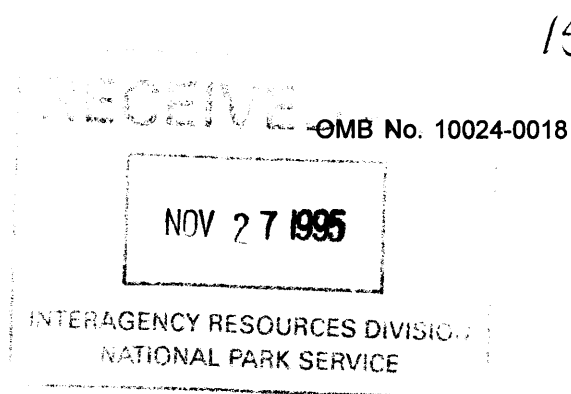


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting 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 Thiede Ranch

other names/site number Gifford Ranch; 5JF995

2. Location

street & number 22258 Shingle Creek Road [X] not for publication

city or town Golden [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Jefferson code 059 zip code 80401

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 [].)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title

State Historic Preservation Officer November 20, 1995
Date

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 [].

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date

Ent... 1.11.96
National Register

Thiede Ranch
Name of Property

Jefferson County, CO
County/State

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>6</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)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY

AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

OTHER: pioneer log

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls WOOD: log

STONE

METAL

roof METAL: tin

ASPHALT

other _____

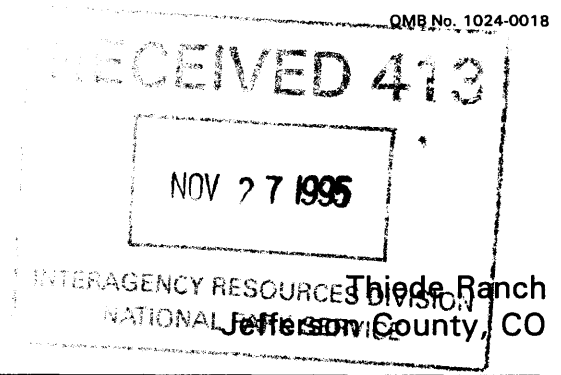
Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1



DESCRIPTION

The Thiede Ranch is located on approximately 123 acres near Shingle Creek in Sawmill Gulch, a valley south of the I-70 corridor in Mount Vernon Canyon and west of Golden, Colorado. Near the property in the 1800s was a sawmill, hence the name, Sawmill Gulch. Stands of pine forest and green pastures surround the ranch complex which consists of a one-and-one-half story house, a barn with shed roofed addition, a wood tool shed, a stone storage shed, and a stone lined well. All of the buildings and structures are associated with the historic cattle ranching activities. The original ranch owners had a chicken house, corral, and root cellar, in addition to a large potato garden by the creek, all of which no longer exist. The rural setting of the log house, barn, and outbuildings in Sawmill Gulch offers a refreshing contrast to the houses being built on one-third acre lots across the road and up on the hillsides.

House, ca.1875

The Thiede Ranch house is a one-and-one-half-story log building in an L-shaped plan with a metal gable roof and a front porch. The house and barn were built shortly after 1875 by Francis T. Gifford who received the homestead deed to the 80 acre Sawmill Gulch property in 1882. Constructed of old spruce logs cut from the property, the house was most likely built with the help of people in the community.

The original house began as a rectangular plan, 29'x 24', front-gabled structure typical of pioneer log construction, a simple design employing local materials. An uncoursed rubble foundation supports the log structure and forms the walls of a partial cellar. The logs are hand-squared on two sides and joined with dovetail notched corners. They are chinked with clay and lime reinforced with horsehair and straw. Through the years the chinking has been repaired as needed. The roof is corrugated metal over the original shake shingles.

The front (west) elevation includes a half-light wood panel door behind a wood screen door. By the late 1920s, a porch had been added to the front running from the left side to the teacherage addition. In 1932, a log, shed-roofed addition of 10'x 12' was constructed on the south end of the west elevation. The addition housed the local teacher from 1932 to 1934. With the addition, the current ground plan is L-shaped measuring 34'x 29'. The logs in the addition display beveled corners joined by spikes. The shed-roofed addition's north elevation contains one wood panel door and a wood frame, four-over-four, double hung sash window. The east elevation contains a single, large, fixed, 45-light window. The shed roof is covered with rolled composite roofing material.

The south elevation of the house contains a wood, six-light door on the first-story and a fixed, wood frame four-light window in the gable. The gable is clad with board and batten siding. The west elevation contains two windows: a wood frame, four-light window on the south end and a four-over-four sash window on the north end. A metal stove-pipe flue rises through the south half of the roof.

