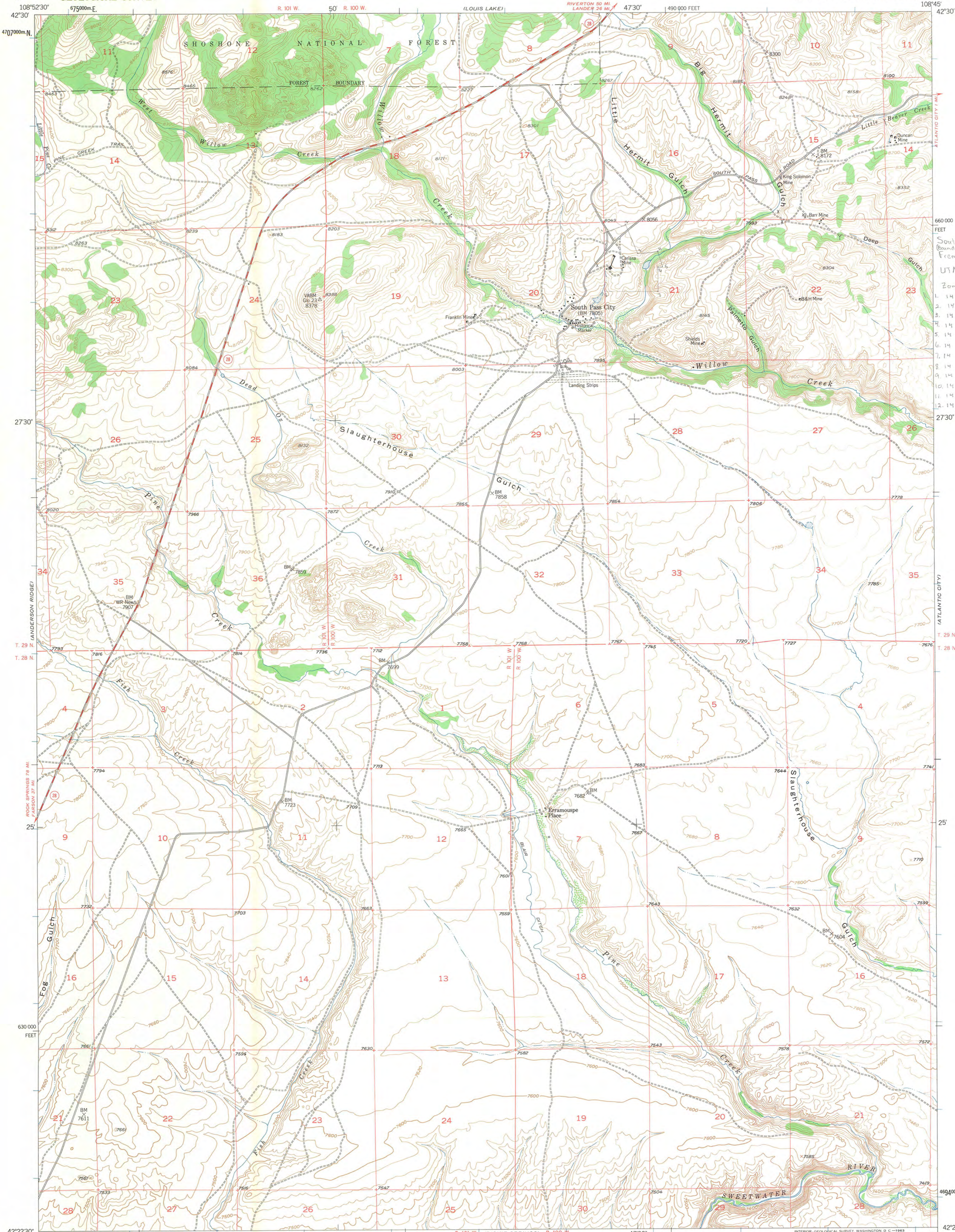
Carissa Mine + Mill Complex, Cook House (66)

