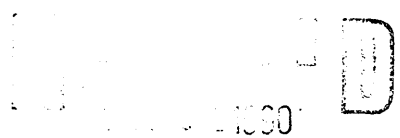


NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 8/86)  
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format  
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**NATIONAL  
REGISTER**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable". For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name: Bergen Park  
other names/site number: 5JF.290

**2. Location**

street & number: Colorado State Highway 74 (NA) not for publication  
city, town: Evergreen (X) vicinity  
state: Colorado code: CO county: Jefferson code: 059 zip code: 80439

**3. Classification**

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
( ) private	( ) building(s)		
(x) public-local	(x) district	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
( ) public-State	( ) site	<u>1</u>	_____ sites
( ) public-Federal	( ) structure	<u>1</u>	_____ structures
	( ) object	<u>1</u>	_____ objects
		<u>5</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Denver Mountain Park System

No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  
( ) See continuation sheet.

Barbara Sudler

9-26-90

Signature of certifying official

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, 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.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official

Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

**5. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

Entered in the  
National Register

() Entered in the National Register.

( ) See continuation sheet

Delores Byers

11/15/90

( ) determined eligible for the National Register. ( ) See continuation sheet

( ) determined not eligible for the National Register.

( ) removed from the National Register.

( ) other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

fu Signature of the Keeper

Date of  
Action

---

**6. Functions or Use**

---

**Historic Functions****(enter categories from instructions)**Recreation and Culture: outdoor  
recreationLandscape: park  

---

**Current Functions****(enter categories from instructions)**Recreation and Culture: outdoor  
recreationLandscape: park  

---

---

**7. Description**

---

**Architectural Classification****(enter categories from instructions)**Other: rustic  

---

---

**Materials****(enter categories from instructions)**foundations concretewalls stone  

---

roof asphaltother   

---

---

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

Bergen Park has been a resting place and roadway juncture for many centuries. The park site was a stage coach stop in the 1860's and 1870's and has always been a strategic intersection which provided travelers with access to the mountain lands to the north, south and west. This location became the juncture park for the Denver Mountain Park System. Other than locational and access importance, the park is an excellent recreational site due to its gentle slopes, well spaced Ponderosa Pines, ample grass areas for play and relaxation, and exceptional views of Mount Evans and other large mountains to the south and west.

Bergen Park, one of the smaller mountain parks, is the starting point for Squaw Pass Road which provides access to the subalpine and alpine lands of Echo Lake, Summit Lake, and Mount Evans. Construction on Squaw Pass Road began by 1918 and bisected the northern portion of Bergen park. The main portion of the park remains intact and no other roads have been put through the park since that early time.

Olmsted, Jr. recommended Bergen Park for purchase as part of the Denver Mountain Park System in his land acquisition plan. The city of Denver acquired the 25.06 acre park in 1915. In that same year the Bergen Park Pavilion, designed by J.J.B. Benedict, was constructed of white quartz with green mortar. By 1918, the city had added a playground, picnic tables, grills and a wellhouse to the park. This was one of the most popular parks in the entire system and is heavily used today. The park still has the original pavilion, wellhouse, and restroom. All are intact and in good condition, however, the well has been capped. These three buildings, together with the Thomas Bergen Monument, make up

(x) See continuation sheet

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number   7   Page   2  

Bergen Park

the four contributing resources. The bronze marker, erected October 14, 1915, is located on a rubble stone monument and designates the location of Bergen's first log cabin and the acquisition of the land as a Denver Mountain Park. There is a modern restroom which is a non-contributing resource. Large Ponderosa Pines grow in the park and picnic sites are available. The playground has been replaced by volleyball and horseshoe areas. The park has changed little since the early days in 1915 except the removal of playground equipment. Changes in the parking policy has been made to protect the park. Originally, cars were allowed anywhere within the park. Later cars were assigned to a designated lot east of Highway 74 and in a small triangle on the eastern edge of the park. This restriction also resulted in a more peaceful park environment.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES: (5)

Site (1)

6. Bergen Park Site

#

Buildings (2)

1. Restroom - pyramidal roof, stone construction
4. Bergen Park Pavilion (1915) constructed of white quartz and green mortar  
Designed by J.J.B. Benedict. Shingle clad hipped roof with log supports  
and a stone chimney

Structure (1)

3. Wellhouse - pyramidal roof, stone construction

Object (1)

2. Thomas Bergen Monument (1915) bronze and rubble stone.

NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES: (1)

Buildings (1)

5. Modern Restroom

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:      ( ) nationally      ( ) statewide      (x) locally

