**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

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### NAME

- **HISTORIC**: Yellowstone National Park Multiple Resource Area
- **AND/OR COMMON**: Obsidian Cliff Kiosk

### LOCATION

- **STREET & NUMBER**: N/A
- **CITY, TOWN**: Mammoth See
- **STATE**: Wyoming
- **VICINITY OF**: Yellowstone National Park
- **CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**: At Large
- **COUNTY**: 56
- **CODE**: 029

### CLASSIFICATION

- **CATEGORY**: BUILDING(S)
- **OWNERSHIP**: PUBLIC
- **STATUS**: OCCUPIED
- **PUBLIC ACQUISITION**: N/A
- **PRESENT USE**: AGRICULTURE
- **AGENCY**:
  - **REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS**: National Park Service
  - **STREET & NUMBER**: 655 Parfet Street, P.O. Box 25287
  - **CITY, TOWN**: Denver
  - **STATE**: Colorado

### LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

- **COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**: N/A
- **STREET & NUMBER**: Yellowstone National Park
- **CITY, TOWN**: Wyoming
- **STATE**: N/A

### REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- **TITLE**: List of Classified Structures Inventory
- **DATE**: 1976-1977
- **DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**: National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office
  - **CITY, TOWN**: Denver
  - **STATE**: Colorado
The Obsidian Cliff Kiosk nomination is a portion of the multiple resource nomination for Yellowstone National Park. The kiosk is set against a cliff on the west side of the Grand Loop Road approximately 12 miles south of the Mammoth Hot Springs Headquarters area and just to the north of Beaver Lake. The kiosk is approximately 16' x 6'. The clustered piers are constructed of large balsaltic stone blocks formed into columns. The wood shingle roof covers the exhibit panel which is mounted in cast aluminum with no glass covering. The kiosk's original exhibits were behind plate glass. The roof has exposed 8' log rafters and 9' verge logs. Stone paving surrounds the kiosk. The structure was built in 1931 although the exhibit panel is of more recent years.
8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

1400-1499
1500-1599
1600-1699
1700-1799
1800-1899
1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE - CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ART
- COMMERCIAL
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

SPECIFIC DATES 1931

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Obsidian Cliff Kiosk is significant for its outstanding representation of "individuality achieved by the use of a material which is a phenomenon of the immediate environs" and because it is the first wayside exhibit built in the National Park System. The "open air museum-in-miniature" aids the public in understanding and enjoying the natural aspects of the nearby Obsidian Cliff, a mountain of volcanic glass which extends for approximately 2 miles. This exhibit was one of the many significant innovations in interpretation made by Carl Russell, which are widely reflected today in how parks are interpreted and in how they are experienced by visitors.

Good, p. 176.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  26' x 36' less than an acre

UTM REFERENCES

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Obsidian Cliff Kiosk is on the west side of the Grand Loop Road 12 miles south of the Mammoth Hot Springs Administrative Area. The kiosk is approximately 25 feet off the Grand Loop Road. The nominated area is 26' x 36' or less than an acre.

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

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**FORM PREPARED BY**

Mary Shivers Culpin, Architectural Historian

**ORGANIZATION**

National Park Service

**DATE**

November 30, 1981

**STREETS NUMBER**

655 Parfet

**TELEPHONE**

(303) 234-2764

**CITY OR TOWN**

Denver

**STATE**

Colorado

**CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION**

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES______ NO______ NONE______

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is____ National ______ State ______ Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE Associate Director, Cultural Resources Management

DATE 6/17/82

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER