

**United States Department of the Interior
 National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Meyers Creek Work Center
 Other names/site number: Meyers Creek Ranger Station, Meyers Creek Station, 24ST0234
 Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 101-199 Meyers Creek Road, Custer Gallatin National Forest
 City or town: Nye State: MT County: Stillwater
 Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
 I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets
 the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
 Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
 In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I
 recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of
 significance:
___ national X statewide X local
 Applicable National Register Criteria:
X A ___ B ___ C ___ D

<p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:</p> <p>_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
<p>In my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2/8/2023</p>	
<p>_____ Signature of commenting official:</p> <p>_____ MT State Historic Preservation Officer</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
<p>Title:</p>	<p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	_____	sites
<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	structures
<u>1</u>	_____	objects
<u>12</u>	<u>4</u>	Total

Feature 1	Residence	Building	contributing
Feature 2	Log Residence	Building	contributing
Feature 3	Garage	Building	contributing
Feature 4	Barn	Building	contributing
Feature 5	Corrals	Structure	noncontributing
Feature 6	Garage/shop	Building	contributing
Feature 7	Flagpole Station	Structure	contributing
Feature 8	Communication Antenna	Structure	contributing
Feature 9	Log Buck Structures	Structure	noncontributing
Feature 10	Concrete Walkways	Structure	contributing
Feature 11	Drilled Boulders	Object	contributing
Feature 12	Signage	Structure	noncontributing
Feature 13	Root Cellar Remains	Site	contributing
Feature 14	Vault Latrine	Building	noncontributing
Feature 15	Explosives Vault	Structure	contributing
Feature 16	Root Cellar Remains	Site	contributing

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- GOVERNMENT: government office
- OTHER: Ranger Station
- Work Center
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Work Center
Public Cabin Rental
DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:

Bungalow/Craftsman
OTHER: Rustic Log, Post and Pole

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundation, floors, and walkways: CONCRETE
Walls: WOOD, Weatherboard (horizontal lap and drop siding) and corner board trim;
Log; Faux log siding
Roof: WOOD, Shingle; ASPHALT
Other: WOOD (log, treated posts and poles); METAL, Steel (gates and portable corrals)

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The 120-acre Meyers Creek Work Center complex, historically referred to as the Meyers Creek Ranger Station, is located adjacent to Meyers Creek in the Beartooth Mountains of south-central Montana, approximately 10 miles north of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness and several miles northwest of the small town of Nye.¹ The property complex consists of fenced grazing pasture(s), a concentration of historic (contributing) buildings that include a wood frame house, a log house, a small wood framed garage, a wood frame livestock barn with associated corrals, and a wood frame garage-shop. This nomination includes 120 acres of the Administrative Area. Within the immediate surroundings of the complex are miscellaneous yard objects that include a flagpole

¹ Smithsonian Trinomial 24ST0234. In the literature for the property, the name, "Meyers" is also spelled, "Myers."

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structure, radio communication antennae structure, protective log buck structures that safeguard water and effluent fixtures, concrete walkways, and stones aligned to define a parking area, some that exhibit holes drilled with mining bits. Also included within the nomination area is a single modern (noncontributing) latrine. The site complex has evolved to its current configuration over its more than 100-year history and continues to serve many of its historic functions.

Narrative Description

Constructed as the Meyers Creek Ranger Station in 1906, the 120-acre Meyers Creek Work Center complex is located adjacent to Meyers Creek in the Beartooth Mountains of south-central Montana (Map 1), approximately 10 miles north of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness and several miles northwest of the small town of Nye.² The configuration of the complex is typical of such regional constructs for Ranger Stations and Work Centers and includes defined pastures, work corrals for livestock consisting primarily of horses and mules, a building that originally served as an office, a residence, and associated work structures and objects.

The current historical configuration of the property includes facilities that accommodate the horses and mules that have traditionally – and continue to be used - to access and monitor more remote areas of the forest, along with a garage-shop for the storage and repair of more modern accoutrements. While the main frame house (Feature 1) is currently available as a public cabin rental, the property continues to serve its original purpose and retains the look and feel of such a facility. The small stream of Meyers Creek flows west-to-east along the southern side of the property. On the western side of the nominated area lies a parking lot for accessing the Meyers Creek Trailhead. Exiting the parking area, the trail trends to the west, eventually passing by the small Moccasin Lake, approximately four miles away.

This property consists of fenced grazing pasture(s), a concentration of historic buildings (all contributing) that include a wood frame house (Feature 1), a log house (Feature 2), a small wood framed garage (Feature 3), a wood frame livestock barn (Feature 4) with associated corrals (Feature 5), and a wood frame garage-shop (Feature 6). Within the immediate surroundings of the complex are miscellaneous yard objects that include: a flagpole structure (Feature 7); a communication antenna (Feature 8); protective log buck structures that safeguard water and effluent fixtures (Feature 9); concrete walkways (Feature 10); granite stones aligned to define a parking area, some exhibiting holes drilled with mining bits (Feature 11); associated signage appropriate to the historical period (Feature 12); and the remains of a root cellar associated with the first buildings at the Station (Feature 13). Also included within the nomination area is a single modern noncontributing latrine (Feature 14) located at the trailhead parking area in the west portion of the nominated area, an explosives storage bunker (Feature 15) located approximately ¼ mile west of the main Work Center compound, and a depression representing the remains of a root cellar (Feature 16) on the hillside north of the trailhead parking lot.

² J. Bolton and A. Hubber, *A. National Register of Historic Places Draft Nomination, Meyers Creek Work Center*. Document available at the Billings Office, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Billings, Montana. 1990. P 4. The property is variously referred to by its full name, "complex" "Work Center," and "Station" in this document.

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Feature 1 (1928), the 32' x 25' white wood frame residence stands near the eastern border of the nominated property, northeast of the log house, and east of the other structures. The oldest existing building at the station, built in 1928, the one story, wood frame house displays a rectangular floor plan with the long axis oriented north-south; an enclosed 16' x 8'6" porch projects off the north wall (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0011) and a 16' x 7' half-wall screened-in porch projects off the south wall (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0010).³ Both porches are offset to the east. The exterior walls feature beveled siding with metal corner trim, both painted white. The structure sits on a full concrete basement of a standard 8" wall thickness and a concrete floor. The ends of the exposed rafters, purlins, door trim, main floor and basement window trim are painted green. Asphalt shingles top the front gable screened-in porch, the fully enclosed hipped porch, and the main gable roof that features a centrally located brick ridge chimney, vents, and a stovepipe for a wood stove.

The single entry into the southern porch holds an aluminum storm door that matches another that leads from the inside of the porch into the house. The main door into the house is a three-panel wood door with a glass window at the top. The door exhibits the original hinges and lockset. The front door leads to the living room (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0013) and kitchen (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0012) located at the opposite and northern end of the house. Bedrooms and a bathroom are situated along the west side of the house. A panel wood door provides ingress through the west wall of the enclosed porch.

The basement extends approximately 24" above the ground surface, providing for two non-egress window openings filled with single-pane wood framed units in the west foundation wall of the house, and three openings in the east foundation wall that hold two single-pane and a four-lite fixed window. The west elevation of the house sports two double-hung windows with a smaller centrally located double-hung unit that aligns with the inside bathroom. Two double-hung windows that match the larger windows in the west elevation occur in the south elevation, one located outside of the gable roof porch, and one contained within and protected by the porch. The east elevation holds a paired double-hung unit that looks out from the living room to the east and a smaller one-by-one six-lite sliding unit positioned in the kitchen; an identical six-lite sliding unit is located on the back (north elevation) porch. The north wall of the back porch holds a two-panel slider window, with an additional double-hung window on the north wall of the house. The north wall of the house also holds a covered opening above the double-hung window that provides access into the attic area.

The house that has served as a residence and a public cabin rental is approached both on the front and back by concrete steps and associated narrow walkways, particularly to the north and the west, that lead to the central area of the compound. A jackleg fence that once encircled the house has since been removed, with salvaged parts quite possibly used to construct the wooden structures in the yard (Feature 8). The interior and exterior of the building retain the look and feel appropriate to the period of significance. Feature 1 is a contributing building.

³ Bolton and Hubber, P. 2.

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Feature 2 (1952) is a 36' x 26' log residence located southwest of Feature 1 and south of the complex. The building aligns east-west with the entry elevation facing north toward the open area of the compound. Built in 1952, the one and one-half story rectangular log-bearing building features a small entry wing built off the west wall.⁴ The gable-roofed structure sits on an 8" concrete wall footing and crawl-space depth foundation. Walls are constructed of logs with butt joint corners with overlapping ends, referred to as "milled D" logs. The log ends extend beyond the plane of the outside wall and cut to taper, narrow at the top and widening at the bottom. The gable ends are finished with vertically oriented boards and battens. The exterior is painted/stained brown. The wood shingle gable roof displays an interior ridge brick chimney, exposed rafter ends, an antenna, and a galvanized ridge roll with globe ends (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0014). A small shed roof overhang with brackets covers the front (north) elevation's main entry.

The 8' x 13' wing, extends from the northwest corner of the west wall, and exhibits a dropped gable roof (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0015). A metal electrical service box, with three vertical metal conduits, attach to the west exterior wall of the wing.

Two entries provide interior access, both approached by concrete steps. The north elevation features an aluminum storm door that fronts a wood front door; a single wooden pole handrail stands on the east side of the steps. A second entrance on the south elevation of the wing porch features an aluminum screen door fronting a wood door. The concrete entry steps connect to a narrow concrete panel sidewalk (Feature 10) laid around the west side of the residence.

The front (north elevation) of the residence holds a large 12-lite fixed window situated east of the front door that provides light to the interior living room space. The remaining front windows consist of two 3-over-1 double-hung units positioned in the center and west end of the wall. The west elevation of the western porch wing holds a 1-over-1 double-hung window. The west wall of the main building block contains two 3-over-1 double-hung windows, one at the main floor level and one in the gable. Three 3-over-1 double-hung windows are evenly spaced across the rear (south) wall; the center unit is slightly smaller and located at the interior bathroom space. The east wall holds three 3-over-1 double-hung windows, two at the ground floor and one in the gable. The interior space walls are finished in painted sheetrock with stained wood trim and the floors are finished exposed wood. The log residence is a contributing building.

Feature 3 (1954), located immediately to the west of the log house, is a 20' x 12' single-room garage built in 1954 (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0016).⁵ The one story, wood frame building has a rectangular floor plan with the long axis oriented north-south. The building sits on a concrete wall foundation with a concrete slab. The exterior walls of the garage are finished with log slab siding and painted/stained brown. The steep gable roof is covered with wood shingles and displays exposed rafter ends and a galvanized ridge roll with

⁴ Bolton and Hubber, P. 2.

⁵ Bolton and Hubber, P. 2.

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globe ends. The garage entry holds an overhead metal garage door in the north elevation and two nine-lite fixed windows in the east and west elevations. The garage is a contributing building.

Feature 4 (1938) is a livestock barn constructed in 1938.⁶ The barn sits north of the log house (Feature 2) and northwest of the main house (Feature 1). It is a one and one-half story, 32' x 18' wood frame building with a rectangular floor plan with the long axis oriented east-west (Photos MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0019 and 0020). The barn sits on a concrete wall footing and foundation. Exterior walls are covered with drop siding with corner board trim. The steep gable roof is covered with wood shingles and sports a galvanized ridge roll with globe ends. The barn holds a board-and-batten Dutch door in the center of the north elevation that opens toward the corral area. On the west elevation, a small ground floor door opens to the exterior from the inside and a wood door in the west gable provides access for hay loading/unloading. A boarded-over fixed 6-lite window is positioned in the center of the wall. The south elevation of the barn holds a person entry door positioned toward the west end of the wall. The doors present the same exterior cladding as the walls and lack trim. The east elevation of the barn has three windows, two fixed four-lite in the ground level and one fixed four-lite in the gable. The building is painted white with green trim around the windows and roof. The post-and-beam interior of the barn contains three stalls in the west end and a tack room in the east end (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0021). The barn is a contributing building.

The barn stands as foundational in conveying the history, purpose, look, and feel of the Station. It is worth noting that while a nomination may sufficiently describe the features of a property, it is impossible to convey the distinctive smells associated with the equestrian history accompanying this and other stations. Breathing deep while standing in the tack room is rewarded with a heady mixture of sawdust, leather, hay, equine residue, and the unfinished wood of the barn interior.

Feature 5 (post-1972) are the corrals and hitching structures associated with the barn and located to its north and east (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0022). North of the barn is a rectangular 60' x 40' corral constructed of locally sourced and peeled, approximately 8" diameter posts with equally spaced 4" horizontal rails. The long axis of the corral orients east-west. A 60' diameter, circular shaped, similarly constructed pole corral exists in the southeastern corner. Both areas display modern metal gates. A water tank sits at the southeastern intersection of the spaces. Further to the east of the main corrals, an assembly of vertical wood posts and metal gate panels comprise an additional holding area. Between the barn, corral(s), and the eastern corral are several hitching rails comprised of vertically set, approximately 8" diameter peeled posts with the same serving as a horizontal member, extending slightly beyond each vertical post. Over the period of significance, the equestrian corrals, associated water tank, and hitching posts have evolved through several configurations, arriving at the current presentation. While this feature is certainly part of the historical and current function(s), and contribute to the look, and feel of the site, the in-place materials appear to be outside of the period of significance and these features are therefore a noncontributing structure.

⁶ Bolton and Hubber, P. 3.

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Feature 6 (1937) is a garage/shop built in 1937 located to the west of the residence. It is a one and one-half story, wood frame building with a 56' x 30' rectangular floor plan. The east-west aligned building holds interior stalls (Photos MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0017 and 0018).⁷ The garage/shop sits on a concrete wall footing and foundation with a concrete floor slab. The exterior walls are covered with wood drop siding with corner board trim that match the door and window openings. The steep gable roof is covered with wood shingles and displays an interior slope brick chimney, exposed rafter ends, and a galvanized ridge roll with globe ends. A yard light is positioned in the gable of the west wall. The south elevation holds four overhead garage doors, each with a six-lite fixed window in the top center of the door. A single entry five-panel person door is in the west elevation. A recessed box that holds a fire extinguisher is mounted near the west door on the southwest corner. The west wall contains three paired six-lite fixed (3/3) windows, and a six-lite fixed unit in the gable. The north wall holds a single fixed 12-lite unit positioned toward the west end of the building and the east wall contains a single six-lite fixed unit installed in the gable. The interior of the structure is unfinished. The garage/shop continues to be used for its primary historical function and is a contributing building.

Feature 7 (circa 1930) is an approximately 30'-tall flagpole station that stands immediately northeast of the log residence (Feature 2) [Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0025]. The flagpole station is comprised of approximately 8" diameter pine poles; two poles buried in the ground on opposite sides of the main flagpole lend support to the flagpole itself. The flagpole station is built according to the Forest Service standards of the time and counted as a contributing structure.⁸

Feature 8 (circa 1930) is a communication antenna directly east of the log residence. No longer used, the antenna (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0025) is associated with a time within the latter part of the period of significance when short-wave radios were used for Forest Service communication and is a contributing structure.

Feature 9 (post-1972) includes several log buck structures that protect water and effluent fixtures (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0026). Several such structures are distributed across the property and appear to be made from material salvaged from recently moved buck fences. These structures are counted as a single resource and considered noncontributing structure.

Feature 10 (circa 1930) are the concrete walkways associated with Feature 1, the main house and Feature 2, the log residence. The 24"-wide concrete pathways extend toward the open interior of the compound (Map 15), implying the primary direction(s) of travel for employees and visitors. The walkways are a contributing structure.

⁷ Bolton and Hubber, P. 3.

⁸ C. P. Fickes, *Region One Handbook Construction and Maintenance of Forest Improvements: Flag Pole for Station Headquarters*, 1935, P. 238.

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Feature 11 (circa 1930) are the boulders that define the western parking area, west of the circular driveway (Map 15). The locally sourced granite boulders average approximately 30” in diameter (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0027) and many contain drilled holes of the type used for blasting. The holes represent a bit type used to drill holes for dynamiting backcountry trails associated with mining in the area. While the exact date of the stone arrangement and the drilling of the holes is approximate, they are likely associated with training for trail work during the 1930s associated with the WPA. Evidence of the use of identical stone drilling tools for trail work remain at the Woodbine Trailhead on the main fork of the Stillwater River. These drilled stones and their arrangement are considered a contributing object.

Feature 12 (post-1972) consists of the associated Forest Service signage primarily located at the entrance to the Meyers Creek Work Center (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0028). These kiosks and associated signage represent recognizable primary points of contact for the public and have long been an important initial source of information for those entering the area. Distributed signage at Meyers Creek may contain limited objects associated with the period of significance, however, the oldest still appear to be replacements of the original(s). Therefore, the signage is considered a noncontributing structure.

Feature 13 (circa 1926) consists of the remains of a root cellar concrete wall foundation located on the slope north of the barn (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0031). The collapsed root cellar is associated with the earliest days of the Station and is considered a contributing site.

Feature 14 (post-1972) is a single modern precast vault-style latrine. It stands on the western edge of the nominated area (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0024) at the trailhead parking area. The structure dates to outside of the period of significance and is a noncontributing building.

Feature 15 (circa 1930) is an explosives storage structure located in the western part of the administrative area (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0030), approximately ¼ mile northwest of the trailhead parking lot (Map 13). The 3’ x 4’ dugout structure consists of walls made of blocky and tabular stones with a steel door. A 9’ x 12’ sloping area occurs behind the steel door. This structure is not currently in use. The explosive storage structure dates to the period of significance and is counted as a contributing structure.

Feature 16 (circa 1930) is a depression west of the main compound (Map 13) located on the hillside north of the trailhead parking area. This may have served as a root cellar for the original homestead. The depression likely dates to the period of significance and is counted as a contributing site.

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Setting of the Meyers Creek Work Center

The building cluster lies in the bottom of the valley where Meyers Creek flows west to east. The valley is narrow with the result that moderate to steep ridges begin to ascend within several hundred feet of the buildings to the north, south, and west. The valley bottom within the NR boundary has served to pasture horses through much of its history, though no cultivation within the boundary is believed to have occurred. Roads are few within the property boundary, limited to the circular route that bends around the buildings and a single western drive that leads to a parking lot on the western side of the property that provides access to the Meyers Creek Trailhead. The area to the east, outside the defined NR boundary, remains open and hosts the confluence of Meyers and Lodgepole creeks. A cultivated wheat field also lies immediately east and outside the NR boundary.

A mix of riparian vegetation clings to the bottom and edges of Meyers Creek and grasses and forbs cover the low areas of valley outside the creek. Pines, dominated by Ponderosa, are scattered across the ridges and hills with density increasing with elevation, especially to the south and southwest. The inclusion of the 120-acres of the original Administrative Site set-aside that bounds the building cluster strongly strengthens integrity of feeling and setting of the Station, allowing one to fully appreciate how little changed the landscape of the area remains since the original construction on the property.

Integrity

While several buildings and structures historically associated with the Meyers Creek Work Station have come and gone as its use evolved over time, the Meyers Creek Work Center, formerly the Meyers Creek Ranger Station, continues to reflect its historic ownership and function(s). The historic site layout remains reflecting its original function(s) during the period of significance and the resources retain architectural details that include livestock and equipment storage and maintenance appropriate to the function, look, and feel of such historic stations. Although the site continues to evolve with the removal or addition of resources, the general arrangement and historical integrity of the property, including adjacent horse grazing pastures remains intact.

A visitor from the early 1900s would easily recognize the arrangement and function(s) of the buildings and features, particularly as relevant to the continued use of horses and pack animals. Associated sleeping quarters, shop area, barn complete with tack area, and corrals continue to function as they always have, including the central circular driving area, useful for the unencumbered maneuvering of vehicles and horse trailers. Features present today continue the evolution of the Station and its operation.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

CONSERVATION

Period of Significance

1926-1973

Significant Dates

@ 1965 (redefined as a Work Center)

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

William Fox (Architect for log standard plan residence)
C. M. Beardsley (Landscape Architect)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Meyers Creek Work Center, formerly the Meyers Creek Ranger Station, is significant at a state and local level for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for its association with administrative activities of the Forest Service from 1926 to 1973. Ranger district headquarters represent USDA Forest Service management policies and the aesthetics that guided the agency's improvements program. Although the primary function of the Station was gradually redefined in the mid-1960s to that of an administrative property for the Beartooth District of the Custer National Forest, the Work Center continues to be used by the Forest Service for administrative purposes.

Although the area of the Meyers Creek property was withdrawn in 1906, no physical evidence of any early resources that date to this initial use remain. For that reason, the period of significance begins in 1926 and is associated with a concrete root cellar constructed at that date (Feature 13). The end of the period of significance is 1973, the end of the historic period.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Meyers Creek Work Center is situated along the northern edge of the Beartooth plateau in a mining, grazing, and recreation area (Map 2 and Map 3). The land where the work center lies was initially withdrawn for use by the Forest Service in 1906.⁹ Additional withdrawals occurred in 1910 (Map 5) and 1925 (Map 9). The Ranger Station was downgraded to a work center following district consolidation in the mid-1960s.¹⁰ This later period captures the Work Center's greatest span of evolving use. The Meyers Creek Work Center continues to serve the Custer Gallatin National Forest in an important, albeit mostly seasonal, administrative role. Much of the property continues use in its primary historic function, with the exception being the use of the main residence (Feature 1) as a public cabin rental.¹¹

A Short History of the Forest Service

Although the Forest Service history of the property begins in 1906, the earliest intact remaining resource on-site (Feature 1) dates to 1928, which serves as the beginning of the period of significance. However, earlier history relevant to the property begins prior to both 1906 and 1928. The year 1851 marks when much of the area was set aside as part of the Crow

⁹ Bolton and Hubber, P. 4.

¹⁰ USDA Forest Service Website, Meyers Creek Cabin Public Cabin Rental, Viewed on 6-6-2022 at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/custergallatin/recarea/?recid=60879>.

¹¹ USDA, Meyers Creek Cabin Public Cabin Rental Website, 2022.

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Reservation, an event associated with the Fort Laramie Treaty.¹² The original Reservation apportioned ranged from the headwaters of the Yellowstone River to the west and Powder River to east, from the Musselshell River to the north extending to the Wind River Mountains to the south.¹³ The Reservation underwent a series of reductions until the western border was relocated east to the divide between Pryor Creek and the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone, due to pressures from immigrants passing through the area headed to the gold fields further to the west, and additional pressure coming from intrusive miners that discovered mineral deposits at the Stillwater River. Land available for mining and homesteading in the area that includes the Meyers Creek Work Center opened up on October 15, 1892.¹⁴ Cultural material from precontact times was noted at the Meyers Creek Work Center location in 1975 in “some disturbance from voles and other activities,”¹⁵ but no distinct precontact cultural features have been observed at the site.

The Custer Gallatin National Forest of today is a result of an approximately 100-year evolution of government land stewardship and management. Its history begins with the establishment of the Forest Service by the “Act of March 3, 1891, which delegated the President of the United States the authority to withdraw public lands for that purpose and to create Forest Reserves by proclamation.”¹⁶ On March 30, 1891, creation of the Yellowstone Park Timber Land Reserve occurred. The same year, on September 10, that Reserve increased to include the land that now encompasses the Meyers Creek Work Center, in addition to the creation of the Absaroka Forest Reserve (in Montana).¹⁷ Administration of the Forest Reserves transferred to the Department of Agriculture in 1905 and on March 2, 1907, all Forest Reserves were redefined as National Forests. With the management of such a large area providing administrative challenges, further divisions occurred into the Absaroka, Beartooth, Teton, Wyoming, Washakie, and Shoshone National Forests on July 1, 1908, with the Meyers Creek Ranger Station located on the western edge of the Beartooth National Forest (Map 6).¹⁸

By 1933, the Beartooth National Forest underwent further refinement with smaller districts, and the Meyers Creek Ranger Station fell within the Stillwater District D-1 of the Custer National Forest (Map 11). The Meyers Creek Ranger Station served as the headquarters of the Stillwater District until the mid-1960s, when its role was revised to that of a Work Center. In 2014, the Custer and Gallatin National Forests merged to form the Custer Gallatin National Forest, containing the districts of the Ashland Ranger District, Beartooth Ranger District, Bozeman Ranger District, Gardiner Ranger District, Hebgen Lake Ranger District, Sioux Ranger District,

¹² Patty Hooker, *Moccasins, Mining & Montana's 34th County: A Centennial Celebration of Stillwater County*, The Donning Company Publishers, Virginia Beach, VA., P. 20.

¹³ Hooker, *Moccasins, Mining & Montana's 34th County*, P. 20.

¹⁴ Hooker, *Moccasins, Mining & Montana's 34th County*, P. 29.

¹⁵ Larry Lahren, 24ST24 Archaeological Site Survey Form, Anthropologos Researches Inc., Livingston, Montana, August, 1975.

¹⁶ Custer Gallatin National Forest, Author Unknown, *History of the Custer National Forest Prior to 1946*, Billings Office, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Billings, Montana, Post-1946, P. 1.

¹⁷ CGNF, *History of the Custer National Forest Prior to 1946*, P. 1.

¹⁸ CGNF, *History of the Custer National Forest Prior to 1946*, P. 2.

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and the Yellowstone Ranger District. The Meyers Creek Work Center lies within the Beartooth Ranger District.

Meyers Creek Work Center

Meyers Creek reportedly derived its name for a Mr. Meyers that held a “squatters’ right on this creek.”¹⁹ Around the same time in the early 1900s and following the post-reservation years, cattleman George Oliver came to the site that later hosted the Meyers Creek Ranger Station. Here he constructed a 24’ x 24’ log cabin with a wood shingle roof, two brick chimneys, and a rock and cement foundation (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0001). Oliver also constructed outbuildings that included a 16’ x 24’ log barn at the western edge of the nominated area.²⁰ An addition of similar log construction was added to the house (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0002) in 1912 by the Forest Service.²¹ Oliver’s Canadian citizenship, however, prevented him from filing a homestead.

In 1906, the Forest Service withdrew the first parcel at the Meyers Creek Ranger Station locale for the administrative use of the Stillwater District, Beartooth National Forest (Map 5).²² An additional parcel was reserved by the District Forester on May 5, 1910, and the final addition of 120 acres of “open grass land” for additional grazing occurred in 1925 (Map 9).²³

The Meyers Creek Ranger Station was one of six early stations established on the Beartooth National Forest, the others being located at: Big Park, situated midway on the Stillwater River between what is now the Beartooth Ranch and Cooke City; Bad Canyon, five miles northeast of Meyers Creek; Cooke City; East Rosebud, and Red Lodge. Of these stations, only the Meyers Creek and Red Lodge stations remain (Map 11). All stations were “located with the idea of placing the station where it is most handy to the center of work and where it may be easily reached or communicated with.” The administrative duties during the early 1900s included the distribution of mining permits, boundary surveys, and the administration of timber sales to local mining and development concerns – sales “meaning much to the development of the local economy, and enforcement of Forest Service range management policies.”²⁴ Regional agricultural communities continued to grow through the late 1910s and 1920s, and the recreational resources of the forest “surrounded...by many cities and towns and densely settled

¹⁹ *Meyers Creek*, Historical Date Record, D-2, Beartooth District Ranger Frank

C. Robert F. Cooney (recorder) of Ralph Southworth, Billings Office, Custer Gallatin National Forest, March 29, 1936.

²⁰ Anonymous, *1930 Narrative*, Billings Office, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Billings, Montana, March 26, 1930.

²¹ Anonymous, *Improvement Memo, Beartooth, Ranger Station Plans, Meyers Cr. R.S.*, October 21, 1929. Document available in File 7300, Beartooth Ranger Station, Red Lodge, Montana.

²² Custer Gallatin National Forest, Mike W. Bergstrom, *Meyers Creek RS Brochure*, Billings Office, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Billings, Montana, March 3, 2017. P. 1.

²³ The National Register boundary includes much of the initial 1906 withdrawal but excludes the later 1910 and 1925 withdrawals.

²⁴ Glen Smith, *The Beartooth National Forest, its Resources, its Value and Relation to the Public*. Billings Office, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Billings, Montana, File #1680-106. Pp. 5-9.

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agricultural communities” came under increasing demand, leading to larger patrol forces and road and trail crews to expand station lodging facilities.²⁵ While automobiles and roads became more common on the edges of the forest, horses were routinely used for patrol and management duties, and their presence, care, and feeding at the Station constantly occurred.

