NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

#### 1. Name of Property

historic name: **Red Star Lodge and Sawmill** other names/site number: **Shoshone Lodge** 

#### 2. Location

street & number: **349 Yellowstone Highway** not for publication N/A

city or town: Cody x vicinity state: Wyoming code: WY county: Park code: 29 zip code: 82414

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# 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  $\underline{X}$  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  $\underline{X}$  meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant

Terri R. Liestmon September 8, 2003 nature of certifying official/Title Date

Preservation Officer, Richy Mountain Region, USDA Forest Service State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property <u>v</u> meets <u>does not meet the National Register criteria.</u> (<u>See continuation theet for additional comments.</u>)

\_ Clug. 7, 700\_3 Date Signature of certifying official/Title

Matric Preservation Affice

State or Federal agency and bureau

# Shoshone Lodge Park County, WY Dude Ranches Along the Yellowstone Highway (U.S. 14-16-20) in the Shoshone National Forest

4. National Park Service Certification		
I, hereby certify that this property is: entered in the National Register See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register	Signature of the Keeper Date of Action	<u>10 30 63</u>
5. Classification Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)		
x private public-local public-State x public-Federal(privately leased)		
Category of Property (Check only one box) building(s) _xdistrict site structure object		
Name of related multiple property lis (Enter N/A if property is not part of mu	<b>ting</b> ltiple property listing.)	

Dude Ranches Along the Yellowstone Highway (U.S. Hwy. 14-16-20) in the Shoshone National Forest

# Number of Resources within Property

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

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

Shoshone Lodge Park County, WY Dude Ranches Along the Yellowstone Highway (U.S. 14-16-20) in the Shoshone National Forest

#### 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Camp RECREATION: Outdoor Recreation PROCESSING: Manufacturing facility

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Camp RECREATION: Outdoor Recreation

#### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions) Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Other: grand lodge and dude ranch rustic

#### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions) Foundation: STONE; CONCRETE Roof: ASPHALT SHINGLE & SHEETING; WOOD SHINGLES Walls: WOOD; LOGS; BOARD & BATTEN Other: STONE; BRICK; METAL

#### **Narrative Description**

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

#### 8. Statement of Significance

#### **Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

<u>x</u> 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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

# Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE RECREATION SOCIAL HISTORY TRANSPORTATION

Period of Significance: 1924 TO 1950

Significant Dates: 1924

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

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Henry Dahlem

#### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

## **Shoshone Lodge** Park County, WY Dude Ranches Along the Yellowstone Highway (U.S. 14-16-20) in the Shoshone National Forest

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# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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#### **Bibliography**

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

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS)

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

# **Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- $\underline{\mathbf{x}}$  Federal agency
- x Local government
- \_\_\_\_ University
- Other

Name of repository: Shoshone National Forest (Wapiti Ranger District) Park County Historical Archives

#### **10. Geographical Data**

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# Acreage of Property: 6.2 acres

**UTM References** 

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing A 12 584710 4927395

#### **Verbal Boundary Description**

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

#### **Bonndary Justification**

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

#### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jeannie Cook, Curator, and Joanita Monteith

organization: Park County Historical Archives	date: July 15,2002
street & number: 1002 Sheridan Ave.	telephone: (307) 527-8530
city or town: Cody state: WY	zip code: 82414

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets** 

# Maps

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

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

#### Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

#### Additional items

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

#### **Property Owner**

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

name: Shoshone Lodge (Keith Dahlem owns buildings and structures; land is owned by the Shoshone National Forest)

street & number: 349 Yellowstone Highway telephone: (307) 587-4044

city or town: Cody state: WY zip code: 82414

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#### **Description:**

#### **Summary Description**

The Shoshone Lodge is an historic dude ranch, occupying 6.2 acres leased from the Shoshone National Forest, along U.S. Highway 14-16-20 in Park County, Wyoming. The setting is heavily forested and mountainous, located on Grinnell Creek near its confluence with the North Fork of the Shoshone River, about 6 miles from the east entrance into Yellowstone National Park. The 32 buildings and structures (24 buildings of which are contributing) are laid out in typical rustic dude ranch style: a centrally located grand lodge surrounded by guest cabins and support buildings. Construction materials are primarily wood (log or board and batten) with stone and concrete foundations. The contributing buildings and structures evolved over a period of years from 1924 to 1950, with minimal remodeling to accommodate plumbing and mechanical updates. They have historic integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association with early Western dude ranching. The Shoshone Lodge is the most intact of the dude ranches in this multiple property nomination.

#### **Detailed Description**

The beautiful Shoshone National Forest, dedicated in 1891 as the first national forest in the United States, provides the backdrop for the Shoshone Lodge. Aspen and cottonwood trees line the stream courses, while lodge pole pine, Douglas fir and Engleman spruce predominate in the woods. Eocene volcanic rock peaks of the Absaroka Mountains form dramatic outcroppings along U.S. Highway 14-16-20, which crosses the Shoshone National Forest from its east to west boundaries. Interestingly, this section of federal roadway between Cody and Yellowstone was part of the original Yellowstone Highway (the route from Denver to Cody to the east entrance of Yellowstone) and was also called the Cody Road in the early days of automobile travel. In this region, the highway follows the course of the North Fork of the Shoshone River, as it flows east from Yellowstone to Cody, at the western edge of the Big Horn Basin.

In typical dude ranch style, the buildings and structures of Shoshone Lodge are laid out in a pattern dictated by the lay of the land and the location of creeks and rivers. The grand lodge is located at the north end of the site, with a total of 29 guest cabins to the west, east and south. The barn and corral are located at the extreme southeast corner of the site near Grinnell Creek, which runs along the east side of the property.

Shoshone Lodge is in its original historic location, in a setting that looks much like it did when it was built. The contributing buildings have historic integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Their simple designs and construction materials are rustic and evocative of the natural beauty of their setting. The grand lodge building is contributing and is typical of the prototype dude ranch rustic grand lodges for the locale in terms of its general look, feel, massing and scale. Twenty-three of the guest cabins and support buildings are contributing, all dude ranch rustic, with appropriate type, style, method of construction, size and significant features. Generally, the contributing elements are currently in use and are in good condition. The exception is building #24, which is very deteriorated, and the old, main barn, which was near the corral, has been torn down. The major additions to Shoshone Lodge since 1962 are all non-contributing: the staff quarters-dormitory (#8); guest cabins; (#14,15,21); hayrack, (#30); and workshop, (#32.) The non-contributing buildings and structures are only non-contributing because they are not 50 years old. Their design is an excellent form of modern dude ranch rustic.

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#### **Contributing Buildings and Structures**

Building #1 (date ca. 1927, 1930, 1935, 1944) is the grand lodge. It is an irregularly shaped, two-story building, comprised of four additions, each making up about 25 percent of the space. The first part of the building was built in 1927, with another quarter to the east in 1930, another quarter to the east in 1935, and a final quarter on the extreme west side in 1944. It is of log construction, with a medium-height foundation of concrete and stone. The east half of the building is clad with hand-peeled, round logs, with saddle-notched corners. The west half of the building is clad with "D" shaped, milled logs that were produced at the Star Sawmill, on site. The "D" logs have overlapped and nailed corners. The front door is a plain wood style.

The roof is extremely complicated, due to the many additions over time. Basically, there is a low-pitched gable roof in the center of the building, (e-w,) with an intersecting side gable, (n-s,) on the east. There is a non-intersecting side gable, (n-s,) on the west. In addition, there is a shed roof, (e-w,) over the center portion of the front porch, with the west and east ends of the porch covered by the side gables, (n-s,) mentioned above. There is a medium-pitched gable roof, (e-w,) over the west addition of the building, with a shed roof, (e-w,) over a central part of the building below the main, low-pitched gable (e-w). The roof has exposed purlins and exposed ridge poles. The roof is covered in asphalt sheeting and asphalt shingles. There are nine chimneys; two brick, one stone and the others metal. The building is in good condition, and alterations were made during the period of significance for the site. The series of additions is not uncommon for grand lodges at dude ranches in the locale. Overall dimensions are 104'x70'.

