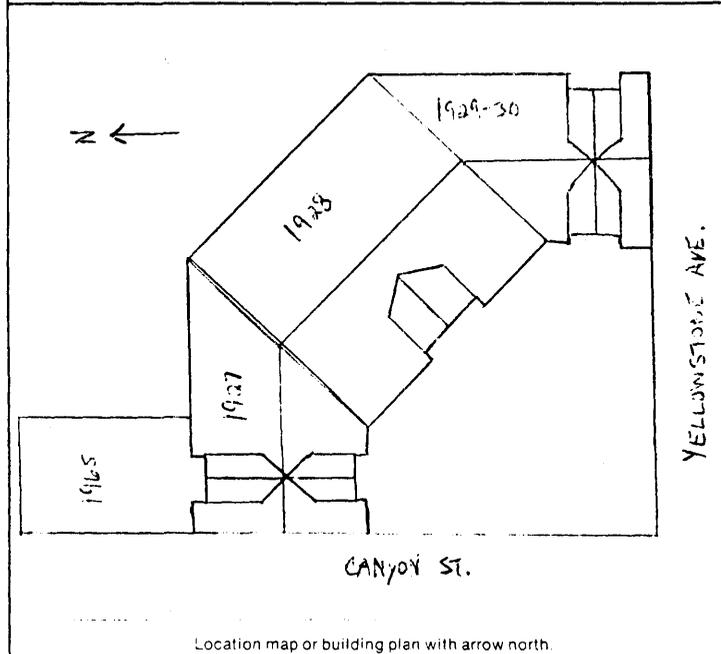


MONTANA HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY

Legal Description: <u>Lots 9-10, Block 28, West Yellowstone Townsite</u>		CONTACT PHOTO
Address: <u>3 Canyon St., Yellowstone Ave., West Yellowstone</u>		
Ownership: Name: <u>Eagle's Company, Inc.</u>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private <input type="checkbox"/> public	address: <u>3 Canyon St., West Yellowstone, MT 59758</u>	Roll # _____ Frame # _____



Historic Name: <u>Eagle's Store</u>
Common Name: <u>Eagle's Store</u>
Date of Construction: <u>1927-1930</u> <input type="checkbox"/> estimated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> documented
Architect: <u>Fred Willson</u>
Builder: <u>Sam Eagle</u>
Original Owner: <u>Sam Eagle</u>
Original Use: <u>commercial business</u>
Present Use: <u>same</u>
RESEARCH SOURCES: Note all records consulted to determine dates of construction, original owners, builders, uses, etc.
Title Search: _____ Tax Records: _____
Bldg. Permit: _____ Census Records: _____
Sewer/Water: _____ Sanborn Maps: _____
Directories: _____ Newspapers: _____

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Fred Willson Job List # 2729, 2823, 2824

See Bibliography in Multiple Resource nomination overview

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: Describe present appearance of structure/site, then contrast and compare that with its original appearance, noting additions, alterations, and changes in materials. Discuss significant architectural features

The original Eagle's Store (the west wing of the present structure), was built in 1927 and consists of a 1½ story, unhewn log and shingle building erected on a fieldstone foundation. The gable roofed building features a centrally located recessed entrance in the gable end flanked by large plate glass windows with multi-light transoms. A small balcony accessed by a pair of doors flanked by multi-pane fixed lights is located above the entrance under the wide, overhanging, bracketed eaves. Two metal and plastic signs, one oval and one rectangular shaped, hang from the ridge. Two large, gable dormers with tripled 6/6 double hung windows are located on the north and south sides of the asphalt shingled roof. The central portion of the building (1928) is two stories high with a steeply-pitched gable roof and gabled dormer. Built of unhewn logs and shingles, this section has a southwest-facing central entrance flanked by plate glass windows with multi-light transoms. Attached to the south end of the two story section is another 1½ story wing dating from 1929-30 that duplicates the original 1927 building. A gas pump shelter/island added in 1961 and supported by four large, wooden columns is located directly in front of the two story building. A small, incompatible one story addition with a wood shingled mansard roof and large plate glass windows was built onto the north side of the original section in 1965.

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HISTORICAL INFORMATION: Describe the persons, important events, and/or historical patterns associated with the structure/site and surrounding area.

Between 1907-1927 the Union Pacific Railroad constructed a passenger depot, baggage building, and several tourist-related buildings to serve the influx of visitors to Yellowstone National Park. In 1907, Samuel P. Eagle, then a Park employee and one of the area's original settlers, wrote to the Forest Service seeking a commercial lease on land adjoining the Union Pacific line. Along with a partner, Eagle built and operated the first general store in West Yellowstone (no longer extant). By 1927 Eagle had constructed the 1½ story west wing as a mercantile business, strategically locating his store directly across Yellowstone Avenue from the Union Pacific Depot. As the tourism trade increased, Eagle expanded his business, adding onto the original structure in 1928 and again in 1929-1930.

Footnote Sources:

INTEGRITY: Assess the degree to which the structure/site, and surrounding area accurately convey the historical associations of the property.

The Eagle's Store is prominently located at the corner of Yellowstone Avenue and Canyon Street, in close proximity to the railroad passenger depot. Despite the addition of the gas pumps in 1961 and the northwest wing in 1965, the building otherwise remains unaltered and therefore clearly conveys its historic associations with commercial tourism in West Yellowstone in the late-1920s.

HISTORICAL and/or ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE: Justify how the persons, important events, or historical patterns associated with structure/site lend the property significance and/or describe the ways in which the structure embodies the distinctive characteristics of a particular period, building type, or style.

The Eagle's Store is owned and operated by direct descendants of the original owner and builder, Sam Eagle, who was one of the first settlers and businessmen in the West Yellowstone area. The building is an excellent and well-preserved example of Rustic architecture featuring exposed log corner posts, exposed structural members, shingle cladding, wide overhanging and bracketed eaves, and multi-paned, wood frame, double hung windows. The Eagle's Store gains additional significance from its association with the prominent architect Fred Willson, who designed all three sections of the building in addition to numerous other Rustic style structures within Yellowstone National Park. Willson worked out of Bozeman, Montana (90 miles north of West Yellowstone), and because of his interest in the Rustic design, he donated his time and was remunerated for only direct costs in the construction of the building. Willson was one of Montana's most active architects, particularly in the southwestern area of the state. He designed many buildings on the campus of Montana State University, numerous public, commercial and private buildings in Bozeman, and other structures throughout the region.

The boundary for the property includes Lots 9 and 10 of Block 28, Original Townsite of West Yellowstone, Montana.

FORM PREPARED BY:

Name: Rick Mayfield Associates, Inc.

Address: West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce

Digitized by Mike Koop, 8-86

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Acreage: Less than one

USGS Quad: West Yellowstone, MT

UTM: 12/492225/4944900