Applicable National Register Criteria      (x) A      ( ) B      (x) C      ( ) D  
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)      ( ) A      ( ) B      ( ) C      ( ) D      ( ) E      ( ) F      ( ) G

**Areas of Significance**

<b>(enter categories from instructions)</b>	<b>Period of Significance</b>	<b>Significant Dates</b>
<u>Entertainment/Recreation</u>	<u>1915 - 1940</u>	<u>1915</u>
<u>Architecture</u>	<u>1915</u>	<u>1915</u>
<u>Landscape Architecture</u>	<u>1915</u>	<u>1915</u>
<u>Conservation</u>	<u>1915 - 1940</u>	<u>1915</u>
<u>Community Planning and Development</u>	<u>1915 - 1940</u>	<u>1915</u>

**Cultural Affiliation****Significant Person**N/A**Architect/Builder**Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.Olmsted BrothersJ. J. B. Benedict**State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.**

Bergen Park meets criteria A for its historic significance to Community Planning and Development, Entertainment/Recreation and Conservation and C for the architectural significance of its buildings and Landscape Architecture. The park meets the registration requirements as they are defined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form for the Denver Mountain Parks. It is an important juncture point in the Denver Mountain Park System. The park, in the middle of the system, is a small parcel of land which is part of a big grassy valley surrounded by spruce and pine. This park is the central stopping place along the original circle loop scenic drive. Several roads converge here to guide travelers to the north, south, east or west including the famous Squaw Pass Road, which provided access to Mount Evans, one of the highest mountain roads in the nation.

This park has significance to landscape architecture, entertainment/recreation and community planning, along with the rest of the mountain parks, as it was recommended for purchase in Olmsted Jr.'s Plan and represents all of Olmsted's requirements for land parcels to be purchased as Denver Mountain Parks:

- Bergen Park is easily accessible by automobile.
- Bergen Park has gently sloping lands which provide excellent areas for peaceful and relaxing mountain recreation and has well spaced evergreens which provide natural shade and comfort during the summer months.
- Bergen Park provides exceptional views to Mt. Evans and other mountains to the west and south.

(x ) See continuation sheet

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Bergen Park

Thomas Cunningham Bergen saw the land which was to become Bergen Park when travelling west at the end of the nineteenth century and thought it was the most beautiful place he had ever seen. At the time, it was home to Cheyenne/Arapahoe Indians and wild game. The park and adjacent valley was called Elk Park by government surveyors and scouts. Thomas Bergen homesteaded the parcel, changed the name to Bergen Park and established a way station and stagecoach stop at the present Bergen Mountain Park site. The importance of the early toll roads waned with the arrival of the railroads, which bypassed Bergen Park to the north and south.

This mountain park demonstrates the importance of a juncture park within the park system. The park has significance for Entertainment and Recreation and Conservation as it provides recreational users with a clearly designated point where they can either turn around or continue in several directions to experience other portions of the system which include the steep mountain and tundra lands of the alpine slopes as well as the broad mountain valleys and steep stream canyons of the montane zones.

Bergen Park is significant for architecture due to the intact park buildings, designed by prominent Denver architect, J.J.B. Benedict and for landscaping because the park is a vital part of the Denver Mountain Park and Parkways system. It is also significant in the area of Entertainment and Recreation for its contributions as a Denver Mountain Park.

The period of significant for architecture marks when the first building was started. The significant date for landscape is 1915, the year Bergen Park became a mountain park. This date also marks the beginning of the period of significance for entertainment and recreation; the end date of 1940 is arbitrary which reflects the fifty year age criteria set by the National Register.

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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(x) See continuation sheet

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify Repository:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreeage of property:** 25.06

**UTM References**

A	<u>1 3</u>	<u>4 6 8 8 4 0 </u>	<u>4 3 9 3 3 2 0 </u>	B	<u>1 3</u>	<u>4 6 9 2 4 0 </u>	<u>4 3 9 3 3 2 0 </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1 3</u>	<u>4 6 9 2 4 0 </u>	<u>4 3 9 3 1 2 0 </u>	D	<u>1 3</u>	<u>4 6 8 8 5 0 </u>	<u>4 3 9 3 1 2 0 </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

(x) See continuation sheet

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The N 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 20, T4S, R71W. That part of the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 20, T4S, R71W, lying Southeasterly of the Bergen Park Squaw Mountain Road. See USGS Quad Map.

( ) See Continuation sheet

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**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries encompass all the lands owned by the City and County of Denver called Bergen Park.

