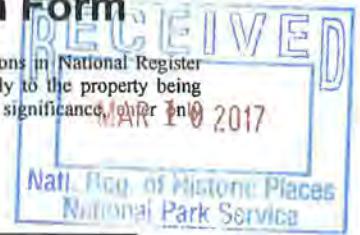


56-925

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 categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Cora Townsite

Other names/site number: Cora Post Office and Townsite; (48SU428)

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 5 Noble Road

City or town: Cora State: WY County: Sublette

Not For Publication: Vicinity: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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C ___ D

<u>Mary M Hopkins</u>	<u>3/2/17</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer</u>	
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

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

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:)

Don Edson H. Beall *4.24.17*
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Wood – log and plank

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Cora Townsite is located in northern Sublette County, Wyoming, in the remote area of Cora. It is the location of the Cora Post Office, which is still in use. The townsite is 940' X 660' and located east of Wyoming Highway 352 and north of County Road 145, also known as Noble Road. All of the structures are in a row and face south toward Noble Road. The structures in the townsite were constructed by hand by local craftsmen using local logs. The buildings have high historical integrity for craftsmanship, setting, and location. Most of the buildings and structures are nearly in their original form, with the few additions and changes made to some structures mostly now 50 years old or older. Today the townsite consists of seven buildings and three structures, all contributing; and one noncontributing structure. The buildings vary from excellent to poor condition.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Narrative Description

The original buildings in the Cora townsite date back to the late 1890s and were hand crafted by tie hacks who came to the area to work in Kendall, north of Cora, the site of a large tie hack operation. They were providing ties for the Union Pacific's revamping of its main line in 1900 and 1901, making extensive improvements and introducing much double track across southern Wyoming. The high level of log craftsmanship is still visible in most of the buildings today. Additions and changes made to some of the buildings have maintained the original type and style of an early Wyoming town, giving this site an excellent sense of feeling and association to early settlement, rural Wyoming. There are no modern structures visible from the road looking at the townsite. The townsite at this location started in 1919 with some structures as old as 1898 and moved here.

Building Details

There are currently seven buildings in the Cora Townsite. The buildings will be described in order from west to east. They are all considered contributing.

Building #1 Warehouse

This building was constructed in the late 1890s by Eddie Edwards and used at the Noble Ranch, the location of the original Cora townsite (48SU900), and then moved to the current location in 1919 (48SU428). It was used in this location by the Clodiuses as a warehouse for animal grain sold at the Cora Store. Later it was used by Andersons as a tack shed.

It is a full log, single story building with an asphalt shingle, low pitched gable roof that overhangs on all sides. There are five log purlins running south and north. It is placed on concrete blocks at each corner and in the middle of the floor. It was hand built with logs, full dovetail notch corners, and concrete chinking. The roof has wooden planks covered by asphalt shingles. The entire building is off the ground two feet with a porch at the front of the building to provide easy unloading from a truck into the building. It is currently not in use. The structure is in fair condition.

South elevation (façade): 9'7" tall at peak to roof, west edge 92", east edge 96", both to concrete blocks. The front has a door with plain board trim (34" x 75"), leather strap for handle, hinges on the inside and not visible from the outside. It is held shut with a modern metal lock. To the west of the door is a window (32" x 27.5"). The porch at the front of the building (36" x 157.5") is 24" off the ground. The porch is reached by 3 steps, (12" x 36") on the east side.

There is a wooden pole holding electric wire on the west side of the building wired to a metal electrical box attached to the front with wires coming from the box leading to a light fixture.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

East elevation: 193" x 91". Missing concrete post in the middle of the wall.

North elevation: 191" x 124" at center peak of roof, sides to bottom of building 95".

West elevation: 194" x 90" (northwest edge) and 194" x 92" (southwest edge)

Building #2 Garage and Storage Shed

Henry Clodius had this structure built at this location to use as a garage for his vehicle. It was likely also built by Eddie Edwards, because it is identical in style to other buildings, including the warehouse, known to have been built by him. In the back part of the building, occasionally the one room was rented for housing. The Clodiuses added a lean-to on the west side of the building to be used for storage. Anderson used this building for his sheet metal shop. There is a wooden pole holding electric wire on the east side of the building that is attached to the front of the building.

It is a full log, single story building with a low pitched gable, tin-covered on wood planks, roof that overhangs on all sides. There are seven purlins running south and north on the main building, and none on the west addition. On the east slope of the roof toward the front is the base for a metal chimney and on the west slope in the middle is a full, narrow metal stove pipe. There is no foundation. The garage is log with concrete chinking. The four corners of the building are full dovetail notches. There are square notches in the outside logs where an interior wall is set. The addition is attached to the west wall and is constructed of horizontal wooden planks on the south (façade) and west sides, but metal siding on the back, or north elevation. It was built by 1937 (as seen in a photograph) but the exact date is unknown. The building is in fair condition, with sections of the roof in poor condition.

South elevation (façade): 31' 4" total width, including addition x 138" at peak, 88" southeast edge, 76" southwest edge. Lean-to addition is 116.5" x 94" at garage west wall. Addition wall to west end of door 27.5"; 85" east end of door to edge. Double-door (147" with both doors x 90.5") opens at the middle with hand built wooden handle using smaller, metal handle piece. The single door leading to the addition is 32" x 72". There is a wooden pole at the southeast corner that was an electric pole at one time.

East elevation: 39' 1" x 74". On the left is a wooden window 54.5" x 34" in 2 sections. The south section is covered with metal; the north section has six panes with one pane covered partially with metal. The back section from the interior wall is 14' wide. There is a door to the back room measuring 41.5" x 74".

North elevation: 20' 4" width 115" at center peak; northwest corner 74", northeast corner 71". North side of addition: 10' wide with 94" at northeast corner and 85" at northwest corner.

West elevation: Back section of original building 13' 9" x 6' 4" with wood window 5' 4" x 2' 8". Another 15' to side addition. 10' 3" side of addition. Southwest corner 3' 4". On this elevation directly behind the addition is a metal Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer sign.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Building #3 Ice House

Built by the Clodiuses sometime between 1920 and 1935 as an ice house. After refrigeration was introduced, it was used by later owners for storage. The Clodiuses had a wind charger on top of this building to supply power, which was later taken down. The building is currently not in use.

It is a one room, single story building with low pitched gable wood plank roof with overhang on all sides. It was hand built with full logs, full Dovetail notch corners, and concrete chinking. There is no foundation. The building is in fair condition, the roof is in poor condition.

South elevation (façade): 15' x 8.5' at peak; 7'4" at side corners. Single door 44" x 71" made with vertical wood planks with 2 metal hinges on the left, leather strap for door handle on right.

East elevation: Solid log wall 19.7' x 7'4" southeast corner; 6' northeast corner.

North elevation: 14.9' x 7'4" at peak. One window 42" x 26.5" with vertical wooden planks interior cover.

West elevation: Solid log wall 19.7' x 5'11" northwest corner, 6'11" southwest corner.

Note: This building has only one window, in the back, with an interior wood plank cover. The two side walls are solid which would have assisted with keeping the ice frozen. The back of the building has dirt built up on it, hence why the back wall is shorter than the front elevation. This would also have assisted with keeping the building cool.

Building #4 Cora Mercantile/Store, Post Office, and Residence

The original part of this building was built in 1898 on the James M. Noble ranch, one mile east of the current location. The original building was narrow and long (20' 8" X 63') and had a low pitched gable wood plank roof with five purlins. It was originally situated with the long section going north and south, with an entrance on the south elevation that consisted of a door and two windows, one on each side of the door; and a second entrance was located on the east elevation towards the north end of the building consisting of a door and one window to the right of the door. Protruding from the south entrance was a wood porch with four posts and a sign hanging on the porch roof reading "CORA POST OFFICE". Attached to the east wall was an addition most of the length of the original building, but before the side entrance that was on the main building. The Newfork Road through the Noble Ranch would have run on the east side of the building. This original building has all the indications of having been built by one or more tie hacks, with the logs carefully leveled into squares, with axe marks visible. There are several places where the logs were spliced to fit. The corners are tightly fit square notches.

When this building was moved to its current location in 1919, it was placed on a small concrete foundation with the longer section of the building now going east and west with the original main entrance now at the west elevation. This new direction was to again have the length of the building running parallel to the road. In the new location, the road ran east and west. At some point early on at the new location, likely in the 1920s, the main entrance to the

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

building was relocated to the south elevation, in order to face the road. The new main entrance was likely created from the door and window already in place on the building. It seems that at the same time the entrance was changed, a false front was added above the new main entrance with a window to an attic space. A new sign was added above the new, expanded entrance reading "POST OFFICE CORA WYO".

When the original building was first moved to the current location from the Noble Ranch, it consisted of one large room for the store and two rooms for living quarters. Two additional rooms to the living area were added by the Clodiuses, likely in the 1920s, on the east side of the building. The construction of these two rooms are very similar to the original building, in terms of log squaring and fitting, including square notch corners, suggesting the addition could have been made by the same tie hack or hacks.

Throughout the years, more additions were added to this building on all sides. It is difficult to determine if the addition on the east side of the original oblong building was also moved to the new location; it is a similar addition in size, but there is no verification it is original to the Noble Ranch. The Clodiuses also added two store rooms on the north side of the store, likely sometime in the 1930s. Sometime after 1937 a small bulb-out shed was constructed with wood planks on the west side covering the original entrance to the building. Later owners, the Andersons, added yet another room using wood plank board to the living quarters on the far northeast section in the 1970s. They also repaired the housing section of the building, such as replacing the floor and adding some gutters, but it does not detract from the original, historic feel to the building.

The current structure is almost all log and log siding, with low and medium pitched gable red tin-covered roofing on wood planks that overhangs on all sides. The current red roof replaced a red tar roof. It has a low-pitch porch on the façade. The large eaves cover the purlins. The entire building has been stained with a dark stain and all the trim, on the roof and around the windows and doors, are painted white. Hanging from the roof from the store porch and around the old store portion of the building to the west is an 18" eave painted white. The roof is uniformly red metal. The false front with signage is still above the entrance to the store/post office. Sometime during the late 1960s, when the Andersons owned the building, a friend painted a picture of a woman (to represent a lady "Cora" from the late 1800s) on the window on the false front. The same friend painted a cowboy on the door leading to the store west of the main entrance also on the south elevation.

The original building was constructed for and used as a general store and private housing. It has housed the Cora Post Office since 1898 and in this location since 1919 and continues to serve as the post office the present. This structure is well maintained and in excellent condition.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

The interior of the building has remained much the same, with a few exceptions. The store and storerooms remained the same from the 1930s until 1982 when the Ludwigs closed the store and open a bar instead. This required putting a wall up in the middle of the store so the bar would be separated from the post office, as required by law. The wall is constructed with horizontal wood planks, fitting well with the rest of the wood interior. The west end of the store, and later bar, has been modified into a short wall (original part of the building, hand-hewn logs are visible) with knotty-pine columns. Interior walls throughout the store, post office, and housing are exposed, showing the hand-axe marks and tight fittings of the logs and square notches at all the corners and in some walls.

South elevation (façade):

West end addition: 42' 9" from the end of the building to the original porch and 9' 3" high. (Again, it is not known if this was originally on the Noble Ranch or constructed at this location.) There is one door (4' x 6') into this addition made of vertical wide wooden planks with metal hinges on the left side and a hand-carved antler handle (carved "Cora Jacks") on the right. A wooden plank porch (88.5" x 50") 2 feet off the ground leads into this section. On both sides of the door are wooden, 8-paned windows (32" x 43.5") with old metal shades covering the original wood glass windows that are the same size. This section is on a concrete foundation. This section was originally all log and in the 1970s it was covered with log veneer with concrete chinking, but most of the chinking is now gone.

The west addition attaches to the front of the main entry porch, setting the older (original) structure back. The roofed porch (6' 4" deep, 20' 2" x 10' 9") is made of thick wooden planks. There have always been four log poles painted white holding the porch up with the far left corner held by a storage shed. The current porch shed (70" wide x 78" deep x 126") is storage for firewood. A heavy metal door (35.5" x 82") leading into the Post Office has replaced the original wooden one. On both sides of the door are the original double-hung windows (47.5" x 65.5"). The building façade in the porch is covered with vertical log siding to above the windows and doors, and then horizontal. In the late 1960s, Keith Anderson added two wagon wheels and a railing to the front end of the porch. In 2015, the U.S. Postal Service added a wooden handicap ramp along the front of the building leading to the front porch. Over this section of the building is a large log veneer false front that has always been there, though likely repaired and replaced throughout its history. Originally there was a double-hung window exposed in the middle, which was painted over sometime in the 1960s. The wooden planks and window on the false front above the main door has been covered with log veneer. A sign saying "Cora Post Office" hangs above a smaller sign with the zip code (82925). Prior to the log veneer, "Cora Store" was painted directly on the false front.

Private housing (east end): This section was added to the original part of the building soon after it was moved to this location in 1919. It is constructed with hand-crafted flat logs and shows several axe marks. It has full square corners. It has been re-chinked and is in excellent condition. An interior wall is obvious by cut end logs from that wall appearing on the outside. It sits on a concrete and river rock foundation. From the porch to the east end of the front wall is 29' 7" and 8' 4" high. It is 14' from the porch line to the end logs for the interior wall. In the

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

center is a pitched porch overhang (88" wide x 65" deep x 20" to peak). It is 92" off the concrete step, which has the Wardell's brand etched in, suggesting they put the concrete in. There is a modern, metal two-piece door (29.5" x 9.5') leading into the private residence. The small porch cover over the private residence entrance was replaced in 2004. To the left of the door is an original paired window unit with three-over-one double-hung windows (27" x 57"). To the right of the door is a wooden double-hung window set horizontally that appears to be original.

East elevation: The original section of the house measure 20.5" from the front of the building and is 8.8" high to the triangle section of wood shingle. This section of the house has a 16" flower bed built up against it built with railroad ties. There is one four-pane window (62" x 29").

Addition to east elevation: Attached to the older section of the house is an addition built by the Andersons (in the 1970s) on the east elevation. The addition is constructed with vertical wooden plank and painted dark brown. The roof line has an 8" wood plank painted white around the whole addition.

This addition is attached to only part of the original structure with outside walls of the original building still visible on both the south and north sides of the addition. South side: 99" wide 97" high when attached to the main building; 88" to east elevation with slanting roof. Wood door with single glass pane (34.5" x 76.5") on right and 3 paned wood window (36" x 28") to the left of door.

East side: (86" x 115") with three wood 3-paned each windows (44.5" x 32")

North side: (174" x 86") at northeast corner and 102" when attached to house. On the right side is a door (32" x 77.5") with a large window and to the left of the door a 3 pane window (45" x 31")

East elevation, north end: This section is part of the original building, on the north side of the addition (86" x 115") vertical wood plank with one wood 4-pane window (32" x 57.5")

North elevation: Next to the Anderson addition listed above is a solid wall of wood board and batten (13'8" x 14'11") with wood shingle in the gable end. Attached to this is another board and batten section (10'11" x 10'8") with one double-hung metal window (32"x 34") and an overhang at the top section of this wall (11'3" x 45") at east corner and 48" at west corner and set out of wall by 12.5". This section of the building ends with a wall along the west side 41" wide 134" high. It again attaches to the building with a north wall that is part of the old, original part of the building. The older section of logs is placed on 28" of concrete and rocks, covered with a piece of plywood. Log measurements in this section: 20'1" wide x 9'10.5" from ground to top of horizontal logs. Above the logs and below the pitched roof are vertical wood shingles. There also is a boarded up window in this high section. In the lower section are two windows: to the left are a wood double-hung (37.5" x 36") and another wood double-hung on

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

the right (32" x 39"). Between the windows is a concrete fire chimney base for five feet with a brick chimney on top of this base but just to the roof line, so not currently operational.

Attached to the west side of the old building is the west addition. It is on a concrete foundation, (41'2" x 6'7") with wood board and batten siding and a large (18.5") plywood piece hanging from the eave. There is a modern satellite dish on the roof on this side, not visible from the front.

West elevation: The total length of this elevation is 39'8" and is all wood board and batten. The northwest corner edge is 65" high and the southwest corner edge is 98" high. Overhanging the entire eave is also the 18" plywood. In the center of this elevation is an addition that is 13'11" x 8'4" and 38" deep. 13" from the right side starts a wood door (35" x 84") made of board and batten, metal hinges on the left, metal handle on right. To the right of the addition is a wood window frame (62" x 35") that is closed with plank boards and all painted white. The addition is 14'10" from the southwest corner.

Anderson added a fence in the late 1960s around the private section of the building decorated with 14 wagon wheels. The wheels have sunk into the ground several inches.

Building #5 Teacherage

To the immediate east of the Cora Store complex is a cabin. This was the original teacherage built in 1919, or soon thereafter, when the school house was moved from the Noble Ranch to the new townsite. This building was originally located on the far west end of the town and moved to this location by the Andersons in the early 1970s. It is currently not in use. The cabin is in good condition with the exception of the northeast corner, which has a bottom log deteriorated.

It is a full log, one room, single story building with a low-pitched gable wood plank roof covered with old tar tiles and overhangs on all sides. There are five purlins running south and north. All corners are full dovetail notches. It has log chinking with very little concrete chinking. There also is fiber board between the logs. The foundation varies with some concrete and some concrete block.

South elevation (façade): 16' x 10.33' at peak; 89" corner edges, with 12" eave. On east side of the façade is a wood front door (30" x 74") with 5 panels. To the west of the door is a five-paned wood window (59" x 25"). Wood trim on the window is painted a brick-red color.

Concrete foundation.

East elevation: 20' x 87" on southeast edge and 82" on northeast edge. No visible foundation. No windows. All concrete chinking.

North elevation: 15.83' x 124" to peak of roof; 90" northeast corner and 95" on northwest corner. Concrete foundation. Log chinking.

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

West elevation: 20' x 89" for both northwest and northeast corners. Log chinking. No windows. Concrete block foundation.

Building #6 Cabin

The core of this cabin has two rooms and was built at this location by Nate Sanford in 1954 for the Thompsons, who owned the Town of Cora at that time. It has had two additions: First to the south, the Andersons in the late 1960s added a porch and bathroom, which spanned the entire length of the original building. Joanne Ludwig added another room on the north side in 2004. This structure has an interior bedroom, living room, full bathroom, kitchen, mudroom, and an enclosed porch.

The original part of the cabin is hand crafted with full logs with saddle notch corners and small log and concrete chinking. The addition on the south side, also the front of the building, is covered with vertical board and batten. The final addition was made in 2004 by local log builder, Mark Domek. This addition is made of hand crafted logs with log chinking and concrete, with saddle notch corners, and matches well with the older section. The building has medium pitched gable roof lines over the original building and recent addition, and a slanted lean-to roof over the front section. The entire roof is new uniform, red metal. All the trim around the roof lines, windows and doors are painted a brick-red color that matches the roof. The structure is in excellent condition. The interior of the original section has beautiful hand-crafted log work. It currently is used as housing.

South elevation: This section is all part of an addition to an original cabin. It was built sometime in the late 1960s or early 1970s. The entire front length is 25' x 11" and is 7'2" high. The front wall is 18'9" to the enclosed porch. There are two wooden windows along this wall: on the left (36" x 17.5") and on the right (36" x 23"). The enclosed porch protrudes 43' to the south and is 78" wide. It has a single wooden door (31.5" x 75") with one glass pane.

East elevation: The addition is 10' to the original cabin with one wood window (36" x 24"). The original cabin is 15' on a concrete foundation. There is one four-paned wood window (51" x 21") in the middle of the wall. In the triangle section below the roof are vertical logs. The highest point of the roof reaches 12'2".

North elevation: A solid wall of log and small log chinking is 13'2" wide and 7'4" high to eave where it reaches the new addition. It is on a concrete foundation with several river rocks piled at the base. The building then has an *east elevation* again of 15'2" long and 7'6" high with no windows. The *north elevation* for the new addition is 14'3" and is 11'10" to the end of the vertical logs, and the triangle section below the pointed eave is vertical log plants to match the original cabin. It is 4'7" from the top horizontal log to the roof peak. There is one metal window on this wall with a wood frame (59" x 35.5). This section is on a foam foundation.

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

West elevation: The north end is again the newer addition and 14'3" wide and 11'10" high on a foam foundation. There are no windows in this section. It is attached to the original cabin section, which is 14'11" wide, 11'9" high to top of vertical log, and 5'3" from top of vertical to peak of roof. Vertical logs cover the triangle section below the roof line. The old section of the cabin attaches to the front, or south, addition which is another 6'3" wide. The southwest edge of the building is 7'4" high. The old and front sections are on a concrete foundation.

Building #7 Open Barns

It is not known by whom or when these barns were built, but they were there in the 1950s. They were used by Keith Anderson for his outfitting business in the 1960s and 1970s, though they appear to be much older. It is an open shed with three open stalls, and it appears that these are two different structures put together. The single stall on the west is shorter than the other section, and has one open stall. All of the walls are full logs with dovetail corners. Low pitched gable roof with various wood planks covered with tin. It is in fair to good condition.

