

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 46A). 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 Daniels Park

other names/site number Florence Martin Ranch; Riley Hill; Wild Cat Point; 5DA1009

2. Location

street & number Along Douglas County Road #67 [n/a] not for publication

city or town Sedalia [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Douglas code 035 zip code 80135

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] State Historic Preservation Officer May 17, 1995 Date

State Historic Preservation Office
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 Edson H. Beall Date 6/30/95
Entered in the National Register

Daniels Park
Name of Property

Douglas/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>10</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>22</u>	<u>3</u>	Total

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

Denver Mountain Parks

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation: Outdoor Recreation
Landscape: Park

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation: Outdoor Recreation
Landscape: Park

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Rustic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Stone and Wood: shingle/weatherboard
roof Asphalt
other Silo: ceramic tile
Cisterns: concrete and stone

Narrative Description

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

Daniels Park
Name of Property

Douglas/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)

Community Planning and Development

Entertainment/Recreation

Conservation

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

Periods of Significance

1920 - 1944

Significant Dates

1920

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Benedict, Jules Jacques Benoit

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other:

Name of repository:

Denver Parks and Recreation
Denver Public Library

Daniels Park
Name of Property

Douglas/CO
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 962.51

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. Zone 13 Easting 505 040 Northing 4371 260

2. Zone 13 Easting 506 630 Northing 4371 260

3. Zone 13 Easting 506 620 Northing 4370 460

4. Zone 13 Easting 507 430 Northing 4370 450

[X] 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 Maureen Van Norden

organization Denver Parks and Recreation date 10/15/94

street & number 2300 15th Street telephone (303) 964-2544

city or town Denver state Colorado zip code 80202-1139

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 Denver Parks and Recreation

street & number 2300 15th Street telephone (303) 964-2544

city or town Denver state Colorado zip code 80202-1139

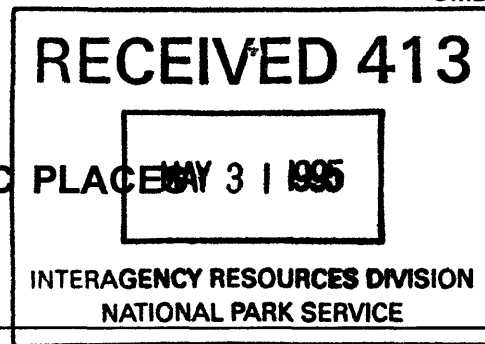
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Number 7 Page 1



DANIELS PARK **DOUGLAS/CO**
Name of Property County/State

Narrative Description

Located south of the City and County of Denver at the top of Riley Hill, Daniels Park was originally a working ranch. The park is unique in that it provides panoramic views of the entire front range. Looking west one can peruse a spectacular view of the eastern foothills, the front range of the Rocky Mountains, the Platte River Valley and Plum Creek. Facing south Castle Rock and Pikes Peak are readily visible. Gazing to the north a magnificent view of Denver's skyline can be observed backed by Long's Peak. Facing east the great plains expand to the horizon.

The site contains a variety of topography. There is a wide expanse of open and rolling pastureland, several areas of trees and an abundance of rock outcroppings scattered throughout.

There are four clusters of buildings located within the park. The buildings in the first three clusters are typical of early twentieth century rural architecture. The Cluster 4 area was the first segment of Daniels Park donated by Florence Martin in 1920. The picnic shelter, designed by J.J.B. Benedict was constructed in the early twenties. The other clusters, finally donated in 1937 served as a ranch and summer home for Ms. Martin from 1920 until it's donation in 1937.

All were located to utilize the natural terrain and the outcroppings, thus blending into the environment. The clusters include:

- Cluster 1: Ranch manager's house area.
- Cluster 2: Ranch foreman's house area.
- Cluster 3: Florence Martin house site ruins.
- Cluster 4: Daniel's Park picnic shelter area.

Cluster 1

Contributing Buildings:

Contributing buildings in Cluster 1 include the ranch manager's house, the barn, the chicken house and shed. The manager's house is a two story, wood frame dwelling, with a gable roof, a stone foundation and square cut wood shingle siding. The house is built into the side of the ravine creating a walk-out basement on the west side. There is a second floor porch with a wood railing and a gabled roof supported by slender columns. A 1960's cinder block addition was put onto the west side of the building.