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

Thiede Ranch
Jefferson County, CO

The north elevation contains two, evenly spaced, wood frame, four-over-four sash windows with a four-light window in the gable end. The gable end is clad with board and batten siding. A slanted wood panel door at the foundation covers the cellar steps.

Inside, some of the log walls have been whitewashed, while others have been covered with board and painted or wallpapered. On the first floor, the front room is a 12'x 14' living room next to a 11' x 14' bedroom. In the 10'x 22' kitchen is a wood burning stove used for cooking and heating. The house has never had electricity or indoor plumbing. Adjoining this is the 10'x 12' teacher's room. A narrow stairway leads up to two 9'x 22' bedrooms. These dimensions are all inside measurements. Downstairs in the hand-dug cellar there are several rooms with dirt floors and walls that have been covered with boards. On the first and second-stories, the windows, pine flooring, and most of the interior doors are original. The house appears to be structurally sound and quite well preserved.

Privy, ca.1875

The original shed-roofed privy sits southwest of the house. The dovetailed log construction resembles that of the house. A wood panel door provides access on the north elevation. The roof is covered with flat sheet metal.

Barn, ca. 1875

Situated northeast of the house is the rectangular plan, 20'x 24' log barn. The barn was constructed at approximately the same time as the house. The side-gabled building is partially dug into the hill to the west. The logs are saddle notched and covered with corrugated metal siding on the west and east elevations. The roof of the barn is metal sheeting, part corrugated and part flat metal, covering the original rafters and wood shingles. Vertical wood siding covers the gable ends. Access to the barn is provided by a single vertical plank door on the west elevation and a vertical plank hayloft door on the south elevation. A 15'x 18' shed-roofed lean-to was added on the north elevation ca.1910 to accommodate the storage of farm vehicles. The addition is clad with vertical siding and the roof is covered with sheet metal.

The ridge pole is noticeably sagging but the barn appears to be structurally sound and remains in use.

Tool Shed, 1908

To the east of the barn is a small shed built in 1908 as a blacksmith shop, but is now used for tool storage. The shed-roofed structure is clad with vertical wood siding and the roof is of corrugated metal. A single door of vertical siding provides entry on the south elevation and a fixed, eight-light window offers the only natural illumination.

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Section number 7 Page 3

Thiede Ranch
Jefferson County, CO

Well, ca.1875

Between the house and the barn is a 16 foot deep hand-dug well, lined with rocks and built by the original owner. It is still producing water, and in the summer it also serves as a food cooler.