( ) See continuation sheet

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: Ann Moss, Landscape Architect

Organization: Shapins/Moss, Inc.

Street & Number: 1702 Mariposa Avenue

City or Town: Boulder

Date: October 3, 1988

Telephone: (303)449-8450

State: CO Zip Code: 80302

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Bergen Park

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Bergen Park

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Bergen Park

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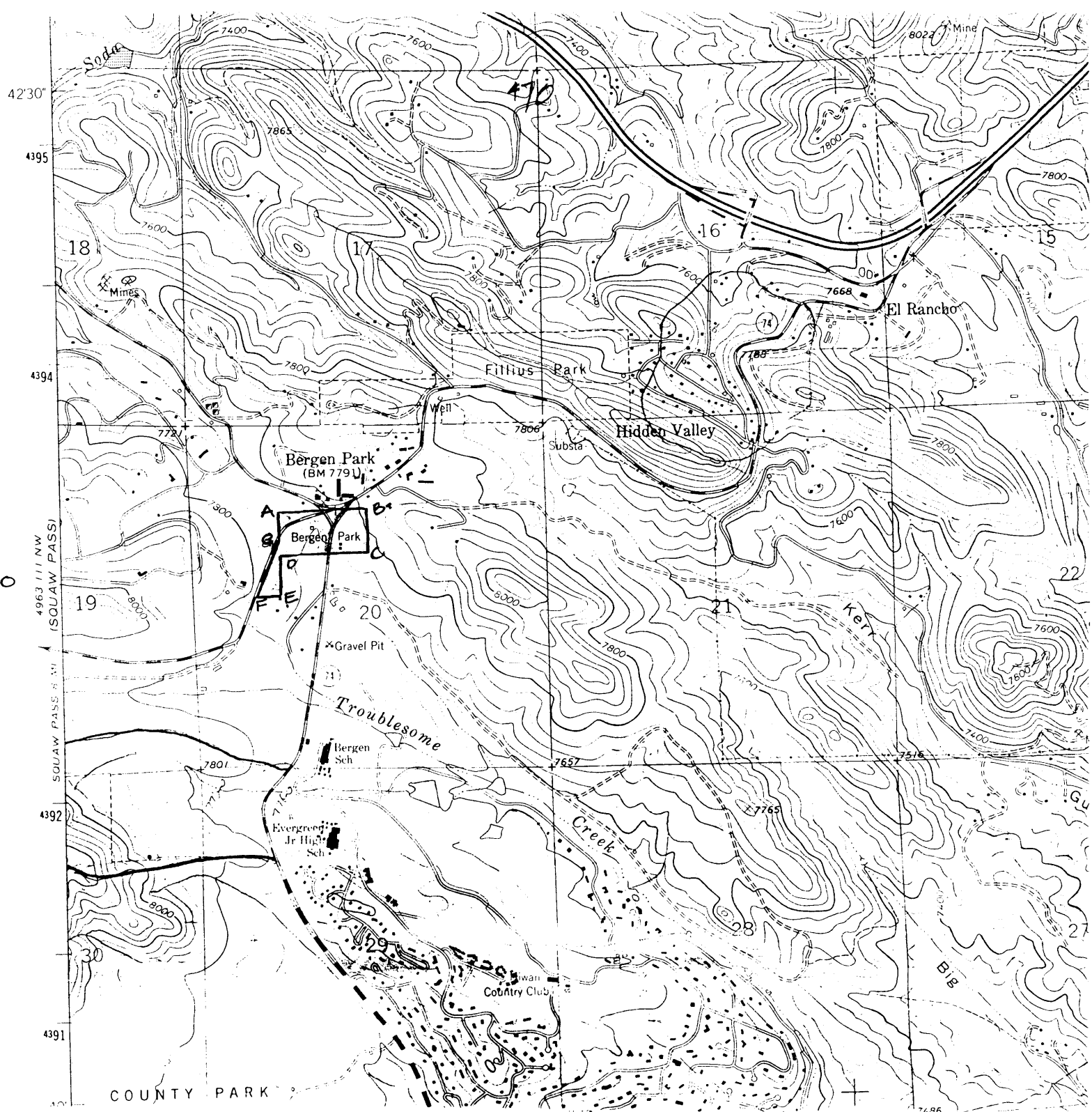
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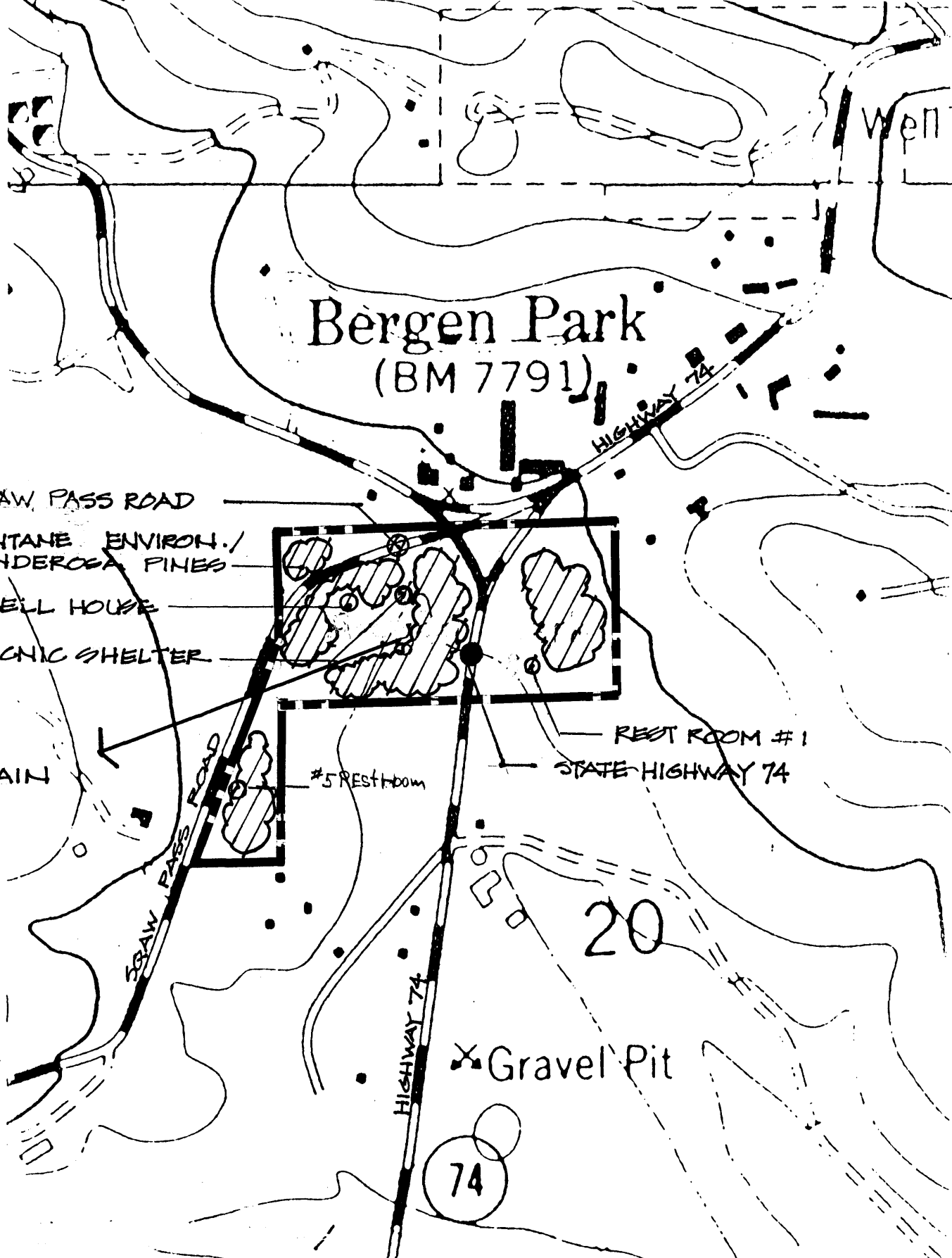
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Boundary Map  
U.S.G.S. Quad  
Evergreen, CO