The large two story chicken house, located south of the ranch house near the bottom of the ravine, measures 18 x 24 feet. It has a high stone foundation, a row of windows on the first floor, a central door and is faced with lap siding.

The large barn, originally used for hay storage and dairy cattle, has a gambrel roof of green asphalt shingles with gable-end returns. A projecting gable peak to shelter the second story hay loft door. The roof has a break at the top of the wall for a unique gutter system that drained water to down spouts at the corners and into two open cisterns of stone and concrete west of the barn. The building, faced in tongue-and-groove wood siding, has a rubble foundation and evenly spaced, wood frame windows with six panes. The central entry door has a shed roof supported by large knee braces and is flanked with three windows on each side. On the west end there is an attached shed roof entry. A square cupola with a hipped roof and louvered sides sits on the ridge in the center of the roof.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 2

DANIELS PARK	DOUGLAS/CO
Name of Property	County/State

Contributing buildings, con't.

A wooden shed used for storage stands adjacent to the silo. Originally built in two sections, one approximately 12' x 12', the other 12' x 20'. As evidenced by the roof line, the 12' x 20' section has been added to produce a large 12' x 40' storage area.

Contributing Structures:

The silo is located next to the southwest corner of the barn. It is constructed of red clay tile and is approximately fourteen feet in diameter.

This cluster also contains the major components of the elaborate water system for the site. The spring house is located uphill from the residence. It serves as the source of water for the three cisterns (A, B, and C). Cistern A also collected water from barn run off. The spring house served as the first pump house for the property. It supplied water to the water storage and pump house in Cluster 2. The cisterns are constructed of rubble and concrete.

In the mid 1930's a well was dug and a pump house was constructed across county road 67 to supplement the original water system. The structure is rectangular, approximately 20' x 15', and of wood frame construction. A removable, rectangular addition was added to the roof to create a shaft and provide access for installation and service of the pump and well components. The water was piped to the spring house, with the pump powered originally by a Ford Model A engine.

Cluster 2

Cluster 2 building consist of the ranch foreman's house, a bunk house, a chicken coop, a workshop, a small horse barn and a residence outhouse. In addition, a water storage building/pump house is identified as contributing structures.

Contributing Buildings:

The ranch foreman's house is a wood-framed house with a rock foundation and a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles, and exposed rafters under the eaves. The rectangular structure measures for 48' x 24' and currently serves as the park caretaker's residence.

The bunkhouse is of frame construction and approximately 48 x 16 feet. It contains two interior areas at either end, separated by what was an exterior work area which has now been enclosed.

The chicken coop is located near the ranch foreman's house and is of frame construction and approximately 6' x 8'.

The small horse barn is approximately 12' x 12', and of frame construction with a rubble foundation. It has been used intermittently as a second chicken coop.

The two story workshop is of frame construction and is approximately 30' x 40' with an asphalt roof and rubble foundation.

The rectangular resident's outhouse is located a few feet northeast of the bunk house and is approximately 3' x 3' of frame construction.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 3

DANIELS PARK	DOUGLAS/CO
Name of Property	County/State

Contributing Structure:

This unusual form of the water storage building features battered walls with wood siding and a rubble stone foundation. It is larger in diameter at the base than at the roof. There is a central wood paneled entry door flanked by windows with six lights. A shed roof supported by rafters projects out over the windows and door. This storage area received water from the spring house located in Cluster 1.

Cluster 3

Cluster 3 contains one structure and two building ruins which are contributing sites. This cluster was the Florence Martin house site.

Contributing Structure:

The picnic pavilion (also known as the gazebo) is located directly to the west of the Martin home site, on a ridge which provides a breathtaking view of the front range from Pike's Peak to Long's Peak and beyond. The octagonal pavilion has a wood frame, partially open sides, and a conical roof. Sitting on a high foundation, the low exterior wall is clad in square shingles.

The remains of the main house consists of the rock and concrete foundations. Directly to the east, fragments of the formal garden are evident from the rock walls and terraced beds.

The outbuilding ruins were a root cellar of front frame construction and an asphalt covered roof. The remaining three sides were dug into the ground and supported by a concrete foundation.

Cluster 4

Cluster 4 contains a shelter house, two outhouses, and the Kit Carson Memorial. The entire picnic area was built on a ridge to exploit the grand views of the front range. In addition to the shelter there are several concrete picnic tables built in the late 1940's. Rock outcroppings and scrub oak abound throughout the area and isolate the picnic areas from one another, providing a sense of solitude.

