

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 24 1981
DATE ENTERED JUL 23 1981

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bimson Blacksmith Shop

AND/OR COMMON

Berthoud Pioneer Museum

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

224 Mountain St.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Berthoud

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4

STATE

Colorado

CODE

08

COUNTY

Larimer

CODE

069

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME City of Berthoud

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 116

CITY, TOWN

Berthoud

VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Berthoud Town Hall

STREET & NUMBER

328 Massachusetts

CITY, TOWN

Berthoud

STATE

Colorado 80513

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE

Ongoing

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Colorado Historical Society; 1300 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> _DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> _GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> _RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> _ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> _MOVED DATE_____
<input type="checkbox"/> _FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> _UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bimson Blacksmith Shop is a one-story, single detached structure with a flat roof. The building is rectangular in shape with the front and rear facade narrower than the sides. It is constructed of native pink sandstone, with a red contrasting sandstone around the windows and doors at each corner in a quoin effect. The stone is cut, rock-faced ashlar, laid in random fashion. The top edge of the building is cordoned and a foot below it are two more stone cordones, one red and one pink. There is a door in each wall, three windows in the east wall, three windows in the west, and two windows in both the north and south walls. The windows are lugsill, rectangular, with red sandstone lintel. Windows are non-original, fixed-sash, with windowpanes. The main doorway is semi-circular arched with a complete surround of radiating red sandstone voussoirs, and a keystone at the top. Other doors are flat-topped with non-original wood.

The Berthoud Historical Society has replaced part of the roof which had caved in, and repaired with the original stone the rear portion of the wall which was broken when the roof fell. They also replaced windows and doors which had been taken out by previous owners. The Society did an excellent job of necessary repairs and in no way compromised the integrity of the building.

The Bimson Blacksmith Shop is situated right on Highway 287, which runs through Berthoud. The building to the west of it is a large modernized structure, Chandler Manufacturing Corporation. The frame building to the east is an original false-front harness shop now used as a maintenance shed.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1893

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

A.G. Bimson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bimson Blacksmith Shop is significant for its architecture and history.

The Shop is made of native (Lyons) sandstone, which is unusual for Berthoud, although not for the region as a whole. The style is also atypical of the architecture of historic Berthoud. The building is unique and esthetically pleasing.

The Bimson Blacksmith Shop was the first blacksmith shop in Berthoud. The present townsite was settled in 1884. Alfred G. Bimson came there in 1889 and started the blacksmith shop in 1893. He designed and built the building himself out of stone which was quarried west of town. The shop remained open until 1943.

A.G. Bimson's association with Berthoud went beyond pioneering and blacksmithing. He served a term as mayor of the town, and was active in community affairs. He was also an artisan who crafted wrought-iron objects of every kind, which he gave to his friends and associates as gifts. Some of these things are still in the building, which itself reflects his artistic bent.

Besides being essential to the town for horseshoeing, tool-making, vehicle and implement repair, the Bimson Blacksmith Shop served an important function as unofficial social center, an informal gathering place for the men and children of the town, where they met their friends and exchanged news and gossip of the day.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Early Berthoud - A History of the Town by Belva Turner Bashor (1976)

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Berthoud

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24 000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 3 | 4, 9, 3 | 5, 9, 0 | 4, 4, 6, 1 | 4, 8, 0

B | | | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | | |

D | | | |

E | | | |

F | | | |

G | | | |

H | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots, 3,4, and Eastern 10 feet of Lot 5; Block 7

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Theresa Banfield, Register

May 30, 1980

ORGANIZATION

Berthoud Historical Society

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

224 Mountain

TELEPHONE

532-2167 (President)

CITY OR TOWN

Berthoud

STATE

Colorado

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Arthur C. Jensen

June 12, 1981

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Entered in the
National Register

DATE 7-23-81

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION