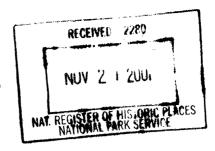
NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions 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 any 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 Flat Creek Ranch	
other names/site number	
2. Location	
street & number not for publication vicinity _x stateWyoming code _WY county _Teton_code _039 zip code _83001	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that 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 for 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property	orth in
State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation s for additional comments.)	heet
Signature of commenting or other official Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau	

4. National/Park Service Certifica	tion				
I, hereby certify that this property entered in the National Regi See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National	is: Office ster of the ster of	ion A		12	-131/01
	re of Keeper	Date of Action			
5. Classification					
Ownership of Property (Check as _x_ private public-local public-State public-Federal	many boxes a	s apply)			
Category of Property (Check only _x_ building(s) district site structure object	one box)				
Number of Resources within Prop	perty				
Contributing Noncontribution 9	gs				
Number of contributing resources Register _ 0	previously lis	sted in the Natio	nal		
Name of related multiple property	/ listing (Enter	· "N/A" if prope	rty is not part of a m	ultiple prop	perty listing.)

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: _ Camp / Seasonal Residence_ Sub:
Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: _Guest Ranch Sub:
7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundationpressure-treated wood (CCA preservative)_/ stone roofasphalt shingles wallslog, board and batten other

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

SUMMARY

The Flat Creek Ranch is located approximately twelve miles east and north of the town of Jackson, Wyoming, at the southern base of Sheep Mountain, also known as the Sleeping Indian because of its appearance from the west. Its altitude of approximately 7500 feet positions the ranch noticeably higher than the town of Jackson, which is located on Flat Creek on the floor of Jackson Hole at 6200 feet. The ascent to the ranch is gained only by a difficult road and a commitment of will. The road enters the ranch from the north, following along the east side of Flat Creek.

While Cal Carrington had homesteaded and built structures at the Flat Creek Ranch, the current buildings date from the 1923 construction when Eleanor "Cissy" Patterson (at the time Countess Gizycka) took ownership of the property and developed it as a private retreat. The buildings of the ranch include nine contributing features and four non-contributing structures. The access road separates two rows of residential cabins loosely clustered together, while a lodge building is located across the stream to the west of the main complex and the barn is approximately one third mile south of the other buildings on the access road.

re continuation sheets.	
Statement of Significance	
pplicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property fational Register listing)	or
_xA Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our story.	
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 e work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose emponents lack individual distinction. D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.	
riteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)	
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	
B removed from its original location.	
C a birthplace or a 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.	
reas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) Settlement	

Period of Significance1923-1951
Significant Dates1923, 1924
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
Cultural Affiliation
Architect/BuilderCharles Fox
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
The Flat Creek Ranch is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A because of its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, and in particular because its origins and development reflect the contours of settlement and social development of Jackson Hole. Indeed, by following the history of the Flat Creek Ranch, the various contexts of local development—early settlement, dude ranching, the emergence of hobby ranches and retreats by outside owners—take a concrete form. The ranch formed a representative and key determining element in transforming Jackson Hole from an isolated ranching valley to a haven for outsiders, especially for the nation's elite seeking remote sanctuary.
See continuation sheets.
9. Major Bibliographical References
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)
Previous documentation on file (NPS)
Primary Location of Additional Data State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency

x Federal agency
x Local government _x_ University
_x_Other
Name of repository: _Jackson Hole Historical Society, University of Wyoming American Heritage Center, National
Archives
10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property _ less than ten acres
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
1 12 536869E 4819436N 3 12 537218E 4819107N
2 12 536826E 4819354N 4 See continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)
The historic property is defined with reference to three points, the first being the main complex of buildings included in a boundary that runs 200 feet on either side of the access road from an arbitrary point on the access road 100 yards north of Feature 1 to an arbitrary point on the access road100 yards south of Feature 8, and this complex is identified by UTM reference point 1 above. The second is the lodge building (Feature 7) which is separated from the main complex by the stream; this point is identified by UTM reference point 2 above. The third is the barn (Feature 13) which is separated from the main complex by a distance of .34 miles; this point is identified by UTM reference point 3 above. Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)
of the patterns of traffic and access associated with their usage. Note: while USGS printed maps still indicate that Feature 7 is located on land owned by the U.S. Forest Service, the legal record reflects a land exchange between the government and private owners, assuring that Feature 7 is entirely on privately owned land.
11. Form Prepared By
name/title Michael Cassity
organization _ Michael Cassity Historical Research and Photography
date_September 3, 2001
street & number_ 1865 South 106 th East Avenue
telephone_918 / 622-1901
city or town Tulsa state_ Oklahoma zip code _ 74128

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 the SHPO or FPO.) name _Joseph Albright	-
street & numberP. O. Box 9760telephone_307 / 733-0603	
city or townJacksonstate_WY zip code _83002	

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Flat Creek Ranch

Teton County, Wyoming

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The buildings of the Flat Creek Ranch are in each instance original, dating from construction in the early 1920s, except that some alterations were made as indicated in the individual descriptions four years after the end of the period of historic significance (1951). All buildings are log except for the barn, which is board and batten. The buildings sometimes use two identifiable patterns of coping at the corners, a feature which readily, but discreetly, distinguishes the additions. While the original log corners were prepared in a conventional saddle notching, with crowns sawed straight, the protruding logs were shaped carefully so that they were no longer round, but were flattened on top and bottom, thus presenting an almost rectangular appearance. In the 1955 additions, the corners have the same coping except the logs are left round. That small difference means that the additions have not compromised the integrity of the structures' appearance.

