United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Boise

1. Name

city, town

historic	Brown's Cree	k CCC Camp Bai	cracks		
and/or common	Weippe Publi	c Library			
2. Loca	ation				
street & number	, 105 First St	reet East		N/	A_ not for publication
city, town	Weippe	N/A_	vicinity of	-eengressisnal-district-	
state	Idaho	code 016	county	Clearwater	code 035
3. Clas	sificatio	n			
Category district building(s) structure site object	Ownership _X_ public private both Public Acquisiti V/A_ in process being consid	ion Accessi	ccupied c in progress	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other: library
4. Own	er of Pro	perty			
name	Clearwater C	ounty Free Lib	rary Distri	lct	
street & number	c/o Clearwat	er Memoríal Pu	blic Libran	ry, P.O. Box 471	
city, town	Orofino	N/A	vicinity of	state	Idaho
5. Loca	ation of L	.egal Des	scriptio	on .	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc.	Clearwater	County Cour	thouse	
street & number		Michigan Av	enue		
city, town		Orofino		state	Idaho
6. Rep	resentati	ion in Ex	isting S	Surveys	
title Idaho S	tate Historic	Sites Survey	has this pro	perty been determined el	gible?yes X no
date 1972				federal _X stat	e county loca
depository for su	urvev records Id	laho State Hist	torical Soc	iety	Second

EXP.	12/31	/84



OMB NO. 1024-0018

Idaho

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one
excelient	deteriorated	unaltered
X good	ruins	\underline{X} altered
fair	unexposed	

Check one original site <u>x</u> moved date <u>ca. 1943 and 1982</u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks is a one-story frame building with green asbestos shingle siding and a shingled gable roof. The building rests on a concrete foundation. Window frames, exposed rafters, bargeboards, and corner framing are all of plain milled lumber. The barracks has eight bays along the side walls, which measure about 50 feet long. Bays are demarked by six-pane windows hinged at the bottom to swing in. Each end wall, measuring about 20 feet wide, has a centered door and a gabled stoop with wooden steps and railings. Above each door is a small ventilator opening with a hinged cover.

The Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks was constructed according to standard Civilian Conservation Corps work center design. The building was altered in about 1947, after it had been moved to the Musselshell Ranger Station, with the addition of green asbestos shingles over the original tongue-and-groove siding, interior wall and ceiling paneling, and insulation between the ceiling and the roof. Originally the interior rafters were exposed. At the Musselshell site the building was supported on log sills placed atop columnar concrete footings. Other alterations predating the building's relocation to Weippe in 1982 include the addition of linoleum flooring and a partition dividing the original one-room plan into one large barracks room and a small office and recreation room, a dual use encouraged by Forest Service building manuals.

At its present location at Weippe, where it was moved to serve as a public library, the building has seen the replacement of asbestos shingle siding where some shingles were missing and the addition of an iron railing at one of the entrances and vents at the base of the building to allow air to circulate within its new foundation.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications		Iandscape architectur Iaw Iiterature Iiterature Iiterature Iiterature Iiterature Iiterature Iiterature Iiterature IIII IIIII IIIIII IIIIIIII IIIIIIIII IIII	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1933-42	Builder/Architect U	nknown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Civilian Conservation Corps operations, initiated in 1933 as an emergency employment and public works program, were flexible, mobile, and utilitarian in purpose and administration. Surviving cultural resources associated with that New Deal national employment relief and economic recovery agency include (1) roads, trails, campgrounds, and other forest improvements, and (2) occasional examples of structures that housed program operations. These were intended to occupy a variety of surroundings and not to be identified with any particular location. Camps were designed to be moved about frequently, and any CCC building that occupied only one site and was preserved there would be unrepresentative of that agency's history. Following termination of CCC activities in 1942, an effort was made to utilize camp structures for other public purposes where practical. That required more moving, renovation, and adaption of architectural resources. One Clearwater National Forest barracks building, now used by Weippe's public library, illustrates this entire conservation program admirably. The Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks building is of exceptional architectural and historical significance as a rare example of an Idaho CCC work center building. Current inventory of historic properties in Idaho indicates that the barracks is one of only three CCC buildings extant in the Clearwater National Forest. Although altered, the building remains exemplary of the construction and design features of CCC work center buildings. The building is associated with the Civilian Conservation Corps, a federal program of considerable importance in the history of forestry, conservation, and recreation in Idaho.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Sée continuation sheet.

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		F		
		H [
Verbal boundary descripti Camp Barracks and the Addition, Weippe, Ida	property on which			es the Brown's Creek CCO ock 3, Brown's First
ist all states and countie	s for properties overla	pping state or	county bou	ndaries
state _{N/A}	code _{N/A}	county	I/A	code _{N/A}
tate N/A	code N/A	county 1	I/A	code N/A
Boise	Julia Davis Drive		telephone	134-3356
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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page

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The Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks building is a standard-design Civilian Conservation Corps work center building. Such buildings were typically of frame, milled-lumber construction. They were easily assembled and could easily be moved. These structures could also be connected, gable end to gable end, to make larger buildings. The Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks is representative of CCC work center buildings in many details. Its long and low massing; frame construction; simple milled-lumber features; green color scheme; gable-end doors, stoops, ventilation openings; shingled gable roof; and fenestration are characteristic of CCC camp architecture erected elsewhere in Idaho during the period 1933 through 1942 and found, with some regional variations, in CCC camps throughout the United States.

Plans for the Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks building have not been located in Forest Service Region 1 records. The building's design is nearly identical to plans in the R4 126 series of semi-portable buildings used in neighboring Region 4, southern Idaho, for work center housing. Barracks building 126G, in the 126 series, was first available for use in 1933. Designs for light, portable, easily constructed buildings were adopted by the CCC program to save construction costs.

Architectural surveys have located only two other CCC work center buildings still standing in the Clearwater National Forest, an area of 1.8 million acres. At Powell is a barracks building that has had extensive interior alterations. At Cayuse Landing Field is a small barn. One study lists 85 CCC camps extant in northern Idaho (north of the Salmon River) during the Corps program's existence. In southern Idaho, where even more camps were located, only six work center buildings are extant, all of them in the Boise National Forest. Those buildings include a kitchen, a barracks, and a bathhouse at Garden Valley and three barracks buildings at Idaho City.

Alterations to the Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks and its relocation to a new site have not adversely affected the building's architectural significance as an example of CCC camp architecture. The major exterior alteration, residing with asbestos shingles, is a reversible change that has covered rather than replaced the original tongue-and-groove siding. Interior alterations are also reversible, leaving original construction features covered but still intact as documentable examples of CCC construction technology. Most of the alterations to the building were done in about 1947 and are representative of Forest Service remodeling after World War II. The Service had acquired many CCC buildings as Corps camps closed down early in the war.

The Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks building's move first to the Musselshell Ranger Station in about 1943 and then to Weippe for use as a library in 1982 is very much in keeping with the original intentions of the CCC in constructing light and easily movable work center buildings. In both cases the move preserved the building from deterioration and destruction, the usual fate of the many CCC work center buildings once extant in Idaho.

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United States Department of the Int National Park Service	erior	For NPS use only
National Register of His Inventory—Nomination I		received date entered
Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks Continuation sheet	Item number 8	Page 2

OMB No. 1024-0018

NPS Form 10-900-a

The Brown's Creek CCC Camp was one of 20 United States Forest Servicesupervised camps located on Idaho State Forest land. The Musselshell Ranger Station began as a Forest Service Reserve station and also operated as a Forest Service work center. During the CCC program years, the Musselshell station was a CCC work center, probably a satellite camp of the Brown's Creek camp. In Idaho's forests, national and state, the work of the CCC was important in the control of fire and plant disease and in reforestation and development of recreational facilities. With about 65 percent of its land federally owned, the state was second in the nation in number of camps and in per-capita expenditures. Region 1 forester Evan Kelley praised the work of the CCC in his region with an estimate that the Corps accomplished ten years' work in three years.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks Continuation sheet

Item number

9

Page

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OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

1



OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

For NPS use anly

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In its new locations, both at Musselshell and at Weippe, this CCC structure remained in settings similar to its original location and fully appropriate for a CCC building. Weippe and Musselshell prairies are adjacent with practically identical geographical and camas-ground characteristics. Weippe is a very small community with adjacent buildings compatible with CCC construction, and relocation of this eligible structure in Weippe was provided for by an Advisory Council-Forest Service-State Preservation Office compliance agreement [ct. 36 CFR 60.11 (b) (5)] and funded through a federal (but not National Park Service) grant.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received 5/19/35 date entered

Brown's Creek CCC Camp Barracks Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 2

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In its period of significance, which extends past its CCC era to Forest Service preservation as a post-war relocatable building to serve Musselshell Ranger Station and to Forest Service arrangements in 1982 for adaptive use as a Weippe public library building, this structure has represented tha area's sole example of continued arrangement to retain an example of CCC architecture. (A barn and another barracks that happened to survive far away from there are in other localities.) On that account, it was exceptionally significant in 1982 as well as in 1941.