South elevation: The left (west) section: 21'10" wide with southwest roof corner to dirt 74"; Middle full-log post roof to dirt: 62", full-log. The second structure has full dovetail corners. 20' wide, with middle stall 9' wide and far right (east) stall 10' wide. Between these two stalls is a 12" full log in front and a 4' high vertical wood plank half-wall between these two stalls. Chicken wire separated the stalls on the top half.

East elevation: 16' full logs long, 88" in front (southeast log –corner post) and 68" in back (northeast log – corner post). 7' from top log to peak of the roof. Vertical full logs in pitch. Concrete chinking. Loose cobble stone foundation.

North elevation: 42' wide; full logs, dovetail corners on no foundation.

West elevation: 15'10" wide on no foundation. Northwest corner full log corner 67". 101" from dirt to peak of roof. Full logs, wood chinking.

Structure Details

There are currently 4 structures in the Cora Townsite; 3 contributing, 1 noncontributing.

Structure #1 Corrals and Loading Chute

These were built in the late 1960s or early 1970s by Keith Anderson for his outfitting business and located at the far west end of the townsite. Many of the logs in this corral came from another corral, stable and chicken coop that had been located behind the store that Anderson tore down because they were in poor condition. Both the "new" corral and loading chute currently are in poor condition and not used.

Structure #2 Open Shed (Former Garage)

Originally a full double garage built by the Clodiuses. Later, Anderson cut off the front half. Initially used as a garage first by the Clodiuses and later by area ranchers, such as the Nobles and Alexanders, who parked their cars in the winter, then sleighed down to their ranches.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Anderson used one side to park his snow machines and the other to hang wild game during hunting season. During the 1980s, the Ludwigs used it as a barn, but a wind storm took most of the top part down. It is in poor condition and not used. It is hand constructed full log with wood chinking and dovetail corners.

South elevation: open

East elevation: 10' long, height hard to determine due to structure mostly fallen down.

North elevation: 24' long. Door in middle, vertical planks 49" x 50".

West elevation: 10' long

Roof: 24' x 11'6" Old tin on wood planks.

Between the open shed structure and building #1 are wooden planks, likely used as barriers for animals in the corral area behind these structures.

Structure #3 Outhouse

Located behind Building #2, this was originally for the teacher living in the teacherage to the west. It was also used by various residents of Cora and as late as the 1970s for patrons visiting Cora Jack's Saloon. It is in poor condition and not currently used.

North elevation: 50" x 95"; Door 30" x 73".

East elevation: 43". Two hole – seats and a urinal along west inside wall. Diamond cut outs on both east and west walls.

Structure #4 Tuff Shed

Located in the backyard behind the Cora Post Office building is a modern Tuff Shed that is noncontributing. It is not visible from the front of the buildings, and therefore doesn't distract from the historic feeling of the location.

Cora Townsite Buildings No Longer in the Town

Cora School House

The Cora School House was built on the Noble Ranch and was moved to the Cora Townsite in 1919. After it was moved, a barn was added to the back for the children's horses who rode to school. It was used as a school house until sometime in the 1950s, when bussing started and Cora students were transported to Pinedale for school. Keith Anderson moved the School house to his property in 1979 just prior to selling the Cora Townsite to the Ludwigs. He added siding to the building and used it for storage. With the move and the added siding, the appearance has changed considerably and therefore not considered eligible.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Cora Community Center

The Cora Community Center that had been originally located on the Noble Ranch and moved to the new Cora townsite sometime after 1920 and again moved, this time to Pinedale in the late 1940s. In its new location at 253 North Sublette, it became housing and medical clinic for Pinedale's doctor. Additions were made twice to the original Cora building. When a new medical clinic was built on Hennick Street in Pinedale, the Cora building transitioned to the Pinedale Senior Center, and later again it became the SAFV (Sexual Assault and Family Violence) Office. It was razed in 2005 when it was determined to be unsafe due to asbestos in the building.

Barn

Located behind the store, this barn was built by the Clodiuses for their milk cows. The log structure had a metal roof and was later torn down. This may have been the same barn school children used who lived far enough away they rode horses to school.

Outhouses

There were three additional outhouses in the town. One was behind the store and residence for their use; and two outhouses were built behind the school house; one for the boys and the other for the girls. All of these have been torn down.

Temporary Housing Structure

Located behind the store complex was a black tar paper covered wooden plank structure that was used for the workers when they built additional buildings at the townsite for the Clodiuses. This structure was considered temporary housing and torn down.

Corral, stable, and chicken coop

Located behind the store complex, these were in poor condition and torn down by Anderson. Wood from these structures was used in the corral and loading chute he built on the west end of the townsite.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

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.)

- 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

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture
Commerce
Politics/Government

Period of Significance
1919 - 1967

Significant Dates
1919 - 1967

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Edwards, Eddie

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Cora Townsite is considered eligible under Criteria A for its association with the settlement of Cora, a ranching rural Wyoming community in the twentieth century. The site has been in this location since 1919 and retains high quality of integrity of setting and place. The areas of significance are 1) **architecture**, for its outstanding log craftsmanship mostly done by “tie-hacks,” 2) **commerce**, because the townsite was the commercial focus of the surrounding agricultural area for most of the twentieth century, and 3) **government**, because the Post Office, located at the townsite, has always been an important institution in the area.

The Cora Townsite is also considered eligible under Criteria C for its distinctive characteristics of log craftsmanship. Tie hacks, men who supplied the ties for the railroad, were excellent log craftsmen. Cora, with its close proximity to the Kendall tie hack camp, was the benefactor of tie hacks who used their axe-wielding talent to build distinctive log buildings in the area. Eddie Edwards was a Kendall tie hack who built the early buildings in the Cora townsite.

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

The Wind River Mountain Range provides a spectacular backdrop for Cora, Wyoming. It is located in the northern end of the Green River Valley, approximately ten miles northwest of Pinedale. Cora is listed as having a subarctic climate due to its high altitude (elevation 7,352') and long, dry, cold winters and short, warm summers. Homesteading, therefore, came later than the rest of the state, with permanent settlers not coming to the area until the 1890s. Descendants from the early homesteaders are still operating ranches in Cora Valley.

Early on, the town of Cora was founded to support the early settlers. Starting in 1898, James Noble had a general store at his Cora ranch on the New Fork River that was patronized by area ranchers. The town also supplied area guest ranches that opened about the same time ranching did in the northern parts of Cora Valley and the Upper Green River area. The store was also the location for the Cora Post Office. For a short time, men working at a tie camp in Kendall, located north of Cora approximately 22 miles, also patronized Noble's store. But for the majority of time the camp was open, from 1896 until it shut down in 1904, Kendall had its own post office.

A few of the talented tie hacks working in Kendall stayed in the area and were valuable builders. Eddie Edwards, a tie hack, constructed many of the buildings on the Noble ranch. These buildings are hand-hewn sturdy logs that were transported from the Upper Green River

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

near the tie camp. Two of these structures, the Cora Store and a warehouse, would be moved to a new townsite in 1919. These buildings display exceptional log craftsmanship.

The evolution of transportation had a formidable impact on the development and decline of the Cora townsite throughout the twentieth century. With the introduction of motorized vehicles, the wagon road up the Cora Valley became obsolete. The original road followed the New Fork River, making motorized vehicle travel difficult for most of the spring and irrigation season. Therefore, the State moved the road to higher ground one mile west of the Noble ranch and original townsite.

In 1919, Henry Clodius revived the Town of Cora, which by then had been experiencing an economic decline on the Noble ranch. Recognizing the importance of the new road, Clodius moved two of the structures from Noble's ranch and started a new Cora. The townsite has remained at this location to the present. For the sake of this nomination, the 1919 date is used as the start date, even though two of the buildings are older (circa 1898).

Cora would have been a typical Wyoming rural town in the twentieth century. Located along Wyoming Highway 352 starting in 1919, within a short time it housed a store, post office, school, teacherage, and community center, in addition to some residential housing. Cora was sustained by continued ranching community patronage. The town's economy was also assisted by guest ranches operating in the northern part of Cora Valley and the Upper Green River area especially until World War II.

Cora evolved throughout the century, which again would have been typical. In time, especially with improved transportation, the school, teacherage and community center closed as residents now easily traveled to Pinedale for school and socializing. In time, the Cora store would also close for the same reason: people traveled farther, easier, and more often. The Cora Post Office, however, is still active and patronized by local residents.

What is not typical of small communities throughout Wyoming is that Cora survived as a very small townsite, unlike most small rural towns. Usually small townsites either grew into bigger towns, or ceased to exist. In Cora, mainly because of the Post Office, the main building in the town has remained open, and has therefore been carefully maintained. Other buildings original to the townsite have also survived, largely in their original form. Furthermore, no new structures have been built in the immediate townsite area. Therefore, this townsite retains a strong feeling and association to the original historical character of a small, rural Wyoming town. Cora remains a cattle ranching community. Some guest ranching in the area also continues, though at a much smaller rate than in the past. Cora has also evolved into a residential area for commuters to nearby Pinedale and other places of work, as well as a popular area for second homes. Nearly all of the residents still go to the Cora Post Office at the historic townsite to gather their mail and catch up on local news.

The Cora Post Office also represents the many ways mail was delivered in the late nineteenth century and throughout the twentieth century. During the summer, mail sacks were thrown on the saddles of riders, both men and women, carrying the mail horseback across long stretches of Wyoming prairie, often fording rivers and streams. With larger loads, it was hauled in wagons pulled by a team. During the winter, teams of horses with sleighs, or dog teams brought in the mail to Cora, or distributed it to patrons from there. Mail carriers also

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

delivered on snow-shoes, skis, and snow planes. Ironically, delivery of the mail became more undependable after it was transported only by trucks, which couldn't get through when there were snow storms.

Cora Post Office and Town History

The town of Cora began as many small western towns, a post office in a small community, in what was then Fremont County, Wyoming. Its beginning and namesake have been documented in various sources with conflicting information.

It has been written that the original Cora Post Office was established in the mid-1890s by a Swiss immigrant named Andre Delmue on his ranch about four miles northeast of its present site. This first founder has been known in various writings also as Del Mere, Delmar, Delmer and Elmer, with a recorded deed spelling his name Delmere. The first mail came by horse stage, freight wagon and horseback twice a week from Big Piney, a town 40 miles south of Cora.ⁱ

It has also been written that the Cora Post Office was established by Swiss immigrant John Conrad Auer (pronounced "hour") around 1890 about four miles northeast of its present site. Auer homesteaded or squatted on Willow Creek, which later became the Willow Creek Ranch. There are more historical records documenting Auer with the 1890 date, favoring his place in history.

Mrs. Andrea Delmere, wife of Andre, took care of the post office for Mr. Auer while Auer carried the mail for the first six months, as was required by law. The post office was believed to have 39 mail boxes when established. The Delmeres lived about one mile down the creek from Auer and the Cora Post Office. Auer took the mail from Cora to New Fork, to Big Piney, La Barge, Opal, and Kemmerer and then back to Cora.ⁱⁱ This trip would have been nearly 275 miles on early, unimproved wagon roads. He lost his horse and saddle and nearly lost his life one time when crossing New Fork River when the ice broke up.ⁱⁱⁱ

When Mr. and Mrs. Delmere sold to the Binning brothers, Henry and Burleigh, in late 1899 or 1900, the post office was relocated about three miles across the New Fork Valley on the New Fork River to the ranch of Minerva Westfall^{iv}. Mrs. Westfall was officially appointed the first postmaster on June 17, 1891. Deeds have the name spelled Westfall, though it was often spelled Westphall and Westphal. To further confuse the early story, one source states the post office was first located on Willow Creek Ranch at Auer's with Westphal as the first postmaster.^v

Historical records also offer conflicting information as to where the name "Cora" originates. One theory is founder John Auer decided that the post office should have a feminine name, so he took his own middle name, Conrad, and used Co-ra, Cora, as the name.^{vi} It has been written that the post office is named after the "old maid cowgirl" Cora House,^{vii} who was Minerva's sister and married John Auer. The cowgirl's name was also spelled Hous and Haus.^{viii} It has also been published that it was named for Cora Delmue, the founder's wife. Mae

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Urbanek, in Wyoming Place Names, published 1967, lists that Cora was named for Mrs. Cora Delmeau, first Postmaster, but this doesn't match the federal postmaster records.^{ix}

Minerva J. Westfall had a small store and trading post when she was appointed the first Cora Post Office postmaster in 1891. She featured bootlegged whiskey and Jamaica ginger at her store. Mrs. Westfall carried the mail on a gray stallion from Big Piney, Wyoming. She made the round trip in a day, a distance of about 70 miles, and in high water, she had to swim the Green River twice.^x Mrs. Westfall is remembered for having the post office for only two years, but the official record has her appointment going until she was replaced by Andrea Delmere on January 17, 1895. It is likely Andrea worked for Mrs. Westfall.

From the Westfall Ranch the post office moved further down the New Fork to the C.C. Belknap place for an undetermined amount of time. The post office business was again relocated on New Fork Creek to James Mark Noble's homestead, where it was placed in Noble's building. Other sources state it went directly from Westfalls to Nobles.^{xi}

James M. Noble homesteaded his ranch at Cora in 1897. To increase his chances of financial success, two years later he built a general store. Local ranchers patronized his business as did those living in a tie hack camp north of Cora in Kendall. The tie hacks were supplying railroad ties for the new railroad line under construction across southern Wyoming. Ties were made from trees hacked and cut by hand, hence the name "tie hack." Tie hacks were a special breed of loggers who could quickly fell, limb a tree, and fashion the tie down to the specifications needed. Noble had a large vegetable garden that produced root crops, about the only crops one could grow at the high altitude. For a dollar, men working at the tie camp could buy a sack of potatoes, carrots, and rutabagas to supplement their only other food source -- wild game meat.^{xii} Business was rigorous enough to convince freight to come up the valley with commodities.

Eddie Edwards, a Shoshone Indian, lived in Cora and had worked as a tie hack in Kendall, in the late 1890s. He was a talented axman known for well-crafted log buildings with tight, full dovetail notches. He constructed several buildings at the Noble Ranch, including the bunkhouse which still stands today. It is likely Edwards also built the original Cora Store and warehouse at the Noble Ranch because the styles are the same for those buildings known to have been built by him. In addition to the Store with the Post Office, Noble had a blacksmith shop, saloon, printing office (which printed the *Cora Sentinel*), school house, and a community dance hall also at his ranch.^{xiii} This would make up the Town of Cora. (More about Eddie Edwards below.)

The Cora Post Office was put in Noble's general store and he was appointed postmaster January 9, 1900.^{xiv} Noble didn't run the store long himself. He either had someone working for him or had the store leased. Frank Emerson, who later became Wyoming State Engineer and Governor, helped for a while. Noble also had others help with the post office. Octavius A. Hamilton was appointed postmaster May 4, 1907, but only served in that capacity for the summer. According to *The Pinedale Roundup*, dated November 24, 1907, "It seems that while O.A. Hamilton was in charge of the post office several registered packages containing money came up missing, and the Money Order department was allowed to get in such shape that the office quit cashing orders drawn on the office and then quit issuing orders entirely, thus tying

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

up the Money Order business to the dissatisfaction of the patrons. We understand that Jack Connolly, who was employed in the office for a short time, and on whom much of the blame was laid, has been heard from and stands ready to testify to certain facts whenever called upon to do so. Mr. Hamilton had also left these parts and nothing can be done in the matter until an inspector comes and makes an investigation, and patrons are beginning to believe that the world may come to an end before the post office department takes any action. The office will be moved later to the Belknap ranch about one mile from Cora, and Cora will again resume its prominence as the Noble ranch home."^{xv} Despite a petition circulating asking that Mr. Noble be retained as Cora's Postmaster and the office be held at his ranch, the Cora Post Office was moved from the Noble Ranch to the Belknap Ranch where Emily Sill Belknap took over as Cora's postmaster starting September 11, 1907 and remained in this appointment until November 28, 1911.^{xvi}

Cora's heyday didn't last long. When the tie hack camps closed in Kendall in 1904, a good deal of Cora's business went away. The newspaper ceased publication after only two years, especially with competition from the new Pinedale newspaper for the new town was only ten miles away. Most of the other businesses survived longer against the growing town of Pinedale's stores. By about 1910 everything but the Cora Post Office was defunct.

Noble leased the Cora Store to the Boulder Mercantile Co. in 1911. Frank and Lydia Steele were sent from Boulder, Wyoming, to Cora to reopen and manage the store. They operated it for about six years, though business was limited. Lydia Neidert had come to the area in April 1908 from Missouri, where she attended Warrensburg College, to teach at Silver Creek and East Fork schools. She married Frank Steele on December 25, 1910 at the Steele Ranch in Boulder, Wyoming. Lydia Steele became the Cora postmaster on November 28, 1911 and the Cora Post Office was again returned to the Noble Ranch from the Belknap Ranch.^{xvii} She served as postmaster until October 6, 1916 when Samuel V. Hoff took the position. Hoff had been one of Pinedale's earliest citizens who also had a ranch in Cora.^{xviii}

Henry Clodius approached James Noble in 1917 with the idea of reviving the town of Cora, or at least the store. He convinced Noble and his neighbor Abner Luman to help with business. Clodius incorporated the store into the Cora Mercantile Company and then sold shares for \$100.00 each until he raised \$10,000.^{xix}

Noble's town was located on the original freight road up Cora Valley near the New Fork River. During the spring time high waters, horses could get wagons through the bogs and river crossings where there wasn't a bridge. But when freighting and general transportation transitioned to trucks and automobiles starting in the 1910s, demand came for a dryer road. In response, the state built a new highway on higher ground one mile to the west of the Noble homestead. This would become Wyoming Highway 352.^{xx}

Henry Clodius recognized that the Cora Mercantile Co. would need to be moved to the new highway. On January 18, 1919, Clodius moved the building containing the store, post office and private residence, to its present location next to the new highway. The building, likely constructed by Eddie Edwards for Noble in 1899, contained one room used for the store and post office and two rooms used for living quarters. A warehouse, again likely built by Edwards, was moved from the Noble Ranch at the same time. These structures were moved

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

with teams of horses over the snow. That same day, Fred H. Clodius became Cora's postmaster.^{xxi} Soon after, the school house and community center were also moved from the Noble Ranch to the new Cora townsite.^{xxii} Abner Luman, president of the corporation, made the move possible by offering to lease the company forty acres next to the new highway for the buildings. At the new location, locals built a teacherage to accompany the school house.^{xxiii} The Clodiuses would also build an ice house and enclosed single garage and storage room, a larger double garage, a temporary housing unit for workers, and outhouses.

Over the next few years, Henry Clodius ran a successful business and slowly bought back stocks in the Cora Mercantile Co. Clodius also purchased the town site property from Abner and Janette Luman and the Cora Mercantile Co. on May 21, 1926. The sale consisted of 40 acres for \$500.00. Signing for the Mercantile Co. was Henry Clodius and his son Fred Clodius. Henry's wife, Augusta Clodius, was the notary.^{xxiv}

While Henry Clodius owned the Cora Post Office, the Wyoming Legislature created Sublette County in 1921. Cora, along with property north of La Barge, became part of the new county.

Henry and Augusta Clodius' son, Fred, homesteaded property in Daniel, 11 miles from Cora, and was living there with his wife and two young children. Fred often helped his parents with the operation of the Cora Mercantile Co., including making trips to Rock Springs to stock groceries and supplies. Fred's sister, Virginia, also often helped at the business, as there was plenty of work.^{xxv}

In 1930, Henry Clodius died unexpectedly. Fred, with his wife, Ella, and two small children, Dorothy and Fred Jr., moved to Cora and took over the operation of the Cora Store and became Acting Postmaster on November 15, 1930 and then appointed Postmaster April 3, 1931.

Business continued to be good for the Clodiuses, despite the Great Depression. "We had nearly 100% patronage of Cora and the Green River Valley. The Pinedale stores tried to get our customers, but they couldn't," recalls Dorothy. It kept both her parents busy. They continued to provide groceries, ice, and ranch supplies for the locals. They also started selling gasoline, which would be an important selling item for decades. Ella remembers that Jack Dempsey, the boxer, used to come every summer to stay at one of the Green River dude ranches. "He always used to call us Mr. Fred and Mrs. Fred."^{xxvi} By 1937 the family had finished purchasing back all the Cora Mercantile Co. stocks and owned the business and property outright. Long before that, the community considered it the Clodius'.^{xxvii}

In addition to handling the post office and store, the Clodiuses were the phone operators. "There was a call bell system," Ella recalls. "The upper valley had a line and the lower valley had one. If someone above Cora wanted to call Pinedale, they called us and we connected them."^{xxviii}

Mail was delivered from the Cora Post Office to patrons north of Cora and to Kendall three times a week. During the dry months mail went by horseback, or horse team and wagon, depending on the load size. During the winter, it went via horse-team and sleigh or more commonly, with dog teams. The size of the loads had to be monitored carefully on the sleds

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

pulled by the dogs, so to not wear them out before their destination. Part of the post office job entailed packing the loads for the dog teams.

The Clodiuses were especially busy helping their clients during the Christmas season. People would order Christmas cards and presents from mail order companies that would be shipped to the Cora Post Office. In the interest of keeping weight down for the dog-sled teams, the Clodiuses would keep the Christmas cards and presents at the Cora Store that needed to be sent out again. Folks living up country would send their Christmas card lists with addresses and letters to the Clodiuses where the family would take care of them in their evenings. Daughter Dorothy remembers as a young girl, "Mother would sign [the cards with the patron's name], and put their letter in the Christmas cards. Dad would address the envelopes, and then my brother would lick the stamps and I would lick the envelopes. That's how [patrons] Christmas cards got sent out. The cards didn't go up country and then back because [that would] take two or three weeks, sometimes. So we spent our evenings there [at home in the Cora Store] doing that."

Christmas gifts that needed to be re-sent out of the Cora Post Office from patrons living up the Cora Valley were also attended to by the Clodiuses. Ella would have a list of gifts ordered by patrons and when they arrived from the expected mail-order houses, she would open them, wrap them in gift-wrap, attach the appropriate gift card, then send them back out from the post office. When the patron came again in Cora, they would pay Ella for the postage.

Ella Clodius gave her patrons living up the valley an extra Christmas bonus. When weight permitted, she would send fresh produce, such as apples, oranges, or sometimes lettuce, on the dog sleds so they could have some fresh food during the long winter. She would wrap the fresh food with extra quilts so it would make the trip without freezing.

In 1937, the Cora Highway, the common name for Wyoming Highway 352, was plowed for the first time to the Cora Store, about four miles from the Pinedale to Daniel road. Prior to this, all winter supplies came to the store once a week with horse and sled. After 1937, with the road plowed in winter to the Cora Townsite, area residents left their cars at the Cora Store then rode their sleds or horseback to their ranches.

Even though the Cora store was small, it was not safe from robberies. "We got robbed twice," says Ella. "Once by mountain man Mike O'Black and the second time by gypsies. And then once someone went after Fred with a gun. That was pretty frightening."^{xxx} Daughter Dorothy remembers when the gypsies came. "Everyone in the family was ordered to watch them," she recalls. "Women had great big long skirts with pockets. Dad suspected a lot was stolen as they wandered around the store." At day's end, when Fred went to close the front window shade he discovered that the shade was missing.^{xxx}

The Cora Store was often used as a social place. When picking up their mail and shopping at the store area residents caught up on local news. As a child, Dorothy recalls that it was "always a treat when someone brought their kids to shop, because then we'd have someone to play with." Locals used to play cards at a table in the Cora Store in the winter when the chores were done and there wasn't anything else to do.

The Cora School was for grades one through eight, typical for the time. One year, the school attendance reached a high of 13 students. Young Fred Clodius would start a fire in the

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

school house every morning at 5, thawing the glue and ink left uncapped by the students at the stove the prior afternoon before going home. He also filled the pail of water from the Cora Store and brought it over for the students and teacher, who all used the same ladle. Behind the school house there were two outhouses; one for boys and the other for girls. There was also a small barn for the horses of the kids living several miles from the school. The community hall was used for school programs, community meetings, socials, and dances.

In 1942 Fred and Ella Clodius sold the store and moved from Cora to Pinedale to take up another business. Their children were getting older and would be going into high school, which was now available in Pinedale. They sold the Cora Store to Stan Decker of Salt Lake City who owned the GP Bar Ranch at Green River Lakes. Madeleine Page ran the store for Decker, though was not listed as a postmaster.

Stan Decker kept the store for only a short time before selling it and the surrounding buildings to Thomas Edward and Frances Kitchen. Mr. Kitchen, called "Ed," had the unfortunate timing of World War II when he had the Cora Store. Due to the U.S. government's strict rationing of many products, Kitchen was unable to stock much. Another casualty of the war was the closing of the area guest ranches. Prior to the war, these businesses purchased their supplies at the Cora Store, and often had large orders. For example, the Green River Lakes dude ranches regularly hosted 50 guests at a time for a whole month, so they needed a large quantity of food and other resources.^{xxxii}

Adding to Kitchen's challenges were his health problems. Kitchen had served in the trenches in World War I, returning home with "trench foot"; a common foot affliction for Doughboys. He also suffered from a bleeding ulcer. These health issues, combined with the economic challenges of trying to operate a store during World War II, resulted in Kitchen keeping the store for only about two years. Frances "wasn't fond of the store. She liked more of a social life and wanted a warmer climate," recalls Jean Thompson Isaacs, whose parents bought the store from the Kitchens. As with most of the owners, Kitchen was also Cora Postmaster.^{xxxiii}

The Kitchens sold the Cora Store and buildings to good friends, Lee and Cora Thompson in 1946.^{xxxiii} In the meantime, William F. Jones, always called Fred, was the Cora Postmaster from 1943 to 1946. Lee and Cora Thompson were looking for a new business to operate. Lee, though, never worked behind the counter. He left that work to his wife Cora and daughter Jean. He continued his outfitting business, headquartered on property north of the Cora Store about three miles. Cora Thompson became Postmaster in 1946 and served until 1954, at which time the Thompsons leased the Cora Store and Post Office to John and Mae Wardell. Mae was appointed Acting Postmaster July 24, 1954 then Postmaster June 14, 1955. She served in this capacity until September 28, 1962.

Wanting out of the business, the Thompsons sold the Cora Store to John Welborn, a banker who relocated from Denver with his wife Mary Helen in 1962. Perhaps ironically, the Welborns purchased and lived on the Willow Creek Ranch, where the Cora Post Office originated. Welborn continued to lease the store and the post office with the Wardells until they left in 1962, at which time Keith and Mary Anderson, wanting a business of their own, took up the lease with John Welborn. (Mae Wardell trained Mary Anderson to take over the post

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

office job.) The Andersons couldn't afford the \$250 a month rent on the store, nor did they have the \$30,000 to buy the property. But the Welborns reduced the Andersons' rent and gave them an option to buy it all at cost when they could afford it. "They practically gave it to us," said Mrs. Anderson.^{xxxiv}

The Andersons had the Cora Townsite for most of the 1960s and 1970s. Keith made changes to the townsite to accommodate his businesses, but the historic integrity and feeling remained unchanged. Keith moved the original teacherage from the far west end of the town to the east side of the Cora Store, to put new corrals in a better place for him. The Andersons made an addition to the cabin on the east end. They also upgraded the housing side of the Cora Store building.^{xxxv}

Keith Anderson's interest was more directed toward his businesses, rather than the Cora Store. In 1959 Anderson secured a U.S. Forest Service lease to run Camp Wilderness, a summer horse pack camp at the head of Fremont Lake near Pinedale. Anderson also worked as an outfitting guide during hunting season. He used some of the Cora townsite buildings to store equipment, mostly tack, for the outfitting business. He also may have built corrals and stock sheds behind the Cora buildings for his outfitting stock. During the slower winter months, Keith worked in a sheet metal shop he set up in the building next to the store. Keith learned the sheet metal trade while in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After the war he worked in various sheet metal shops. Purchasing the Cora townsite enabled him to open his own business. This was prior to pre-fabricated sheet metal, when metal ducts were hand built.

Mary Anderson attended to the store and Post Office businesses. Mary and the Cora Store were featured in a *Denver Post* article. According to the feature, the store has "a little of everything in the line of groceries – fresh and frozen – cookies, breads, candy, canned food, dry goods, all kinds of clothing, including hats, jewelry, sunglasses, pocket knives, tobacco, veterinarian supplies, beer, and gasoline." Mary's motto was, "If we don't have it, you don't need it." "When you live in Cora, everything comes from somewhere else – hardware from Idaho and Washington; clothing from Denver and San Francisco; canned good from Rock Springs, Wyo.; eggs and milk from Evanston, Wyo.; produce from Salt Lake City and Big Piney, Wyo., and packaged meats from Sioux Fall, S.D."^{xxxvi} Mary added western clothing, which included men's jeans and work shirts. For women she offered western suits along with women's jeans and shirts. Occasionally her lady's clothing was shown off in a fashion show featuring her daughter, Linda, as model. During hunting season she provided hunting vests, caps and gloves.^{xxxvii}

While Mary had the store, she ended the animal feed business, which had previously been a significant stock item at the Cora Store. Mary's decision was, in part, because it was difficult for her and her helpers, who were always women, to lift the heavy feed bags. Furthermore, area ranchers were having their feed delivered directly to their ranches by then.

Mary hired several women to help her in the store and post office, especially to help her cover the long hours she was open, seven days a week. Mail work was constant, and at this time mail was picked up twice a day. When Mary was working the store alone, and in her adjacent home, a bell on the front door of the store would call Mary back into the store. She also was regularly interrupted after hours by people wanting their mail when the store was

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

closed. She also opened the store after hours when she had a group that needed supplies, such as the Boys Scouts one evening, and a tour bus full of French tourists. This was in addition to the forty families living in the Cora area, about 125 people, who regularly patronized the Cora Store. The store opened every weekday by 7:45 a.m. to allow children to come in and keep warm until the school bus for Pinedale came.

Jo Ann Colerick worked for Mary Anderson in her store. She recalls business slowed during her time there. With improved transportation, Cora residents increasingly chose to shop in Pinedale or beyond. A few tourists continued to stop in the summer and hunters in the fall, often to buy a few groceries and fill their vehicles with gasoline. Hunters were also dependable beer buyers.^{xxxviii}

The Anderson's living room or a nearby cabin became the Cora Precinct for 45 voters in the Upper Green River Valley on Election Day. This continued under the next ownership, the Ludwigs, though they moved the voting booths to the Post Office room.

The Andersons sold the Cora Store and all the town's buildings, except the school house, to Jack and Joanne Ludwig in 1979. They also reduced the townsite size from 40 acres to 10 acres. The Andersons kept the remaining 30 acres, and in time smaller portions of those 30 were sold and developed. Just prior to the Ludwigs' arrival, Keith Anderson removed the Cora school house from the townsite to the adjacent property he kept and turned it into a tack shed.

The Ludwigs were living in Illinois with thoughts of retiring in the West when a house fire destroyed all their belongings. Needing to start over, they opted to move west then, even though most of their children were still in school. Their children would finish middle and high school in Pinedale. Unknown to the community, the Ludwigs felt they were watched carefully, especially their first year. "We didn't change anything," says Joanne. "We kept the store and the post office just as [the Andersons] had it."^{xxxix} The store continued to stock groceries, clothing, and gasoline.