Located at South Pass City Historic District, Wyoming

Fremont County

View to North

Photographer: Richard Collier

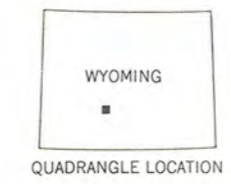
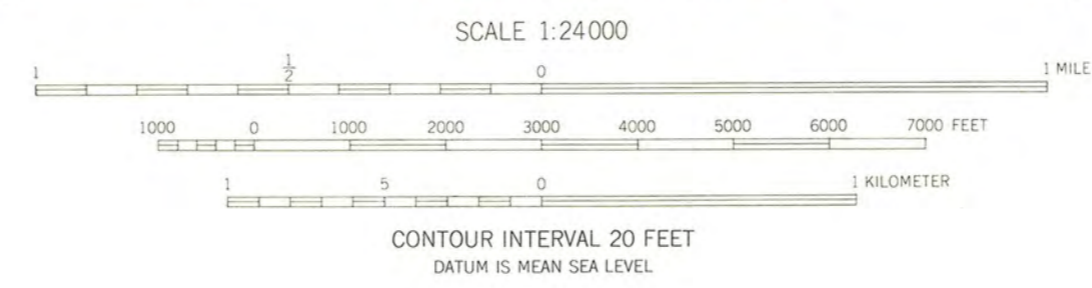
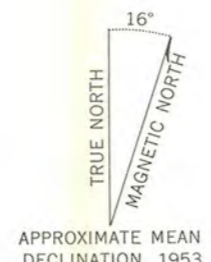


South Pass City Historic District  
(Boundary increased to include all historic structures)  
Fremont County, Wyoming

UTM References

Zone	Easting	Northing
14	68116	4705114
14	681350	4705221
14	681508	4704890
14	681732	4704937
14	681739	4704753
14	681779	4704700
14	681739	4704479
14	681440	4704479
14	680495	4703632
14	680700	4703593
14	680657	4703585
14	680450	4703631

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
as part of the Department of the Interior program  
for the development of the Missouri River Basin  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods  
Aerial photographs taken 1949. Field check 1953  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Wyoming coordinate system,  
west central zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 12, shown in blue  
Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
1963  
Medium-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Unimproved dirt ———  
State Route ———

SOUTH PASS CITY, WYO.  
N4222.5-W10845.7.5  
1953

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER 25, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Wind River-Bighorn Basin District

Lander Field Office

335 Main Street

Lander, Wyoming 82820

8143

South Pass City

(48FR434)

August 11, 2011

Ms. Mary Hopkins  
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer  
The Barrett Building  
2301 Central Avenue  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Re: Comments on the South Pass City Historic  
District National Register Nomination  
Boundary Increase and Additional  
Documentation.

Dear Ms. Hopkins:

Kara Hahn of your office has asked the Lander Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for its comments on the updated and revised National Register Nomination for the South Pass City Historic District. The boundary for the historic district has been expanded to include the Carissa Mine and Mill areas (non-Federal lands) and the South Pass City Cemetery (BLM-administered land). We have reviewed documentation, and the Lander Field Office fully supports and endorses the revised nomination for the South Pass City Historic District and its expansion to include the town's cemetery.

Please keep the BLM informed as this nomination moves forward, and if you have any questions, please contact me or Field Archeologist Craig Bromley at (307)332-8406.

Sincerely,

Richard Vander Voet  
Lander Field Office Manager

Cc: Mike Stewart, Acting District Manager, Worland  
Ranel Capron, Archeologist, WSO (931)



*Mr. [unclear], [unclear], [unclear]*  
*Robin Burgess*

## United States Department of the Interior

### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Wyoming State Office

P.O. Box 1828

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003-1828

In Reply Refer To:  
8121 (WY930)  
RCapron

NOV 29 2011

#### Memorandum

To: Federal Preservation Officer (WO-240), 20 M Street

From: Donald A. Simpson *Donald A. Simpson*  
State Director

Subject: South Pass City National Register of Historic Places Boundary Expansion

This memorandum provides Wyoming BLM's approval of the expansion of the boundary for South Pass City Historic District (48FR434), a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1970. Attached you will find a letter of support from the Lander Field Manager to the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The BLM-administered portion of the proposed increase to the historic property is half an acre. The boundary expansion is proposed to better reflect the mining history of the area. The amended nomination will include additional state land, the Carissa mine and mill complex, as well as a small amount of BLM land. The majority of the South Pass City cemetery is in Section 20 and already listed on the NRHP; however, a small part of the cemetery is in Section 29, which is the .5 acre of BLM land. The boundary increase would incorporate the entire cemetery into the historic district.

As stated in the letter to the Wyoming SHPO, BLM's interest lies with protection and preservation of the historic property. The Wyoming SHPO has concurred that the boundary expansion is necessary to fully protect the National Register-listed site. We fully support this boundary expansion.

Since there is so little BLM land involved in the boundary expansion, the Wyoming SHPO has asked if the Federal Preservation Officer would simply provide a letter of support for this nomination to the Keeper of the Register at the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. We appreciate your attention to this matter.

If you have any questions, please contact Ranel Stephenson Capron, Deputy Preservation Officer, at 307-775-6108 or rcapron@blm.gov.

1 Attachment:

1 - Letter from Lander FO to Wyoming SHPO (1 p)



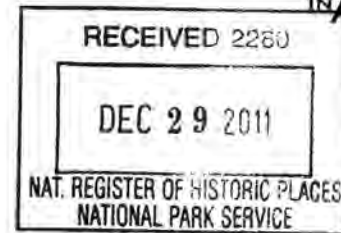
# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Washington, D.C. 20240

<http://www.blm.gov>

December 20, 2011



In Reply Refer To:  
8100 (240)

J. Paul Loether, Chief  
National Register of Historic Places  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

I am happy to support the expansion of the boundary for the South Pass Historic District (48FR 4334). The amended nomination will include additional state land, the Carissa mine and mill complex and a small amount of Bureau of Land Management land. The boundary change will incorporate the entire cemetery into the historic district, and allow the district to better reflect the mining history of the area.

We look forward to hearing the results of this nomination.

If you or your staffs have any questions, please call me at (202) 912-7241 or e-mail [rhawks@blm.gov](mailto:rhawks@blm.gov).

Robin Hawks, Ph.D  
Preservation Officer  
Bureau of Land Management

Enclosures

# ARTS. PARKS. HISTORY.

Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources



State Historic Preservation Office  
Barrett Building, 3rd Floor  
2301 Central Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: (307) 777-7697  
Fax: (307) 777-6421  
<http://wyoshpo.state.wy.us>

6 January 2012

Paul Loether  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Submission of the Site 32 SL-O (Salt Lake – Omaha) Intermediate Field Historic District and the South Pass City Historic District Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation, and Name Change nominations

Dear Mr. Loether:

The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office is submitting the Site 32 SL-O (Salt Lake – Omaha) Intermediate Field Historic District and the South Pass City Historic District (boundary increase, additional documentation, and name change) nominations for National Park Service review.

In 1970, South Pass City was listed with a boundary that encompassed all of Section 20 of Township 29 North, Range 100 West. The boundary increase will include additional state land as well as a very small amount of Bureau of Land Management land (BLM). The BLM Lander Field Office, the BLM Wyoming State Office, and the BLM Federal Preservation Officer have reviewed and commented on the nomination. Robin Hawks, the BLM Federal Preservation Officer, sent a letter of support to your office on 20 December 2011.

Enclosed are the nominations, which have been reviewed by the Wyoming State Review Board and signed by Mary Hopkins, State Historic Preservation Officer.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 307-777-7828.

Sincerely,

Kara Hahn

National Register Coordinator  
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office  
2301 Central Ave  
Cheyenne, WY 82002



Matthew H. Mead, Governor  
Milward Simpson, Director