The buildings deteriorated in the years since the historic period and a major effort by the current owners has restored them to their original appearance except that the additions have been retained. Also, foundations have been added to the buildings. The original buildings were designed and constructed with the regionally acclaimed skill and craftsmanship of Charles Fox, although the structures simply used logs for foundations, a feature that made them susceptible to deterioration (especially on the uphill sides). In the restoration of 1998-2001, the buildings were lifted and placed on new foundations of chemically treated (CCA preservative) pressed wood, and the foundations often covered with native rock. Logs were cleaned thoroughly, chinking replaced, and occasional deteriorated logs replaced exactly. Windows throughout the ranch are original or identical replacements with much of the original glass intact. Roofs are asphalt shingles. External chinking is cement, but some interior chinking is quarter-round posts and some is even triangular milled lumber, in each instance consistent with original materials and design.

Feature 1: Cabin A (also known as Cal's Cabin)

The building, constructed in 1923, is the first cabin that one encounters upon approaching the complex. It is a T-shaped structure, the original portion being a linear two-cell structure parallel to the road with entrances at either end. The building has a gable roof that intersects at midpoint with another gable that extends west, above the bathroom. The original structure measures approximately 26 feet on the east elevation and 13 feet on the north elevation with a north-south gable. The bathroom addition on the west is approximately 9 feet square. A simple wooden deck with log posts and rails extends beyond the building on the north and is integrated unobtrusively into the design of the building. Horizontally sliding six-light windows are centered in each of the two sections on the east elevation and in each part of the west elevation. The addition has identical windows on the west and south elevations. The entrance beneath the south gable is an eight-light French door that opens onto a stoop, a design that is repeated on the opposite (north) end. The door and window surrounds are milled wood planks. All three gables include five exposed log purlins.

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Feature 2: Cabin B (also known as Judge's Cabin)

This cabin, directly south of Feature 1, very much resembles the first cabin in that it also is a T-shaped structure with a north-south gable intersected by a west gable that covers a bathroom addition. It measures 28 feet on its east elevation and 15 feet on the north, with the bathroom a ten foot square. The primary entrance to the cabin, however, is centered in the south portion of the east elevation, instead of under a gable. A six-light horizontally sliding window is centered in the north portion of that elevation, the two sections separated by protruding log crowns from the interior wall. The north elevation contains another entrance in the standard configuration—an eight-light French door centered under the gable, with plain wood surround—that opens onto a stoop. Another six-light horizontally sliding window dominates the west elevation of this wing of the cabin, and the adjoining wall—the north elevation of the bathroom addition—contains no fenestration. The same window configuration that is used elsewhere is also centered under the west gable, again with the five exposed log purlins. The south elevation of that addition includes, again, the same kind of window, and the adjacent wall (the west elevation of the original 1923 structure) includes a third entrance. This entrance, although using the standard eight-light French door, is flanked on its left by a vertical, full-length, multiple-panel sidelight, a feature that is not original but which pairs naturally with the door. That entrance opens onto a deck with log posts and rails that fills the otherwise vacant corner created by internal walls.

Feature 3: Bath House

This building, the third in the line of buildings on the west side of the access road, is a simple rectangular structure with no modern additions. It measures approximately twenty feet on its east elevation and 15 feet on the north elevation. The asphalt-shingled gable roof extends north and south. The entrance on the south elevation is the same door that is featured in the other buildings, centered under the gable, and opens onto a plain wooden stoop that extends the length of the elevation. The east elevation is interrupted only by a horizontal six-light casement window at midpoint. The same window design flanks both sides of the entrance under the north gable. Since the roof extends beyond the elevation to cover the wooden porch, four log posts support a crossbar that, in turn, supports each of the seven log purlins. The west elevation includes two windows, one a six-light horizontal casement window at midpoint, and south of it a somewhat larger vertical eight-light window.

Feature 4: Outhouse (non-contributing)

Despite its origins as an outhouse and its obvious inclusion in the original construction program for the ranch, this four by six foot building is non-contributing because it has been moved from its original location north of Feature 8 and, more significantly, has been altered to house the central power generating unit for the ranch. Solar collection panels on the south elevation enlarge the structure and cover electrical storage/generating equipment.

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Flat Creek Ranch

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Feature 5: Cabin C (also known as Josephine's Cabin)

This building, the last and southernmost in the row of cabins on the west side of the access road, is a rectangular log structure measuring approximately thirty feet on its east elevation and approximately fifteen feet on the north. The ridge of the roof extends north-south and the roof is supported by seven purlins, exposed in the gables at either end. The main entrance is centered under the south gable and is flanked by two fifteen-light horizontal windows. An uncovered porch extends the full length of the elevation with waist-high log posts and rails on its perimeter. The east elevation consists of two sections, one eighteen feet on the south and the other twelve feet on the north, each with horizontal sliding, paired six-light vertical window panels. The same kind of window punctuates the center of the north elevation. The west elevation is distinguished by a porch that extends about eight feet on the north end and by a shed-roof that slopes westward at a gradual angle from the main roof to cover the porch. This feature, unique among the buildings at Flat Creek Ranch, conforms to the general original design as indicated in one of only several historic photographs documenting the appearance of the structures. That photograph, made by Jackie Martin, Art Director at Patterson's Washington *Times-Herald* newspaper, likely dates from the 1930s.

Feature 6: Pump House / Sauna (non-contributing)

Located on the west bank of Flat Creek, opposite Feature 5, the sauna is of modern construction and is non-contributing. Its design with gable roof and log materials, however, conforms to the general appearance of the historic buildings at the ranch and the building does not, thereby, compromise the integrity of the other structures.