Building #2 (date 1929) is a rectangular, one-story guest cabin of log construction chinked with caulk and a low, concrete and stone foundation. It is constructed of "D"- shaped logs milled at the sawmill on site. The peeled logs are round on the exposed side, and have been sanded and varnished, with square, overlapped corners. The building is symmetrical with three bays. The single-leaf front door is made of vertical pine boards. The roof is a medium-pitched gable, with green asphalt shingles. There are two metal chimneys on the rear slope of the roof. There is a covered porch over the front door on the south side of the building. The gable ends of the building are clad with slab log lumber. The building is in good condition with minor alterations. Overall dimensions are 20'4" x 17'6".

Building #3 (date 1928) is a guest cabin. It is nearly identical to building #2. Overall dimensions are 21' x 22'.

Building #4 (date 1928) is a one-story guest cabin with log walls. It has a low foundation of poured concrete. It is clad with "D" shaped logs made at the sawmill on site. The peeled logs are round on the exposed side and have been sanded and varnished. The square corners overlap. There is no chinking. There are three symmetrical bays. There is a single-leaf wood front door with one panel and eight lites. The roof is a medium-pitched gable, with an intersecting side gable, with green asphalt shingles with a small exposed purlins. There are two metal chimneys on the rear slope of the roof. There is a covered porch over the front door on the south side of the building. The building is in good condition with moderate alterations on the back wall where logs have been replaced. Overall dimensions are 24' x 12'3".

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Building #5 & 6 (date 1927) is a one-story, rectangular, duplex guest cabin with a low foundation of poured concrete. The log cladding is the same as building #4, with the exception of some slab-log siding on the front middle, as an old repair. The asymmetrical building has four bays. There are two single-leaf, wood front doors and a screen door. The roof is a medium-pitched gable, with intersecting gables. The roof has green asphalt shingles with exposed log rafter ends. There is a tiny covered porch over the front door. The building is in good condition with moderate alterations, including a slab log replacement of some logs on the center front and remodeling of the rear log wall. Overall dimensions are  $36'6 \times 24'$ .

Building #7 (date 1928) is a rectangular, one-story, log guest cabin, with a low foundation of concrete and stone. The log cladding is the same as for building #2. There is an old addition across the back of the building which extends it about five feet. There are two asymmetrical bays. The single-leaf, front door is made of vertical boards. The roof is a medium-pitched gable, with green asphalt shingles and exposed rafter ends. There is one metal chimney on a side slope. The front of the building has a covered porch supported by peeled log poles. The building is in good condition with minor alterations. Overall dimensions are 12'6'' x 29'.

Building #9 & 10(date 1928) is a duplex guest cabin. It is a rectangular, one-story building made of logs. The foundation is low, made of stone and poured concrete. The log cladding is the same as for building #2. The symmetrical building has five bays. The single-leaf front doors are made of vertical boards. The roof is a medium-pitched gable, (e-w,) with an intersecting, (n-s,) medium-pitched cross gable at each end, on the east and west, covered in green asphalt shingles. There are two metal chimneys on the rear slope of the roof. There is a covered porch supported by peeled log poles all along the front (north) side. The building is in good condition with minor alterations, including newer interior paneling. Overall dimensions are 35' x 21'.

Building #11 & #12(date 1929) is a rectangular, one-story, duplex guest cabin with public restrooms on the north end. It has log walls and low foundation of stone and concrete. The log cladding is the same as for building #2. There are eight asymmetrical bays. The exterior doors are modern style, with one on the west for a duplex, another one on the west for the other duplex, and two on the north for the restrooms. The roof is a medium-pitched gable, with intersecting gables over the porches. The roof has asphalt sheathing and exposed rafter ends. There are five metal chimneys on the rear slope. There are two porches on the west for the duplex, and a covered door area (with tiny medium pitched gable roofs over the doors) on the north end, serving the entrance to the restrooms. The building is in good condition with minor alterations, including modern doors. Overall dimensions are 55' x 32'.

Building #13 (date ca. 1928) is a building that formerly housed a hydro-electric generator. The rectangular building is one-story, and made with "D" shaped logs, with unpeeled log slab siding in the gable ends. It has a medium-height foundation of concrete and stone. The log cladding is very similar to building #2, however, it is of an earlier style, and the "D" shapes are not homogeneous. Some are actually rectangular or nearly triangular, and their widths vary. The corners are overlapped and extended. The roof is a medium-pitched gable with wood shingles. The building is currently not in use and is in fair condition. There have been no alterations. Overall dimensions are 10' x 9'.

Building #16 (date 1928) is a single guest cabin. The rectangular building is one-story, with log cladding and a low foundation of concrete and stone. The log cladding is very similar to building #2. It is asymmetrical with two bays. There is a single-leaf front door, made of vertical boards. The building has a medium-pitched gable roof with green asphalt shingles. A covered porch supported by peeled logs, extends along the entire front of the building. It is in good condition with no alterations. Overall dimensions are 14' x 22'6''.

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Building #17 (date 1928) is a single guest cabin. It is identical to building #16.

Building #18 (date 1928) is a single guest cabin. It is identical to building #16.

Building #19 (date 1928) is a single guest cabin. It is identical to building #16, except in overall dimensions which are 15' x 30'.

Building #20 (date 1927) is a single guest cabin. It is identical to Building #16, except that it has three symmetrical bays and its overall dimensions are larger, 20'8" x 34'.

Building #22 (date 1924) is a storage cabin. It is rectangular, one-story, with log walls. It has a low foundation made of vertical wood boards, with the four corners supported by concrete blocks. It has the same "D" shaped log cladding as building #2, with overlapped square corners. There is cement chinking. There are two asymmetrical bays. The single-leaf front door is homemade of vertical boards. The medium-pitched gable roof has wood shingles and exposed roof boards. The gable ends are clad with mitred log slabs at 45-degree angles meeting in the center of the gable end. There is one metal side-slope chimney. There are no porches. The building is in good condition with no alterations. Overall dimensions are 12'2" x 15'.

Building #23 (date 1924) is a carpenter shop. It is a rectangular, one-story building with log walls. It has a low foundation of four corner concrete or stone blocks. The "D" shaped, log cladding is the same as building #2 but is slightly overlapped at the corners. There is one symmetrical bay. There is a single-leaf wood front door. The medium-pitched gable roof has asphalt sheathing and exposed roof boards. There is one side slope metal chimney. There are wood front steps with no porch. The building is in good condition with minor alterations. Overall dimensions are 13'6" x 23'.

Building #25 (date 1924) is a plumbing and electric shop. The rectangular, one-story building is wood frame with unpeeled log slab cladding. There is a rock foundation. There is one log slab at the corners. The horizontal siding is butted at the corners. The asymmetrical building has two bays. The single-leaf homemade front door is vertical board-and-batten (with boards and half log poles.) The medium-pitched gable roof has asphalt sheathing. The building is in fair condition with minor alterations. Overall dimensions are 29' x 15'.

Building #26 (date 1924) is a welding shop. It is rectangular, one-story, with wood frame construction. The foundation is low and comprised of wood beams. The building is clad with slab log siding with some bark in place. The corners are box shaped and siding is butted against the box. There are two asymmetrical bays. The single-leaf front door is made of vertical boards with horizontal and diagonal bracing. The medium-pitched gable roof has asphalt sheathing with exposed rafter ends. There is a metal chimney on the side slope. There is a small front wood deck. The building is in fair to good condition with minor alterations. Overall dimensions are 12' x 10'.

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Building #27 (date 1924) is a tack shed. It is a rectangular, one-story building, with "D" shaped log cladding, like building #2, and a low foundation of 3' high poles. The corners overlap slightly and are nailed. The gable ends are clad with log slab siding with some remaining bark. There are two asymmetrical bays. The single-leaf wood front door is homemade of vertical boards and log slab siding with the bark remaining. There is a white porcelain doorknob. The medium-pitched gable roof has asphalt sheathing. There is a small wood deck on the front of the building. It is in good condition with a minimum of alteration. Overall dimensions are 12'4" x 13'4".

Building #28 (date 1924) is a shed. It is a salt-box shaped, wood frame, one-story building, clad with tongue-in-groove wood boards. The foundation is simply two log poles. There is one asymmetrical bay. The single-leaf front door is homemade of vertical tongue-in-groove boards. The salt-box roof has asphalt sheathing. A few roof board ends are exposed. The front steps are constructed of planks. The building is in fair condition with minor alterations. Overall dimensions are 8'2" x 6'9".

Building #29 (date 1924) It is a rectangular, one-story building with wood frame construction and a low foundation of wood. It is clad with rough board siding of various widths from about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" in thickness, and from 6 or 7 to 12 inches in width. The corners are overlapped. There are three asymmetrical bays. The single-leaf homemade door is constructed of vertical boards in a board and batten style. The salt-box roof has asphalt sheathing and exposed rafter ends. The building is in a deteriorated condition with no alteration. Overall dimensions are 16'8" x 12'6".

Building #31 (date ca. 1924) is a guest cabin. It is a rectangular, one-story building of wood frame construction with a low foundation of big logs under the center and a few concrete blocks at the corners. It is clad with log slab lumber with the bark remaining. The corners are box style but made of log slab lumber. The asymmetrical building has two bays. The single-leaf front door is homemade in a board-and-batten style with vertical boards. The medium-pitched gable roof has asphalt sheathing. The building is in a deteriorated condition. The roof is slightly swayed. There have been no alterations. Overall dimensions are 12'9" x 14'9".

Building #33 (date ca. 1949) was used as a rock and antler shop, but it is currently vacant. It is a rectangular building with a saltbox shape. It is one-story with a low foundation of rocks. It is clad with commercially milled log siding with mitred corners. There is one symmetrical bay. There are no doors. The vendor simply climbs in the front "window" opening. That opening is currently boarded up with a sheet of plywood since the shop is no longer in use. There is a concrete step in front of the front "window" opening. The roof is an overlapping shed style with green asphalt sheeting and exposed pole rafter ends. The building is in good condition with no alteration. Overall dimensions are 10'4" x 5'5".

Building #34 (date ca. 1949) is a tiny building housing the air compressor. It is a rectangular, one-story, wood frame building with a wood foundation. It is clad with peeled but rough log slab siding with 1 to 2 inch spaces between horizontally placed slabs. The corners are mitred. The asymmetrical building has one bay. There is an entry hole on the north side where the air compressor can be serviced. The medium-pitched gable roof has asphalt sheeting with exposed rafter ends. The building is in fair condition with no alterations. Overall dimensions are 3' x 4'.

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#### Non-Contributing Buildings and Structures

Building #8 (date 1962) is a large, two-story dormitory for staff or guests. It is a rectangular building clad with "D" logs with log slab siding in the gable ends. It rests on a high foundation of poured concrete, which is entirely exposed and has a single-leaf walk-in door at one end. It has a medium-pitched gable roof. There is a small shed roof and deck at the front door. It is in excellent condition and fits the look and feel of the dude ranch rustic buildings that are contributing at the site.