Scale: 1:24 000

Map 3 of 3





# Bergen Park (BM 7791)

SAW PASS ROAD

MONTANE ENVIRON./  
PONDEROSA PINES

# 3 WELL HOUSE

# 4 PICNIC SHELTER

GOOD  
MOUNTAIN  
VIEWS

SAW PASS ROAD

#5 REST ROOM

REST ROOM #1  
STATE HIGHWAY 74

20

Gravel Pit

74

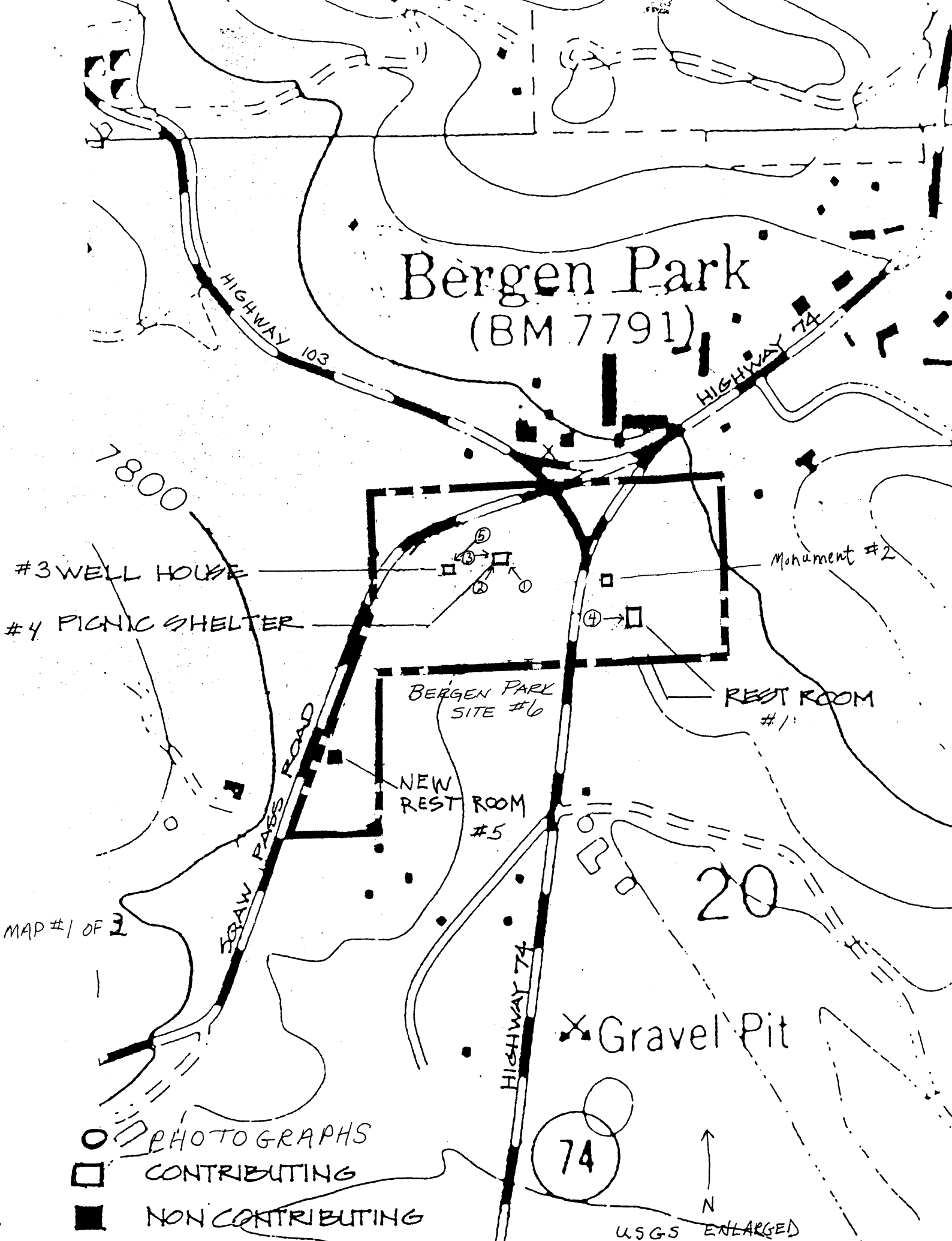
MAP #2 OF 2

## Natural Features and Views BERGEN PARK DISTRICT



USGS ENLARGED

# Bergen Park (BM 7791)



#3 WELL HOUSE

#4 PICNIC SHELTER

MAP #1 OF 3

BRAW PASS ROAD

BERGEN PARK SITE #6

NEW REST ROOM #5

REST ROOM #1

Monument #2

X Gravel Pit

20

HIGHWAY 74

HIGHWAY 103

HIGHWAY 74

- PHOTOGRAPHS
- CONTRIBUTING
- NON CONTRIBUTING



USGS ENLARGED

74

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section number photo Page 1

Bergen Park

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The following information will be the same for all photographs within the Bergen Park District:

Name of Property: Bergen Park District  
Location: Jefferson County, Colorado. Nearest town, Bergen Park, Colorado  
Photographer: Ann Moss  
Date of Photograph: September, 1988  
Location of Original Negative: City and County of Denver

- Photo 1 Picnic shelter, looking northwest.  
2 Picnic shelter, looking northeast.  
3 Picnic shelter, looking east.  
4 Bergen Park outhouse, looking east.  
5 Wellhouse and natural environment, looking west.