Feature 7: Lodge

The lodge building, the famous "living room" that Cissy Patterson ordered constructed in 1922 and 1923, is a general U-shape log structure positioned on a high point overlooking the meadow, stream, and lake. The east elevation measures approximately 31 feet and is symmetrical with two sets of paired vertical ten-light windows that slide horizontally, flanking the entrance. The eave of the north-south gabled roof rises above the elevation and the roof extends beyond the south elevation about eleven feet to cover completely a porch on that side. The south elevation measures approximately 65 feet and is divided by interior wall log crowns into four sections corresponding to the rooms inside, the easternmost segment covered by the projecting gabled roof. Three windows dominate this section, a large single-light stationary window flanked by double-hung six-light windows. An east-west gabled roof intersects the east wing's gabled roof so that the remaining three sections of the south elevation are under its eaves, without porch or deck. Each section includes windows that together are asymmetrical: the double-hung windows of the easternmost section being repeated in the segment immediately west (and the pair separated by a short portion of the log wall), the next western segment including similar windows located higher on the elevation and not separated from each other, and the westernmost section including only a single, horizontally sliding six-light window. The west elevation consists of two sections, one under the gable. This elevation includes a single six-light double-hung window centered in the elevation beneath the gable. Immediately west of this section, a room

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was added of board and batten construction in 1955. In the recent restoration, that addition, which had weathered not nearly so well as the log structure, was replaced with one that copied it. While this small portion of the lodge therefore may lack historical integrity, it does not disqualify the larger structure. Because of its general appearance—natural wood tones that correspond to those of the adjacent log elevations and given that one other contributing feature of the Flat Creek Ranch (the barn) is also of board and batten construction—and given its subordinate role in the building and its location at the point of the building (forming one arm of the U shape) farthest from the other buildings on the ranch, so that it is generally obscured by the rest of the building on one side and by trees on the other side, this addition has not been determined to compromise the integrity of the structure. Indeed, the builder attempted to tie the addition into the rest of the structure not only with a continuous roof (a gabled roof that intersects the eastwest gable along the south), but even used log purlins as roof supports, which extend beyond the north elevation of this section of the building. On the north elevation this board and batten section joins the original structure to form an open courtyard. The north elevation is therefore recessed from the two projecting wings of the building, and that elevation includes two entrances. The westernmost entrance is flanked on its left by a horizontal six-light sliding window, and, farther to the east, another entrance, located in the center of that section, has the same windows on each side. The wall joining this elevation on the east, making the third portion of the building partially enclosing the courtyard, projects approximately fourteen feet beyond that elevation and includes no windows. The eaves of that roof extend to cover a wooden walkway and are supported by log posts on the outside edge of the walk. The roof also extends beyond the north elevation to contribute to the impression of mass in that section. Five log posts support the roof overhang by bracing a horizontal log from which additional logs rise to support each purlin. Moreover, an imposing stone chimney that projects from the elevation further anchors the building and bisects the ridge of the gable. While the original chimney was made of brick, the replacement of the deteriorated-brick chimney with native stone does not impact the building adversely as would the replacement of native stone with brick. The combination of its size, its design, its materials, its chimney, and its location makes the lodge an especially prominent feature of the Flat Creek Ranch.

Feature 8: Cabin D (also known as Cissy's Cabin)

This building, located high above and east of the creek and opposite the lodge, and set back and east from the access road, is a rectangular log building with gable roof along its north-south axis. The main entrance to the building is in the south elevation, which thereby faces the meadow and lake beyond. The south elevation measures approximately 30 feet and includes a porch that extends nine feet and is covered by the projecting gabled roof. The roof is supported, as elsewhere on Flat Creek Ranch, by six log posts, two of which support the outside purlins and the remaining four support a cross beam that in turn supports the other seven purlins. A set of rails connects the posts to each other and to the building on the perimeter of the porch. The south elevation with two entrances each flanked by large horizontal fifteen-light windows, has almost a duplex appearance, and that is a clue to the origins of the building. Originally two separate cabins, they were joined, side-by-side, to form one much larger structure. (It may be that one of the cabins was Cal's original cabin, but documentation does not exist to demonstrate that conclusively; at any rate, all parts of the structure bear the distinct markings—as in the coping—of the Charles Fox construction program of 1922-1923.) While the two cabins had separate gables parallel to each other, at the time they

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were joined a new roof was applied which completely covered the valley between the two cabin roofs with a new, single, higher gable. This gave the south elevation (and the north, too) a false front. During the recent restoration, the old ceiling—and also the old roofs forming an internal valley—was removed and the interior opened up. Because it had historically possessed a false front in the gable, the exterior appearance was not altered in the process. The east elevation measures approximately 33 feet and is bisected by log crowns to form two distinct sections corresponding to interior rooms. Each section is broken only by large horizontally-sliding, vertical six-light windows in its center. Likewise, the north elevation is also divided into two sections with similar matching windows in their centers. Wooden shingles cover the gable above the north elevation, a feature which exactly mirrors the south gable. Finally, the west elevation duplicates the east, broken only by the same fenestration. Because of its size and its commanding view, this structure represents probably the anchor of the entire set of buildings at Flat Creek Ranch.

Feature 9: Cabin E (also known as Girls' Cabin)

This is a rectangular log structure with a gable roof on its east-west axis located east of and facing the access road. The west elevation, under the gable, measures approximately 16 feet and includes an entrance that opens onto a porch covered by an extending roof. The roof is supported, as with other buildings at the ranch, by log posts and a horizontal log that in turn supports each of the three inside purlins with a vertical brace and the two outside purlins directly. Each side of the entrance, which is centered, vertical six-light windows that slide horizontally, give the elevation a perfect symmetry. The south elevation is segmented by protruding log crowns, and each section contains the same kind of windows as on the west elevation, centered. Likewise, that same fenestration is the only distinguishing feature on the elevation beneath the east gable. The north elevation matches the south except, importantly, that the window in the east section is replaced by another entrance of simple design.

Feature 10: Caretaker Cabin, (Non-contributing)

The date of construction of this building is unknown; although one document indicates a construction date of 1935, that document provides no source for the statement. Thus the building could have been constructed in 1935 or much later. Because of that uncertainty and because of its comparatively modern design the building is designated as non-contributing. Set back from the road and also set back behind the historic cabins, and dark brown in its coloration, it does not impinge on the integrity of the historic features.

Feature 11: Cabin F (also known as Boys' Cabin)

This structure is a T-shaped log building that is located east of the road and north of Feature 9. It is the first building left (east) of the road when entering the complex of buildings and is almost directly opposite the road from Feature 2. The west elevation, facing the road, measures approximately 13 feet, and includes a gable, overhanging roof supported by logs anchored to the porch, and entrance and windows that match the design of Feature 9. The south elevation measures approximately 15 feet before it intersects a wing

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extending to the south. A pair of vertical six-light, horizontally sliding windows is centered in the south elevation, and a six-light casement window is centered in the west elevation of the south wing. A six-light window is centered in the south elevation, under the gable, of this wing of the building, which amounts to a ten foot square. The east elevation of this wing includes no windows or entrances. An extended, gabled roof over a porch at the east end of the north elevation gives the structure an apparent T-shape, although the elevation is actually a continuous plane. The porch, approximately 11 feet square, provides the illusion of an additional room, and includes a six-light casement window to the left (east) of the entrance. The support structure for the roof is slighter than that on other buildings with two corner log posts and only three purlins; moreover, diagonal corner braces from the log posts support the horizontal cross bar on this feature. Although this porch and roof were added in the recent work, the design is integrated into the pattern of construction of this building and others such that it does not detract from the building's visual integrity. Another set of six-light horizontally-sliding windows is centered in the west section of the north elevation.

Feature 12: Maintenance Building (non-contributing)

This building of modern construction is located beyond the main complex of ranch buildings to the east of the access road as it continues south. Because the building is not visible except from a point directly in front of it at the road, because it is dark brown and blends into the environment, this non-contributing building does not compromise the integrity of the rest of the ranch structures.

Feature 13: Barn

Cissy Patterson, in her 1923 instructions to Rose Crabtree to give Charles Fox, was clear about her intention for a barn: "I want a barn painted red." And that is what she got. The red barn is located at the end of the access road, approximately one-third mile from Feature 8. The board and batten building is rectangular in shape and measures approximately 36 feet along its north elevation. A gable roof over its main section extends on a north-south axis and a shed roof slopes at a more gradual angle to the west. A seven foot sliding door provides the main entrance to the barn on east side of the north elevation and a smaller single door gives access to the shed portion on the west side of that elevation. Both doors are of board and batten construction and blend with the siding. At the top of the north elevation the roof ridge extends forward to a peak in the manner of barns with hoists for the loading of hay into an upper level; in this case, though, there is no upper level opening. The west elevation measures approximately 40 feet and includes a row of five evenly spaced windows, each of which closes with board, and batten hinged panels. The south elevation of the barn includes only a single entrance on the extreme west side, the board and batten door being divided horizontally so that the upper or lower part can be opened or closed separately. The east elevation contains two windows, similar to those on the west elevation, but somewhat larger, also closing with board and batten panels.

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Flat Creek Ranch

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The white settlement of Jackson Hole came late, with homesteads appearing in the land records and in the valley only in the 1880s and 1890s. The population remained small, with concentrations here and there in the southern end of the valley and the town of Jackson itself did not emerge until the turn of the century. At first the economy was almost exclusively ranching and in the second decade of the twentieth century the only indication of change in this was the establishment of a few ranches that catered more to bringing in dudes than to raising cattle—sometimes despite the original intentions of their owners otherwise—as the JY Ranch and then the Bar BC Ranch and then the White Grass Ranch on the west side of the Snake River brought in handfuls of well-to-do people for adventure and relaxation. These were a far cry from modern tourists, and roads into the valley were primitive and the accommodations were equal to the roads. Yet the rusticity of the area in a modernizing nation even increased its value to outsiders, and the dude ranches, and their direct progeny, ranches and retreats individually-owned by former dude ranch guests, began to multiply.

The location of Flat Creek Ranch, about a dozen miles east of Jackson, Wyoming, high in the Gros Ventre Mountains, is a remote valley, difficult to reach, and offering the natural shelter of a steep canyon. Flat Creek itself is flat only in the bottoms of Jackson Hole where it enters the Snake River. In the high country it is a swift, cascading stream. The combination of fresh water, seclusion, topographically-channeled access, and natural barriers made it ideal as a location for illicit activities, and so appears to have been its earliest use by white people. Outlaws of various sorts frequented Jackson Hole, some of them reaching notoriety in fiction by Owen Wister who wrote of horse thieves taking their newly acquired mobile plunder into a box canyon in the mountains where they could corral them and distribute them to other points without the interference of authorities. Indeed, on the flats north of the town of Jackson, the town's future financial and civic leader Robert Miller is reputed to have acquired his homestead from a group of horse thieves in the 1890s. With the settlement of the floor of the valley, such illegal activity was being pushed to the more remote canyons of the area. Aside from the fact that the location of Flat Creek Ranch—in one of those remote canyons—is ideal for such activity, the man who built its first dwelling sometimes spoke of his own background as a horsethief, whether as a boast or in contrition. That man was Cal Carrington.