Contributing Building:

The large rectangular stone shelter house faces west to capture the magnificent views of the rocky Mountains. Built on a concrete foundation, the shelter contains a fireplace, two small windows and five large openings.

Non-Contributing Object:

The Kit Carson Memorial constructed of granite stands at the south end of the park, where the ailing pioneer was reputed to have made his last campfire. The monument was placed at the site in 1923 by The Territorial Daughters. While historically significant, it is listed as a non-contributing object because of the specific emphasis and areas of significance chosen for this nomination.

Non-Contributing Buildings:

Two public outhouses exist in this cluster. One, circa 1950, built of cinder block with a sheet metal roof is located at the southeast end of the park. The other, approximately two hundred feet north of the shelter was constructed in 1993 of wood siding with a passive solar ventilation system.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 4

DANIELS PARK	DOUGLAS/CO
Name of Property	County/State

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES (22)

Site (3): Daniels Park, Florence Martin House Ruins, Root Cellar Ruins.

Buildings (10): Ranch Manager's House, Ranch Foreman's House, Bunk House, Barn, Workshop, Chicken Coop, Shed, Small Horse Barn, Residential Outhouse and a Chicken House.

Structures (9): Picnic Pavilion, Silo, Water Storage, Cisterns A,B,C, Pumphouse, Spring House, Shelter House.

NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES (3)

Buildings (2): 2 Public Outhouses

Object (1): Kit Carson -Historic Marker

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Section Number 8 Page 5

DANIELS PARK
Name of Property

DOUGLAS/CO
County/State

Narrative Statement of Significance

Daniels Park meets criterion A for its historic significance to Entertainment and Recreation, Conservation, and Community Planning and Development. It also meets criterion C for Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The park meets the registration requirements for parks as defined in the Denver Mountain Parks Multiple Property Submission.

The spaciousness of the park provides a wide range of recreational uses in addition to comfortable and pleasant rest areas within the Mountain Park System. The park is easily accessible to beautiful rolling slopes, meadowlands and dry shrub ecosystems. Located in a prairie zone, it is a popular picnic site with grand views of the Rocky Mountains in the distance. Elk and buffalo graze over hundreds of acres in a preserve in the park and are dedicated to Conservation. The buffalo were brought from the Mountain Park's Genesee Park herd which originated from Yellowstone National Park. They were part of an effort to save endangered species at the turn of the century.

It is significant to Community Development and Planning in that it was approved by the Denver Mountain Parks Commission in 1919 as an extension of the ideals of city planning into regional planning south of the city. Their goal was to establish the mountain parks playground we enjoy today. The site preserves a vast area of open space and provides magnificent vistas.

The shelter was designed by J. J. B. Benedict and is an excellent example of rustic architecture. It reflects the superb craftsmanship and sensitive design apparent in many of his structures throughout the Denver Mountain Parks System which included using native materials in proper scale and assimilating the structure with the environment. Much thought was included in providing recreational opportunities while protecting the visual quality of the area.

The Florence Martin Ranch is a fine example of an early 20th century Colorado ranch. The craftsman style elements in the design of the buildings reflect the 1920's period in rural architecture. The ranch buildings convey the history of the ranch and are good examples of the building types found throughout the state during that period. They incorporate the natural terrain and rock outcroppings into their foundations. They all have similar constructions methods and materials such as native stone rubble foundations, tongue and groove or shingle siding and most have exposed rafter under the eaves.

The park is significant to Landscape Architecture. The structures were carefully situated to take advantage of the natural terrain and rock outcroppings which reinforces the unique sense of place of the area. The placement of the buildings not only demonstrate how the buildings functioned in a ranch complex, but also how the buildings were situated to conform to the rocky topography in the area.

In 1919, the Denver Manager of Improvements and Parks and the Denver Mountain Park Advisory Board planned to open the region south of the city. They considered a proposition to acquire prairie land at Wild Cat point. The original 37.99 acre tract was donated to the City and County of Denver by Charles McAllister Wilcox and Miss Florence Martin in 1920. In 1922, the city built fireplaces, picnic tables and the stone shelter on the site. In 1937, following the fire that destroyed her summer home, Miss Martin donated another 962.76 acres of land that contained the remaining ranch buildings. Of this total one thousand acre donation, 962.51 was to become Daniels Park. (The remaining acreage consists of a right-of-way to U.S. Highway 85, still owned by Mountain Parks, but not considered part of Daniels Park proper. The park was named Daniels Park in memory of Major William Cook Daniels and his wife Cicely.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 6

DANIELS PARK
Name of Property

DOUGLAS/CO
County/State

Over time the area was known as Wild Cat Point, Happy Canyon and Riley Hill and was used by various outlaws as a place to rendezvous. It was also the meeting place of the early stage coach and emigrant trails. Kit Carson was identified with the area and it has been said that he used it as his last camping spot. It is believed that in 1868 Carson, sick and dying, made a stop at the site to rest. Soon after he left the area he died. In 1923 a monument was erected in memory of Carson's last campsite by the Territorial Daughters.

The park authorities planned for the park to be primarily a view park for visitors to enjoy the magnificent color effects during the sunrise and sunset hours. Although the park is considered to be in the prairie zone, it is at an elevation that is about 200 feet lower than the summit of Lookout Mountain, offering an unsurpassed view of the front range of the Continental Divide.

The City and County of Denver's Parks and Recreation Department through its Mountain Parks Division has developed the park into popular recreational grounds for the benefit of tourists and residents of Denver, Douglas and surrounding counties. The park is a wonderful place to admire exquisite sunsets, the magnificent plains, valleys and mountains. Thousands have made use of the shelter house and picnic grounds.

The period of significance is arbitrarily ended at 1944 to meet the National Register's age criteria.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 7

DANIELS PARK
Name of Property

DOUGLAS/CO
County/State

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Newspapers and Magazines

Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, June 1919.

Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, September/October 1922.

Denver, City and County of Denver Municipal Facts, June/July 1923.

Collections

Denver, City and County of: Parks and Recreation Department. Denver Mountain Parks Map Collection.

Denver, City and County of: Parks and Recreation Department. Historic Collection.

Denver Landmark Designation Proposal. Prepared by Barbara Norgren, March 1994.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 8

<u>DANIELS PARK</u>	<u>DOUGLAS/CO</u>
<u>Name of Property</u>	<u>County/State</u>

U.T.M.'s

E. 13 507 400 4368 880

F. 13 506 610 4368 860

G. 13 506 610 4369 640

H. 13 505 000 4369 640

Verbal Boundary Description

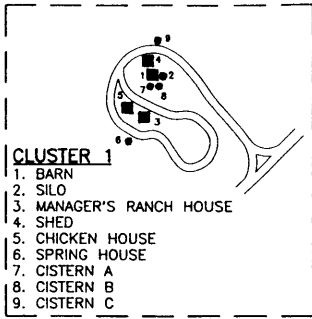
Boundary line is indicated on the U. S. G. S. map.

Boundary Justification

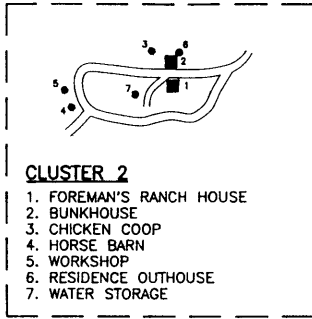
The boundaries encompass all the lands owned by the City and County of Denver called Daniels Park.

DANIELS PARK

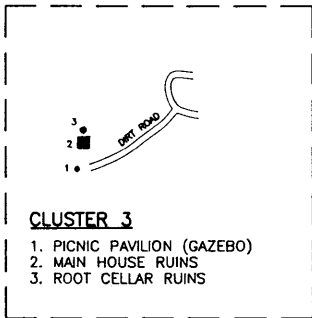
LOCATED IN SECTION 31, AND THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 32, T 6 S, R 67 W, AND ALSO IN THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 5, T 7 S, R 67 W, ALL IN THE 6TH P.M., COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, STATE OF COLORADO.



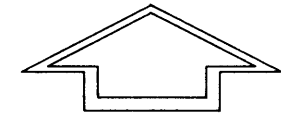
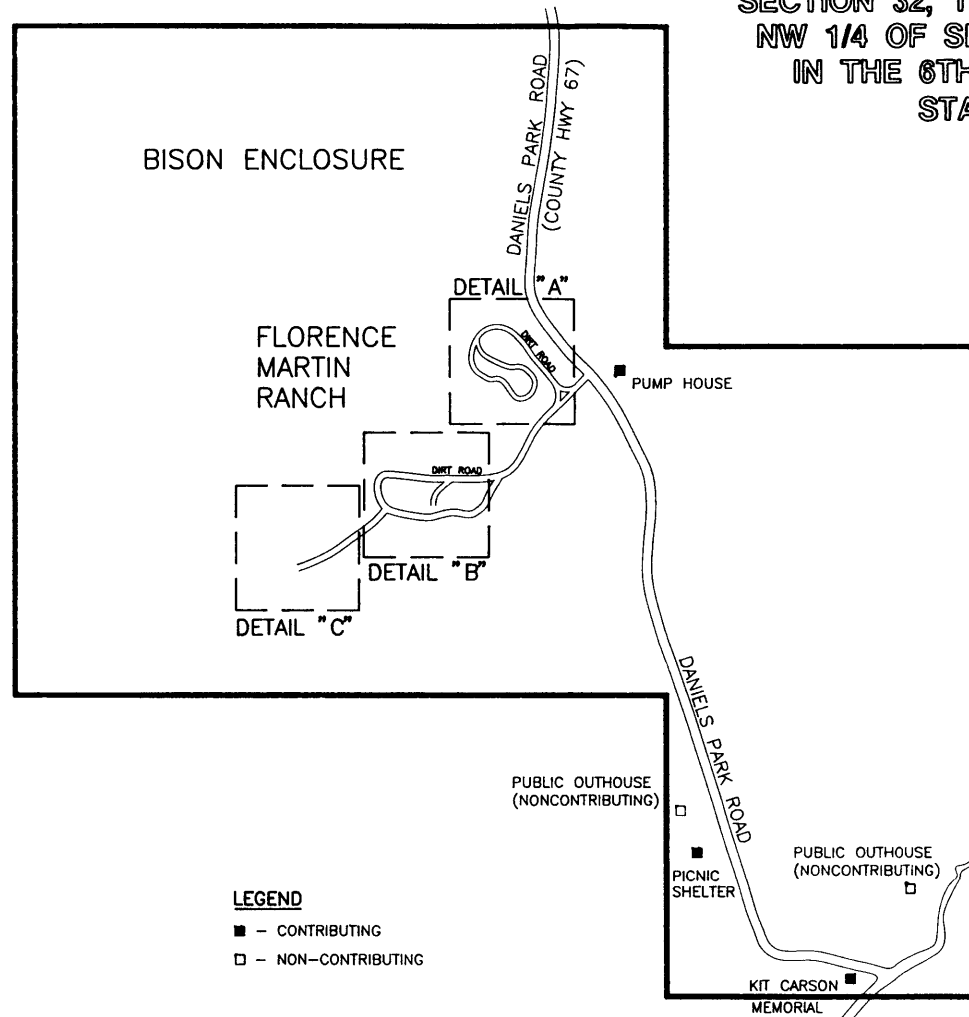
DETAIL "A"



DETAIL "B"



DETAIL "C"



NORTH

SCALE: 1" = 1000'

DWG. NO. 9410-05
 DATE: DECEMBER 6, 1994
 DRAWN BY: GREGORY S. NEITZKE PLS

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number ____ Page 9

DANIELS PARK
Name of Property

DOUGLAS/CO
County/State

PHOTO LOG

The following information is the same for all photographs:

1. Name of Property: Daniels Park.
2. Location: Douglas County, Colorado.
3. Photographers: Maureen Van Norden, Chuck Whigham.
4. Date of Photographs: 1994
5. Location of original negatives: City and County of Denver, Denver Parks and Recreation Department.

Photo # Description

1. Barn and Silo facing East.
2. Manager's Ranch House facing East.
3. Shed.
4. Chicken House facing North.
5. Spring House facing South.
6. Cistern A and B facing East.
7. Cistern C facing West.
8. Ranch Foreman's House facing Southeast.
9. Bunk House facing Southwest.
10. Chicken Coop facing Southwest.
11. Horse Barn facing East.
12. Workshop.
13. Residence Outhouse facing East.
14. Water Storage Building facing East.
15. Picnic Pavilion facing East.
16. House Ruins.
17. Root Cellar.
18. Shelter House facing East.
19. Non-contributing Outhouse circa 1950 facing North.
20. Non-contributing Outhouse circa 1992 facing East.
21. Pump House facing West.
22. Kit Carson Memorial at South end of Park.