United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 1985

date entered MAY 16 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Nam	1e							
historic	Wildhack's Grocery Store/Post Office							
and/or common	Post Office/Foot	e's Rest						
2. Loca	ation							
street & number	510 Main	Street		n/a	not for publication			
city, town	Frisco	n/a vio	cinity of					
Color		08 ode	county	Summit	code 117			
	sification							
Category district XX building(s) structure site object	Ownership public XX private both Public Acquisition n/a in process n/a being considered	Status XX_ occupi unoccu work in Accessible XX_ yes: re yes: un	upied n progress e estricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	XX museum park XX private residence religious scientific transportation other:			
4. Own	er of Prop	erty						
name M	rs. Helen Foote							
street & number	510 Main Street							
city, town	Frisco	n/a_ vio	cinity of	state	Colorado 80443			
5. Loca	ation of Le			on				
courthouse, regi	istry of deeds, etc.	Summit Coun	ty Courth	ouse				
street & number	208 E. Lincoln	Street						
city, town	Breckenridge			state	Colorado			
	resentatio	n in Exis	sting S					
				perty been determined elig	jible?yes XX n			
_		COLIC DICES			county loca			
					county loca			
depository for su		ado Historica	al Societ	y, OAHP				
city, town	Denver	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		state	Colorado 80203			

7. Description

Condition XX excellent deteriorated good ruins fair unexposed	Check one unaltered XX altered	Check one XX original site moved date
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Wildhack's General Store/Post Office consists of a one-story frame vernacular building with a $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story frame addition. The original late 19th century one-room frame structure is now encased in the present building, whose appearance dates to a 1920s renovation. The property is prominently located along Main Street in the heart of the commercial district of Frisco, a small mountain community in central Colorado.

The original one-room cabin, 14' by 14', was built by Louis Wildhack in 1882 for use as a mining office and (later) residence. The front of this original section has an entrance on the west end of the north wall with a four over four double hung window to the side. Wildhack married in 1905 at which time he added two rooms off the rear of the building. A 1½-story wing was added off the west wall, which retains the fish-scale shingles in the gable end. At some point, a false front was applied to the one-story cabin, most probably in 1914 when the use of the structure was expanded to that of a post office and general store as well as a residence.

A $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story frame addition was constructed in the 1920s off the east end of the building, the front flush with the original section. The post office and general store were then moved into these larger quarters. Mail boxes were installed just to the east of the middle bay which served as a mail slot. The exterior is characterized by a large entrance element consisting of a double door with transom and double hung windows as "sidelights". Two double hung windows are equally spaced at the second level, with a single double hung window centered in the gable.

The north, south, east and part of the west exterior walls of the building were covered with metal sheets at the time of the 1920s addition. (The lumber and metal sheathing used in the construction of the '20s addition were obtained from Turn-of-the-Century/Admiral Mine, located on Ten-Mile Creek west of Frisco.) In the 1940s the metal sheets on ground level had rusted and were replaced with the same sheathing which had been placed in storage years earlier.

Little has been altered on the interior of the east addition. Original panes in the windows remain as does the original store display cases and the post office window and boxes. The flooring is the original soft pine. The first floor is now used as a family museum (not open to the public).

The interior of the original section which now functions as living quarters for the present owner (Mrs. Helen Foote) has experienced some change. A partition which once divided the space in the front room was removed in 1947. The walls of this area, now used as a living room, as well as the east wing (now a bedroom) were paneled under the ownership of the Footes. I

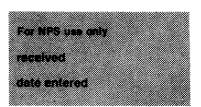
The metal roof of the west wing was replaced with metal in 1974 by the Footes. The metal roof on the east addition is original. Two chimneys exist, one that served the wood stove in the grocery/post office and the upstairs bedroom of the east addition and now serving the forced air furnace from the basement. The other served the fireplace (installed by the Footes) in the living room (the first section of the building built by Wildhack). Several areas in the house had stove flu openings where former heating stoves had stood.

 $l_{\mbox{\it The}}$ tar paper once over the west addition was covered by the Footes who applied cedar vertical board siding.

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In the 1970s, a garage was built off the rear of the house (and is physically a part of the main building). The nominated area includes only the main structure and this later addition.

On the lot, but not within the nominated area, are four log cabins built for tourist rental by Guy Cannam, the property owner from 1935 to 1941. The cabins separate the main structure from two outbuildings constructed by Wildhack (date unknown): an ice house/chicken house and a two-story barn. Because of their isolation from the post office, the outbuildings are not included in the nomination.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 XX. 1900–	archeology-historic	community planning conservation economics	landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy XX politics/government	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation
Specific dates	1920–1935		nown	other (specify)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Wildhack's General Store/Post Office has importance to the mountain community of Frisco in serving as the U.S. Post Office from 1914 to 1966 and, for many years, as the only general store in the town. As such, the building became the social center of Frisco, a meeting place for local residents and those from outlying mining and logging areas.

Frisco (originally named Frisco City) began as a mining town founded on the gold and silver industry. In its mining heyday, it boasted thirty-one saloons, four hotels, two railroads, a fifty-oven coke operation, and numerous logging operations. The town's history consists of a series of booms and busts, with the community always surviving its worst depression. Frisco recovered from the 1893 Silver Crash with a new mining boom occurring during the first decade of the 20th century. However, after the First World War, the local mining industry collapsed, with local residents who remained finding other avenues of employment such as logging and hunting.

A participant in the mining industry in the late 19th century was engineer Louis A. Wildhack. Wildhack was a clerk for a mining office in Dillon, with another office in Frisco. As his duties in Frisco increased, he moved there. Around 1882 he built a one-story frame structure with a wooden porch along Main Street. (The earliest photograph of the structure is undated but shows the building as one-story with a false front as well as a front porch.) The building was his office and residence, and, later a general store and post office.

In 1914 Wildhack became Frisco's postmaster, carrying out his responsibilities in his frame building on Main Street. In the 1920s, he secured lumber from the buildings at the Admiral Mine up Ten-Mile Canyon which he used to construct the 2½-story addition off the east end of his original structure. The new section accommodated a general store and post office.

Wildhacks Grocery Store had one of only two telephones in Frisco in the early part of the century and became the central location for messages and information. It also had one of only two gas pumps in town. In a community without electricity, radios, newspapers, or rail lines, the post office became the place to discuss news, meet friends and socialize. Benches encouraged people to linger and locals would wait hours in the store for the mail to arrive and be sorted. Miners came from as far away as Wheeler Junction (now Copper Mountain) and ranchers from Dickey and Bill's Ranch. Equally important for older citizens was the fact that the post office was within walking distance of their homes in Frisco, an important factor in winter months (about eight months of the year) when the town was frequently isolated for weeks or even months. Adding to its significance as the social center was the fact that no formal church existed in Frisco until the 1940s, with the post office/general store serving as the only meeting place, with the exception of the weekly/bi-weekly dances at the town hall.

Personal in	terviews: Helen	Foote, Fr		Community." 1984. ildhack, Arlington, Virginia	; and
Kennet.	h Caldwell, Frisc	co.		_ ,	
10. Ged	ographical				
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List all states a	and counties for pro	perties overl	apping state or co	ounty boundaries	
state n/a	•	code	county	code	
state		code	county	code	
11. For	m Prepare	d By			
name/title	Janet Marie Cla	wson		Edited: Gloria Mills	
organization				September 28, 1984	
street & number			da	ite	
	P.O. Box 445			lephone (303) 468-5678	
city or town	P.O. Box 445		te	(202) 469 5679	
	Dillon	e Pres	te	lephone (303) 468-5678 Colorado 80435	on
12. Sta	Dillon		st ervation (lephone (303) 468-5678 Colorado 80435	on
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9. Major Bibliographical References

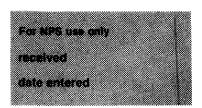
Chief of Registration

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In the 1930s, tourist cabins were constructed on the property by owner Guy Cannam, adding a new use and indicating another increasingly important industry for the town. (The cabins are not included in the nominated area, however.) In 1946, the property was purchased by Robert S. Foote, Laura Helen Foote, and Hannah Mae Foote, who operated it as a general store and motel under the name of "Foote's Rest". On May 15, 1947, the post office was returned to the original location form its brief removal to the private home of Mary Ruth, who served as postmistress from Navember 16, 1942 to May 15, 1947. Robert Foote became postmaster and served until August 6, 1965. From this date until June 1966, Susan L. Thompson served as postmaster in this building until the post office was moved to a larger building on the corner of Fourth and Granite streets.

Helen Foote continues to live in the structure which functions as a private residence and private museum. The building remains unchanged both on the interior and exterior except for minor changes. (See Item #7.) The original post office boxes and grocery store display cases remain in their original locations.

 $^{^{1}}$ Although Frisco was the first town in Summit County to receive electricity and street lights in 1901, these amenities were removed in the early 1920s when the rail lines and mines closed operation.