Stone Shed, ca. 1942

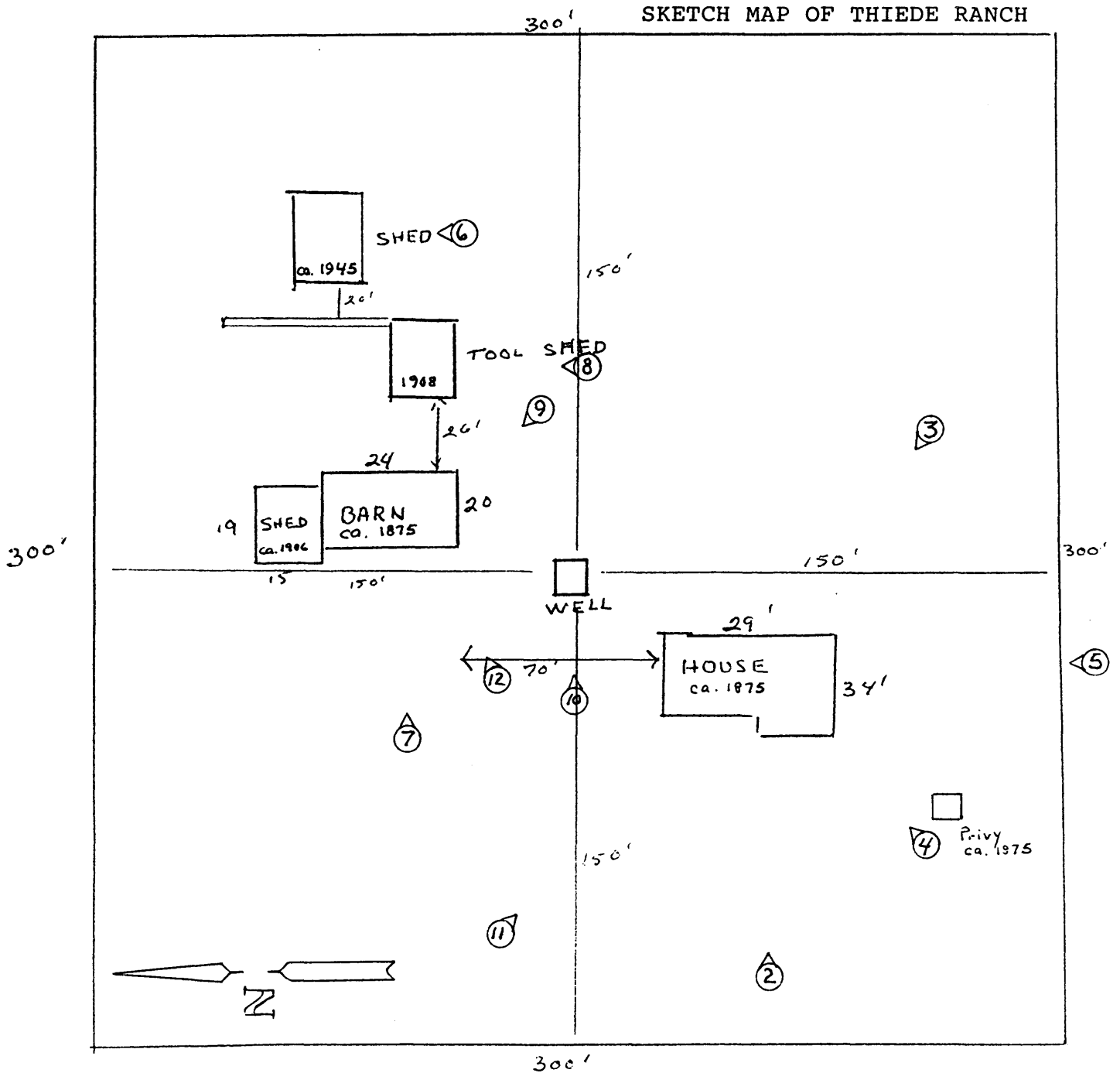
Northeast of the tool shed is a stone shed built in the early 1940s as a chicken house. It is now used for general storage. The rubble, uncoursed stone walls support a flat roof of corrugated sheet metal. A wood, dutch door provides access on the west elevation and is flanked by a boarded window opening. A similar window on the south elevation is also covered by a wood panel.

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Thiede Ranch
Jefferson County, CO



Thiede Ranch
Name of Property

Jefferson County, CO
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)

Exploration and Settlement

Agriculture

Architecture

Periods of Significance

1875 - 1945

Significant Dates

1932

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Gifford, Francis T.

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Thiede House

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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Section number 8 Page 5

Thiede Ranch
Jefferson County, CO

SIGNIFICANCE

The Thiede Ranch is eligible for the National Register under criterion A for its association with the settlement and agricultural development of Mount Vernon Canyon. The ranch is also significant architecturally as the best surviving example of an original Mount Vernon Canyon ranch complex.

Settlement

The Thiede Ranch, located in Sawmill Gulch off I-70, is historically associated with settlement patterns in Mount Vernon Canyon. The canyon area follows the drainage of Mount Vernon Creek from its headwaters near Genesee Park to its exit from the Front Range south of Golden, Colorado. Trails along the creek formed a transportation corridor for those traveling between the eastern plains and the Rocky Mountains to the west. Native Americans first used the route which was later expanded as a toll road to accommodate wagons and eventually became a highway for automobiles. The gradual slope and open vistas made it one of the easier mountain passages as born out by its current use as part of the Interstate Highway system.

The history of the ranch is woven into the 1858 discovery of gold in the Central City area when miners and suppliers traveled up the Denver, Auraria and Colorado Wagon Road in Mount Vernon Canyon. By 1860, homesteaders began settling in and near the canyon, growing potatoes and other crops, and raising livestock to supply their families and the nearby mountain mining towns. By the late 1860s, Mr. and Mrs. Francis T. Gifford bought the New York Ranch, a Mount Vernon Canyon stage stop along the toll road. In 1875, Mr. Gifford filed a homestead application on the 80 acre Sawmill Gulch property one-half mile to the south. This area now falls within the boundaries of the Thiede Ranch. According to Gifford's 1882 homestead testimony, he built the house, barn and other outbuildings shortly after 1875.

