

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

RECEIVED MAY 16 1990

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.

1. Name of Property

historic name Old China Trail
other names/site number 10IH1778

2. Location

street & number Payette National Forest
city, town Warren
state Idaho code ID county Idaho code 049 zip code 83671

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, Number of Resources within Property. Includes checkboxes for private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal, building(s), district, site, structure, object, and resource counts for contributing and noncontributing.

Name of related multiple property listing: Chinese sites in the Warren Mining District
Number 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 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official: [Signature]
Date: 4-12-90
State or Federal agency and bureau: USDA Forest Service

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official: [Signature]
Date: 11/30/88
State or Federal agency and bureau: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
[] entered in the National Register.
[] determined eligible for the National Register.
[] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[] removed from the National Register.
[] other, (explain):

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/Pedestrian Related

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/Pedestrian Related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Old China Trail is a packed dirt trail located on a southeast facing ridge of China Mountain in the Warren Mining District of central Idaho. The trail originates at the Celadon Slope Garden and descends 440 feet in one and one half miles to the Ah Toy Garden. The trail is approximately one meter wide and was produced by Chinese gardeners as an access between three related terraced garden sites above the South Fork of the Salmon River. The Old China Trail possesses qualities of location, setting, and association deemed necessary for properties of this type to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Old China Trail originates at the Celadon Slope Garden and descends a southeast facing ridge to the Chi-Sandra Garden. The trail runs along the upper edge of the Chi-Sandra Garden, then follows a slope above the north side of China Creek to the Ah Toy Garden where it terminates. The trail follows topographic features, taking advantage of any level or clear areas on the steep slopes of China Mountain.

The Old China Trail is overgrown in some areas. Payette National Forest crews cleared parts of the trail in 1988 to provide access to the Ah Toy Occupation excavation. The Chinese gardeners of China Mountain packed produce from the upper Celadon Slope Garden to the town of Warren, 9 miles away. It is expected that portions of the Old China Trail exist in the area between China Mountain and Warren but no evidence of the trail has yet been located.

The Old China Trail was not formally constructed, but was worn into the slopes of China Mountain by continual use. Recent usage has caused the trail to deepen, but has also prevented encroaching vegetation from obscuring the trail.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Ethnic Heritage/Asian
Transportation
Commerce

Period of Significance

1870-1920

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Overseas Chinese

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Old China Trail is significant under Criterion A, as part of the history of overseas Chinese on the Idaho Mining Frontier. The Old China Trail is part of a complex of Chinese sites on China Mountain in the Warren Mining District. These sites were occupied between 1870 to 1920. The Old China Trail was the primary access between the terraced gardens sites. These gardens were a commercial operation to supply fresh produce to the town of Warren. The Old China Trail was vital to the Chinese gardeners of China Mountain. Without the trail, gardeners could not transport their crops to the market. The Old China Trail was a crucial component of the commercial garden system.

Chinese gardeners were the only residents of China Mountain until 1902. The Old China Trail, as known today, originates at the Celadon Slope Garden and descends to the Chi-Sandra Garden, before it follows China Creek to the Ah Toy Garden. The Ah Toy Garden is the terminus of the Old China Trail.

There was no Euro-American traffic in the area until the early 20th century. At that time, a wagon road to Warren was constructed from China Mountain, possibly over a trail established by the Chinese.

The only portion of the Old China Trail currently identified exists on China Mountain and connects the three Chinese Terrace Gardens. The Old China Trail was informally constructed, and follows along topographic features. The route of the Old China Trail substantiates claims that it was used primarily to access the China Mountain Terraced Gardens.

The Old China Trail as identified in this submission extends one and a half miles. It is probable that other portions of the trail exist to the northwest, toward Warren. The Chinese gardeners of China Mountain packed produce 9 miles in this direction. No other segments of the Old

9. Major Bibliographical References

Fee, Jeffrey M.

1985 Chinese Research 85, PY-249, Unpublished manuscript on file at Payette National Forest Offices. McCall, Idaho

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:

Payette National Forest S.O.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

A

1	1
6	1,2
3	5,0
5	0
0	7
8	8,0

 B

1	1
6	1,2
7	4,0
5	0
0	7
6	6,0

Zone Easting Northing

C

1	1
6	1,2
8	0,0
5	0
0	7
9	4,0

 D

1	1
6	1,3
3	0,0
5	0
0	7
7	5,0

B

1	1
6	1,2
7	4,0
5	0
0	7
6	6,0

 D

1	1
6	1,3
3	0,0
5	0
0	7
7	5,0

Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Old China Trail is delineated by the following UTM coordinates: A 11 612350 5007880, B 11 612740 5007660, C 11 612800 5007940, D 11 613300 5007750. These coordinates are illustrated on the accompanying USGS 7.5 minute series map titled "Pilot Peak 1969".

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary for the old China Trail includes the visible trail between Celadon Slope Garden, Chi-Sandra Garden, and the Ah Toy Garden on China Mountain. The trail boundary includes the 1.5 miles of meter wide packed dirt trail.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kate O'Brien Reed date April 20, 1989

organization _____ telephone (208) 336-9340

street & number 1010 S. Owyhee city or town Boise state Idaho zip code 83705

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National Park Service

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China Trail have been located at this time. The Old China Trail is significant for its location, landscape and association with the Chinese terraced gardens and allowed produce to be carried out to the markets of Warren. The Old China Trail was critical to the success of the Chinese terraced gardens as a commercial venture.

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 90000894

Date Listed: 6/27/90

Old China Trail
Property Name

Idaho
County

ID
State

Chinese Sites in the Warren Mining District
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Antonieta Lee
for _____
Signature of the Keeper

8/8/90
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: Under "Cultural Affiliation," Overseas Chinese is deleted.

This information was confirmed with Evan J. DeBloois of the USDA Forest Service and Elizabeth Eggleston of the Idaho SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)