Cal Carrington's origins and background remain hazy, both despite and because of multiple stories. Carrington himself seems to have told different stories at different times in his life to different audiences. Felicia Gizycka, a woman who much later became close to Cal Carrington, and whose ashes are interred by his side in the Jackson cemetery, proclaimed once that she had learned "Cal's true story" from friends and relatives she had met. She related that Carrington was born the son of Swedish parents, a shoemaker father and a mother who converted to the Church of Jesus Christ, Latter-day Saints, and who yielded their son to missionaries traveling to Utah. Indeed, Carrington appears to have offered a similar account to other people, but sometimes with less detail. Struthers Burt, a dude ranch owner in Jackson Hole for whom Carrington worked, recalled that "Cal doesn't know who his parents were. He remembers being an orphan in an Arizona cow camp. How he got there he doesn't know. When he was about eight he was adopted by a couple who had a small ranch in Idaho. His foster father was a hard man, so Cal bided his time, and when he was 16 he licked his foster father and ran away." In the only document in which Carrington

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Flat Creek Ranch

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himself identified his origins—his testimony as a homestead claimant in 1922—Carrington said that he was born in England. Moreover, in an interview in 1958, Carrington dutifully answered many of the questions, but when asked about his origins prior to entering the Cache Valley in Idaho, he responded bluntly: "That's none of your business." Even his name is in question. He appears to have been born Enoch Julin, but opted for other names, Cal after a cowboy named California whom he respected, and Carrington, according to Struthers Burt, after "an Englishman who had befriended him." And he preferred to pronounce Enoch as "Eunuch" until Burt pointed out to him the dictionary definition.

He does appear to have worked in Arizona, California, and Idaho, arriving in the Driggs area and homesteading there in 1907. And he soon moved into Jackson Hole for at least a portion of the year, or, as he said, "I went over to Jackson the next year and kind of snooped around and got in on squatters rights." Later, he testified that he took up such squatters' rights on Flat Creek in 1901. It may be that he stole horses and took them to his Flat Creek property. Felicia Gizycka recalled that "He had homesteaded there to hide stolen horses, for the canyon is narrow, and as he said, 'I could see the sheriff a'comin' either way'." Whether this was accurate autobiography, which it may have been, or whether this was a tale that he told to impress greenhorns and dudes from the East, of course, cannot be determined with any certainty. As early as 1905 Cal Carrington was on the payroll of the federal government as either an Assistant Forest Ranger or Forest Ranger, a position he could have held either side of the Tetons. This position of gainful employment by the federal government is a step that Carrington neglected in his tales. In most accounts Carrington suddenly switched from stealing horses to guiding dudes, or, as he told Felicia Gizycka, he quit his life as a horse thief: "I come into Jackson Hole in the spring and joined Burt's outfit, because I decided it was time to get respectable and go into dudin'." It is certainly true, on the other hand, that Struthers Burt hired Carrington as his first foreman (probably in 1912 when he and Horace Carneross started the Bar BC) and that when Burt promptly shifted the focus of his ranch to entertaining dudes from the East, Carrington became "head guide in charge of pack outfits." Burt recalled of Carrington:

Cal was my first foreman on a ranch which I had homesteaded and desert-claimed. Later it became a dude ranch, and Cal was made head guide in charge of pack outfits. Both as foreman and guide he nursed me, a young fellow, with infinite gentleness and patience, instructing me in the ways of ranch, livestock, and the hills, although I had already worked on various ranches throughout the West and was by no means a tenderfoot.

The enigma of Mr. Cal Carrington, whether deriving from his sometime-effort to conceal his past or from his sometime-effort to glamorize his past, remains considerable and casts a shadow obscuring the specifics regarding the earliest emergence of a Flat Creek Ranch.

It is, however, nonetheless clear that sometime between 1901 and 1918 Cal Carrington had constructed at least one cabin at the ranch, and possibly more. On October 23, 24, and 25, 1918, the Forest Service surveyed the piece of land that Cal Carrington had claimed. The blueprint accompanying the survey corresponds exactly to the property lines on the modern map, and significantly shows one cabin on the property and that cabin is located on the east side of Flat Creek. (Its location, moreover, corresponds to the footprint of a building no longer present that is located east of the access road about 120 feet north of

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Feature 1 of the current Flat Creek Ranch.) That cabin, however, is the only building indicated on the blue print. The written description of the Homestead Survey makes no reference to buildings. This map varies with testimony presented in behalf of Carrington's claim by Carrington himself and two witnesses in 1922, which indicated that by that time several cabins and a log barn were located on the property. Carrington may have had both encouragement and motivation to develop the ranch to something more than a horsethief's haven.

Probably in 1917 Carrington brought a visitor to his ranch that would change the entire course of the ranch, and that would chart the course of the entire valley. Cissy Patterson had come to Jackson Hole in 1916 to visit one of the few dude ranches—the Bar BC—operating there and, though somewhat alarmed initially at the primitive nature of the ranch and Jackson Hole, she came to adjust to and even love the rugged place to which she had gone for a retreat. Eleanor Medill "Cissy" Patterson was probably the most distinguished and famous visitor to the valley at the time. The subject of three published, book-length biographies, Cissy Patterson (or, as she was still known during most of her years in the valley, the Countess Gizycka) possessed an international reputation based in part on her position as daughter of Robert Patterson, himself son-in-law and successor to Chicago Tribune editor Joseph Medill, and on her highly-publicized marriage to and separation from (involving also a high-profile battle for the custody of their daughter Felicia) the flamboyant cavalry officer Count Josef Gizycki of Russian-partitioned Poland. Acting on the advice of her brother, Joseph Medill Patterson, who had traveled the West between his educations at Groton and Yale, and on the advice of her physician who recommended a peaceful retreat to avert a nervous breakdown, in 1916 the thirty-five year-old Countess Gizycka arrived to spend the summer at Struthers and Katharine Burt's Bar BC Ranch on the west side of the Snake River beneath the Tetons. It was there that toward the end of the summer she and her daughter were guided on a hunting trip for three weeks by expert guide Cal Carrington.

Carrington and the Countess, both of them prideful and strong individuals, appear to have developed not only a respect but a deep friendship with each other and the next year when Cissy returned to Jackson Hole, she rented the White Grass Ranch and hired Cal Carrington away from the Bar BC that summer—to the "annoyance" of his former employer. The two went on long horseback rides and on one of those rides, Carrington took the Countess to his ranch at Flat Creek. By all accounts she became enamored not only of Jackson Hole, but also of Cal Carrington, and also the Flat Creek Ranch. Alice Albright Hoge, Cissy's grand-niece and biographer, captured the moment:

... Cal took her on a ride to his homestead on Flat Creek under Sheep Mountain. A beautiful ride on a summer morning—a long lope across the sage flats and then the climb through the timber up Cache Creek gorge. The light in the forest was like the glow of a grotto. The trail faded away, and the footing became perilous on the slippery rocks and wet grass. As Cissy and Cal zigzagged upward, Indian style, a thin scent of snow chilled the atmosphere. Cal's cabin stood in the middle of a steep open meadow dappled with wildflowers. He pointed down the gorge and explained that he had chosen the site because any sheriff who tried to ride up there would make an easy target. Cissy thought it the most perfect place she had ever seen.

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The historical evidence suggests that in future years the Countess Gizycka—Cissy Patterson—would come to Jackson Hole and stay at Carrington's Flat Creek Ranch. In her trips into town, she stayed at what would become known as the Crabtree Hotel, owned by Rose and Henry Crabtree. And Rose would, in turn, sometimes visit the ranch.

The Countess's friendship with Rose Crabtree proved as enduring and deep as—perhaps more enduring and perhaps deeper than—her association with Cal Carrington, and she came to depend on both people and maintained contacts with them when she was not in the valley. Indeed, she had become part of the community itself. Thus it was in 1920 when the town of Jackson elected an all-female city council, including Rose Crabtree who had defeated her own husband for a seat on the council, Eleanor Gizycka wrote the newspaper articles that made the event nationally famous and which were published in the Chicago *Tribune* and the Omaha *World-Herald*, and perhaps elsewhere too. Following the journalistic bent of her family, she was at the same time publishing stories in the nation's press on elk hunting in Wyoming and Idaho, and her career as a journalist and writer seemed to be taking off in part because of her newfound friends and home in Jackson Hole.

Clearly the Countess wanted to own her own place in Jackson Hole and the Flat Creek Ranch was the place she most wanted. Legends abound regarding her pressure on the reluctant Cal Carrington to sell her the ranch, and how, once he finally agreed, he never seemed to have the deed on hand to close the deal until she dispatched one of the ranch hands to go to Carrington's other home near Driggs, Idaho, to retrieve the deed. The fact is, however, that Cal Carrington did not own the ranch until 1922, and that his final ownership came in part because he was able to draw upon the assistance of Eleanor Gizycka in securing his own title to the land.

A careful examination of the documents associated with Cal Carrington's homestead entry indicates that Carrington had applied to have a tract of land amounting to about 140 acres released from the Teton National Forest for homesteading, and this application generated the 1918 survey. That survey generated the map noted above and the land was released to be legally homesteaded on April 16, 1919. Carrington then made formal filing on the land on February 28, 1920, at which time he would have three years to make final proof.

The application seemed to languish without action until both Carrington and Gizycka pressed for action. In March 1922, Countess Gizycka wrote Wyoming U.S. Senator Francis E. Warren seeking help in reaching closure on the Carrington homestead claim. And Warren responded to her that "Colonel Carrington called at the office of the Forest Service and found that during his absence abroad matters had been shaped up in accordance with his wishes." Evidently, Carrington had failed to correct the Forest Service's and the Senator's reading of "Cal Carrington" as "Col. Carrington." The letter also makes clear where Carrington was during his absence from Flat Creek that winter. The countess had taken him to Europe on a grand tour. Also, in the same letter Warren commented on another question that the Countess had revealingly raised: "In answer to your postscript, in which you ask whether I would not like to have you for a constituent, I give you a hearty 'Yes!'." She was planning to spend considerable time in Wyoming.

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Then, in July 1922 he made final claim for the land and posted notice of his intent, as he said, "on the north end of the north cabin on his claim" and produced witnesses who averred that they were familiar with Cal Carrington and the property he had homesteaded. Several witnesses submitted testimony in behalf of Carrington's claim saying that Carrington had resided continuously at the ranch since his initial entry in the spring of 1920, except that he had been absent in the winter of 1921-1922. They also reported the existence of four or five cabins at the location. The process appeared to be complete on September 16, 1922 when the Land Office issued a "Final Certificate" to Carrington indicating his entitlement to a patent for the homesteaded land.

When Carrington still failed to receive word of his successful entry application, even though it had cleared the administrative hurdles, the Countess Gizycka wrote Warren again and this prompted the Senator to write the Commissioner of the General Land Office inquiring about the application and requesting a report on its status, urging the Land Office to expedite the application. He wrote the Land Office on November 15, 1922 and five days later was able to write Eleanor Gizycka that "Carrington case has been approved for patent, which will issue in due course and will be transmitted to local office at Evanston for delivery to entryman [Carrington]." How necessary Eleanor Gizycka's intervention was for Carrington to succeed in his homestead application is far from clear since Carrington's application was approved in September 1922. What it does indicate, however, is her commitment to helping her friend secure clear title to a piece of land on which they had both lived and which they both valued.

The next step in the process was for Eleanor Gizycka to purchase the land from Cal Carrington. This happened three months later, in February 1923. On February 28, 1923, Carrington appeared before a notary public in San Diego, California and deeded the land to Eleanor Gizycka for the sale price of \$5000.00. That deed, however, was not filed in Wyoming until a year later, on March 10, 1924. If there was a delay in the transfer of the property to the Countess, it was a delay in having it filed in Wyoming, not in selling the property or securing a deed as local lore would have it. The Flat Creek ranch now belonged officially to the Countess Eleanor Gizycka.

Even before the title had transferred, the Countess had initiated a building plan, using Rose Crabtree as her local agent to arrange the work, hiring Jackson contractor Charles Fox to undertake the project. In 1922, according to biographer Paul Healy, she wrote Rose Crabtree that "they would be in Jackson in two weeks and asked Rose meanwhile to build one more cabin at Flat Creek like her own—plus an addition on hers. She said she wanted to put up a big living room and a kitchen on the little point across the Creek." This appears not to have happened that summer, and on March 2, 1923, she wrote Rose Crabtree additional enthusiastic instructions:

Yes-yes, I want a good dance floor in the living room. I want a big brick fireplace in it too—a big, huge one—I want a barn painted red. I want the road to go up the creek on the left side, going up to avoid the swampy places. I also want a little cabin for myself to write in Fox knows better than I do where to put the other cabins. Anyhow, I would dast to say, for fear you wouldn't approve, and the whole thing would have to come down again.

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Also, I want a nice big cabin in Jackson and a shed for some horses! So tell Fox he is *mine* for the summer.

So it was that the development of the Flat Creek was begun in earnest in 1923. The contractor, Charles Fox, was perhaps the pre-eminent construction contractor in the valley at the time. Coming to Jackson in 1910, as his obituary later described, "Probably no one man of the Jackson Hole country constructed more buildings in [that] town than did Chas. Fox." Other projects of his included a number of barns, the Chapel of Transfiguration near Moose, some of the buildings at the JY Ranch and the Bar BC, the 4 Lazy F, Jackson Hole Hardware, and the old gymnasium once located at Miller Park. He also constructed the two-story lodge for W. Lewis Johnson near the John Sargent ranch that ultimately became part of the AMK complex in the northern part of Jackson Hole. His crew of workers on the Flat Creek Ranch project included Henry Crabtree, Billy Wells, John Wort, probably George Ross and Rex Ross, and others.

And this construction was followed by additional activity. Biographer Ralph Martin describes 1923 in these words:

... Furniture soon arrived from everywhere. Only a rough wagon trail connected the ranch with the outer world. The forest rangers did not complete a fire road to Flat Creek until six years later, and it was later still before a car could make the trip. Cissy's furniture was carried in wagons. It had to be taken off and hauled up gullies by the wagon crews; it was then reloaded onto the wagons. "And some of that furniture was so heavy," said Eddie Schultz, who worked for Cissy, "that when we finally got it there, it seemed like it was nailed to the floor."

Countess Gizycka's Flat Creek Ranch became suddenly a comfortable, even famous, place where she could entertain friends and bring acquaintances from the East to visit. From 1923 to 1934, an unknown number of people made the trip to Jackson Hole at the behest of the Countess (who changed her name back to Eleanor Patterson in 1930, after her marriage to attorney Elmer Schlesinger ended with his sudden death). The guest book, if there was one, has not survived but the guests included powerful people like Senators Henrik Shipstead of Minnesota, and Burton K. Wheeler of Montana. And there were others like the columnist Drew Pearson, whom Cissy wanted to marry her daughter (and who did until the two separated several years later), and a host of people who worked for or with Patterson at the newspaper she edited, the Washington *Times*, and then the Washington *Times-Herald*. Jackie Martin, whom Cissy Patterson hired as Art Director at her newspaper, visited the ranch, presumably with Ms. Patterson, and photographed one of the cabins. And the retreat was the scene of events and activities that form significant elements of the folklore of Jackson Hole—the fight between Cissy Patterson and her daughter Felicia that produced an estrangement between the two, the ongoing relationship between Cissy Patterson and Cal Carrington, and the variety of people who visited the ranch.

In the years of Eleanor Patterson's ownership of the Flat Creek Ranch, her enthusiasm for the valley remained strong and she associated closely and fondly with the people of Jackson Hole. As Nathaniel Burt

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recalled, "One thing that dudes and roughnecks always did have in common was love of the country. Some dudes never got used to it, but others were as noxiously enthusiastic as recent Catholic converts. Nobody was a more famous and vocal convert than the famous Countess, née in Chicago as Eleanor Patterson but always called Cissy " She wrote often to Rose Crabtree, and, as Paul Healy writes, "Each of Cissy's letters to Rose made some reference to the ranch, its horses and its caretakers." Even when she was in Washington, or in her other homes, she proudly flaunted her Wyoming connection. Once when she persuaded Rose Crabtree to visit her, and Rose said she wanted to meet President Coolidge, she immediately took her to the White House for such a meeting; President Coolidge and his wife, had, in fact, stayed at Patterson's Dupont Circle home for six months while the White House was being renovated. Cal Carrington was a frequent visitor, perhaps annually, and Healy describes one letter to Rose from Cissy about Carrington, "whom she had been parading around Long Island and Washington in all his frontier flavor." Moreover, Patterson wrote two novels, one of which, Glass Houses, included a warm description of a place very much like Flat Creek and featured prominent Washington figures in thin disguise who happened to stay there. She had one of her characters describe what Cissy Patterson herself felt about the place; "... the most beautiful country in all the world—seventy miles from the nearest railroad. It's an enormous country—a savage country. Once you submit to it, it will haunt you and call you all the rest of your life."

Clearly, Flat Creek called to her powerfully. Cissy Patterson visited her Jackson Hole ranch frequently, sometimes for the entire summer and into the fall, but a series of caretakers maintained the ranch through the seasons. One wrote an extremely long letter to Rose Crabtree—to whom he reported and who furnished supplies to him—just to keep himself occupied during the long winter. One recollection places Ma Reed, former proprietor of what became the Crabtree Hotel, as winter caretaker about 1929, although it could have been in the middle of the decade, and at other times names Bob Stanton and Louis Williams as caretakers. Forney Cole, perhaps the best known of the caretakers, probably held the position from the mid- or late-twenties to the late forties.

