

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 29 1980

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

U.S. Forest Service Remount Depot (Ninemile Ranger Station)

AND/OR COMMON

Ninemile Ranger Station

LOCATION

2.4 miles southwest of Huson on I-90, 1.6 miles west on
Highway 10 and 2.8 miles north on Remount Road.

STREET & NUMBER

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Huson

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

47

STATE

Montana

CODE

30

COUNTY

Missoula

CODE

063

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

AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Lolo National Forest

STREET & NUMBER

Building 24, Fort Missoula

CITY, TOWN

Missoula

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Montana

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Clerk and Recorder

STREET & NUMBER

Missoula County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Missoula

STATE

Montana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

N/A

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The U.S. Forest Service Remount Depot consists of corrals and thirteen white frame buildings constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934. A Cape Cod architectural style dominates: drop siding, shuttered windows, dormers, and gabled roofs shingled with green asphalt. The following features comprise the complex. They have also been numbered on the enclosed base map.

1. The original entrance to the compound has been reconstructed and the two white sentry pylons repositioned.
2. The sheltered scales standing in front of the barn (feature 3) were used to weigh the mules and their loads.
3. The 39x90' barn has a gambrel type roof, allowing for hay storage, with two ventilation cupolas and weather vanes. There are sliding doors at each end of the main floors cement alley. Besides the stalls, the building has a room for grain storage that is lined with shelves for pack saddle storage. This equipment room is now a carpenter shop and the rest of the building is used for supply storage.
4. A loading ramp constructed of milled beams and soil.
5. The 16x30' stallion barn has sliding double doors at each end of the main floors alley. It also has a gambrel roof with two cupolas.
6. From the 18x30' saddle shop, workers supplied the entire Northern Region with pack saddles.
7. The 24x40' blacksmith shop was moved to its present location in 1938 and now serves as a maintenance shop.
8. During the fire season, four pack strings of ten animals each were always kept ready in the corrals within the grounds.
9. The garage was custom-built to accommodate the specially designed Kenworth stock trucks. The green, cab-over-engine vehicles had aluminum tiered stock racks on the back to hold a pack string of nine mules and a saddle horse. Their 450 horsepower motors were the largest gasoline engines used at the time. The 30x94' seven-stall garage contains a workshop, wood shed, toilet, shower room and bunks with space for fifty men in the loft.
10. The 24x80' classroom building was used for training sessions and meeting purposes and also housed a garage and truck maintenance shop. The interior has been remodeled for its present use as the District's engineering offices.
11. The current District Ranger's office, 30x38', was originally a bunkhouse. The interior has been remodeled for office use.
12. The cookhouse was originally 30x38' with a 15x15' mess hall added later. The original cooler remains in the basement but the building is used only as an office today.
13. The Remount Supervisor's dwelling (1200 square feet) has six rooms, a garage, and a basement. The only recorded modification to this building (the current District Ranger's residence) is insulation installation in 1974.
14. The original two-story 40x30' ranger station office building was converted to a four-bedroom residence with 30x7' porch in 1959.
15. The westernmost 40x30' residence was originally the District Forest Ranger dwelling. It has a 30x7' porch and had insulation installed in 1974.
16. Garage
17. The single-story foreman's dwelling (600 square feet) was built in 1938 one-third mile north of the complex. It has four rooms, full basement, front and back porch, and a recently installed sewer system. This building lies one third of a mile north of the building complex. For management purposes it is not included in the nomination at this time but will be nominated separately at a later date.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" 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 July 1, 1930 - 1954 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Civilian Conservation Corps

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The U.S. Forest Service built and maintained its only Remount Depot between 1930 and 1954. It was modeled after U.S. Army Cavalry Remount Depots. Land for the Remount Depot was purchased in July 1930. The buildings were constructed between 1933 and 1935 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. At the peak of its operation the Remount Depot employed over 60 full-time people and maintained between 100 and 200 pack animals prepared for dispatch during the fire season. During the winter months the saddle shop and sign painting shop serviced the entire Northern Region while the blacksmith shop provided horse and mule shoes for Forest Service animals throughout the U.S.

The mission of the Remount Depot was to provide trained packers and pack strings to supply Forest Service firefighting crews in the Northern Rocky Mountain States. To meet this challenge the Forest Service bred its own horses and mules. Specially designed Kenworth trucks were used to transport fully loaded pack strings to fires at a moments notice. These mule teams were frequently dispatched to the Selway in Idaho, Central Montana, Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and once to northern California.

By the 1950's, aerial firefighting techniques (i.e., smokejumpers and helicopters) had brought obsolescence to the pack strings. The Remount Depot became the Ninemile Ranger District for the Lolo National Forest in 1954. The complex still serves this function today.

The Ninemile Ranger station would be the only C.C.C. built and currently occupied site listed on the National Register of Historic Places in Region 1. Also this was the first training area for the U.S. Forest Service smokejumpers in the early 1940's.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Benson, Jane Reed, undated, The Forest Service Remount Depot: mules not trees. Unpublished manuscript on file with Lolo National Forest Supervisor's Office, Missoula, MT.
 Fickes, Clyde P., 1973, Recollections. USDA Forest Service publication #R1-73-007.
 Moncure, Peyton, undated, Mules of the remount - a legend is born. Unpublished manuscript.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Acreeage 9.6
 UTM REFERENCES

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

A 1, 1 6, 9, 7, 6, 0, 0 J, 2, 1, 5, 7, 3, 0
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The southern boundary for the U. S. Forest remount depot begins at the junction of (Eastside) Ninemile valley road and remount road. From here it tuns west in a straight line along the North edge of (Eastside) Ninemile valley road 450 feet. The boundary then turns due north and runs in a straight line 360 feet. The boundary then turns N46° W and runs 480 feet along the backside of the corrals. From this point the boundary runs E103° S 427 feet to the west edge of Remount Road

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 Elaine Howard, Social Science Tech and Charles M. McLeod, Social Science Tech

August 6, 1979
 DATE

ORGANIZATION

USFS, Lolo National Forest

TELEPHONE

STREET & NUMBER

Building 24, Fort Missoula

406/329-3222

CITY OR TOWN

Missoula

Montana

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Edie Vinson for Ken Korte
 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 [Signature]

TITLE

Miscs - Office of William H. Bradham

DATE

2/25/80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

4/10/80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

William H. Bradham

DATE

4.8.80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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A conscious effort has been made by Ninemile District Ranger's to maintain the historic integrity of the remount depot structures. As Forest Service reliance on livestock declined and the winter range acreage was closed, the usefulness of the Remount Depot faded. By 1954, the Ninemile Ranger District had absorbed the entire complex and the final 28,000 acres of pasture in the Flathead Valley had been (shut down). Structural modifications have been primarily restricted to building interiors. The original white frame, green-roofed exteriors have been kept the same, as well as the grounds of grass, red maple, aspen, apple, cottonwood and ponderosa pine trees.

1

10

2

road. The boundary then follows the west edge of remount road south 780 feet to its junction with (Eastside) Ninemile valley road.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Montana	
COUNTY Missoula	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Ninemile Ranger Station			
AND/OR HISTORIC: U.S. Forest Service Remount Depot			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 8 and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 9,			
CITY OR TOWN: T. 15 N., R. 22 W., P.M.M.			
STATE: Montana	CODE 30	COUNTY: Missoula	CODE 063
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S, Alberton Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:62500			
DATE: 1975			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			