Of the buildings present on the site prior to 1926, only collapsed root cellar remnants remain (Feature 16). Assorted small sheds, a granary located northwest of the residence, a 14’ x 16’ storage shed, a small bunkhouse located to the west of the residence, a log barn located to the west of the residence, and a 12’ x 30’ garage located north of the residence were present in 1930 (Map 10) but have since been removed. The garage, log barn, and associated sheds were removed in the late 1930s, replaced by the construction of a new garage (Feature 6) in 1937 and a new barn in 1938 (Feature 4). A small office sat northwest of the residence in 1930 but was moved from the site, circa 1944. Multiple latrines have come and gone at the property, primarily located on the southwestern extent of the nominated area and to the northeast of the residence. The original log house located on the western extent of the nominated area, which was later converted to a cookhouse/bunkhouse was removed in 1937.

In conjunction with accelerated fire and recreation programs, the first station expansion took place during the mid-1920s, when a 10’ x 12’ concrete root cellar (Feature 13) was added circa 1926. Remnants of this structure represents the last evidence of a resource associated with the earliest use of the property by the Forest Service, prior to the construction of features 1 and 2 in the late 1920s. In 1928, an early R-1 dwelling, Feature 1, (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0003) was added followed by an F-1 toilet, circa 1929. The addition of the new residence resulted in the removal in 1937 of the original log structure that remained from the initial Forest Service use and converted to a cookhouse/bunkhouse.²⁶ Proposed improvements to the station in 1929 “listed in order of importance,” include a B-1 barn, a two-car garage, a C-3 office, a 24’ x 24’ warehouse, an improved concrete cellar, and a new frame bunkhouse.²⁷ The architectural designations of B-1, C-3, F-1, and R-1 are as per categories established by C. P. Fickes in 1935.²⁸ Within these types, B=Barn, C=Office or administrative building, F=Latrine structures, and R=Ranger Residence. Latrine structures are an example of construction types have been modified\improved over the years.

Depression-era emergency appropriations made funding available for expansion during the 1930s. A remodel of the frame residence (Feature 1) in 1937, included the addition of a hallway “in accordance with the present Plan R-1 as shown in the Improvement Handbook”²⁹ Initially, the exterior of the house was painted white with green trim, however, Clyde Fickes,

²⁵ R. T. Ferguson, “*Report on Recreational Resources, Beartooth National Forest.*” 1915. Custer Gallatin National Forest, Billings, Montana, Office File #1680-750. P. 1.

²⁶ Bolton and Hubber, P. 4.

²⁷ Anonymous, *Improvement Memo, Beartooth, Ranger Station Plans, Meyers Cr. R.S.*, Signature not legible. Document available in File 7300, Beartooth Ranger Station, Red Lodge, Montana. October 21, 1929.

²⁸ Fickes, *Region One Handbook*, 1935.

²⁹ Fickes, *Region One Handbook*, 1935.

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Improvement Inspector for Region 1, recommended that “the next time the building is painted all of the exterior trim should be painted white.”³⁰ The house is currently painted white with green trim.

Of the four-car B-12 garage/shop (Feature 6) built in 1937, Fickes wrote:

An excellent job of construction has been secured even though a rather indifferent type of labor was available for the work. The roof pitch of the structure was changed from one-third to one-fourth...to make it jibe with the roof pitch of the dwelling. I believe this was a mistake since it makes the garage building look too squatty and also loses a considerable amount of storage space provided for in the plan overhead which is needed (Fickes 1937).

In 1938, the frame B-1 barn (Feature 4) and the C-3 office building (no longer on site), were completed. Both had been included in the improvement plans since 1929 (Map 10). The original 1929 improvement plan stated, “the [original] barn will be condemned and destroyed in the fiscal year 1931 for the reason that it is unsafe and past the status of repair;” it is assumed removal did not occur until the replacement barn had been completed. The office (no longer on site) was “a frame structure 14’ x 16’...exterior walls covered with 6” drop siding, one-third pitch roof and green stained shingles” located in the center of the circular drive to the south west (sic) of the frame dwelling” (Photos MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0004 and MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0005).³¹

In 1937, the water system was reconstructed and upgraded, and the original barn razed with the assistance of Works Progress Administration (WPA) labor. The original log dwelling also scheduled for removal at that time continued in use until the construction of a log residence (Feature 2) and new housing facilities (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0007) in 1952. Although the presence of the WPA at Meyers Creek was minimal, they contributed to other projects county-wide that included improvements to county gravel roads in 1935, improvements to the Main Boulder Road in 1937, and the construction of the Cobblestone School in Absarokee in 1938.³²

Important themes of the 1930s-era were embraced by the regional design team that supervised the construction and design details of the Meyers Creek Ranger Station. The designers were aware of stations’ increased visibility; therefore, greater attention was paid to individual features and their contribution(s) to the overall appearance of a property. Region 1 of the National Forest had addressed landscape considerations through the 1920s and 1930s. Under the early guidance of Victor T. Linthacum (Recreation Specialist) and Clarence B. Swim (Recreation Sites Inspector) in the 1930s, Region 1 hired landscape architect Pete Peterson to “provide guidance

³⁰ Clyde Fickes, *Memorandum to Custer National Forest Supervisor*, October 7, 1937.

³¹ Fickes, *Memorandum*, 1937.

³² The Living New Deal, Boulder Road and Absarokee School, viewed on 10-26-2022 at <https://livingnewdeal.org/map/>; “Where \$20,000,000 May be Spent by Montana’s Works Progress Administration,” *Billings Gazette*, Sunday, August 25, 1935, P. 7.

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and supervision during the recreation and landscape programs of construction.”³³ With the addition of Peterson and C.M. Beardsley, planning and constructing recreational resources “sensitive to their environment” improved. Working under the supervision of Peterson, landscape architect Beardsley argued:

The present approach to the site by coming in on a long straight land across an open flat is very monotonous and unimpressive...If it is possible, a much more desirable approach can be developed by leaving the main road just after crossing the small bridge about 1000 ft. south of the present entrance and following along the north side of Meyers Creek to the administrative site.³⁴

This suggestion reflected a conscious decision to focus on overall site aesthetics, as well as the Forest Service’s traditional concern that improvements be practical and that an agency property blend with its surroundings: “This would be a more direct approach, make it possible to develop an inviting entrance, would add interest to the drive by following the natural terrain, and would keep the road out of the deep snow that is encountered on the present location.”³⁵ Following the 1930s construction, improvement engineer Clyde Fickes wrote, “on the whole the station present[s] a very neat appearance considering the number of old structures still in use and there is every appearance that Ranger (Carl) Walker is a good housekeeper.”³⁶ The road has since been moved to the location recommended by Clyde Fickes and visitors entering the site today are greeted by an array of traditional National Forest signs (Feature 12) [Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0028].

By the 1950s, facility improvements were needed. The log residence (Feature 2) was constructed in 1952 and the one-car garage (Feature 3) in 1954. Since the 1950s, the only additional structure added to the property is a precast concrete vault toilet toward the western edge of the work center and near the parking area for the Meyers Creek Trailhead. This vault toilet replaced an earlier latrine located at the southwestern corner of the property (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0024).

In the 1960s, the Forest Service combined the Meyers Creek District and the Red Lodge District resulting in the district office move to Red Lodge, and the Meyers Creek Ranger Station redefined as a work center, a function it continues to serve today. Since the 1960s, little construction beyond seasonal maintenance has taken place at the station. During the 1980s, granite boulders placed on the west side of the driveway oval formed a rectilinear parking area. Since 2017, the buck fences that once surrounded Feature 1 and Feature 2 have been removed and many of the components reused to make buck structures to protect plumbing vents and

³³ *District 1 and the Growth of Recreation Planning*, Recreation Residence Historic Contexts for Eight National Forests in USDA-Region 1, HHM Inc., Austin, Texas, prepared for Gallatin National Forest, Montana 1919-1932, July 2006, P. 45.

³⁴ C. M. Beardsley, *Improvement Memo*, to Custer NF Supervisor, Available in File #7300, Beartooth Ranger station, Red Lodge, Montana. March 16, 1937.

³⁵ Beardsley, *Improvement Memo*, 1937.

³⁶ Fickes, *Memorandum*, 1937.

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valves (Feature 9). Corral configurations continue to evolve over the years, with portable panels growing in popularity and gradually replacing their wood counterparts.

Life at the Meyers Creek Work Center

From the earliest days of the Meyers Creek Ranger Station, grazing management of cattle, horses, and sheep played a significant role in the employees' workload in addition to tasks associated with fire, forestry, hunting, fishing, and tourism management. To oversee associated lands, horses have – and continue to be - a vital part of backcountry transportation. In the early 1900s, roads were scarce to nonexistent, and distance between areas made foot travel impractical for both covering ground and transporting materials used to maintain trails and construct bridges in the backcountry. For a brief time in 1929, the use of motorized vehicles occurred when George Weppler and Vernon Nitsche of Absarokee, Montana followed the horse trail upstream along the nearby Stillwater River, riding their Harley Davidson motorcycles from what is now known as the Beartooth Ranch, approximately 30 miles to the south, coming out at Cooke City, Montana.³⁷ Their familiarity with the area arose from Weppler's experience of running a band of sheep north of the Meyers Creek Station. Despite Weppler and Nitsche's use of motorcycles, no road was ever developed and today the Meyers Creek Work Station is positioned on the border of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness of the Custer Gallatin National Forest. In fact, motorized travel is prohibited, and horses continue to serve as the primary mode of travel for management and the public.

With the Station's remote location, the unpredictable weather in the area can prove disagreeable, as experienced by Beartooth National Forest Service Inspector R. T. Ferguson and C. H. Adams of Missoula, grazing inspector of Forest District No. 1. On a June 15, 1915, trip to Meyers Creek, they were stopped in their tracks and forced to turn back by deep snow a full 10 miles short of the Station.³⁸ Inspector R. T. Ferguson faced the same issue seven years later when heavy snow again thwarted his travel plans in January of 1922; Ferguson made it to the Meyers Creek Station but no further as the snow depth was an understated, "above normal."³⁹ It remains unclear if Ferguson, who visited the Station to grant grazing applications, received many requests that January. Ferguson proved a regular visitor to the Meyers Creek Ranger Station with another visit in 1927, when he joined four other Rangers to begin construction of a "four-room ranger station."⁴⁰

The granting of grazing and forestry applications were facilitated from the Meyers Creek Ranger Station for most of the 1900s, as was also the case at other ranger stations in the District, including Sage Creek Ranger Station in the Pryor Mountains and the Poker Jim Ranger Station in the Ashland District.⁴¹

³⁷ "Absarokee Boys Riding Motorcycles Make Trip to Park via Stillwater," *Billings Gazette*, Monday, August 12, 1929, P. 3.

³⁸ "Eight Inches of Snow at Head of the Stillwater," *Billings Gazette*, Tuesday, June 15, 1915, P. 6.

³⁹ "Ferguson Finds Snow Plentiful in Mountains," *Billings Gazette*, Thursday, January 12, 1922, P. 3.

⁴⁰ "Building Ranger Station," *Billings Gazette*, Wednesday, November 2, 1927, P. 2.

⁴¹ "Forest Office Sets Grazing Applications: Rangers Will Receive Filings for Own Territories," *Billings Gazette*, Saturday, February 3, 1923, P. 3.

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Fire management duties rank as an important percentage of the workload for those stationed at Meyers Creek. In 1921, Robert I. Harris served in the capacity as Fire Guard at the Meyers Creek Ranger Station.⁴² Harris witnessed advances in technology that contributed to an increased ability to report incidents. For several years in the late 1920s to the 1930s, a telephone line ran from Cooke City, Montana to the Meyers Creek Ranger Station, that also connected directly to the Limestone Ranger Station to the west on Boulder Creek.⁴³ The direct line(s) were primarily used for fire reporting, enhancing the Forest Service's capability. The line remained in place and functional through the efforts of employees at Meyers Creek who assisted in its maintenance. The lines were eventually replaced by radio communication in 1951.⁴⁴

While not a complete list of Rangers that served at the Meyers Creek Ranger Station, those that occupied the position include: Jay J. McGlinch in 1922;⁴⁵ A. W. Vogelsang in 1924;⁴⁶ A. L. (Gus) Olson in 1928-1931;⁴⁷ Robert L. Harris in 1934;⁴⁸ Carl S. Walker in 1937-38;⁴⁹ Carl Simpson in 1948;⁵⁰ Ronald A. Watters in 1949-1950;⁵¹ Haldon Smith (Assistant Ranger) in 1949;⁵² Edward Slusher in 1952-1953;⁵³ Jack Royle (Assistant Ranger) 1954;⁵⁴ William Evans in 1956;⁵⁵ and Vern Thompson (Assistant Ranger) in 1957.⁵⁶ In 1964, the Meyers Creek Ranger Station transitioned to the Meyers Creek Work Center.

Similar to today, the advancement of invasive species into forests stood as a concern. In 1929, the suppression of such species, including "larkspur and other poisonous plants" caused enough anxiety that R. T. Ferguson made an inspection trip to the Meyers Creek Ranger Station to inspect the eradication work in progress.⁵⁷

⁴² "Personals," *Billings Gazette*, Tuesday, October 4, 1921, P. 3.

⁴³ "Ferguson to Form Fire Fighters at Mountain Village," *Billings Gazette*, Wednesday, June 25, 1930, P. 4.

⁴⁴ "Forest Engineer Installs Radios," *Billings Gazette*, Friday, July 13, 1951, P. 13.

⁴⁵ "As It Was in Billings: 35 Years Ago - Jan. 12, 1922," *Billings Gazette*, Saturday, January 12, 1957, P. 4.

⁴⁶ "Ranger Transferred," *Billings Gazette*, Wednesday, December 17, 1924, P. 4.

⁴⁷ "Applications Asked for Grazing Permits," *Billings Gazette*, Friday, February 3, 1928, P. 5.

⁴⁸ "Ranger's Condition Reported Improving," *Billings Gazette*, Sunday April 22, 1934, P. 3.

⁴⁹ "Tales of the Town," *Billings Gazette*, Wednesday, March 13, 1940, P. 3.

⁵⁰ "Tales of the Town," *Billings Gazette*, Tuesday, January 13, 1948, P. 3.

⁵¹ "Porcupines Gain in Forest Areas: Damage to Trees Cited by Rangers," *Billings Gazette*, Thursday, February 3, 1949, P. 3.

⁵² "Scenic Beartooth Wilderness Area Is Being Studied for Forest Service Trail: Primitive Region Offers Greatest Attractions for Hunters and Anglers," *Billings Gazette*, Sunday, November 6, 1949, P. 21.

⁵³ "Forest Service Plans Group Tour," *Billings Gazette*, Saturday, August 9, 1952, P. 2.

⁵⁴ "Forest Workers Study Driving: School Under Way on Rock Creek," *Billings Gazette*, Wednesday, June 23, 1954, P. 7.

⁵⁵ "Water Damages Roads in Forest: Rosebud Lake Route is Cut," *Billings Gazette*, Friday, June 1, 1956, P. 17.

⁵⁶ "Ranger Speaks at Club Meeting," *Billings Gazette*, Friday, April 5, 1957, P. 28.

⁵⁷ "Ferguson Returns from Trip to Stations," *Billings Gazette*, Saturday, June 15, 1929, P. 9.

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With the amount of field work conducted at the different stations, completion of the associated paperwork sometimes fell in arrears. The Forest Service would detail competent individuals to assist with such administrative tasks, illustrating that the agency didn't consist of only Rangers, grazing and forestry personnel. In 1937, Miss Alice Whalen, a Senior Clerk in the Forest Service was detailed to the Meyers Creek Ranger Station for a week to "assist in bring the files up to standard."⁵⁸

From the beginning of the 1900s, horses played an important role in forest management, a role that continues to this day. In addition to horses, mules served a critical role in transporting supplies and construction material into the backcountry. In 1930, the Region 1 Forester established the Remount Depot on Nine-Mile Creek near Missoula, Montana. Ranger Clyde Fickes oversaw the training, breeding, care, and stabling of horses and mules there for the purpose of the distribution of animals and techniques throughout the Forest, including the Meyers Creek Ranger Station. The mules, known as "Rocky Mountain canaries," were tougher, more reliable, and trail-wise than horses; mules avoided bumping their packs into rocks and trees along the trail, were more surefooted, and could carry heavier loads than horses. The work of the Fickes team "proved that a string of nine mules with more than a ton of supplies on their collective backs could form a solid basis of supply for firefighters controlling forest fires."⁵⁹

An example of the use and necessity of pack animals from the Meyers Creek Station is illustrated by the assistance of Hokon "Hoke" Grotbo gave to Deputy Game Warden R. C. Gibler in 1941 (Photo MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0032). Grotbo took time from his position at the Meyers Creek Station to assist Gibler in the transportation and planting of 116,000 trout eggs up the nearby Stillwater River. For the trip, the eggs were placed in "tray-like containers" and then packed in ice. Eggs and ice were transported on one mule and another mule carried additional ice for the five-day trip.⁶⁰

Not all station management that occurred at the different Ranger Stations focused on the common perception of firefighting. Tourism became a management factor in the National Forests as new trails opened and developed. Efforts expanded in 1949 as blasting was conducted to establish a trail seven miles beyond Rainbow Lake in the East Rosebud drainage. The efforts began in 1921, resumed in 1939, and again in 1949.⁶¹ With improved trails in place, the Forest Service hosted a horse packing trip in 1952 led by Ranger Edward Slusher of the Meyers Creek Ranger Station. Guests along on the trip included: H. L. Buck, secretary of the Commercial Club; Clark K. Fergus, a local merchant; Dr. H. O. Drew; Glen Nolte, Chairman of the Dude Ranchers Committee of the Commercial Club; and Walter C. Nye, Secretary of the Dude Ranchers Association.⁶²

⁵⁸ "Tales of the Town," *Billings Gazette*, Tuesday, September 28, 1937, P. 7.

⁵⁹ *Remount Depot*, The National Forests of the Northern Region: Living Legacy, United States Department of Agriculture, November 1993, P. 236.

⁶⁰ "Stillwater River Will Be Stocked: 116,000 Trout Eggs Being Taken There," *Billings Gazette*, Sunday, June 22, 191, P. 3.

⁶¹ "Scenic Beartooth Wilderness Area Is Being Studied for Forest Service Trail," *Billings Gazette*, 1949.

⁶² "Forest Service Plans Group Tour," *Billings Gazette*, 1952.

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In 1964, forestry management offered harvesting Christmas trees on the National Forest, with permits available at Meyers Creek. While the permits were available at no cost, the Forest Service noted that it the acquisition of a tree would be cheaper in town.⁶³

An Example of the Duties of a 1970s Meyers Creek Employee

During the 1970s, the routine of a Forest Service employee stationed at Meyers Creek embodied many duties that ranged from campground maintenance to backcountry monitoring. The daily schedule encompassed repairing fencing, emptying garbage cans, checking campgrounds, monitoring for fires, and public relations issues. By this time, the Forest Service relied heavily on radios for communication, hence, the erection of the antennae structure at the Station (Feature 8). Excerpts from the 1978 Log Book of the Station kept by a summer employee provides some insight into their routine:

7-3 – Working 10-7 today. Take trash cans up first, then if weather holds go up to Sioux Charlie. .07 inches rain last 24 hr. Had a lot of radio communications last night. Got woken up at 1:00 am to call in message to Sheriff department. Don't know if they got the body down last night. Very overcast and cold today.⁶⁴

7-24 – The trail crew parked their horses here to get shoed. Donahoe came and shoed them. The horse-flies were real bad and gave him a bad time. He worked hard and did a good job.⁶⁵

8-20 – Cleaned bathrooms after driving up to Picket-Pin, (a little way up). Did trash. Found some abandoned people (a family up by Emerald Lake) Asked Chuck to call Sheriff because we didn't want to get involved in a family matter.⁶⁶

9-3 – Chuck came up today. We went up West Rosebud. A really nice weekend, but I have never seen so many people. Most of them are behaved well, but some are real jerks.⁶⁷

9-7 – Came back to station. Fought a fire yesterday in Red Lodge. About 15 acres. Reminded me of the fires in Calif. A lot of sage and grass burned. We are lucky that it did not jump the road or go in a north direction. Met Matt at station and we fenced. A sunny but cool day.⁶⁸

9-11 – My last day. .008 inches of rain and snow in the mountains. Will miss Myers Creek have grown to like the area and people. Matt is a good worker but needs

⁶³ "In Custer Forest: You Can Cut Your Own Tree," *Billings Gazette*, Tuesday, December 1, 1964, P. 1.

⁶⁴ Anonymous, *1978 Meyers Creek Log Book*, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Billings, Montana. 1978. P. 4.

⁶⁵ Anonymous, *1978 Meyers Creek Log Book*, P. 13.

⁶⁶ Anonymous, *1978 Meyers Creek Log Book*, P. 24.

⁶⁷ Anonymous, *1978 Meyers Creek Log Book*, P. 28.

⁶⁸ Anonymous, *1978 Meyers Creek Log Book*, P. 28.

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supervision. He knows everyone in county. Cold and windy here. Cleaned the house up well last night. Will go into Red Lodge this afternoon...All and all, good summer.⁶⁹

Later Improvements

The Forest Service has made many improvements to the Meyers Creek Station over the years to continue to serve the needs of the public. Between 1989 and 2002, a square-plan post-and-pole corral replaced a circular corral on the north side of the barn; gates were replaced with steel, and a fiberglass stock tank added. A post-and-pole fence that once surrounded the white house (Feature 1) was removed and replaced with a jack-leg fence. At that time, a similar fence, also now removed, surrounded the log house (Feature 2). In 2001, the large living room window on the north side of the log house (Feature 2) was replaced and in 2002, improvements to the sewage system occurred.⁷⁰

In 2003, a group of USDA Forest Service Employees led by Kirby Matthew, Exhibit Specialist of the R-1 Historic Preservation Team, facilitated lead paint remediation of the “Ranger’s house” (Feature 1). In addition to prepping, cleaning, priming, and painting surfaces, the project served to train employees in the proper methods of such work.⁷¹

Conclusion

The Meyers Creek Work Center represents one of the original district headquarters of the Beartooth National Forest. After 1932, the property was incorporated into the Custer National Forest. The historic resources at the property are characteristic of the late 1920s, 1930s, and 1950s periods of development, and most of the major buildings constructed during these periods remain, except for a wood frame 12’ x 14’ office building and two associated small sheds, moved from the property, circa 1944.

The Meyers Creek Work Center, formerly the Meyers Creek Ranger Station, is eligible for listing under Criterion A for its association with administrative activities of the Forest Service from 1926 to 1972. Ranger district headquarters are representative of USDA Forest Service management policies and of the aesthetics that guided the agency’s improvements program and its stewardship of public lands. The Meyers Creek Work Center continues to serve in an administrative function.

In addition to the historical appearance of the station, the landscape setting, look, and feel of this property has remained unchanged, and contributes greatly to the overall significance of the site. Visitors from the late 1930s through the mid-1970s would recognize the facility and understand the distribution and functions of its features. Employees from the entire period of significance would immediately recognize where to water their horses, hang their tack, and find a bed for the

⁶⁹ Anonymous, *1978 Meyers Creek Log Book*, P. 30.

⁷⁰ Mike W. Bergstrom, *Update/monitor site form for 24ST234 (Meyers Creek Work Center or Ranger Station)*, Custer Gallatin National Forest, March 29, 2002.

⁷¹ Kirby Matthew, *Historical Preservation Project, Meyers Creek Cabin*, Beartooth Ranger District, Custer National Forest, USDA Forest Service, Region One, April 21-30 and May 6-9, 2003.

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night (Photos MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0029 and
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0033).

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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“Eight Inches of Snow at Head of the Stillwater,” Tuesday, June 15, 1915, P. 6.

“Personals,” Tuesday, October 4, 1921, P. 3.

“Ferguson Finds Snow Plentiful in Mountains,” Thursday, January 12, 1922, P. 3.

“Forest Office Sets Grazing Applications: Rangers Will Receive Filings for Own Territories,” Saturday, February 3, 1923, P. 3.

“Ranger Transferred,” Wednesday, December 17, 1924, P. 4.

“Building Ranger Station,” Wednesday, November 2, 1927, P. 2.

“Applications Asked for Grazing Permits,” Friday, February 3, 1928, P. 5.

“Ferguson Returns from Trip to Stations,” Saturday, June 15, 1929, P. 9.

“Where \$20,000,000 May be Spent by Montana’s Works Progress Administration,” Sunday, August 25, 1935, P. 7.

“Building Ranger Station,” Wednesday, November 2, 1927, P. 2.

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“Ferguson to Form Fire Fighters at Mountain Village,” Wednesday, June 25, 1930, P. 4.

“Ranger’s Condition Reported Improving,” Sunday April 22, 1934, P. 3.

“Tales of the Town,” Tuesday, September 28, 1937, P. 7.

“Tales of the Town,” Wednesday, March 13, 1940, P. 3.

“Stillwater River Will Be Stocked: 116,000 Trout Eggs Being Taken There,” Sunday, June 22, 191, P. 3.

“Tales of the Town,” Tuesday, January 13, 1948, P. 3.

“Porcupines Gain in Forest Areas: Damage to Trees Cited by Rangers,” Thursday, February 3, 1949, P. 3.

“Scenic Beartooth Wilderness Area Is Being Studied for Forest Service Trail: Primitive Region Offers Greatest Attractions for Hunters and Anglers,” Sunday, November 6, 1949, P. 21.

“Forest Engineer Installs Radios,” Friday, July 13, 1951, P. 13.

“Forest Service Plans Group Tour,” Saturday, August 9, 1952, P. 2.

“Forest Workers Study Driving: School Under Way on Rock Creek,” Wednesday, June 23, 1954, P. 7.

“Water Damages Roads in Forest: Rosebud Lake Route is Cut,” Friday, June 1, 1956, P. 17.

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November 1993.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Custer Gallatin National Forest

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 120 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(Enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Boundary (Maps 2, 3, 12, and 13)

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 45.489980° | Longitude: -109.922370° |
| 2. Latitude: 45.493620° | Longitude: -109.922280° |
| 3. Latitude: 45.493480° | Longitude: -109.911890 |
| 4. Latitude: 45.486340° | Longitude: -109.911810° |
| 5. Latitude: 45.486180° | Longitude: -109.917610° |
| 6. Latitude: 45.489820° | Longitude: -109.917700 |

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary encompasses a 120-acre portion of the original Administrative Site (Map 9) area described in a 1925 FS document. The National Register Nomination boundary consists of the N1/2 of the NE1/4 and SE1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 18, T4S R.15E. The boundary includes much of the land originally set aside for the establishment of the Meyers Creek Ranger Station, and a representative amount of land to provide an adequate sense of setting. See attached maps Section 9 page 42; reference to these maps confirm the boundary.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nomination boundary utilizes this previously described limit to encompass the associated physical features of this station appropriately and sufficiently and to encompass the area where routine activities historically occurred and continue to take place. Routine duties over the greater expanse of the area encompassed grazing for associated livestock that included horses and mules used for routine trail work. The boundary represents an appropriate area regarding the historical function of the station and its associated structures.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Timothy R. Urbaniak, PhD
organization: TRU Technologies LLC
street & number: 503 Calhoun Lane
city or town: Billings state: MT zip code: 59101
e-mail turbaniak@bresnan.net
telephone: 406-259-6595
date: 11-4-2022

edited by:

name/title: John Boughton
organization: MT State Historic Preservation Office
street & number: 1301 E. Lockey, P.O. Box 201202
city or town: Helena state: MT zip code: 59620
e-mail jboughton@mt.gov
telephone: (406) 444-3647
date: December 2022

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5- or 15-minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

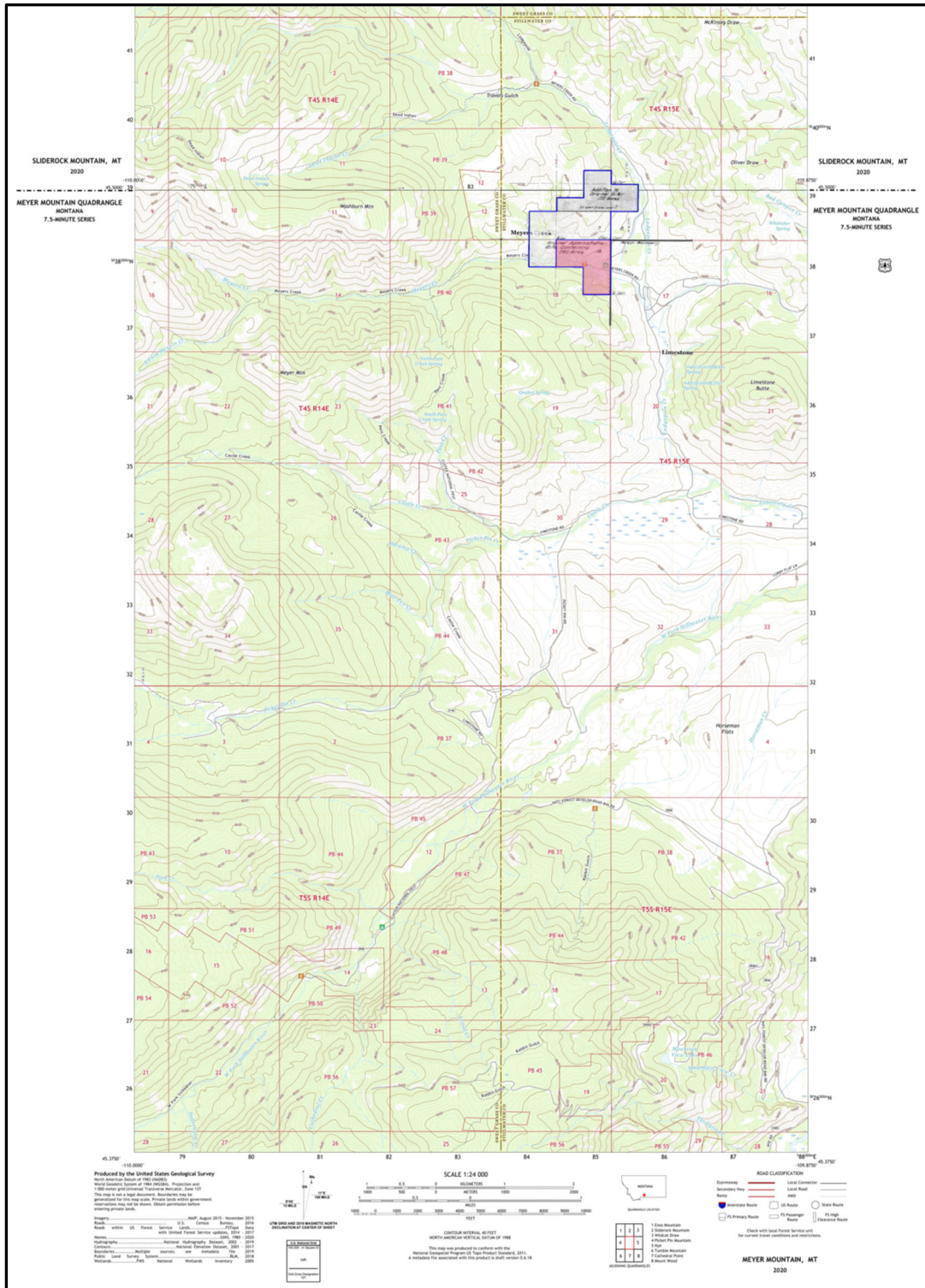


Map 1. Location Map: Meyers Creek Work Center

Source: https://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/map/USA/montana_map.htm

Meyers Creek Work Center
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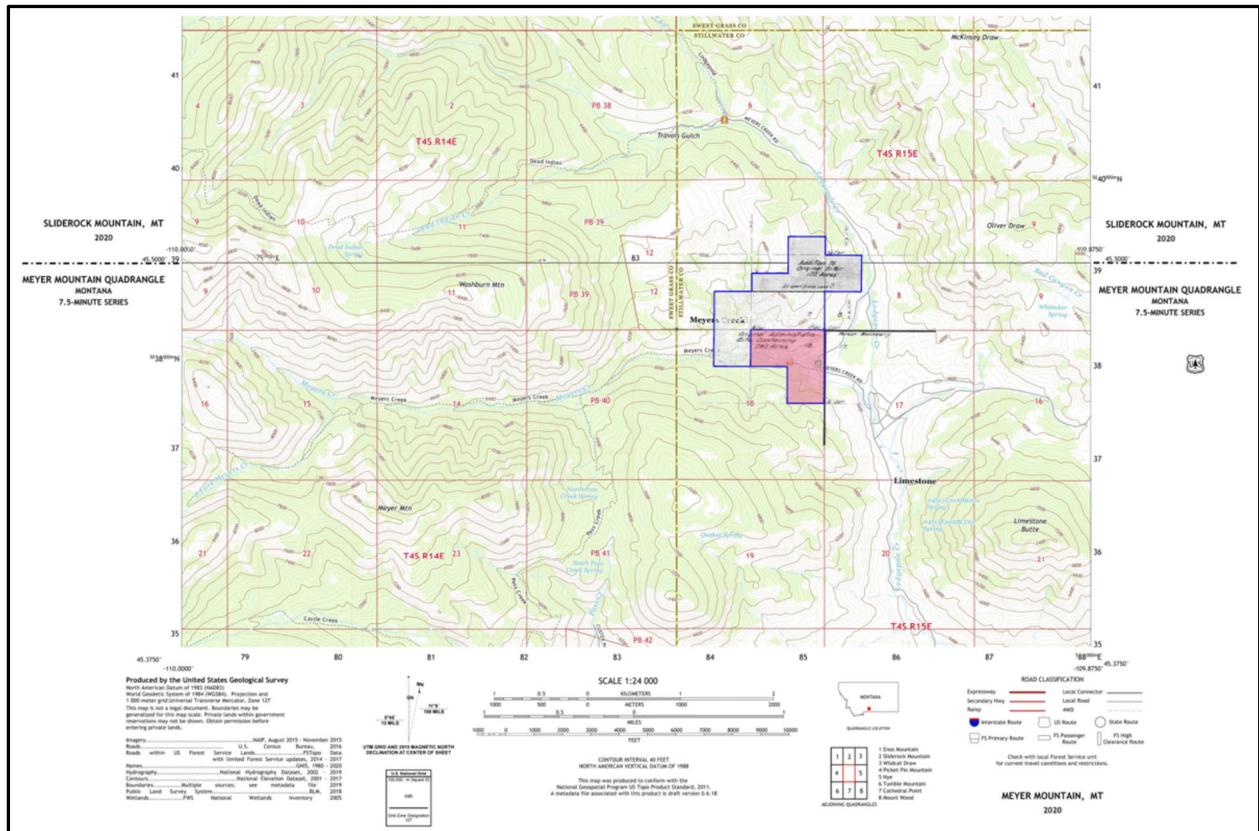
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Map 2. Location Map: Meyers Creek Work Center
 The Meyer Mountain quadrangle with the bottom portion of Sliderock Mountain quadrangle at top, 2020 7.5-minute series. Nomination area is highlighted in red.

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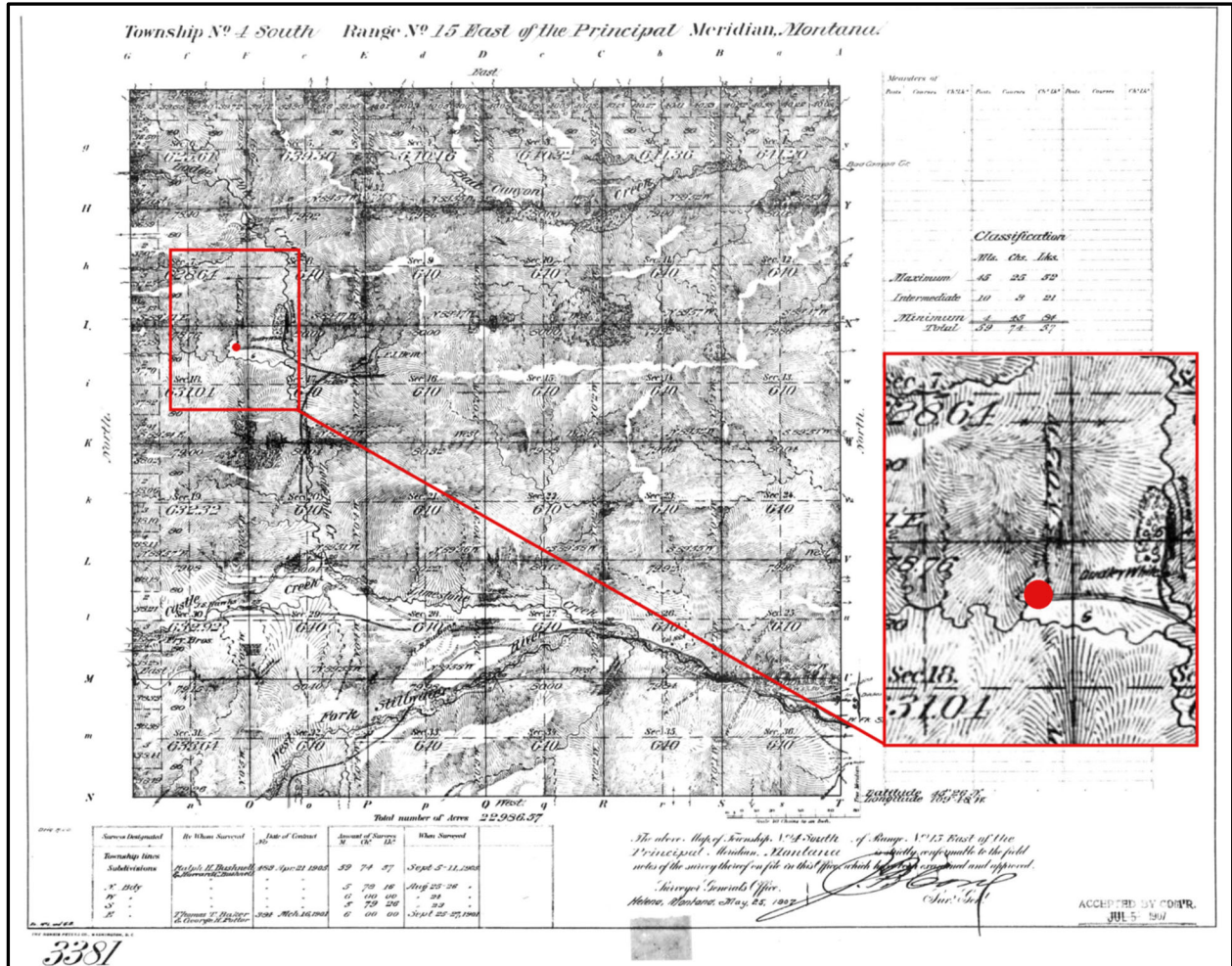


Map 3. Location Map: Meyers Creek Work Center

The top of the Meyer Mountain quadrangle with the bottom portion of Sliderock Mountain quadrangle at top showing the limits of the administrative withdrawal area, with nomination area highlighted in red.

Meyers Creek Work Center
 Name of Property

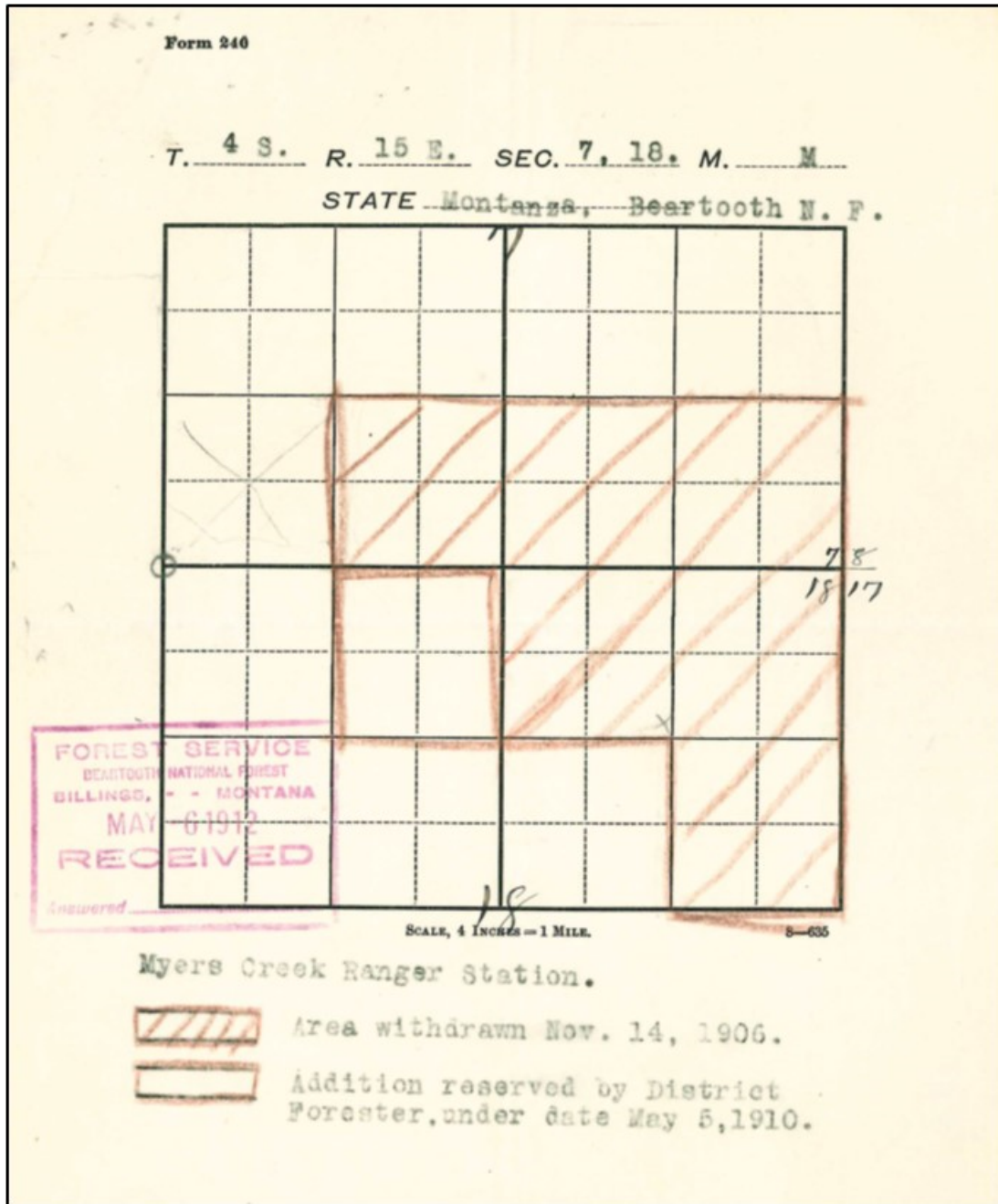
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Map 4. Location Map: 1905 Map of Township No. 4 South, Range No. 15 East of the Principal Meridian, Montana. The enlarged area shows the future Meyers Creek Ranger Station Location. Source: Custer Gallatin National Forest

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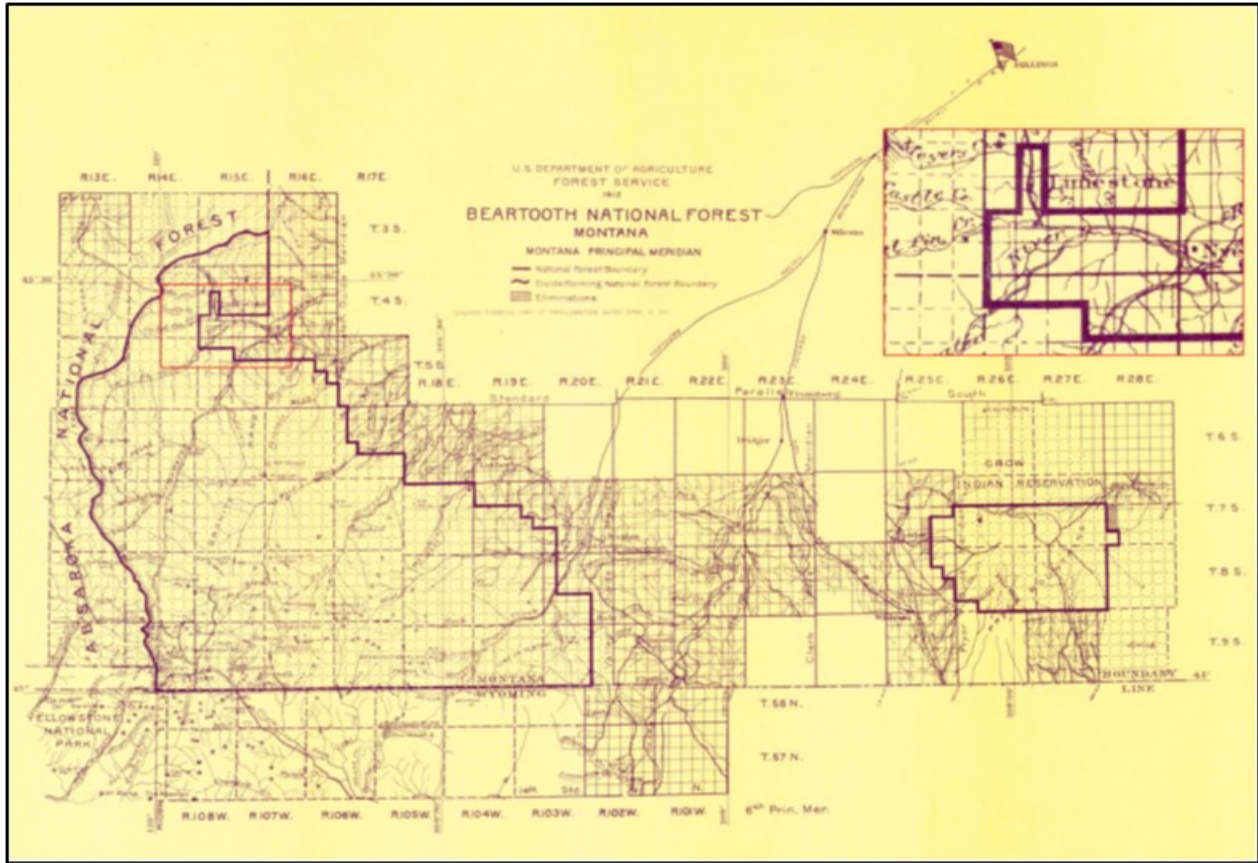


Map 5. Location Map: 1912 Map of Township No. 4 South, Range No. 15 East, portions of Sections 7 and 18 showing land areas withdrawn in 1906 and 1910 for the Meyers Creek Ranger Station.

Source: Custer Gallatin National Forest

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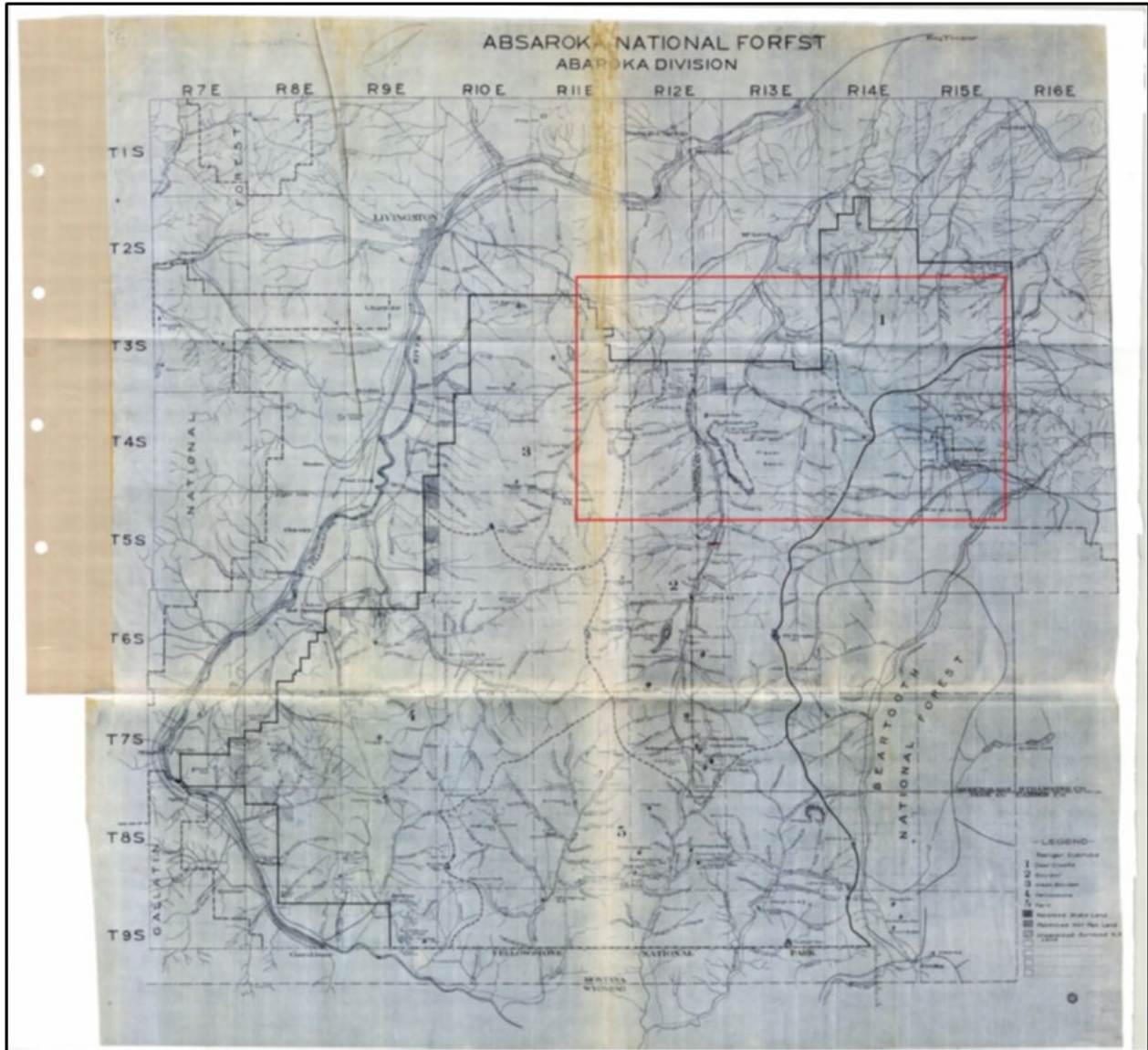
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Map 6. Location Map: 1912 Beartooth National Forest map showing the Meyers Creek Ranger Station site (with insert).
Source: Custer Gallatin National Forest

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Name of Property

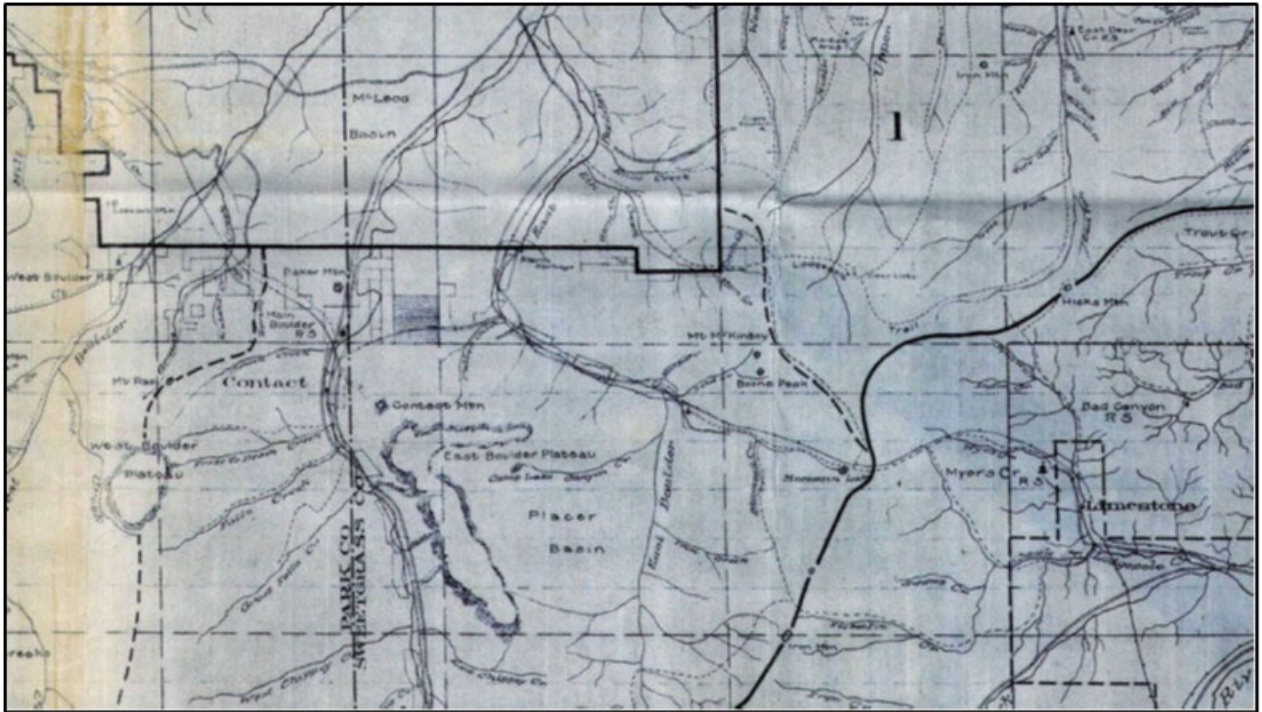
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Map 7. Location Map: 1915 Absaroka National Forest map showing the Meyers Creek Ranger Station site and its proximity to mining on the East Boulder (with excerpt marked in red).
Source: Custer Gallatin National Forest

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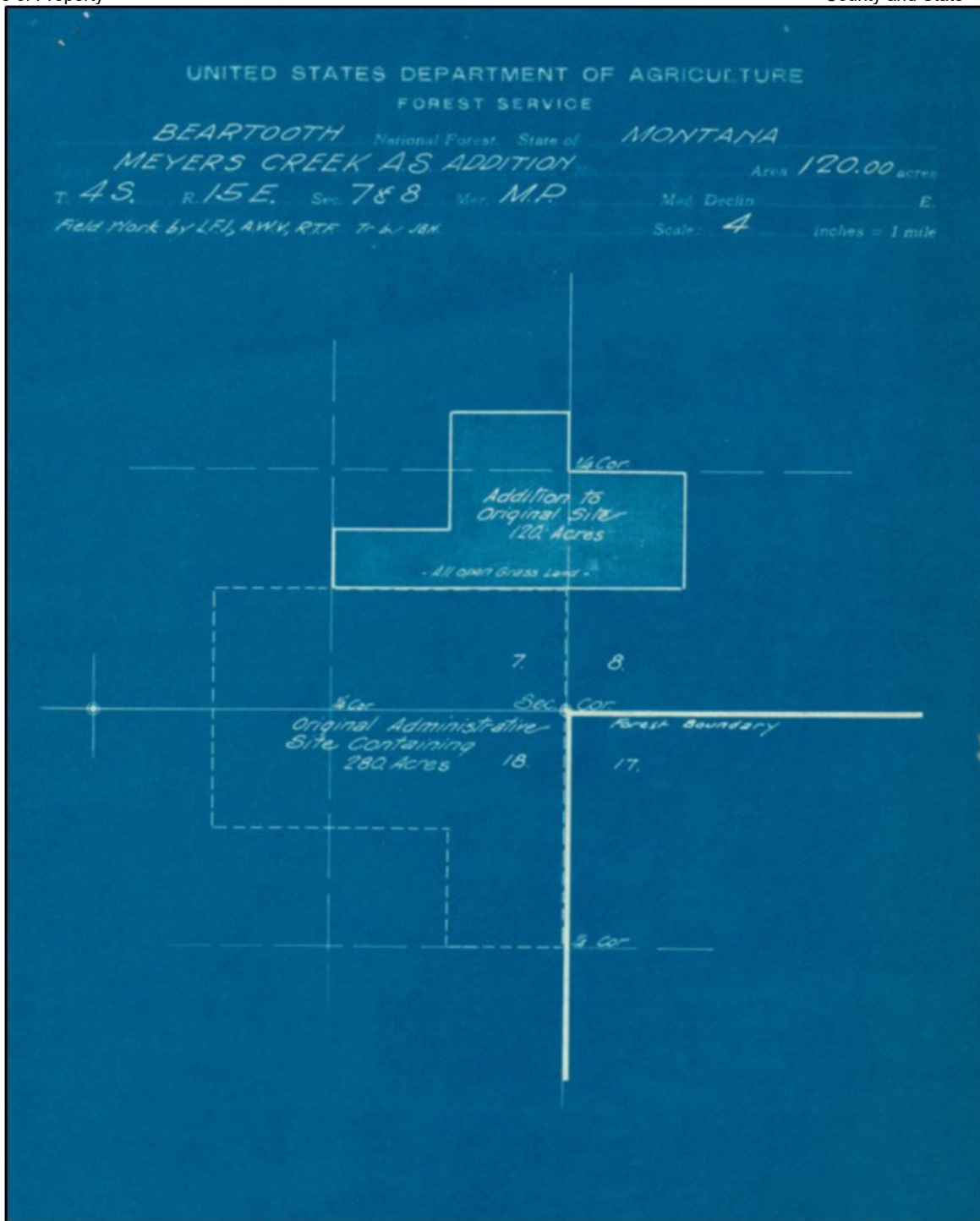
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Map 8. Location Map: 1915 Absaroka National Forest map showing the Meyers Creek Ranger Station site and its proximity to mining on the East Boulder (excerpt of Map 7).
Source: Custer Gallatin National Forest