Like other owners before them, the Ludwigs depended on two incomes to make their business prosper work. For a while, they added a third income when they opened a bar in the early 1980s. This required putting a wall up in the middle of the store, so the post office would be closed off from the bar, as required. Jack only served cans of beer, but it still served as a "hang-out" for locals. It also became a popular place for local haying crews on rainy days. Jack Ludwig became known as "Cora Jack." This name was engraved on the antler horn used as the door handle leading to the bar. After a few years, because of losing revenues, the Ludwigs closed the bar.^{xl}

The Ludwigs kept the store operating for a few years longer, but declining business made it a losing proposition, too. The local trend to shop elsewhere continued, which started before the Ludwigs arrived. Some ranchers continued to patronize the Cora Store, and ran large tabs payable once a year when their livestock shipped and they had their annual paycheck. Summertime tourists and hunters in the fall helped the Ludwigs keep their bills paid. The Ludwigs started with the store staying open 7 days a week, daily 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sundays 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. As business waned, the store hours were cut back to match the hours for the post office which meant they closed on Sundays. Then the delivery trucks opted to no longer come to Cora, requiring the Ludwigs to go to Pinedale to pick up their inventory. This

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

added burden, coupled with the declining revenue, pushed the inevitable closing of the store in the mid-1980s. They had stopped selling gasoline a few years prior when regulations required significant and expensive changes to the tanks.^{xli}

The Ludwigs continued to operate the Cora Post Office from the same building. Joanne was paid a \$9000 annual salary. It took a year for Joanne to complete the paperwork and be hired as the Cora Postmaster. When the Ludwigs took over the operation on January 14, 1980 there were only 39 post office boxes rented. That number stretched to 108 in 1991 at the Post Office's Centennial. Looking back on her time as Cora's Postmaster, Joanne recalls that the most interesting mail she received were the chickens, turkeys and ducks that come in the spring for the ranchers who ordered them.^{xlii}

After 23 years, Joanne Ludwig retired as Cora's Postmaster in 2002.^{xliii} Luanne Freeman worked for her as Postmaster relief until Pat Poletti became Postmaster in 2003. Pat Poletti would serve until 2010 as Cora's last Postmaster. The job would be filled by what is known as "post master relief" workers, including Diana Painter and Maria Skinner.

Postal workers at the Cora Post Office have always conducted business in what many would call "above and beyond" the call of duty. If someone couldn't get to the post office before closing, the Cora postal workers would place their mail in a sack and set it out on the porch for them. Luanne Freeman, as recently as 2013 and just prior to her retirement had one customer who went to Arizona every winter. His bills, however, continued to come to his Cora post office box where Luanne paid them with money he left in her care. For customers that have been too busy to make their daily trip to the post office, she would pick the mail up for them and leave it at a requested drop point, even someone's wild game freezer.^{xliv}

The Cora Post Office was nearly lost when the Ludwigs first arrived because it was slated for closure. Joanne attributes an outpouring of support from area residents to keeping the Post Office open. In 2011, the U.S. Post Service considered again closing some rural post offices throughout the nation, including a handful in Wyoming. One of those was Cora. "Closure Impending for Cora Post Office," read the *Pinedale Roundup* headline August 5, 2011. The article talked about the July 23 notice that went up at the Cora Post Office stating the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) would be closing the office. It would not be the final determination, but it initiated a 60-day period in which residents have the opportunity to comment on the decision.^{xlv} Cora locals launched a formidable response to the USPS, all against the closure. Many residents completed the survey sent out by the USPS, wrote letters to editors and U.S. Congressional delegates and the Wyoming Governor, and attended the public meeting held in reference to the discontinuance study of the Cora Post Office.

Reporting on the June 28, 2011, public meeting, *Pinedale Roundup* editor Megan Rawlins wrote, "According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Cora has 142 residents, and on Tuesday night it seemed they all showed up at the Sublette County Library's Lovatt Room in Pinedale to argue against closing the Cora Post Office. . . one after another, Cora residents stood to explain what their post office means to them. It is a gathering place, if not for people then at least for information." In a post-meeting interview, Wyoming post office operations manager said that he has been to many USPS meetings dealing with closures, but his meeting with the Cora

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

citizens was the first time people have volunteered to pay what was needed to keep their post office open.^{xlvi}

Local newspapers reported the public outcry against the Cora Post Office closure and printed numerous letters to the editor on the topic. News of the outcry also was carried beyond Sublette County, with articles in the *Casper Star Tribune*, *Rock Springs Rocket Miner*, and even the *Wall Street Journal* which featured a picture of Cora's Interim Postmaster Luanne Freeman chatting with customers at the Cora Post Office.^{xlvii} Copies of letters written by Wyoming's U.S. Senators Mike Enzi and John Barrasso, Congresswoman Cynthia Lummis, and Wyoming Governor Matt Mead supporting the Cora citizens made its way to Cora.

The public effort to keep the Cora Post Office was rewarded when it was announced in December 2012 that it would remain open, for now. "Window hours" were cut in half, from eight to four. "We backed off that original plan," USPS representative David Rupert said. "The community outrage in Cora was particularly strong at the thought of losing their historic, 121-year-old post office." The Cora Post Office remains open today with the reduced hours.

Scattered throughout rural Wyoming and the West, there were many small community stores and post offices, such as the Cora Mercantile Co. Store and Post Office. These small businesses were important for their rural communities economically and socially. With transportation limited, early western communities depended on the small stores to provide staples for themselves and their farms or ranches. They also proved to be important points for socializing; where information was learned and shared, and a community kept in touch. During the slower winter months and before television was introduced to Cora ranchers in the 1960s, locals often gathered in the post office, especially on Sundays, to play cards and to visit.

The rural post office was very important to the growing American West. Important supplies were provided to people living in relative isolation. Economically, it was also important to the men and women who worked for the postal service. Women, even those that were married, were allowed to be postmasters, which often brought important income to a family. This is still true today. The Cora Post Office had many female postmasters, most who were married and contributing an important income to her family.

The Cora Post Office continues to the present to be more than a place to send and receive mail. Instead, it was closer to a community center, where people gather, get news, and meet their neighbors. Until recently, it was still a place where Cora residents voted. With the official community center gone for decades, it was the only place publicly to gather in Cora. Pinedale Roundup reporter Matthew Manguso explained the Cora Post Office situation well in 2012 when announcing that the post office would remain open with reduced window hours. "Not simply a post office, the building is a place where community members can gather, mingle and discuss life. Throughout its 120 years, the community has come together on multiple occasions to raise funds to refurbish or maintain the building and keeping it was extremely important for residents and the office's 200 box holders."^{xlviii}

Cora has never been an incorporated town. The U.S. Government lists Cora as a Census Designated Place in northern Sublette County. The Cora Post Office has been located in the same building since 1898 and at the current location since 1919. The original store and the

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

post office have serviced the surrounding ranching community always; and since the 1980s, the service area has expanded to include residents living in subdivisions developed in Cora.

Eddie Edwards

Edward "Eddie" Edwards was born April 12, 1867, to Isaac and Lizzie Edwards in Millerville, Wyoming near Ft. Bridger, which was at the time a Pony Express and stagecoach station. Isaac Edwards' father was a white settler and his mother was a Shoshone woman. Isaac and Chief Washakie were close friends, and Washakie visited the Edwards' home many times. To this union, five children were born: three boys and two girls. One daughter died when very young.

When Eddie was about eight years old, Isaac froze to death while moving cows in a blizzard during the brutal winter of 1876. Lizzie married John "Sheep" Smith, who had the first homestead on Fontenelle Creek, and she and the children moved to his ranch. Eddie herded about 1,000 sheep for Mr. Smith and carried the mail on horseback from Fontenelle to Green River City, a distance of 50 miles. During the time the family was living there, Eddie's only living sister Alice and his brother, Charley died, leaving only Eddie, his mother, and his brother Albert.

As young men, Eddie and Albert moved around to find work. They also learned to play the fiddle and were in high demand to play for area dances. In time, Eddie's mother, Lizzie and Albert moved to Fort Hall, Idaho. But Eddie stayed in Wyoming, marrying Minnie Kutch Denver, a Native American woman, in 1891 at Fontenelle. Eddie and his wife moved to the New Fork valley in about 1894, when the valley was first being homesteaded. It was here he mastered the skill of working with an axe and log, starting in Kendall working as a tie hack. Eddie built several log ranches around the New Fork Valley, such as the Noble and Luman places, and he helped build Woodman Hall in the new town of Pinedale in 1904. He was also very good at moving log buildings by tearing them down log by log and rebuilding them in their new locations.

Eddie homesteaded on Duck Creek in New Fork Valley in 1909, where he lived for most of his life. Eddie and Minnie Edwards had eleven children, of which three survived. Their oldest boy, Percy, was killed in action in France during World War I, for which part of the Phillips-Edwards American Legion Post in Pinedale is named. After his wife died, Eddie sold his homestead and moved to Jackson to live with his daughter, Beatrice. He passed away in 1965 at age 97.

The Drift

The Green River Drift Trail, a Traditional Cultural Property listed on the National Register of Historic Places (48SU7312), operates parallel to Wyoming Highway 352, and therefore goes by the Cora Townsite. The "Drift" has been used by Sublette County cowboys moving their cows north to the mountains every June and back south every fall since 1896. Drift riders regularly patronized the Cora Store and Post Office. Historic Upper Green River Cattle

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Association ledgers show purchases at the Cora Store in 1917 when it was located at the Noble Ranch and in 1919 at the new and current location. Rex Wardell, Foreman of the Association from 1930 to 1945, supplied from the Cora Store the cowboys staying in the Upper Green River Valley cow camps throughout the summer. Wardell also received his mail at the Cora Post Office. Bids for salt for the cattle were put out by the Association, and some years the Cora Store had the best price and supplied the salt. As the cattle were moved up or down, about a three week period every spring and fall, the cowboys would regularly purchase beer at the Cora Store after their daily drive when in the Cora Valley. The current cowboys attending to the cattle are unfortunately no longer able to get their supplies and beer from the Cora Store, but they still get their mail delivered to its Post Office.

Mail Carriers From The Cora Post Office

Important to the Cora Post Office were the mail carriers who throughout its history have taken mail from Cora to Kendall, a distance of 22 miles. As mentioned, this was done by all modes of transportation: horseback or teams and wagons in the summer and fall, then teams and sleighs, dog-sleds, and even a snow plane in the winter and spring. Richard and Dorothy Hecox of the Kendall Valley carried the mail between Kendall and Cora for 44 years beginning in 1933. "It was a living. It was our only income at that time during the Depression," said Dorothy in a 2005 interview with the *Pinedale Roundup*. "It was \$30 a month to carry the mail once a week."^{xlix}

Eventually mail delivery was increased to three times a week, as it remains today. The carrier would make deliveries and pick-ups along the highway from Cora to Kendall. The trip became easier when the State plowed Highway 352, keeping it open to Kendall and enabling the carrier to use a vehicle. Some ranchers in the Kendall area, like Snook Moore, may go 25 miles just to reach the main road and get this mail. Dorothy Hecox retired in 1977 and was replaced by Arthur Kolis, though Dorothy Hecox worked as Kolis's backup until 2003.

