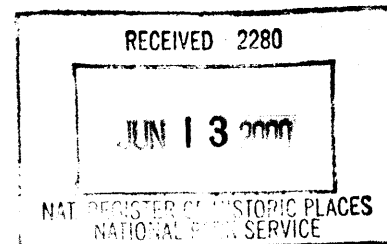


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



782

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Derry Mining Site Camp

other names/site number Derry Ranch; Derry Dredge; 5LK1341

2. Location

street & number West of U.S. Hwy. 24 [N/A] not for publication

city or town Leadville [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Lake code 065 zip code 80461

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 [] nationally [] statewide [x] locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Georgeanna Canty State Historic Preservation Officer June 5, 2000
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office, Colorado Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet [].
- determined eligible for the
National Register
See continuation sheet [].
- determined not eligible for the
National Register.
- removed from the
National Register
- other, explain
See continuation sheet [].

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper 7-14-00 Date

Derry Mining Site Camp

Name of Property

5. Classification

Lake/Colorado

County/State

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY/mining

DOMESTIC/single dwellings/secondary structures

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Other: log cabin

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls WOOD/weatherboard/log

roof WOOD/ASPHALT

other METAL

Narrative Description

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

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

The Derry Mining Site Camp is located southwest of the Hayden Ranch (5LK1340) and west of U.S. Highway 24 on the old Twin Lakes Toll Road, a historically significant transportation route. The camp, at an elevation of 9,320 feet, is in the Upper Arkansas River Valley near the base of Mount Elbert, Colorado's highest peak. It is surrounded by ridges and hills and a two-track dirt road accesses the site from the south. Corske Creek flows through the property and Box Creek is nearby. Rabbit brush, sage, cinquefoil, aspen, and willow grow in the valley's rocky alluvial soil, while pine and other conifers grow on the surrounding slopes. The area is part of an important migratory route for several species, including elk and waterfowl.

Today, the cultural landscape of the district continues to reflect the results of early 20th century dredging activity associated with mining. Historic tailings piles, ditches, ponds, and marshes remain interspersed in the hay meadows and ranch land of what began as the Derry family's farm in the late 1870s. The Derry Mining Site Camp's eight contributing buildings include a sprawling main house, six log cabins located to the north of the house, and one log cabin/barn adjacent to the house (please see following site map). Although the contributing buildings are vacant and suffer from varying degrees of deterioration, they retain sufficient integrity in terms of location, setting, materials, feeling, and association to convey their historic use.

It is believed that the original house constructed by Samuel Derry was a one-room log cabin (subsequently used as a barn) with a later addition to the eastern elevation. This later addition featured such fine finishing as interior wainscoting, a bay window, beadboard ceilings, and transoms over interior doors. At a later date, yet another, two-story addition was attached to the eastern elevation. The second story bedrooms of this addition contained angled windows under the eave of the western wall to take advantage of the breathtaking view of Mount Elbert. A tower structure was mounted over a small, hipped roof addition to the two-story addition. A shed roof addition to the southeastern elevation is believed to have been a kitchen or a bunk house. The organic pattern of construction mirrors the increased success of Derry's farming and ranching operation. Estimated dates of construction for the main house range from 1878 to 1908.

During the period of intensive mining from 1908 through 1923, the main house functioned as the core of the mining camp. The log cabins located to the north of the main house were constructed by the New York Engineering Company in 1916 to house additional workers associated with the mining operation. Dredge mining features, including ditches, tailings, and ponds, date from 1915 to 1923.

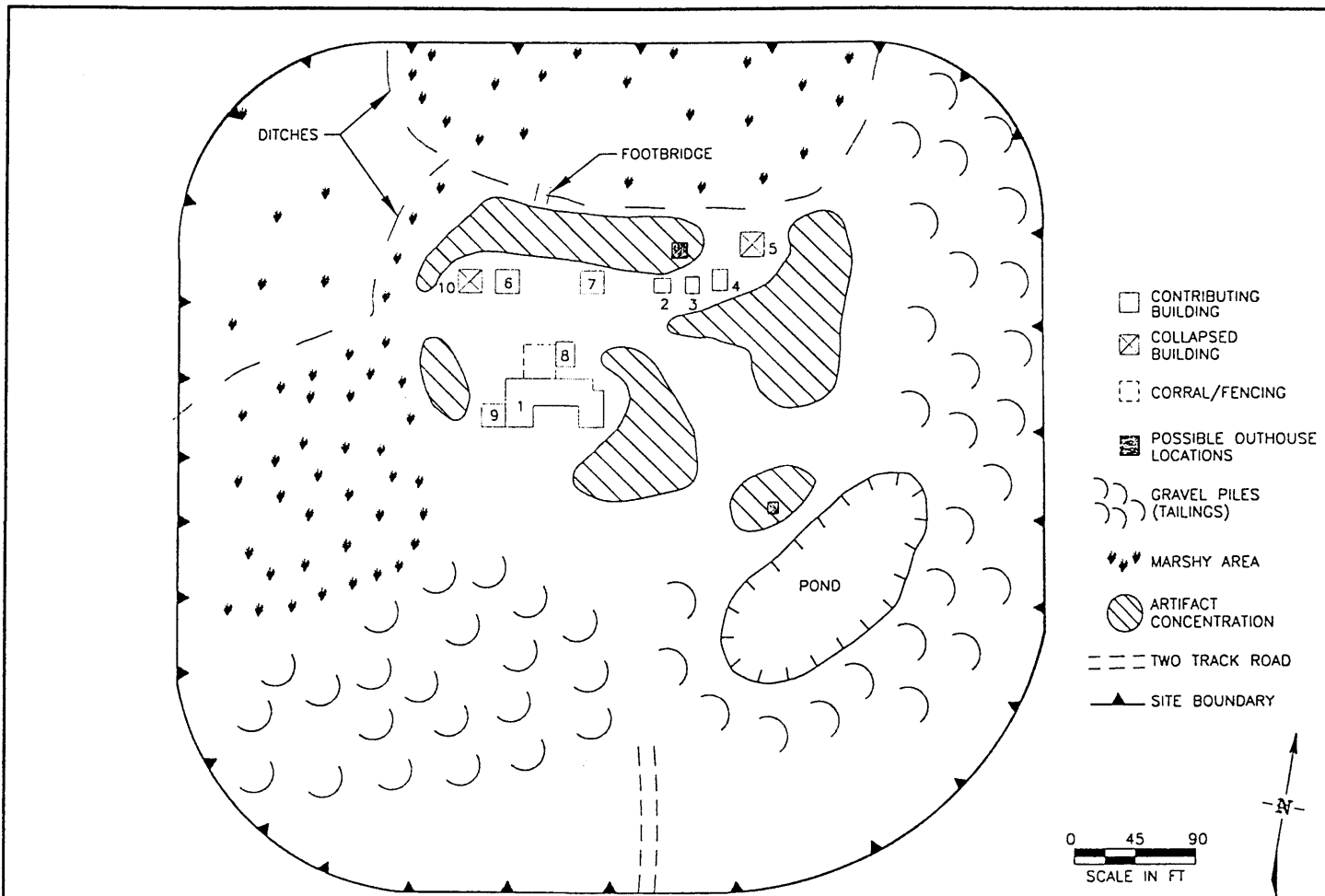
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

SITE MAP



FEC
FOOTHILL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS, INC.

SLK1341 (DERRY MINING SITE CAMP) SITE MAP
 REVISED 3-28-2000 PDB
 5-30-2000 PDB

DRAWN BY:
JB
 DATE:
12-17-99

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 3

CONTRIBUTING SITE - 1

The contributing site contains representative examples of such features as tailings piles, ditches, ponds, and marshes that were created as a result of the dredge activity. The proximity of these features to the buildings indicates that dredging occurred near inhabited areas as well as along other portions of Corske Creek. Once used for grazing and farming purposes, the site now clearly reflects its mining heritage.

Several artifact concentrations are located adjacent to the buildings. Remains of mining equipment and machinery, as well as the visible foundations of several structures, including privies, indicate the probability of high artifact density. This area also includes the remains of two collapsed log cabins (Numbers 5 and 10 on site map), apparently similar in type and function to Buildings 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7. Further study would need to be undertaken in order to further establish the area's potential to yield important archaeological information.

CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS - 8

Building 1 - Main House

Building 1 is a 2,604 square foot, one to 1 ½-story, log and wood frame house with an irregular U-shape floor plan. The house was used for multiple functions and is comprised of six individual buildings linked together to form the overall structure (please see floor plan on page 6). The building was constructed in stages between 1878 and 1908, and was used as a residence and storage facility by the Derry family. After 1908, the primary function of the property shifted from agriculture to mining, and the building was used as a bunk house, dining hall, and offices for workers associated with placer and dredge mining.

The majority of the building has a gabled roof of moderate pitch, with gables intersecting on different portions of the structure. Roofing material includes board, shingles, and corrugated metal. The kitchen/bunk house portion of the building has a shed roof that abuts the tower. Due to the complex and deteriorated condition of the building, individual features will be described on a room-by-room basis.

Collapsing Area (378 square feet)

The Collapsing Area is located south of the Log Cabin Room and east of Building 9 (a 2' gap covered by metal flashing separates the Collapsing Area from Building 9). The Collapsing Area was probably never used as living space as it is clad with vertical, non-weatherproofed, 2"x8" milled lumber. There is no apparent foundation. Logs are present on the ground, but they are not squared or placed systematically to indicate a floor structure. The room has deteriorated due to its poor construction relative to Building 1's other rooms. An interior door connects the Collapsing Area to the Log Cabin Room. A cattle chute of wood poles passes through this doorway and extends through both the Collapsing Area and the Log Cabin Room. The Collapsing Area has one window opening; one, 10' door opening, perhaps to allow

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Continuation Sheet

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 4

livestock or animals to enter; and a second door opening on the east elevation.

Log Cabin Room (288 square feet)

The Log Cabin Room is located north of the Collapsing Area and east of the Bay Window Area. Walls are saddle notched logs with wood and mortar chinking. The logs are peeled on the exterior and have been cut flat on the interior. No foundation exists. The Log Cabin Room has two window openings and a door opening on the north elevation. The bottom half of the interior walls is wainscoted with tongue and groove milled lumber.

Bay Window Area (500 square feet)

The Bay Window Area is named for a large bay window on the south elevation. It is located between the Log Cabin Room and the 1 ½-Story Area. The west wall of this room is original to the log cabin and is constructed of saddle-notched logs. The other three walls are constructed of vertical, 5" square logs with metal stripping nailed over the gaps. All interior walls are finished with tongue and groove milled lumber that is painted pink. This portion of the house has no apparent foundation – squared logs, varying in size, run north to south along the perimeter. Milled lumber is nailed to these logs. The bay window on the south elevation has three individual window openings. The Bay Window Area's south elevation has a doorway measuring 5' in width. A transom is located over the doorway on the north elevation.

A porch was possibly located on the south elevation of the Bay Window Area. No porch floor is intact, but the roof overhangs approximately 4'. This roof also covers the bay window and may have extended across the 1 ½-Story Area and ended at the junction with the Kitchen/ Bunk House.

1 1/2-Story Area (988 square feet)

This area is located east of the Bay Window Area. The first floor is divided into three areas – a small room, a large room, and a hallway with stairs leading to the second level. A brick chimney is located in the wall that separates the small and large rooms and has openings to both rooms. The chimney is covered with green painted plaster. The second level is a one-room loft. This area has a brick foundation that holds 2"x8" floor joists topped with 1"x6" milled flooring. Walls are wood frame with interior tongue and groove milled lumber. Exterior walls are clad with horizontal, ½"x5", unpainted milled lumber. Two windows exist in the 1 ½-Story Area as well as two exterior doorways – one on the north elevation and one on the east elevation. An interior doorway leads to the Kitchen/Bunk House.

Tower Room (90 square feet)

The Tower Room is located east of the 1 ½-Story Area and north of the Kitchen/Bunk House. This single room was built around the base of the tower after the tower was constructed. Exterior walls are clad with lapped, board on board siding with ½"x4" milled lumber covering the gaps. The frame of the tower is constructed of logs approximately 6" diameter in size. A possible flagpole extends from the top of the tower's hipped roof. The Tower Room has a brick foundation with squared logs running the perimeter of the structure. Milled, 1"x6" lumber is set atop these logs. The Tower Room has four windows and two door openings – one on the north elevation and one on the east elevation.

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Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 5

Kitchen/Bunk House (360 square feet)

This room is located south of the 1 ½-Story Area and the Tower Room. It was added after the construction of the 1 ½-Story Area, as two windows on the south elevation of the 1 ½-Story Area have been covered by the addition. It was also built after the Tower Room, as its roof extends over the frame of the tower. The Kitchen/Bunk House was the last room added to Building 1. The room has five windows and one exterior doorway on the east elevation. The shed roof has a metal stovepipe extending from its slope. A brick foundation holds 2"x8" floor joists covered with 1"x4" tongue and groove flooring. Exterior walls are clad with 5" wide, unpainted horizontal planks. The upper portion of the interior walls has horizontal, blue painted paneling while the lower portion has vertical, blue painted siding.

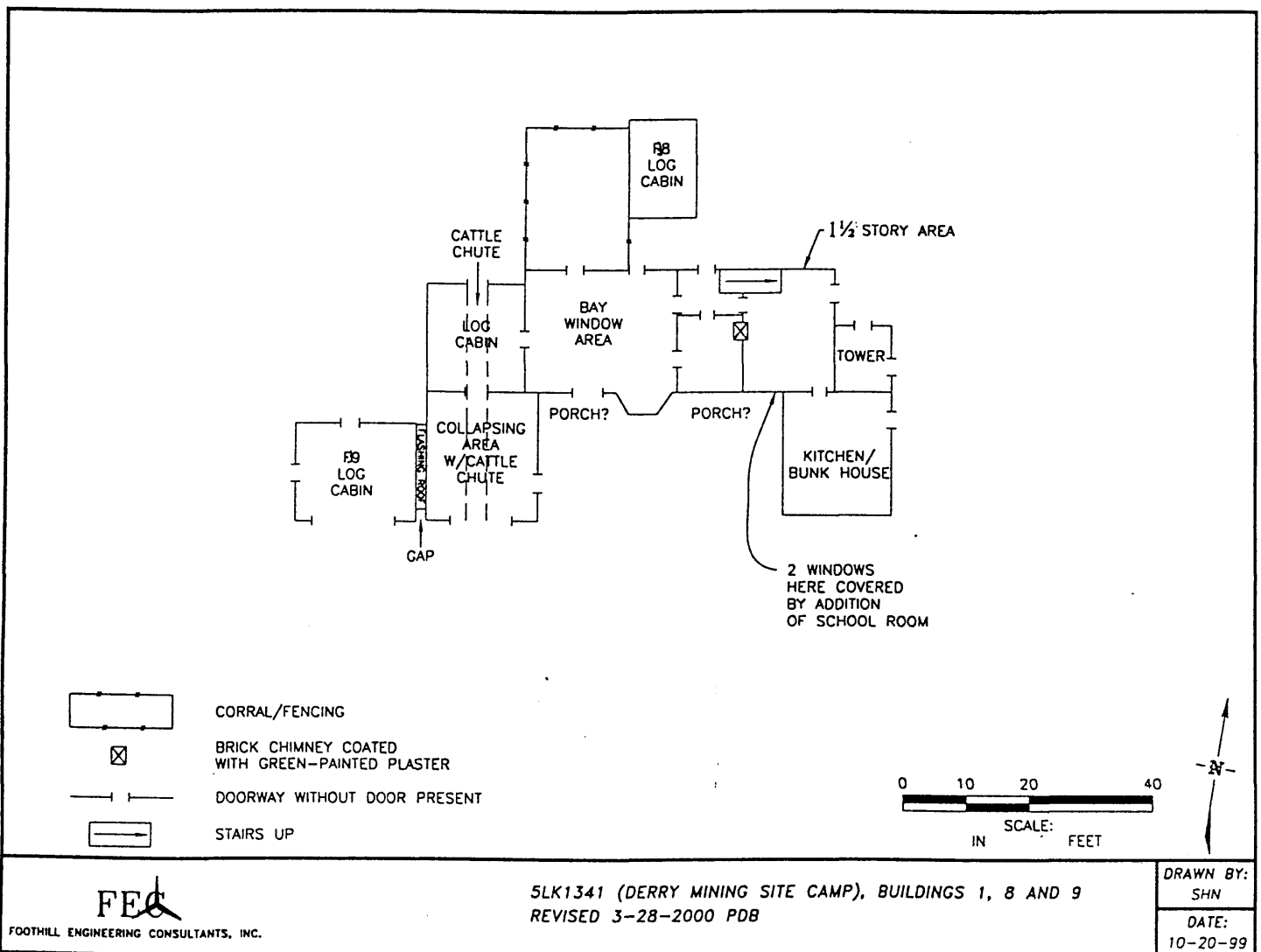
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

FLOOR PLAN
Building 1 (with Buildings 8 & 9)



FOOTHILL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS, INC.

5LK1341 (DERRY MINING SITE CAMP), BUILDINGS 1, 8 AND 9
REVISED 3-28-2000 PDB

DRAWN BY:
SHN

DATE:
10-20-99

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Continuation Sheet

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 7

Building 2 – Log Cabin

This one-story, one-room, rectangular log cabin measures 234 square feet. It was constructed in 1916 as one of a row of three cabins to house miners associated with the Derry Dredge. There is a large dredge pile to the east of the row of cabins.

Building 2 has a low pitch, front gable roof. There is one round, galvanized metal stovepipe in the ridge of the roof. It is decorated by a series of quarter-sized, ornamental holes at the rim and set off by an ornamental band. The roof was originally clad with boards but is currently covered by corrugated metal sheets. The portion of the exterior wall formed under the gable is clad with flush, horizontal, 1"x5" milled lumber. Walls are constructed of saddle-notched logs that are peeled on the exterior and rough on the interior. Chinking consists of small pieces of wood, rough-cut lumber, and light colored, silty clay with pebble inclusions. As the logs are not fit together tightly, a considerable amount of chinking exists. On the interior roof and walls, there is evidence of tan colored paperboard fastened by nails and washers. There is no foundation or basement. The floor is in good condition and consists of ½"x4" milled, tongue and groove lumber nailed over a platform of 2"x4"s.

The cabin has two windows. Neither window contains glass. A door opening with no door exists on the south elevation. The window on the south elevation is next to the doorway and is framed by 2"x8" milled lumber and measures 34" wide x 41 tall". The base of this window is missing. The second window is located on the north elevation and measures 32" tall x 31" wide. This window is framed by 2"x2" boards nailed inside what was once a door frame, as the frame extends 34" below the bottom of the window to ground level. The portion of the former doorway below the window has been infilled with 1"x6" vertical, flush milled lumber.

Building 3 – Log Cabin

This one-story, one-room, rectangular log cabin measures 226 square feet. It was constructed in 1916 as one of a row of three cabins to house miners associated with the Derry Dredge.

The cabin's medium pitch, front gable roof is clad with vertical, flush, 1"x12" milled boards. Peeling tarpaper is fastened to the gable front by small, oblong metal plates that are attached by four nails per plate. The roof boards were covered with tarpaper and corrugated sheet metal. Most of the metal roofing no longer exists. There is one round, galvanized metal stovepipe in the ridge of the roof. It is decorated by a series of quarter-sized, ornamental holes at the rim and set off by an ornamental band. Walls are constructed of saddle-notched logs that are peeled on the exterior and rough on the interior. Chinking consists of small pieces of wood, rough-cut lumber, and light colored, silty clay with pebble inclusions. On the interior roof and walls, there is evidence of tan and orange colored paperboard fastened by nails and washers. The cabin has no foundation. The interior floor is ½"x4" milled tongue and groove lumber oriented east to west. Only the portion of the floor nearest the door is intact. The remainder is a scatter of boards that obscure the sub-flooring beneath.

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Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 8

The cabin has two windows. One window is located on the south elevation to the east of the door opening. It is framed by 1"x7" milled lumber and is 43" tall x 29" wide. The second window is on the north elevation. It measures 30" tall x 28" wide and is framed by 2"x8" milled lumber. Neither window contains glass. The only doorway is located on the south elevation and is framed by 1"x7" milled lumber. No door exists, but an interior latch indicates that the door opened inward.

Building 4 – Log Cabin

This one-story, one-room, rectangular log cabin measures 359 square feet. It was constructed in 1916 as one of a row of three cabins to house miners associated with the Derry Dredge

The cabin has a medium pitch, front gable roof clad with flush, vertical, 1"x12" milled lumber boards. The roof boards were also covered with tarpaper and corrugated sheet metal. Most of the metal roofing no longer exists. No chimney currently exists, but there is a 12" diameter cutout in the ridge of the roof. Walls are constructed of saddle-notched logs that are peeled on the exterior. Gaps between the logs are filled with heavy pieces of rough, milled lumber; smaller, irregular wedges of lumber; and a pebbly, light colored, silty clay mortar. On the interior roof and walls, remains of paperboard are evident. A hard cement mortar not present in Buildings 2 and 3 covers the paperboard on the interior walls only. There is no foundation. The interior floor is ½"x4" milled, tongue and groove lumber that was originally laid east to west, but is currently scattered. No 2"x4" supports exist beneath the floor.

The cabin has two windows. One window is located on the south elevation to the east of the door opening. It is framed by 2"x8" milled lumber and is 43" tall by 33" wide (the width is estimated because the frame separating the window from the adjacent door is missing). The second window is located on the east elevation. It measures 42" tall x 32" wide and is framed by 2"x8" milled lumber. The sill is missing. Neither window contains glass. The doorway on the south elevation is 5' tall and 3' wide. It is framed with a notched log on top, a 2"x8" piece of milled lumber on the west side, and a 1"x6" milled lumber door jamb. The east portion of the frame is missing.

Building 6 – Log Cabin

Building 6 is a one-story, one-room, square, log cabin that measures 330 square feet. It is located to the north of Building 1 and to the east of a collapsed structure. It was constructed circa 1916 to house miners associated with the Derry Dredge.

The cabin has a front gable roof clad in milled lumber and metal sheeting with a metal stovepipe in the east end. The saddle-notched walls are chinked with mortar and pieces of wood. There is no foundation, but the existing floor is tongue and groove planking nailed to milled lumber floor joists. At one time, the cabin may have had a porch on the west elevation.

There is one, wood framed window in each of the north, south, and east elevations. No glass remains,

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Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 9

but casing indicates that the glass was single pane. Wood framed doorways exist on the north and west elevations, but the doors are missing. Ceramic insulators above the west door indicate that the cabin was electrified.

Building 7 – Log Cabin

This one-story, one-room, rectangular, log cabin measures 334 square feet. It is located between Building 6 and the row of three cabins (Buildings 2, 3, 4). It was constructed circa 1916 to house miners associated with the Derry Dredge.

The cabin's side gable roof is clad with milled lumber. A metal stovepipe is centered on the ridge of the roof. Ceramic insulators near the peak of the roof on the west elevation indicate that the cabin was electrified. Walls are saddle-notched logs chinked with mortar and pieces of wood. There is no foundation – the floor is tongue and groove planking over milled lumber.

There is a single wood frame window located in the center of the north elevation. One wood frame door opening is located on the west elevation. On the south elevation, an unusually wide door is adjacent to an average size door.

Building 8 – Log Cabin

Building 8 is a one-story, one-room (210 ½ square feet), rectangular, log cabin. It is located 8' north of Building 1. The estimated date of construction is pre-1908.

The cabin has a flat roof with 3"- 4" logs running east to west and a larger, central support log running north to south. The roof is clad with non-historic, 1" thick foam/canvas material. No chimney exists. Walls are saddle-notched logs approximately 6" in diameter. The exterior is chinked with mortar, while the interior is chinked with wood. There is no foundation. Milled lumber floor boards (1"x6") run east to west.

The window on the east elevation measures 5' wide and 2'9" tall and was originally a door opening. The window is located 2'6" above ground level, but the frame extends to the ground. The cut in the original log wall is infilled with planking. The existence of this modified large door opening indicates that the cabin may have been originally used as a barn/animal pen or workshop. A door on the south elevation faces Building 1. This opening is framed with 1"x6" milled lumber. No door is present.

Building 9 – Log Cabin/Barn

Building 9 is a 1 ½-story rectangular log cabin. The first story and loft area have a total of 640 square feet. The building is located only 2' to the west of Building 1. The estimated date of construction is pre-1908.

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Continuation Sheet

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 10

The side gable roof of the building is clad with 1"x6" milled lumber covered by wood shingles. There are two, 8" diameter cutouts on the north slope of the roof, but neither contains a stovepipe. One of the holes has been covered by metal flashing. Walls are 8" diameter, saddle-notched logs chinked with mortar on the exterior and wood on the interior. Interior walls are covered with the remains of paperboard fastened by tacks. There is no foundation. Tongue and groove floorboards measure 1"x6" and are positioned over squared log floor joists.

There is one window in the west elevation of the loft area. It is framed with 1"x6" lumber. Door openings exist on each elevation and vary in size (the openings on the east and west elevation have widths of 12' and 13'6", respectively). No doors remain.

The ceiling of the first floor is 1"x6" tongue and groove boards. The loft area's floor is 1"x6" tongue and groove boards held up by 2"x10" floor joists.

Derry Mining Site Camp
Name of Property

Lake/Colorado
County/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.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY

Periods of Significance

1908-1923

Significant Dates

1915

1916

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Derry, Samuel / builder

New York Engineering Company / builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other:

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Section number 9 Page 11

SIGNIFICANCE

The Derry Mining Site Camp is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area Industry. The camp is significant for its relationship to Lake County placer and dredge mining.

Limited placer mining activity occurred on the site as early as 1860, but after Samuel Derry received the Cash Entry Patent for the land in 1878, he engaged primarily in farming and ranching. After his son, Caulaincourt Derry, died in 1908, the property was sold to the Saguache Gold Mining Company. This company engaged in placer mining until a mechanical bucket dredge, or "mountain boat," known as the Derry Ranch Gold Company Dredge was constructed in 1915.

The mechanical bucket dredge was developed in New Zealand to extract gold from large volumes of low-grade gravels. (Voynick) In Colorado's high mountain valleys, the dredge was ideally suited to work over the streambeds and alluvial flats that had successfully produced gold for placer miners over fifty years earlier. Unlike placer mining, dredge mining relied upon organized mining companies to provide the capital and engineering expertise necessary to construct and operate the complicated machinery.

The Derry Dredge was owned and operated along Corske Creek by the New York Engineering Company until 1923. The dredge was relocated to nearby Box Creek and was dismantled in 1926. Sporadic placer mining occurred in the general area of the Derry property until 1952. The Period of Significance for the Derry Mining Site Camp encompasses the most intensive period of mining associated with the property, extending from the purchase by the Saguache Gold Mining Company in 1908 until the cessation of bucket dredge activity in 1923.

Among other examples of dredge mining occurring in Colorado are the circa 1910-1930 operations along the Blue River near Breckenridge in Summit County, where dredge piles remain in evidence along Colorado Highway 9 from Frisco to Breckenridge. Circa 1886, a steam powered dredge reportedly operated on the Swan River near Galena Gulch. In Park County, the Snowstorm Dredge (5PA1253) worked the Snowstorm Placer located between Alma and Fairplay. Assembled in 1941, World War II restrictions forced its shutdown in 1942. It resumed dredging for brief periods during 1947 and 1948. While no associated camp is believed to exist, the Snowstorm Dredge remains relatively intact.

Although the eight contributing buildings on the Derry site suffer from varying degrees of deterioration, they retain sufficient integrity to convey their historic use. While estimated dates of construction for Buildings 1 and 9, predate the period of intensive mining activity, they were utilized as part of the mining camp operations. The six surviving log cabins were specifically constructed by the New York Engineering Company in 1916 to house miners and workers associated with the operation of the dredge. Among the historic features within the contributing site are portions of historic mining related ditches, tailings, and ponds dating from 1915 through 1923.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 12

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

Transition of the Property from Farming/Ranching to Mining

Samuel Derry arrived in the California Gulch from Wisconsin in 1860 with his wife and two children and operated a hotel on Twin Lakes until the mid-1870s. Cash Entry Patents for adjacent acreage located southwest of Leadville were issued to both Samuel Derry and his son, Caulaincourt, in May of 1878. They established their farming operation shortly thereafter.

In 1879, Warren Hussey and General Horatio B. Bearce formed the Hussey Placer Mining Company. The placer claims were located to the west of the Derry Ranch between the headgate to Derry's water supply and the ranch. In 1882, concerned that the debris from the placer activity would interfere with irrigation, Samuel Derry sought a writ of prohibition against any mining activity on the Hussey Placer. Bearce overlooked Derry's opposition and began to survey the area in June of 1884. Samuel Derry accused Bearce and his party of trespassing. A scuffle ensued, and Derry shot Bearce. Later that night, Derry turned himself in to the sheriff. General Bearce died thirty-six hours after the shooting.

Samuel Derry was tried for murder in December 1884. Derry's attorneys argued that he had suffered extreme provocation and therefore was not responsible for his actions. The defense's case was based primarily on the representation of Derry as a "lunatic." Witnesses, including Derry's own wife and children and several medical experts, detailed years of erratic behavior; abuse, and fits of rage. The temporary insanity plea was countered by the prosecution's many eyewitnesses and Derry's own confession. (Griswold & Griswold)

The jury deliberated for only a day, after which they returned a verdict of "not guilty." Despite his acquittal, Derry's reputation was ruined, and he retreated to his ranch where he lived in isolation. It is claimed that Derry built the unusual tower room to serve as a lookout for vigilantes. Samuel Derry died in 1889 from burns sustained from a fall into the fireplace. His son, Caulaincourt, continued to operate the ranch until his death in 1908.

After Caulaincourt Derry's death, the land was sold to the Saguache Gold Mining Company, and placer mining activity resumed. Because gold was the only metal that remained stable in price (\$20.67 per ounce), efforts were made to retrace the steps of the early placer miners. However, it became apparent that the development of a new technology would be necessary to recover enough gold to turn a profit.

In late 1913, the original Derry property and adjacent land was purchased by the New York Engineering Company. For two years, the company shipped components for a mechanical bucket dredge from Yonkers, New York by rail to the ranch. By 1915, the 600 tons of assembled material was ready for operation. (see attached copy of historic photograph) The dredge was powered by electric motors that required 13,000 volts from the Colorado Power Company. The mechanics of the Derry Dredge were explained by Stephen A. Voynick in his book *Leadville: A Miner's Epic*:

The Derry Dredge's...bucket line could dig to a depth of thirty feet, creating a deep cavity

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while imparting a slow forward motion to the dredge itself. Stream diversion or pumping water into the huge hole formed a lake in which the dredge hull floated. The lake would "move" with the dredge as the bucket line dug out a cavity in front then filled it in behind. The tailings – virtually all the material the dredge ingested – were carried out to the rear on seventy-five foot long conveyor chutes and dumped in heaps. The environmental effect of the dredge was disastrous; only a few months of work could actually render topographical maps obsolete.

In its first two months of operation, the dredge recovered 3,500 ounces of gold. The Derry Dredge was able to operate year round thanks to an electric hot air furnace. From 1916 until 1923, the dredge was responsible for all of Lake County's recorded placer gold production.

In 1916, the log cabins located to the north of the Main House were constructed to serve as lodging for the dredge's crew of twenty-five. The majority of these workers were responsible for keeping the dredge operable, as the quartz sand in which the machinery was immersed caused continual damage. The Main House was also utilized as a bunkhouse, dining hall, and offices.

After several years of diminishing returns, the New York Engineering Company sold the dredge to Leadville's Mt. Elbert Gold Dredging Company in 1923. The new owners moved the dredge to Box Creek and continued its operation there until 1926. When the Leadville company could no longer justify the continued operation of the Derry Dredge, it was dismantled and shipped to South America, and a chapter of Lake County's mining history was closed.

The overall significance of the role played in Lake County's history by the Derry property was well-summarized by Bernard Smith, a lifelong resident of Leadville whose father owned the adjacent Parson's Ranch, during an interview when he noted that:

The old Derry Ranch (later Mining Site Camp)...was a homestead. It was a gold mine, a placer mine, a cattle pasture. Men were shot on the place. It's a little microcosm of Colorado and the West.

Subsequent Use of the Property

After a lengthy period of vacancy, the Piers and Alvaretta Paddock family moved into the Main House on the Derry Mining Site Camp as renters in 1935 and raised hay until 1937. They were the building's last inhabitants.

Local residents continued to placer mine in the area until Charles Hallenbeck and Bruce Claybaugh purchased the property in 1935-36. Claybaugh was a graduate of the Colorado School of Mines and the two men had some success with placer mining. During World War II, they hauled and sold gravel to the Climax Mine. Hallenbeck and Claybaugh did not utilize the existing Derry Mining Site Camp buildings.

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Rather, they constructed a camp further south. Of the thirteen-plus structures that originally made up the Hallenbeck Camp (5LK1343), only three remain standing.

In 1948, the Derry Mining Site Camp property was leased by Gold Field Consolidated, a placer mining company from Fairbanks, Alaska. They mined for gold until lack of success caused them to file for bankruptcy in 1951. A sheriff's sale was held in 1952.

In the mid-1950s, the property was purchased by the Moore Holding Company's Twin Arc Estates. They owned the land until it was sold to Lake County in 1998. Lake County purchased the property in order to include it in the Lake County Open Space Initiative (LCOSI). The goals of LCOSI include the acquisition and administration of open space in Lake County through a partnership of federal, state, and local agencies and organizations for the purpose of preserving historic, scenic, cultural, and agricultural resources; protecting critical wildlife habitat; restoring impacted habitats; conserving open space; securing public access; facilitating recreational opportunities; and enhancing smart growth and development in Lake County.

To that end, Lake County, on behalf of LCOSI, applied for and received a Colorado Historical Society Survey and Planning Grant in 1998 (SHF Grant #99-02-053). This National Register nomination is a product of the grant. Other submitted products include Colorado Cultural Resource Survey forms for Hayden Ranch and the Derry and Hallenbeck properties and an engineering analysis. Pending products include a Historic Preservation Master Plan and an Interpretive Plan. Lake County would like to stabilize the buildings associated with the Derry Mining Site Camp and interpret them off-site, perhaps at Hayden Ranch.

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Derry Mining Site Camp
Name of Property

Lake/Colorado
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 8.5 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

(Please note: UTM coordinates were taken with a GPS unit and were differentially corrected based on the 1927 North American Datum.)

1. 13 383840 4331120
Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

(Please Note: The boundaries of the Derry Ranch Historic District are indicated on the accompanying site map.)

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sarah Zaske, Historic Preservation Specialist

organization A-E Design Associates in collaboration w/ Foothill Engineering Consultants date 2/20/00

street & number 526 South College Avenue telephone (970)407-9970

city or town Fort Collins state CO zip code 80524-3002

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

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

Property Owner

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

name Lake County

street & number P.O. Box 964 telephone (719)486-2886

city or town Leadville state CO zip code 80461

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Derry Mining Site Camp
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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is as indicated on the following map.

Boundary Justification

The district boundaries for the Derry Mining Site Camp encompass all the buildings historically associated with mining activity along with several ditches, tailings piles, marshes, and large ponds that were created as a result of the gold dredging activity.

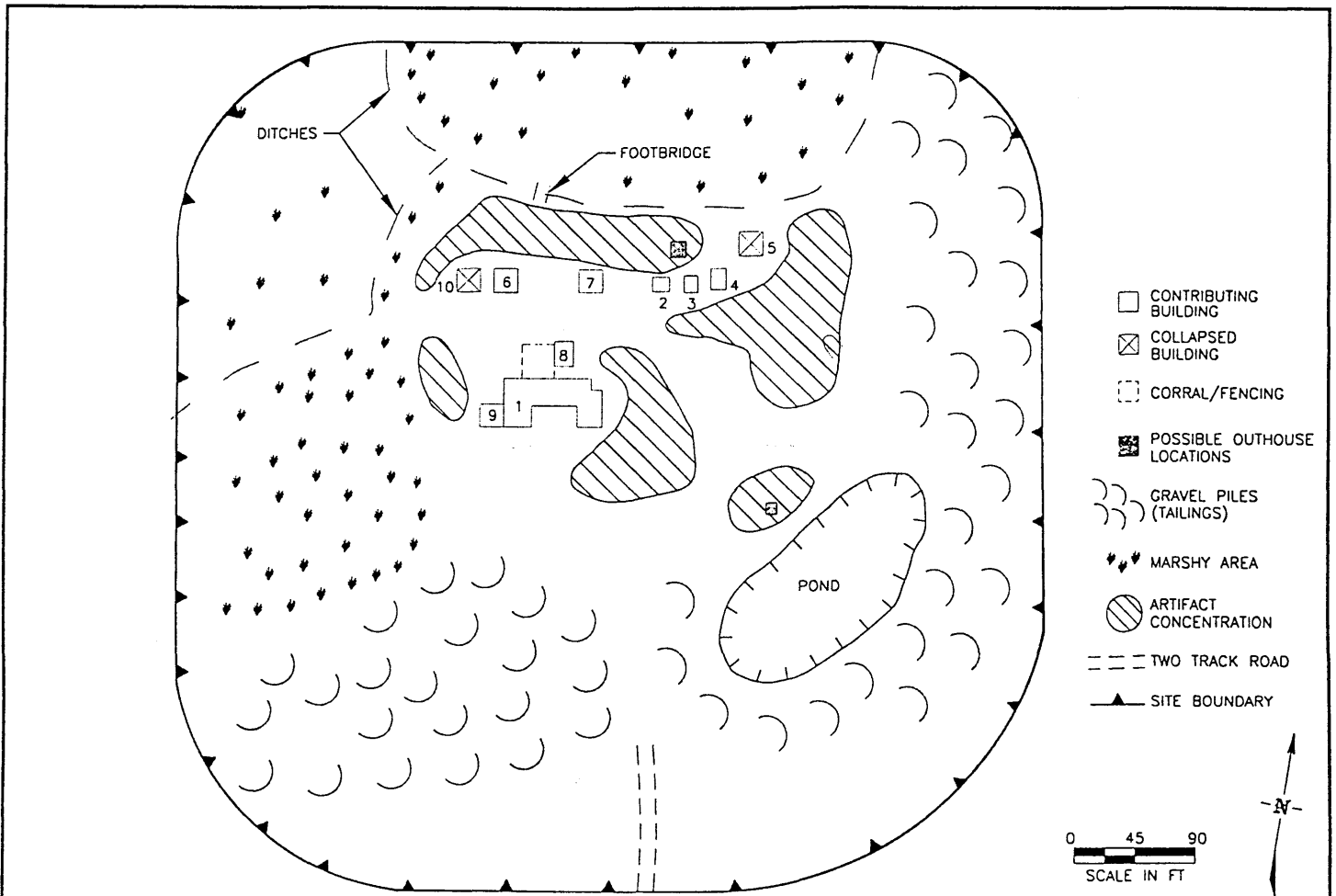
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Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

BOUNDARY MAP



FEC
FOOTHILL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS, INC.

5LK1341 (DERRY MINING SITE CAMP) SITE MAP
REVISED 3-28-2000 PDB
5-30-2000 PDB

DRAWN BY:
JB
DATE:
12-17-99

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PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information applies to photographs 1-11

Name of Property: Derry Mining Site Camp
Name of Photographer: Dave Killam
Date of Photograph: 9/16/99
Location of Original Negatives: Foothill Engineering Consultants, Golden, CO

Photo #1 Description of View: View of overall mining site camp with tailings piles in the distance
Direction of Camera: NW

Photo #2 Description of View: East elevation of Building 1 Direction of Camera: W

Photo #3 Description of View: South elevations of Buildings 1 and 9 Direction of Camera: N

Photo #4 Description of View: North elevation of west end of Building 1 and north elevation of Building 9
Direction of Camera: S

Photo #5 Description of View: North and east elevations of Building 1 and 8 Direction of Camera: SW

Photo #6 Description of View: Interior of Bay Window Area, Building 1 Direction of Camera: E

Photo #7 Description of View: West elevation of Building 8 Direction of Camera: E

Photo #8 Description of View: South elevations of Buildings 2, 3, 4 Direction of Camera: N

Photo #9 Description of View: South and west elevations of Buildings 2, 3, 4 with dredge piles to east
Direction of Camera: NE

Photo #10 Description of View: West elevation of Building 6 Direction of Camera: E

Photo #11 Description of View: South elevation of Building 7 Direction of Camera: N

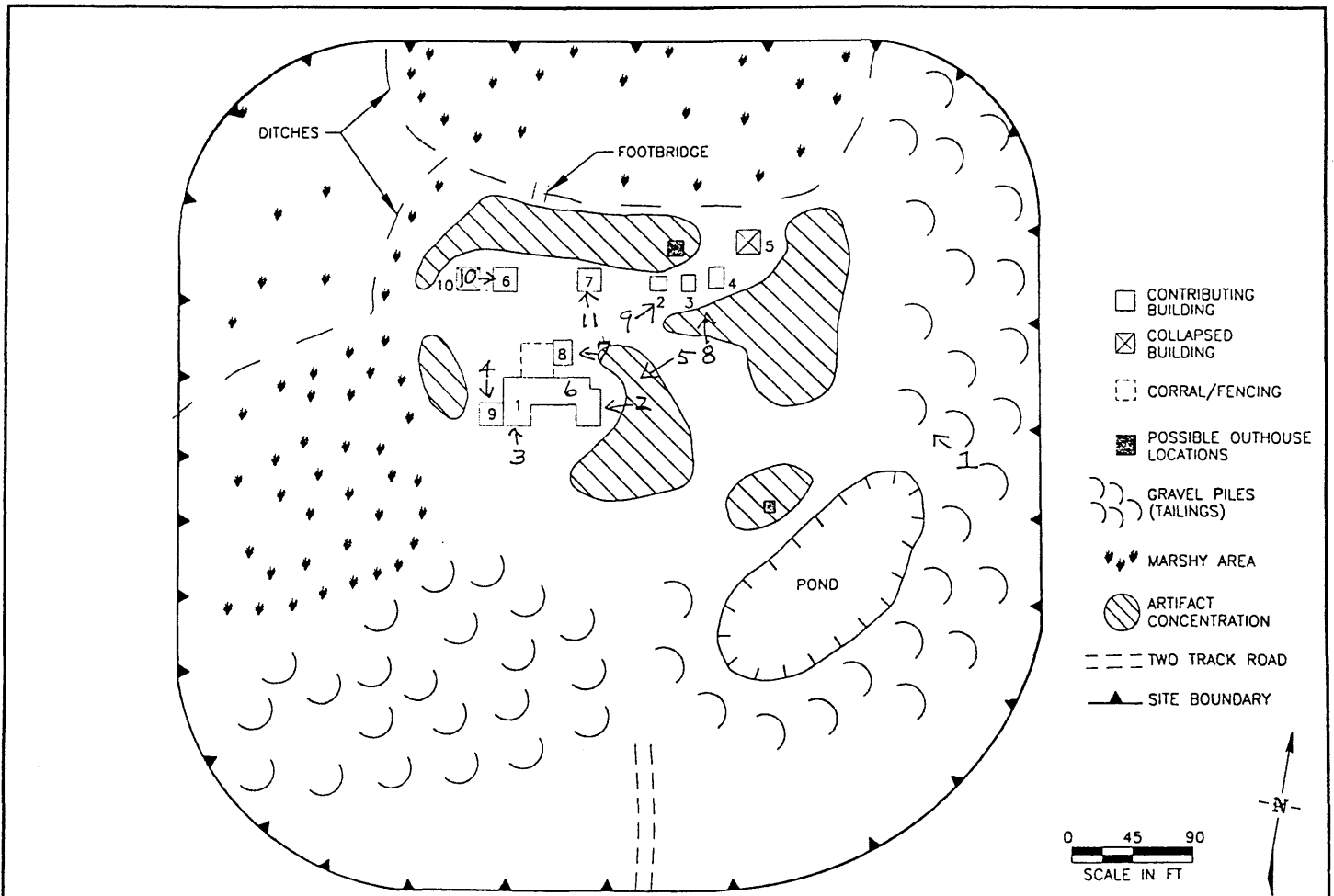
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Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, Colorado

PHOTOGRAPH KEY



FEC
FOOTHILL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS, INC.

5LK1341 (DERRY MINING SITE CAMP) SITE MAP
REVISED 3-28-2000 PDB
5-30-2000 PDB

DRAWN BY:
JB
DATE:
12-17-99

Derry Mining Site Camp
Lake County, CO



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