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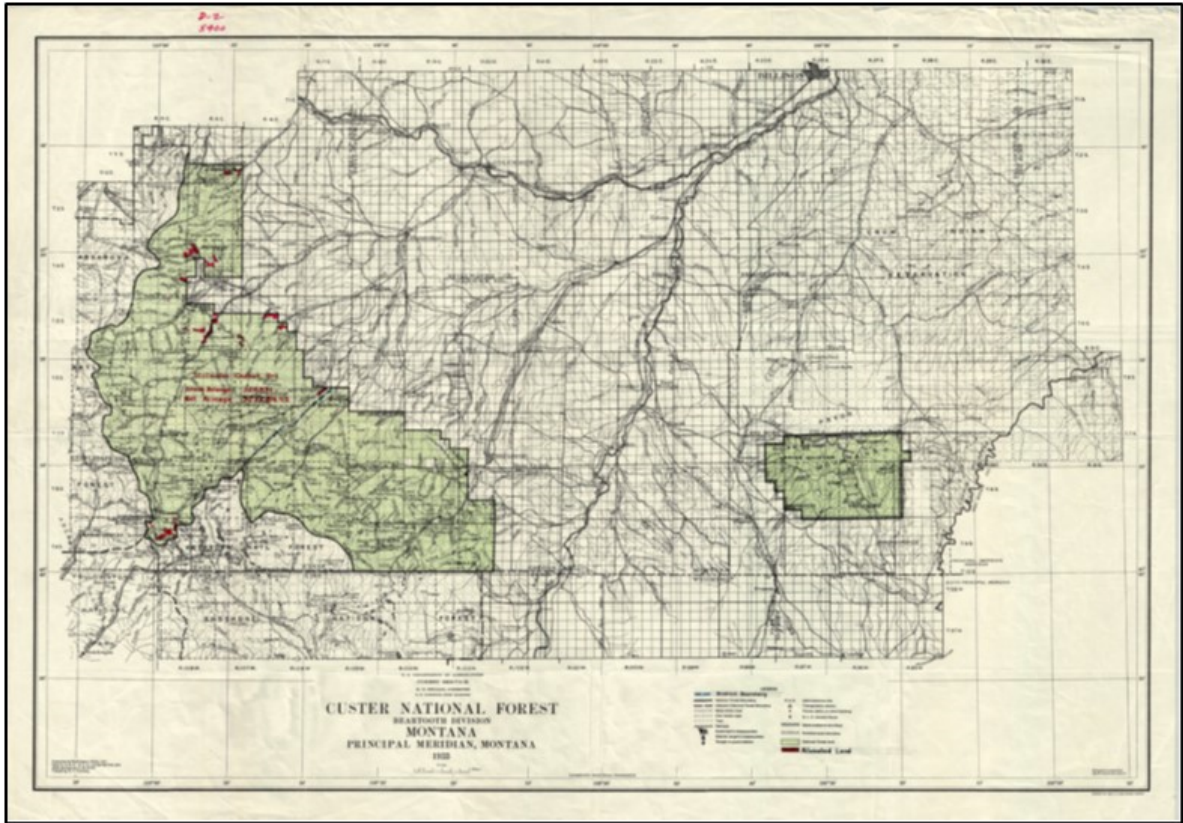


Map 9. Location Map: 1925 Addition of 120 acres to the Meyers Creek Ranger Station site. This administrative addition is not included in the nomination area.

Source: Custer Gallatin National Forest

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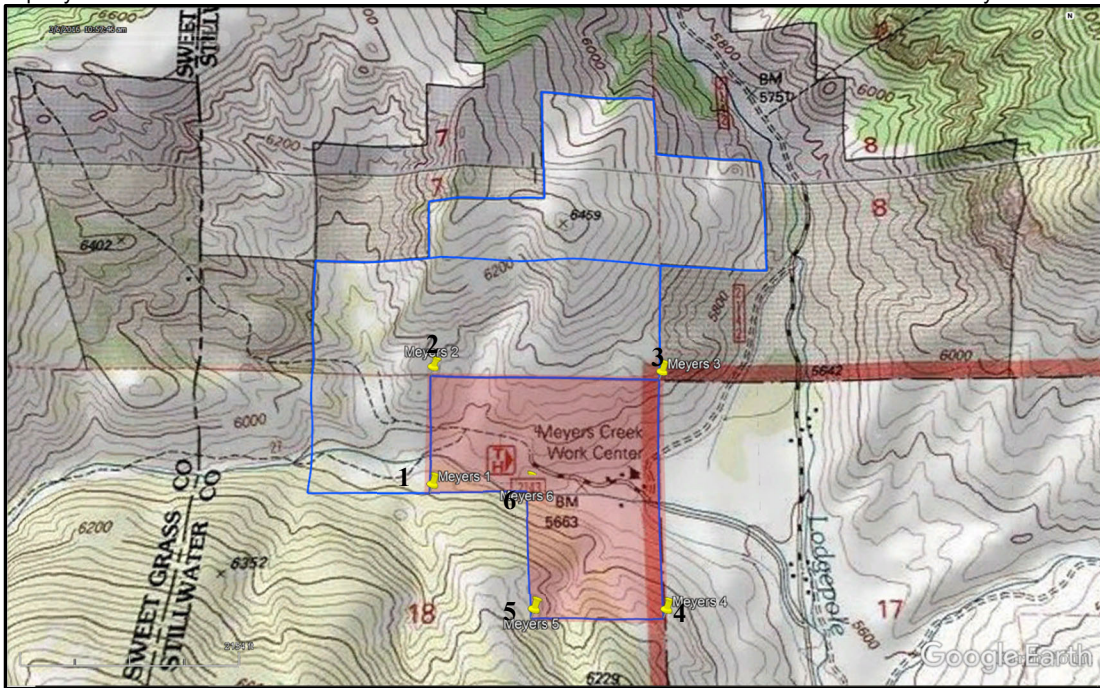
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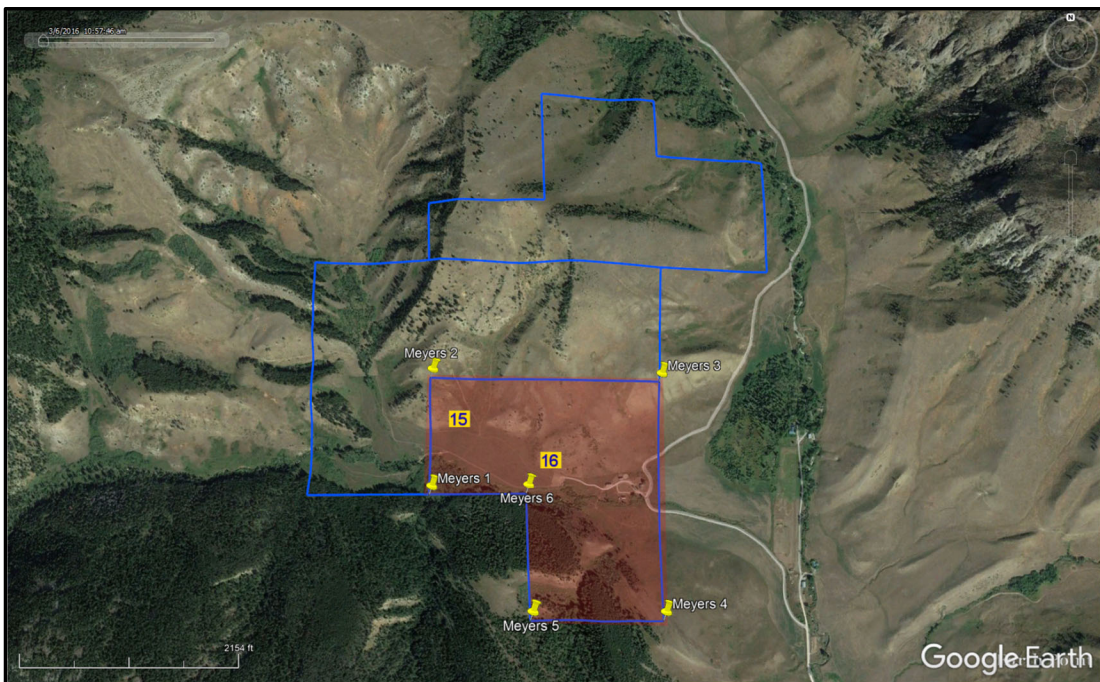
Map 11. Location Map: 1933 Beartooth Division of the Custer National Forest
Source: Custer Gallatin National Forest

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Map 12. Location Map: Nomination boundary (red) and 1925 administrative addition (blue) with a quad map overlay. The administrative addition is not included in the nomination. Source: Google Earth. 1) Lat: 45.489980 Long: -109.922370, 2) Lat: 45.493620 Long: -109.922280, 3) Lat: 45.493480 Long: -109.911890, 4) Lat: 45.486340 Long: -109.911810, 5) Lat: 45.486180 Long: -109.917610, 6) Lat: 45.489820 Long: -109.917700



Map 13. Location Map: View showing the nomination boundary and features west of the Meyers Creek Work Center. Source: Google Earth

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Map 14. Location Map: View showing the current structures of the Meyers Creek Work Center.
Source: Google Earth



Map 15. Photo Map: View showing the feature and photo locations and directions.
Source: Google Earth

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Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0001 of 33	0001 – Original Meyers Creek Ranger Station in the early 1920s, Looking northwest-west, Stillwater County, Montana, 1920s. Photographer: Unknown.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0002 of 33	0002 – Original Meyers Creek Ranger Station with addition in 1924, looking northwest, Stillwater County, Montana, 1924. Photographer: M.H. Wolff.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0003 of 33	0003 – Meyers Creek Ranger Station in 1937, looking west, Stillwater County, Montana, 1937. Photographer: Custer Gallatin National Forest Photo MeyersCreekRS03-1937c
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0004 of 33	0004 – Meyers Creek Ranger Station in 1937, looking northeast, Stillwater County, Montana, 1937. Photographer: Custer Gallatin National Forest Photo MeyersCreekRS03-1937b.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0005 of 33	0005 – Meyers Creek Ranger Station in 1944, looking southeast, Stillwater County, Montana, 1944. Photographer: Hokon "Hoke" Grotbo.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0006 of 33	0006 – Meyers Creek Ranger Station in the late 1940s, looking northeast, Stillwater County, Montana, circa 1940s. Photographer: Custer Gallatin National Forest Photo MeyersCreekRangerStation-b.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0007 of 33	0007 – Meyers Creek Ranger Station Dwelling Architectural Elevations, Stillwater County, Montana, 1949. Photographer: Custer Gallatin National Forest.

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0008 of 33	0008 – Meyers Creek Ranger Station after the additions of the log dwelling and garage-shop, looking southwest, Stillwater County, Montana, 1989. Photographer: Custer Gallatin National Forest Roll-JC-B&W-14-frame-17.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0009 of 33	0009 – Meyers Creek Work Center with features noted, looking east, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0010 of 33	0010 – Front view of Feature 1, looking north, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0011 of 33	0011 – Rear view of Feature 1, looking southeast, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: James Busse.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0012 of 33	0012 – Interior of Feature 1 from the kitchen into the living room, looking south, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0013 of 33	0013 – Interior view of Feature 1, looking south, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0014 of 33	0014 – Exterior view of Feature 2, looking southeast, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0015 of 33	0015 – Exterior view of Feature 2, looking northeast, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0016 of 33	0016 – Exterior view of Feature 3, looking east, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0017 of 33	0017 – Exterior view of the Meyers Creek Work Center Feature 6 garage-shop, looking northwest, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0018 of 33	0018 – Exterior view of the Meyers Creek Work Center Feature 6 garage-shop, looking southeast, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0019 of 33	0019 – Exterior view of the Meyers Creek Work Center Feature 4 barn, looking southeast, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0020 of 33	0020 – Exterior view of the Meyers Creek Work Center Feature 4 barn, looking northwest, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0021 of 33	0021 – Interior view of the Meyers Creek Work Center Feature 4 barn tack room, looking east, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0022 of 33	0022 – Corrals (Feature 5) with the barn (Feature 4) and the station visible, looking northwest and northeast, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0023 of 33	0023 – View toward the Meyers Creek Trailhead and noncontributing latrine, looking west, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0024 of 33	0024 – View of the noncontributing latrine at the Meyers Creek Trailhead, looking west, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: James Busse.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0025 of 33	0025 – Stitched image view of the flagpole station and communication antenna, looking west, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0026 of 33	0026 – View of the protective log buck structures, looking east, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0027 of 33	0027 – View drilled holes at the parking area, looking west, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: James Busse.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0028 of 33	0028 – View of associated signage at the Meyers Creek Work Center, looking north, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: James Busse.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0029 of 33	0029 – Custer and Gallatin survey crew at the Meyers Creek Ranger Station, looking northwest, Stillwater County, Montana, 1955. Photographer: Barry C. Park.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0030 of 33	0030 - Explosives storage structure, looking west, Stillwater County, Montana, 2002. Photographer: Mike W. Bergstrom.

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0031 of 33	0031 – Root cellar remains, looking northeast, Stillwater County, Montana, 2002. Photographer: Mike W. Bergstrom.
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0032 of 33	0032 – Hokon “Hoke” Grotbo, direction unknown, Stillwater County, Montana, 1944. Photographer: Unknown
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0033 of 33	0033 – View of the Meyers Creek Work Center, looking east, Stillwater County, Montana, 2022. Photographer: Tim Urbaniak.