Several years after the 1882 granting of the homestead, the property was deeded over to Charles L. Reimbold, Mrs. Gifford's son. Mrs. Gifford and her son were convicted of horse thievery in 1886 for their activities on the New York Ranch. The Sawmill Gulch property was sold to Mrs. H.M. Harmon of New York through her investor brother, H.B. Thalheimer. Mrs. Harmon was one of many easterners who bought Colorado land, speculating on future mining profits. When Congress repealed the Silver Purchase Act in 1893, Mrs. Harmon was unable to sell her Colorado real estate for a profit. Such was the case with the 80 acre Sawmill Gulch property, according to her letters to Henry Thiede. During the twenty years she owned the land, it was leased first to Ebenezer Collins and then to Henry Thiede before his 1906 purchase.

Henry J. Thiede grew up in Mount Vernon Canyon with his mother and siblings. He worked as a miner as a young man, and by the late 1800s he was able to purchase 120 acres adjoining Mrs. Harmon's land. After his marriage to Lila Mitchell in 1905, the couple bought the 80 acre Sawmill Gulch property and settled there permanently with their three children in 1914. All three of the Thiede

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 6

Thiede Ranch
Jefferson County, CO

children grew up on the family place. Stanley Thiede, born in 1909, became the owner after the death of his parents. Other family members have continued to live nearby and through the years all have been a part of the canyon's history. Stanley Thiede has always worked in the canyon, is active in the Grange and community activities and continues to take care of his ranch and small herd of cattle.

Agriculture

During the period from 1875-1945, the canyon and its surrounding hills and valleys functioned largely as a farm and ranch community. Families cultivated hay, raised cattle for beef and milk, and grew a variety of vegetables, especially potatoes. The Thiede family raised cattle and grew potatoes which they marketed in Golden.

Through the years, agricultural activities gradually gave way to land development for summer homes and recreational activities. The construction of Interstate 70 through the canyon provided greater accessibility from Denver and spurred further subdivision of agricultural land for single family housing. The Thiede Ranch is one of two remaining family owned working ranches in Mount Vernon Canyon with the original homestead structures remaining. The other ranch has experienced numerous alterations and additions making the Thiede Ranch the best surviving representative of the agricultural heritage of the canyon area.

Architecture

The Thiede Ranch, with its log house, barn and privy, exhibits the characteristics of pioneer log construction. The hand-hewn logs with dovetailed corners, lime and clay chinking, wood frame multi-light windows, gable roofs with wood shake shingles (now covered), and stone foundations are all characteristics of the type of construction undertaken by early settlers in the area in the late 19th century. Although some alterations and additions have occurred to the Thiede Ranch buildings, they retain sufficient integrity to convey their architectural significance as pioneer log structures. They are also the best surviving examples in the Mount Vernon Canyon area. Through the years, this ranch has remained as it was in the 1800s; without electricity or indoor plumbing. Its rural setting is seen by the community as a special treasure for its association with the history of the canyon.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 & 10 Page 7

Thiede Ranch
Jefferson County, CO

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Brown, Georgia, Shining Mountains, (Gunnison, Colo.: B&B Printers Gunnison, Inc, 1976).

Golden Globe, Court Proceedings, Gifford and Reimbold, 1886.

Homestead Application, Francis T. Gifford, National Archives.

Abstracts and deeds, Thiede family records.

Letters; Harmon and Thiede, 1889-1906.

Thiede, Stanley A., interviewed by Dorothy Reed in October, 1994 at the Thiede home, Jefferson County, Colo.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nomination includes approximately 2.1 acres within the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 20, T4S, 70W of the 6th P.M.. The nomination forms a square 300' on each side centered on the well between the house and the barn. The boundaries begin 150' due north of the well, from there 150' due east, due south 300', due west 300', due north 300', and then due east 150' to the starting point.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nomination includes the buildings and structures on the Thiede Ranch which formed the headquarters complex.

Thiede Ranch
Name of Property

Jefferson County
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.1 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 478700 4393960
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.)

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dorothy L. Reed

organization _____ date March 8, 1995

street & number 21890 Cabrini telephone 970-527-9577

city or town Golden state CO zip code 80401

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 Stanley A. Thiede

street & number 22258 Shingle Creek Road telephone 970-526-2628

city or town Golden state CO zip code 80401

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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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Additional Documentation Page 8

Thiede Ranch
Jefferson County, CO

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photographs numbers 1-12 except as noted:

Name of Property: Thiede Ranch
Location: Golden vicinity, Jefferson County, Colo.
Photographer: Tom Reed
Date of Photographs: March, 1995
Negatives: Photographer

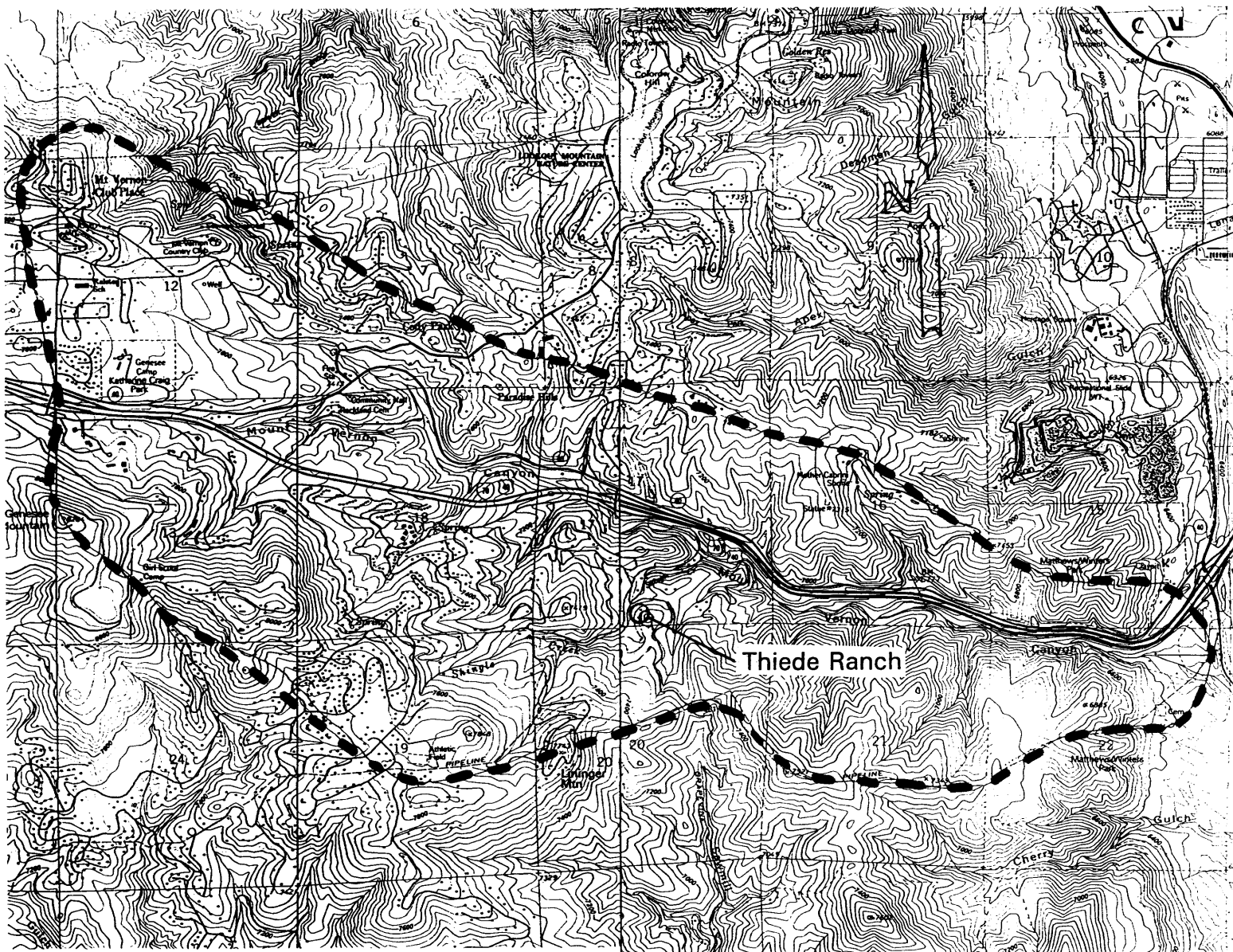
<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Information</u>
1	Photographer: Wayne Gallo Date: 1985 Negatives: Photographer Over all complex, view to the southwest.
2	House, west elevation, view to the east.
3	House, east elevation, view to the northwest.
4	House, west and south elevations, view to the northeast.
5	House, south elevation, view to the north.
6	Stone shed, south elevation, view to the north.
7	Barn, west elevation, view to the east.
8	Tool shed, south elevation, view to the north.
9	Barn, east and south elevation, view to the northwest.
10	Well, view to the east.
11	House, north and west elevations, view to the southeast.
12	Barn, west and south elevations, view to the northeast.

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Continuation Sheet

Thiede Ranch
Jefferson County, CO

Section number Additional Documentation Page 9



..... Approximate boundaries of the Mount Vernon Canyon

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Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 10

Thiede Ranch
Jefferson County, CO

USGS TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP

Morrison, Colo.

7.5 Minute Quad.

1965, Photorevised 1980