Eleanor Patterson's last trip to Flat Creek came in 1934, and after that she became too occupied with her newspaper responsibilities for such a lengthy visit to her Flat Creek Ranch . She maintained contact, however, writing Rose Crabtree often, bringing Cal Carrington east to visit. When Struthers Burt visited Washington, he would visit Patterson at her home on Dupont Circle, and, as his son related, "My father resumed his arguments with her there, spread over increasingly longer intervals." And she even sent friends to the ranch without her. For example, it is certain that Evie Robert, a close friend who wrote a column for the *Times-Herald*, went to stay at the retreat without Cissy. And Eleanor Patterson pined away for an opportunity to return to her ranch. In 1939 she wrote her friend Rose Crabtree:

If I could telegraph myself out to Flat Creek, and if I weren't as afraid as you are of that old grisly bear out there, and if the whole place were sweet and clean, and if the whole of Jackson Hole hadn't slept in my beds for the past several years, and if I had a cook, and if there weren't mosquitoes and trout flies, and if I weren't too old and decrepit to sit on a horse—far less ride up and snaggle down Sheep Mountain—I'd come out to see you all. But it really is too far, and I am too old and weary.

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In 1941 it had been seven years since she had visited Flat Creek, and that year she wrote Rose Crabtree, "I would truly like to come out to Jackson this summer. But it is very difficult to make arrangements. Is there anyone around to rebuild the cabins? *And* the road?" She did not make it that year either. In 1943 she wrote Rose Crabtree, "I don't believe the doctors will let me go into a high altitude. But I'll tell you this much, and *sincerely*. Rather than be a sick old woman with nurses and doctors around me for the rest of my life, I'll *come anyway*.... Tired—must stop. Remember—I'm coming out if I can get there." She did not succeed in traveling to Wyoming that year either, or the next, or the next. In 1948 with her health declining even more, she made plans for one more visit to Flat Creek, and that failing, at least to Jackson Hole, arranged for friends to accompany her, and called Rose Crabtree to make specific plans for the visit, but Eleanor Patterson died before she could leave town.

Cissy Patterson left her Flat Creek Ranch to her niece, Josephine Patterson Albright, the wife of the late artist Ivan LeLorraine Albright and daughter of Cissy's brother, Joseph Medill Patterson. Because Mrs. Albright already had a ranch near Dubois, Wyoming, she chose to lease out the property on Flat Creek instead of actively using it for herself and her family. A series of lease-holders, including L. J. Peterson, Al Remington, and Glen Napierskie, took over the ranch and continued to use it as a retreat for themselves and others. It was early in this period of leasing, either at or just after the period of historic significance, that the property was modernized, including the addition of bathrooms to the cabins. In 1986 the Jackson Hole Land Trust received the property with the proviso that upon the death of Mrs. Albright, it would be made available for purchase to her family. In 1996 when she died, her son Joseph Medill Patterson Albright and his wife Marcia Kunstel purchased the property and subsequently began its restoration to its early appearance and have since opened it as a commercial guest ranch, offering accommodations to a clientele seeking a respite from urban life—meeting the same needs as it did when Cissy Patterson, the Countess of Flat Creek, developed it for her own use in the 1920s.

Of the many people who have passed through the valley known as Jackson Hole, a few have reached legendary, almost mythical, status, and one of these is Cissy Patterson. A variety of published and unpublished materials document her life in the valley and virtually every history of Jackson Hole makes reference to this woman, although many will allude to her in the mists of time without clear understanding of who she was or what she did. Historian Robert Righter has observed that "although she restricted [her] visits to summer and fall from 1916 to 1933, she was arguably the most famous person to call Jackson Hole home. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., is better known and his mark on the valley is indelible, yet he never formed an attachment to the community or even the place." As a solid fixture in the history of Jackson Hole, she even lives on in a musical production, *Petticoat Rules*, that focuses on the period when women governed the young town of Jackson, Wyoming, but it also portrays the distinctive patterns of life and relationships in the community. Cissy Patterson is one of the central characters in that musical, as she was in the history of the valley. She had her many admirers in the valley, too. Rex Ross, who with his father George Ross, guided for her and did other work, probably expressed a common sentiment when he recalled of her, "I don't think I know of any other woman who came out here and did what she did."

In the three-fourths of a century since the Cissy Patterson built the Flat Creek Ranch, Jackson Hole has

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evolved from an isolated ranching community to a pre-eminent resort area, famous for Grand Teton National Park and the scenic and historic features that dot the landscape, and as a site for second homes for some of the nation's, and the world's, elite. Many of those who have purchased or built retreats of their own in Jackson Hole are simply following the pattern established by people like Cissy Patterson. Indeed, this was evident early on. Nathaniel Burt boasted the influence of the Bar BC as some of its dudes developed their own homes in the area: "Eleanor Patterson, always called 'the Countess,' was the first and most conspicuous of those who began as dudes but became ranchers and raised cattle and hell (some of them), had affairs (some of them) with their foremen, and always had style." That assessment is confirmed by the recent study of Jackson Hole by National Park Service historian John Daugherty, in which Daugherty noted "Bar BC dudes Eleanor Patterson, 'the Countess of Flat Creek,' and Lambert Cadwalader, bought their own ranches, beginning the trend of affluent people buying ranches to realize their dream of owning a western ranch." While that trend was clear in the pre-World War II years, it especially took off after the war, and when the valley developed the facilities to maintain a year-round resort trade in the 1970s and 1980s, it reached full swing. As both a contributing force to this process, and as a reflection of the subtle contours of that development at its beginning, the Flat Creek Ranch is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

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