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0001. The Meyers Creek Ranger Station in the early 1920s, looking northwest-west. (Custer Gallatin National Forest Photo 7300-043)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0002. Meyers Creek Ranger Station with addition in 1924, looking northwest. (Photographer: M.H. Wolff; Custer Gallatin National Forest Photo GNF190234)



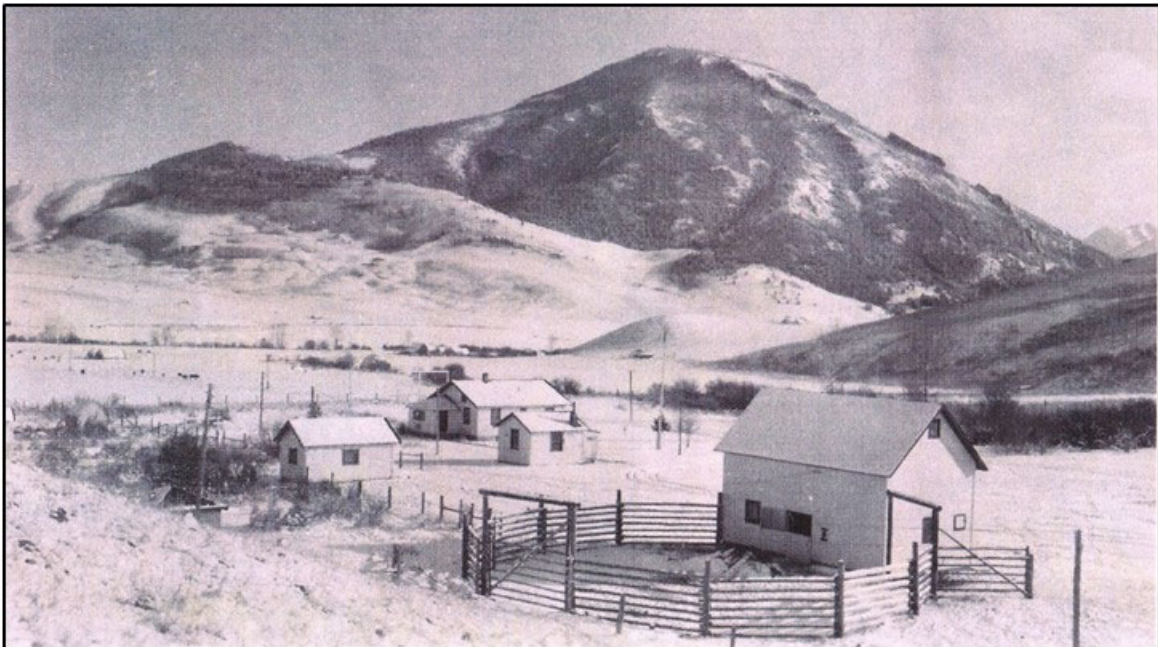
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0003. Meyers Creek Ranger Station in 1937, looking west toward the old station cabin. (Custer Gallatin National Forest Photo MeyersCreekRS03-1937c)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0004. Meyers Creek Ranger Station in 1937, looking northeast. (Custer Gallatin National Forest Photo MeyersCreekRS03-1937b)



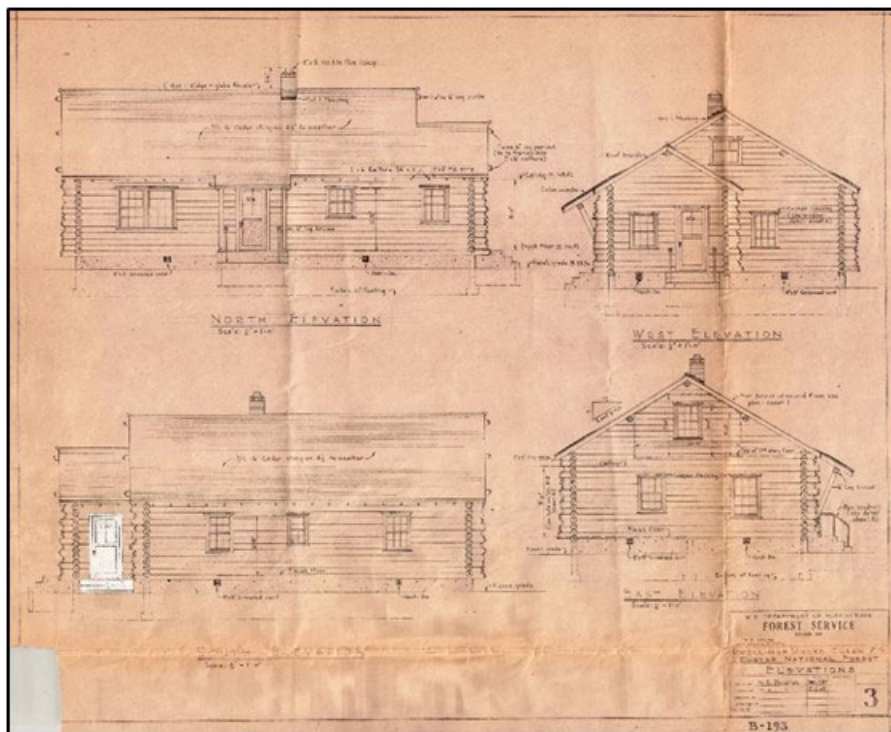
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0005. Meyers Creek Ranger Station in 1944, looking southeast. (Photographer: Hokon "Hoke" Grotbo; Custer Gallatin National Forest Photo MeyersCreekRS-1944)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0006. Meyers Creek Ranger Station in the late 1940s, looking northeast. (Custer Gallatin National Forest Photo MeyersCreekRangerStation-b)



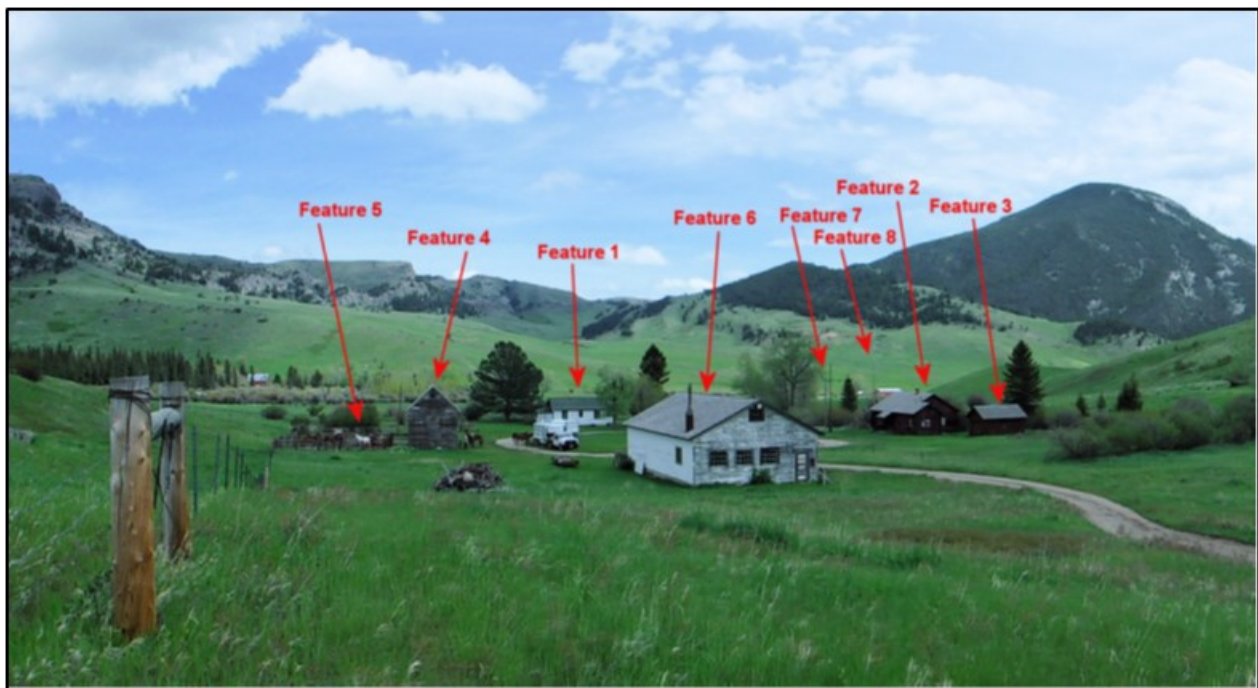
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0007. Meyers Creek Ranger Station Dwelling Elevations for Feature 2, Dated December 1949. (Custer Gallatin National Forest)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0008. Meyers Creek Ranger Station after the additions of the dwelling and garage-shop, July 23, 1989. (Custer Gallatin National Forest Roll-JC-B&W-14-frame-17)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0009. Overall view of the Meyers Creek Work Center, June 2022. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0010. Front view of Feature 1, May 19, 2022, View to north. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0011. Rear view of Feature 1, May 19, 2022, View to southeast. (Photographer: James Busse)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0012. Interior of Feature 1 from the kitchen into the living room, May 19, 2022, View to south. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0013. Interior view of Feature 1 in the living room, May 19, 2022, View to south. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0014. Exterior view of the Feature 2 residence, May 19, 2022, View to southeast. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0015. Exterior view of the Feature 2 residence, May 19, 2022, View to northeast. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0016. Exterior view of the Feature 3 garage, May 19, 2022, View to east. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0017. Exterior view of the Feature 6 garage-shop, May 19, 2022, View to northwest. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0018. Exterior view of the Feature 6 garage-shop, May 19, 2022, View to southeast. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0019. Exterior view of the Feature 4 barn, May 19, 2022, View to southeast. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0020. Exterior view of the Feature 4 barn, May 19, 2022, View to northwest. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0021. Interior view of the Feature 4 barn tack room, May 19, 2022, View to east. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0022. Corrals with the barn and the station visible, May 19, 2022, View northwest (left) to northeast (right). (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0023. View toward the Meyers Creek Trailhead and distant noncontributing latrine, May 19, 2022, View to west. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0024. View of the noncontributing latrine (Feature 14) at the Meyers Creek Trailhead, May 19, 2022, View to west. (Photographer: James Busse)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0025. Stitched image view of the flagpole and communication antenna, May 19, 2022, View to west. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0026. View of the protective log buck structures at site water and effluent fixtures, May 19, 2022, View to east. (Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0027. Drilled holes in one of the many granite stones used to define a parking area, May 19, 2022, View to west. (Photographer: James Busse)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0028. Associated Forest Service signage positioned at the entry to the Meyers Creek Work Center, May 19, 2022, View to north. (Photographer: James Busse)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0029. Custer and Gallatin survey crew at Meyers Creek Ranger Station; (left to right) Ed Slusher, Ed Eggen, Jack Bennett, Al Roemer, Guy Walker, Johnny Forsman, Carl Simpson. Barn, corrals, and root cellar in background, June 1955, View to northwest. (Photographer Barry C. Park)

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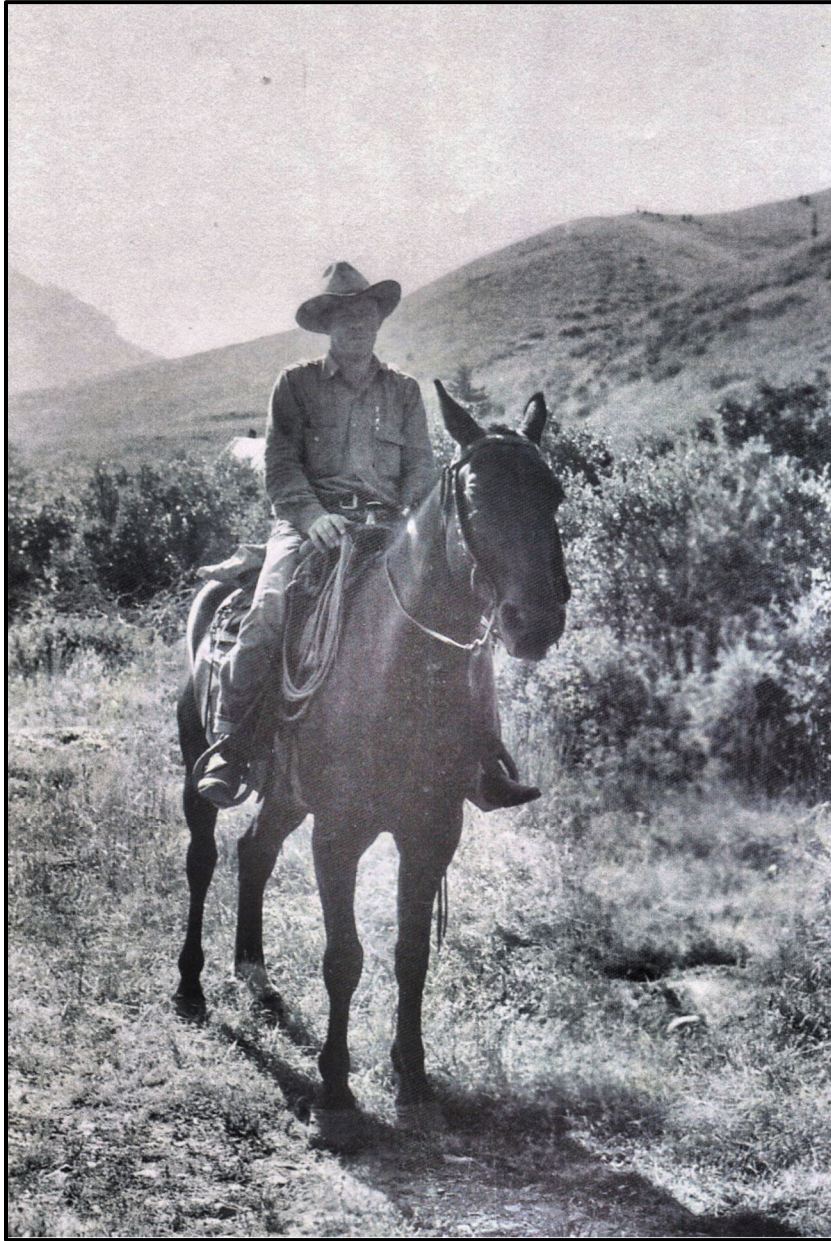
MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0030. The Feature 15 explosives storage structure, March 27, 2002, View to west. (Photographer Mike W. Bergstrom)



MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0031. Remains of the Feature 13 root cellar, March 29, 2002, View to northeast. (Photographer Mike W. Bergstrom)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0032. Hokon “Hoke” Grotbo at Meyers Creek Ranger Station, 1944, View direction unknown. (Photographer Unknown)

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MT_StillwaterCounty_MeyersCreekWorkCenter_0033. View of the Meyers Creek Work Center with Forest Service vehicles, horses, and employees present, May 19, 2022, View to east.
(Photographer: Tim Urbaniak)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.