Arthur Kolis delivered mail three days a week on the Kendall route for 38 years, retiring in 2015 though continuing to work fill-in, when needed. "It's my identity," said Kolis in his truck loaded down with mail during a 2005 interview with the *Pinedale Roundup*. "I'm the mailman and to me it is the neatest thing to drive up and down this road with the mail. I'm never bored with it. It's not a job, it's a social interaction."ⁱ

Mailboxes used on the Cora Rural Route were made from old steel barrel and large wooden crates as well as the typical mailbox bought at the store. The mailboxes needed to withstand snowplows and be large enough to provide space for packages. The carriers always had a shovel in the wintertime and used it to dig out mailboxes.

Dorothy Hecox told the story of a cowboy and his dog caught in a blizzard. The cowboy climbed into one of the old wooden boxes and spent the night with his dog. Hecox found him the next day.ⁱⁱ On his postal route on December 14, 2009, Kolis discovered an elderly resident Ernie Muscatello lying on the floor in his home. Muscatello was conscious but incapacitated –

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

he had been like that for 15 hours. Kolis was able to get inside and call an ambulance, which took Muscatello to the hospital.^{lii}

These are the stories that make a post office more than a place one picks up and sends out mail. It is a place where one stays in touch with his or her community, and where communities are made because through the postal service, people take care of one another. The post office was also an important contributor to the rural economy. The meager salaries paid to post masters and post office workers were, in some cases, critical to the family's survival. The Cora Post Office is an example of how important the federal service was to rural Wyoming and the West.

ⁱ Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 121. Quoting Sidney O. Reynolds, "History of Cora, Wyoming," 1964.

ⁱⁱ Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 122.

ⁱⁱⁱ Lozier, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 125.

^{iv} Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 121. Quoting Sidney O. Reynolds, "History of Cora, Wyoming," 1964.

^v Lozier, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 125.

^{vi} Lozier, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 125. Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 121.

^{vii} Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 121. Quoting Sidney O. Reynolds, "History of Cora, Wyoming," 1964.

^{viii} Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 122.

^{ix} Urbanek, *Wyoming Place Names*, 1967. P. 49.

^x Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 121. Quoting Sidney O. Reynolds, "History of Cora, Wyoming," 1964.

^{xi} Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 121. Quoting Sidney O. Reynolds, "History of Cora, Wyoming," 1964.

^{xii} Dick Noble interview. March 29, 2015.

^{xiii} Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 121. Quoting Sidney O. Reynolds, "History of Cora, Wyoming," 1964.

^{xiv} Noble, James Mark. 2005.

^{xv} Emily, married to Clemmer Belknap, filed on a Desert Land entry for 320 acres in Cora in July 1899 and proved up in 1905. She also filed on water rights out of the Noble and Belknap Ditch with her Desert Land entry. Sommers, "History of the Rendezvous Ranch."

^{xvi} Sommers, "Lydia Neidert Steele," in *Ringing the Dinner Bell*. P. 569. *The Pinedale Roundup*, August 14, 1907, *The Pinedale Roundup*, November 20, 1907.

^{xvii} Postmaster Finder; Postmasters by City; Cora Post Office, Sublette County, Wyoming. All the postmasters were verified with this document.

^{xviii} *The Pinedale Roundup*, January 20, 1983.

^{xix} Dick Noble interview. March 29, 2015.

^{xx} Noble, *Wyoming's Own*. P. 121. Quoting Sidney O. Reynolds, "History of Cora, Wyoming," 1964.

^{xxi} Dick Noble interview. March 29, 2015.

^{xxii} Original Land Deed for the transaction.

^{xxiii} Original Land Deed for the transaction.

^{xxiv} Noble, Dorothy Clodius. September 17, 2016.

^{xxv} *The Pinedale Roundup*, January 20, 1983.

^{xxvi} Noble, Dorothy Clodius. September 17, 2016.

^{xxvii} *The Pinedale Roundup*, January 20, 1983.

^{xxviii} *The Pinedale Roundup*, January 20, 1983.

^{xxix} Noble, Dorothy Clodius. September 17, 2016.

^{xxx} Issacs, Jean Thompson. September 20, 2016.

^{xxxi} Issacs, Jean Thompson. September 20, 2016.

Cora Townsite

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Name of Property

xxxii Lee's full name was William Leiper Van Nest Thompson, but always went by Lee. His wife, Cora's full name was

Cora Winnifred Holt Thompson. Issacs, Jean Thompson. September 20, 2016.

xxxiii *The Denver Post*, June 16, 1974.

xxxiv Anderson, Linda. July 20, 2015.

xxxv *The Denver Post*, June 16, 1974.

xxxvi Anderson, Linda. July 20, 2015.

xxxvii Colerick, Jo Ann. September 8, 2016.

xxxviii Ludwig, Joanne. September 9, 2016.

xxxix Ludwig, Joanne. September 9, 2016.

xl Ludwig, Joanne. September 9, 2016.

xlii *Pinedale Roundup*, September 9, 1999.

xliii *Pinedale Roundup*, December 26, 2002.

xliiii *Pinedale Roundup*, September 6, 2013.

xliiii *Pinedale Roundup*, August 5, 2011.

xlv *Pinedale Roundup*, August 5, 2011.

xlvi *Casper Star Tribune*, June 26, 2011, May 8, 2012, *Rock Springs Rocket-Miner*, *Wall Street Journal*, July 26, 2011.

xlvii *Pinedale Roundup*, May 18, 2012.

xlviii *Pinedale Roundup*, June 23, 2005.

xlix *Pinedale Roundup*, June 23, 2005.

xlx *Pinedale Roundup*, June 23, 2005.

xlxi *Sublette Examiner*, January 26, 2010.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Secondary Sources

Rosenberg, Robert G. *Wyoming's Last Frontier; Sublette County, Wyoming*. Glendo, WY, High Plains Press, 1990.

Sommer, Jonita, compiled by. *Ringing the Dinner Bell: From Generation to Generation in the Green River Valley*. Audubon, Iowa, Jumbo Jack's Cookbooks, 2015.

Sommers, Jonita, compiled by. *History of the Rendezvous Ranch*. Grand Junction, CO., Peczuh Printing, 2014.

Urbanek, Mae. *Wyoming Place Names*. Boulder, CO., Johnson Publishing Co., 1967.

Urbanek, Mae. *Wyoming Place Names*. Missoula, MT., Mountain Press Publishing Co., 1988.

Wallace, Eunice Ewer. *Wyoming's Own*. Boise, Idaho, Joslyn & Rentschler Lithoprinters, 1976. (Roy Lozier, "The Naming of Cora." P. 125. Christina Clementsen Noble, "How Did Cora Get Its Name?" p. 121.) This latter article includes Sidney O. Reynolds, "Cora," 1964.

Newspapers

"The Population of Cora, Wyo., is Keith, Mary Hill and Linda" by Zeke Scher. *The Denver Post*, June 16, 1974.

"Cora Store," author unknown. *Jackson Hole News*, September 27, 1978.

"If We Don't Have It, You Don't Need It." Author unknown. *The Pinedale Roundup*, March 22, 1979.

"Cora: a small town with a big beginning," by Carol Chidsey. *The Pinedale Roundup*, January 20, 1983.

"Cora Post Office celebrates 100th birthday," by Dave Arambel. *The Pinedale Roundup*. June 13, 1991.

"Cora's Charm," by David Vaughan. *The Pinedale Roundup*. Summer Roundup 1997.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

“STAMPeding in on country post offices,” by Katie Neely. *The Pinedale Roundup*, September 9, 1999.

“How Cora Got Its Name,” by DeeAnn Price. *The Pinedale Roundup*. January 4, 2002.

“Cora Says Goodbye to a Longtime Friend,” by Tim Ruland. *The Pinedale Roundup*, December 26, 2002.

“Cora Post Office To Celebrate 113 Years,” *Sublette Examiner*, June 10, 2004.

“The Changing Faces of Cora: The Town of Cora Turns 113 Today,” by Jeannette Bloesel. *Pinedale Roundup*, June 17, 2004.

“Letters From Home,” by Delsa Allen. *Sublette Examiner*, June 24, 2004.

“Cora Celebrates 114” and “The Rural Route” by Jeanette Bloesel. *Pinedale Roundup*, June 23, 2005.

“Sublette County Resident Delivers More Than Mail,” by Derek Farr. *Sublette Examiner*, January 26, 2010.

“Freeman retires after 30 years working for USPS,” by Kathy Carlson. *Pinedale Roundup*, September 6, 2013.

Oral Interviews

Anderson, Linda L. July 20, 2015.

Brown, Tom. November 13, 2016.

Colerick, Jo Ann. September 8, 2016.

Isaacs, Jean Thompson. September 20, 2016.

Johnston, J. Thomas, M.D. October 20, 2016.

Kitchen, John W. September 9, 2016.

Ludwig, Joanne. September 9, 2016.

Noble, Dick. March 29, 2015.

Noble, Dorothy Clodius. April 17, 2016, October 21, 2016.

Noble, Ruth. January 27, 2016; September 8, 2016.

Unpublished Works

Noble, James Mark. “James Mark Noble as Postmaster, 1900 to 1907.” Unpublished. June 17, 2005.

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

Reynolds, Sidney O. "History of Cora, Wyoming." Unpublished. 1964.

Government Documents

Postmaster Finder; Postmasters by City; Cora Post Office, Sublette County, Wyoming.
<<http://webpmt.usps.gov/pmt003.cfm>> accessed April 15, 2008.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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: Sublette County CLG

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 48SU428

9. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or
UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 12 | Easting: 2652842 | Northing: 1216975 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

The Cora Townsite is located on the corner east of Wyoming Highway 352 and north of Noble County Road #23-145 on Ludwig Lot Division 1. (Section 3, T34N – R110W)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The Cora Townsite has been in this location since 1919.

