

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED JAN 2 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Robbers Roost (Daly's Place)

AND/OR COMMON Robbers Roost

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER (N 1/2 NW 1/4 Sec. 19, T5S, R4W)  
Montana Highway 287A, 5 miles north of Alder

CITY, TOWN Alder VICINITY OF #1 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE  
Montana 30 Madison 057

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Madison County

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Virginia City STATE Montana

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Madison County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Virginia City STATE Montana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Montana Historic Sites Inventory; Robert A. Murray

DATE 1968 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Montana Department of Fish and Game, Div. of Recreation & Parks

CITY, TOWN Helena STATE Montana

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Robbers Roost is a two-story building made of square-hewn logs with a porch and second-story balcony across the front, facing southwest away from the adjacent highway. It measures approximately 50 feet by 20 feet. On the ground floor was a barroom; the upper floor contained a dance hall. It is believed that a separate structure containing rooms for transients was located in back of this structure, but was torn down in the 1880's. The logs for the building were cut and sawed locally, at John Gammell's saw mill on Mill Creek.

The building today is open to the public as a tourist attraction. It is in good condition and has not been substantially altered. However, the southeast wall is bulging slightly and requires repair and the interior plaster has deteriorated with much of the lath exposed. The building was reroofed by the County in the early 1970's.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1860's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Peter Daly

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Pete Daly built this two-story road house/stage station to serve travellers on the busy road between the rich gold-strike towns of Virginia City and Bannack. It was on this road that the notorious Henry Plummer gang conducted numerous robberies and menaced travellers. According to legend, the gang is supposed to have used this building to plot their deeds, and some claim that Daly was a member of the gang. Others maintain that Daly had nothing to do with the outlaws and that this particular structure was erected in 1866-67, (three years after the Plummer gang was captured and hanged in 1863-64). Since these events did occur, at or near Daly's Place, this stage station has, over the years, become known as "Robbers Roost".

In 1875, Bill Fairweather, one of the six original discoverers of gold in famous Alder Gulch, died here at the age of 39. He was buried in Virginia City at the expense of his friends, having found and lost a fortune.

The Roost also has a more recent history. In the early 1930's, the citizens of Madison County contributed funds for the acquisition and maintenance of the structure by the County. It was their belief that the building represented an integral part of their past and as such should be in public ownership.

Robbers Roost is a colorful link in the histories of the territorial capitals of Virginia City and Bannack. It is one of few surviving log stage stations in good repair, and is typical of such structures, which represents a fairly rare class of frontier architecture.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Reminiscence: Early Sheridan Experiences, Orlin Gammell; manuscript, Montana Fish and Game.
- Dimsdale, T.J., The Vigilantes of Montana, Butte, 1950.
- DeLacy, W.W., A Trip Up the Snake River in 1863 in Contributions, Vol. 1, Montana Historical Society.
- Research Notes & Bibliography at Montana Fish and Game, Rec. & Parks.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.13 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 

12	4	10	23	10	5	0	26	9	70
ZONE	EASTING			NORTHING					

B 

ZONE	EASTING			NORTHING					

C 

ZONE	EASTING			NORTHING					

D 

ZONE	EASTING			NORTHING					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan W. Curtis, Planning Aide, Historic Preservation

ORGANIZATION

Division of Parks & Recreation, Montana Department of Fish and Game

STREET & NUMBER

Mitchell Building

CITY OR TOWN

Helena

DATE

TELEPHONE

449-2532

STATE

Montana

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*William C. Roberts*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE September 26, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

*11/1/75*

ATTEST

DATE

*12/30/75*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*act*