Building #14 & #15 (date 1964) is a duplex guest cabin, a rectangular, one-story building on a low foundation of concrete and rocks. It has a medium-pitched gable roof, and is clad with "D" logs with log-slab siding in the gable ends. It has a covered porch over the front doors. Its design is an excellent form of modern dude ranch rustic. It is in excellent condition. It fits the look and feel of the contributing buildings at the site.

Building #21 (date 1964) is a single guest cabin; a rectangular, one-story building on a low foundation of concrete and rocks with matching front steps. It has a medium-pitched gable roof, and is clad with "D" logs with log-slab siding in the gable ends. It has a covered porch all across the front side. Its design is an excellent form of modern dude ranch rustic. It is in excellent condition. It fits the look and feel of the contributing buildings at the site, perfectly.

Building #24 (date ca. 1920's) was formerly the wranglers' quarters. This is a rectangular, one-story wood frame building clad with log-slab siding. It is in very deteriorated condition. Its overall design looks like an old dude ranch rustic building, even though it is in very bad shape.

Structure #30 (date 1975) is a covered hayrack. It is a large canopy structure supported by log poles with a medium-pitched gable roof. It stands directly over homemade hayracks made of peeled log poles. Its look contributes to the feeling of dude ranch rustic at the site.

Building #32 (date 1976) is the newer workshop at the site. It is a large, rectangular one-story building with a low concrete foundation. It is clad with "D" shaped logs, which overlap by about one foot at the corners. It has two full sized overhead garage doors on one side and a single-leaf walk-in door. It is in good condition and contributes to the feeling of dude ranch rustic at the site.

#### Other structures:

There is a metal, cylindrical horse feed tank at the site near the covered hayrack. Keeping grain in such structures is required by Shoshone National Forest Service, to avoid attracting wildlife.

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#### **Statement of Significance**

The Shoshone Lodge is historically significant, as it is an operational, nearly intact representation of Western dude ranching as it arose and evolved in Wyoming, in the first half of the twentieth century. Its rich history epitomizes the entrepreneurial resourcefulness of the early twentieth century settlers of the Cody, Wyoming, region as they recognized their unique chance to provide recreational opportunities in previously inaccessible areas. Yellowstone became this country's first national park in 1872; but it was decades later, within the social context of an emerging middle class, the rise of the automobile, and the 'good roads' movement, that the "Cody Road" into Yellowstone precipitated the emergence of dude ranches: places to provide shelter for and recreational opportunities to an increasingly mobile and affluent public eager to explore this nation's natural wonders.

#### Historical Background and Significance

The Shoshone Lodge was built by Park County's first sheriff, Henry Dahlem. Shoshone National Forest records at Wapiti Ranger District offices in Cody, show that the first permit was issued in 1924. It was named Star Lodge and Sawmill. The grand lodge was built in four or five stages. By 1927, one permit card in the records of Wapiti Ranger District, shows that the name was registered as "Star Mercantile, Mill, and Lumber Company." Its logo was a red star, and locals commonly called the business "Red Star Camp." In 1927, about one-fourth of the grand lodge was constructed, with another fourth to the east in 1930, and another fourth to the east in 1935, and a final fourth on the west side in 1944. A tiny kitchen on the southwest corner of the grand lodge was built in 1936.

Most of the buildings at the site, which were built before 1969 (the year the sawmill closed when the sawmill permit could not be renewed), were constructed of "D" shaped, commercially milled logs, prepared on site at the Star Sawmill by Henry Dahlem, the original founder of the dude ranch and sawmill. When the sawmill closed, the old steam engine and equipment were removed from the forest.

The ranch passed on to Henry Dahlem's son, Harry Dahlem, around 1949, when the Forest Service permit referred to the site as "Shoshone Lodge." By that time, guests and tourists could buy gasoline at the dude ranch. At the time that Harry took over the site, there was already a central bath-house with indoor plumbing at the site, and from 1949 to about 1954, more indoor bathrooms were added to guest cabins. For a period of time, Shoshone National Forest had a regulation, prohibiting bathrooms from being added by simply building tiny jut-out additions on the backs of buildings; therefore, many of the bathrooms at Shoshone Lodge are included in the general layout of the guest cabins, rather than as appendages.