10. Form Prepared By

name/title: Ann Chambers Noble, Historian
organization: _____
street & number: P.O. Box 36
city or town: Cora state: WY zip code: 82925
e-mail ANoble1227@aol.com
telephone: 307-360-8894
date: November 28, 2016

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Cora Townsite

City or Vicinity: Cora

County: Sublette

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Ann Chambers Noble, Andrea C. Noble

Date Photographed: March 29, 2015 and August 26, 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 28 Original Cora Store and Post Office at Noble Ranch c. 1910s
2. Original Cora Store and Post Office at new location c. 1920s
3. Town of Cora 1937
4. Wyoming Dept. of Transportation opening Cora Highway (H352) for first time, 1937. Town of Cora on the left.
5. Building #1: warehouse
6. Dovetail corners on Building #1
7. Building #2: garage and storage shed
8. Building #3: ice house
9. Building #4: Cora Mercantile/Store, Post Office, and Residence c. 1970
10. Building #4: Cora Mercantile/Store, Post Office, and Residence 2016
11. Building #4: Cora Post Office residence south elevation
12. Building #4: Cora Post Office residence east elevation with addition
13. Building #4: Cora Post Office building, northwest corner
14. Building #4: Inside Cora Post Office, 2016
15. Building #4: Inside Cora Post Office, 2016
16. Building #4: Inside Cora Store, hats left over the years, 2016
17. Building #4: Inside Cora Bar, 2016
18. Building #4: Inside Cora Bar, 2016

Cora Townsite

Name of Property

Sublette County, WY

County and State

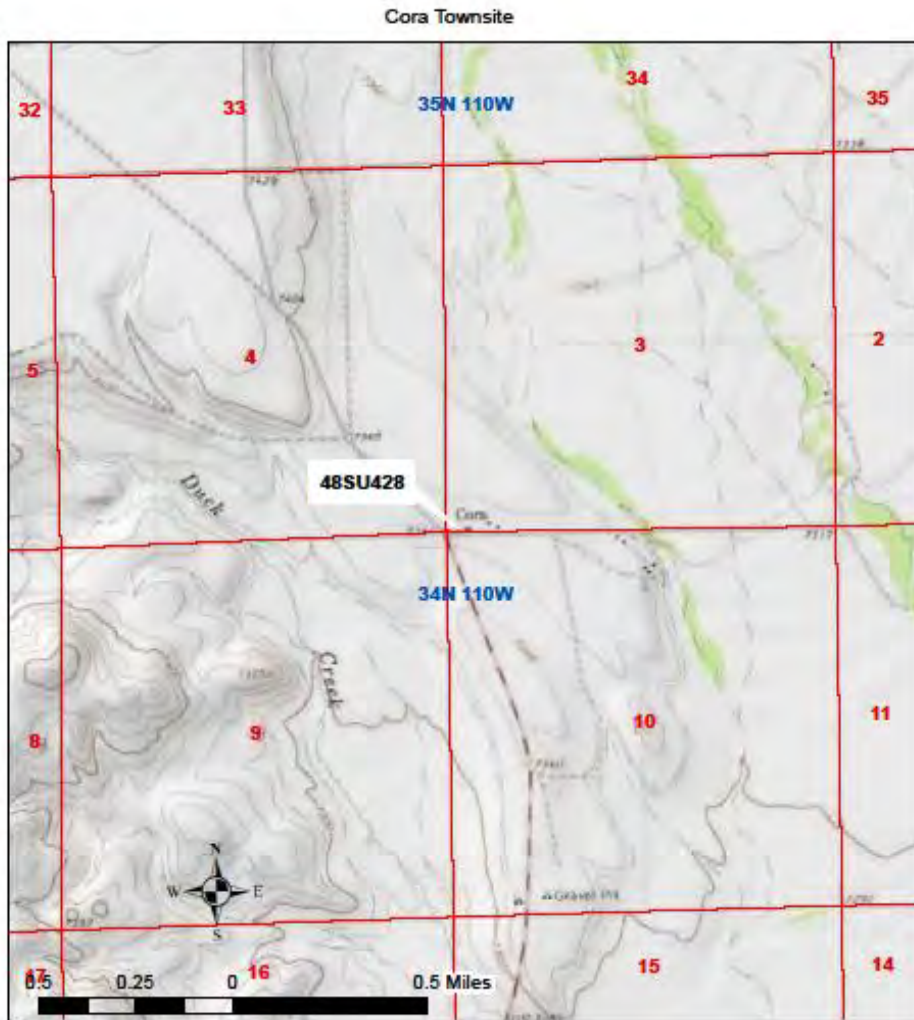
19. Building #5: Teacherage
20. Building #5: Back side of Teacherage
21. Building #6: Cabin with addition to front, south side.
22. Building #6: Cabin with both additions on north and south ends
23. Building #6: Cabin interior of original part, ceiling and wall wood work
24. Building #7: Open barns
25. Building #7: Back side (north elevation) of open barns
26. Structure #1 Corrals and Loading chute
27. Structure #2 Open shed (former garage)
28. Structure #3 Outhouse

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 100 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.

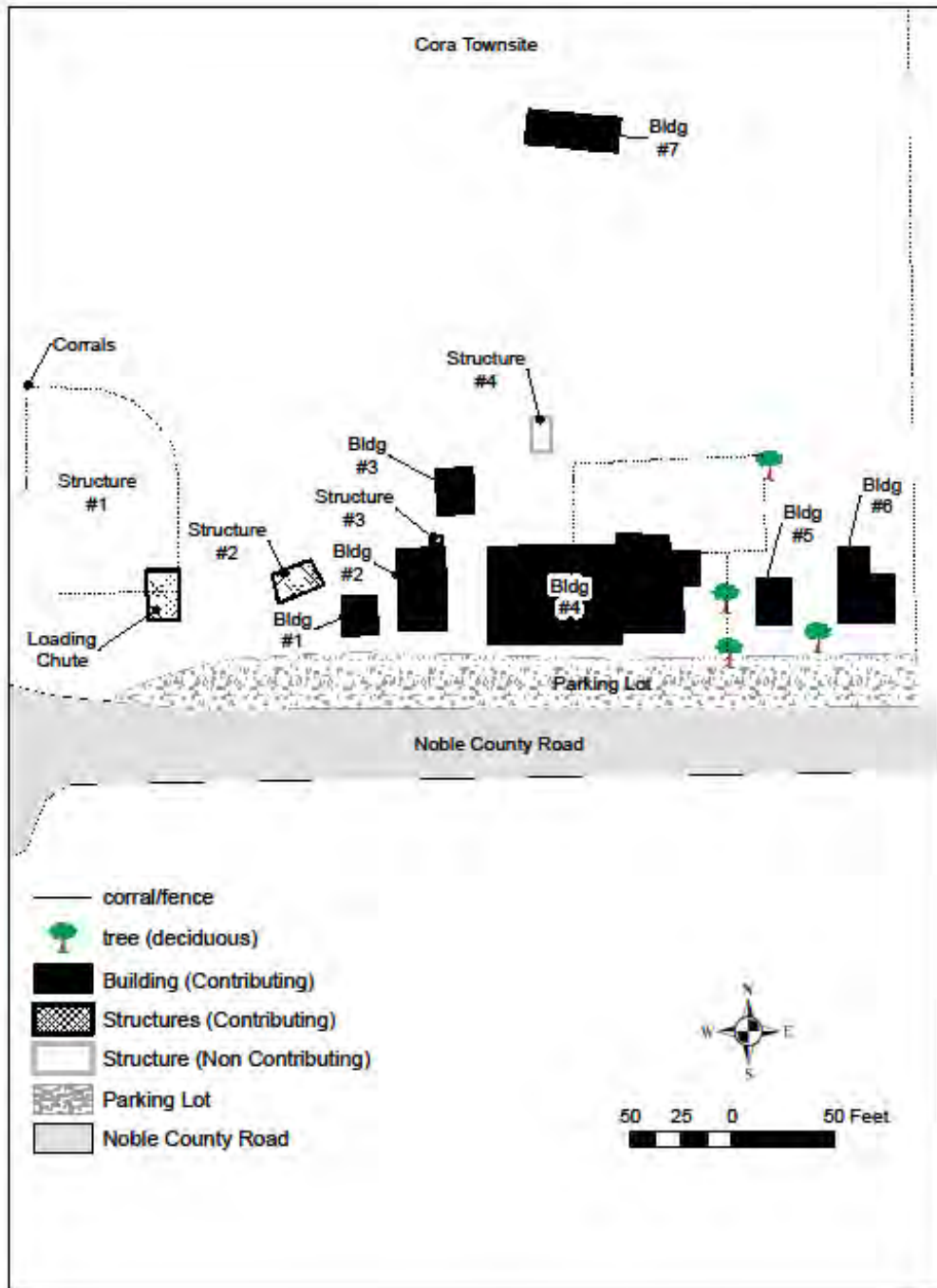
Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State



Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State



Cora Townsite
Name of Property

Sublette County, WY
County and State



















Pabst
Blue Ribbon
BEER

CORA STORE

PABST BEER



CORA POST OFFICE

82925









WIFI AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE
BY THE HOUR
MONTHLY - YEARLY
CONTACT US FOR
DETAILS

WELCOME

THE BIG

WINTERFIELD

THE BIG

WINTERFIELD

CORAJACK

SALOON
CLOSED FOR BARBERS

CLOSED

GENERAL INFORMATION

821925



Stamps & Other Services
ReadyPost Supplies



























UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Edson Beall Discipline Historian

Telephone _____ Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



Sublette County, Wyoming

Historic Preservation Board

Honor the Past, Enrich the Future

Brian Beadles, National Register Coordinator
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office
2301 Central Avenue
Barrett Building, Third Floor
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

November 28, 2016

Brian,

The Sublette County Historic Preservation Board (Certified Local Government) reviewed the draft National Register nomination for the Cora Townsite at a public meeting on November 22, 2016. The Preservation board unanimously approved the nomination. Minor changes and comments were provided to preparer Ann Noble, but there were no significant structural or history changes.

Thanks for your consideration on the Cora Townsite National Register nomination and the opportunity to comment. This is a historically significant site worthy of listing. The nomination is well researched and written and is fully supported by the Preservation Board. Please direct further questions or information requests to Clint Gilchrist, clint@sublette.com or 307-367-6763.

Clint Gilchrist, President
Sublette County Historic Preservation Board
PO Box 662
Pinedale, WY 82941
clint@sublette.com
307-367-6763

ARTS. PARKS. HISTORY.

Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office
2301 Central Ave., Barrett Bldg. 3rd Floor
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-8594
FAX: 307-777-6421
<http://wyoshpo.state.wy.us>



March 10, 2017

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

Re: Submission of the Cora Townsite National Register Form

Dear Mr. Loether:

The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office is submitting the Cora Townsite National Register Form for National Park Service review. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Cora Townsite to the National Register of Historic Places. The State Review Board reviewed and approved the nomination. Mary Hopkins, the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer, has approved and signed the nomination.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brian Beadles
Historic Preservation Specialist



Matthew H. Mead, Governor
Milward Simpson, Director