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Harry Dahlem died in 1954, and his wife Betty and the children, Keith Dahlem and Deborah Christiansen, inherited the dude ranch operation. Betty Dahlem Woodruff managed the property with the help of her children. During the 1980's or early 1990's, about 95% of the guest cabins were lined with interior sheet paneling available in 4' x 8' sheets. The types used were called "Idaho Cedar," "Sitka Spruce," and "Valley Forge Light Pine." A few cabins and the grand lodge have either interior log walls, or knotty pine board walls. In 2002, Betty Dahlem Woodruff and her son, Keith Dahlem, operate the property. The dude ranch has cabins that can accommodate up to eight guests, and the entire capacity of the ranch is about 65 guests. Throughout its long history, Shoshone Lodge's activities have been typical of dude ranches for the state. It was founded in the 1920's as a sawmill, general mercantile, gasoline station and cabin resort. Within a few years it evolved into a dude ranch, and buildings have been added or remodeled through the 1990's. The contributing buildings have retained their dude ranch rustic appearance, and the setting remains remote and ruggedly beautiful. Shoshone Lodge is currently open from May through October, and specializes in horseback riding, fishing, hiking pack trips and playground activities.

Shoshone Lodge is closed during the winter, and co-owner Keith Dahlem operates a ski lift-winter sports business known as Sleeping Giant Ski Resort, with its own lodge built in 1953. It is located directly south of Shoshone Lodge, across U.S. Highway 14-16-20. The Shoshone National Forest issued a permit for that facility in 1952. It is not a part of the Shoshone Lodge dude ranch.

The evolution of the Shoshone Lodge and the other historic dude ranches on the old "Cody Road" portion of the Yellowstone Highway coincides with growing American affluence and the availability of automobiles. Prior to this, Yellowstone was only accessible to the very rich who hired camping companies to escort them on lengthy park excursions. The "Cody Road" stretching between Cody, Wyoming and the East Gate of Yellowstone, accommodated increasing numbers of travelers eager to see the wonders of our nation's first national park. The "good roads" movement of the early 1900's was a loose confederation of civic organizations and private individuals dedicated to the development of a well-maintained network of roads between population centers and the growing number of national parks in the West. Its motivation was to draw "auto-tourists" to previously inaccessible areas. As such, the movement represents an early twentieth century version of community and economic development.

The Cody Road has been heavily traveled since it first opened in 1904 and, as of 2002, accommodates approximately 250,000 tourists during the summer season. These dude ranches were also aided in the first half of the century by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, which brought "dudes" to "the Buffalo Bill Country" at Cody, a jumping off spot for dude ranches within a 50 mile radius of the depot.

Both the tourism industry and one of its components, Western dude ranching, began in Wyoming shortly after the turn of the century. Dude ranching's period of significance in Wyoming lasted from 1904 through 1950. By 1937 there were about 100 dude ranches in Wyoming; the same number exists today. While the total number of beds at dude ranches in Wyoming is small, the Dude Ranching Associations of both Wyoming and Colorado emphasize that dude ranching is very "big on image and the rest of tourism rides on its coat-tails."

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There were three general periods when dude ranching was not especially profitable: from 1917 to 1919 during World War I, from October 1929 until the mid-1930's because of the Great Depression, and from about 1940 to 1945 because of World War II. However, despite these setbacks dude ranching has been important to the state's economy. One of the reasons is that many of the guests are from a higher socio-economic class than the average tourist. For example, even though economic times were not exactly robust in 1937, one Wyoming newspaper reported that, "According to a recent issue of the Wall Street Journal, 97 dude ranches in Wyoming did a business in 1937 of approximately \$2,000,000. Guests of these ranches [are] of the wealthy class for the most part, [and] are said to spend an average of close to \$500 each during the last season. Most years it takes several 'beef critters' to clear that much for a rancher." The article goes on to say that dude ranching appeared to have so much potential in the growth of Wyoming's economy, that the University of Wyoming in 1935 started a course in recreational ranching, including "institutional management, cuisine, animal production, zoology, geology, Western lore, veterinary science and agronomy." In 1937, rates at Wyoming dude ranches ranged from \$20 to \$77 per week, averaging around \$40.

The Shoshone Lodge is the most intact example of historic dude ranches along the Yellowstone Highway (U.S. Highway 14-16-20) within the Shoshone National Forest. During its period of significance between 1924 and 1950, it reflected the growing mobility and affluence of the American public, in its quest for new recreational opportunities and experiences.

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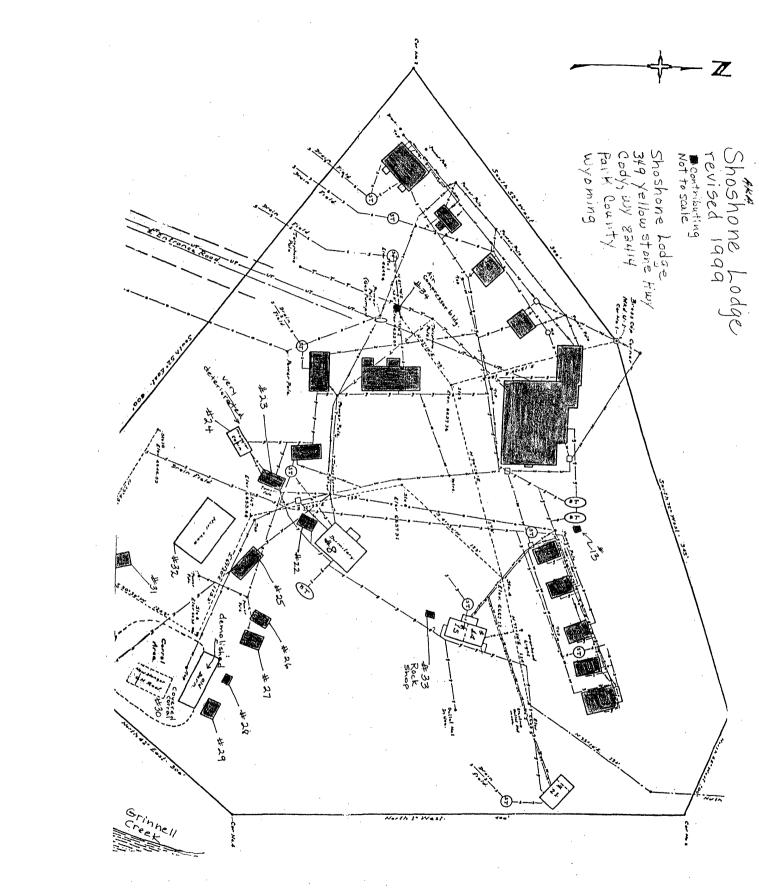
## Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is delineated on the attached map by the point whose vertice is marked by the following UTM reference points: A 12 584710 4927395

Public Land Survey System (Township and Range) Township 52 North Range 109 West SE1/4 SW1/4 NW1/4 NW1/4 Section 12

## **Boundary Justification**

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically leased by the Shoshone National Forest to the Shoshone Lodge and its successors.



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# SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 03001106 Property Name: Red Star Lodge and Sawmill

County: Park State: Wyoming

Multiple Name: Dude Ranches along the Yellowstone Highway in the Shoshone National Forest MPS

\_\_\_\_\_

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

October 30, 2003 Date of Action ghature of

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 3: State/Federal Agency Certification

The recommended level of significance is hereby changed to "statewide" to reflect the level supported by the narrative statement of significance.

The U.S. Forest Service Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)