

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration FormRECEIVED
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REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Celadon Slope Gardenother names/site number Hays Station, 10IH1566

2. Location

street & number Payette National Forest☐ not for publicationcity, town Warren☒ vicinitystate Idaho

code

ID

county Idahocode ID049zip code 83671

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

☐ private☐ public-local☐ public-State☒ public-Federal

Category of Property

☐ building(s)☐ district☒ site☐ structure☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

02507

Noncontributing

1 buildings2 sites4 structures0 objects7 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Chinese Sites in the Warren Mining District

Number of contributing resources previously

listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ 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 ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Evan D. DeBlasis

Signature of certifying official

4-12-90

Date

USDA Forest Service

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Thomas J. Allen

Signature of commenting or other official

11/30/89

Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register.☐ See continuation sheet.☐ determined eligible for the NationalRegister. ☐ See continuation sheet.☐ determined not eligible for the

National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.☐ other, (explain:) _____Robert Allen6/29/90

for Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture/Agricultural FieldAgriculture/Irrigation FacilityAgriculture/Storage

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Landscape/Forest**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other/Root Cellar

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Earthwalls Earthroof N/A

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Celadon Slope Garden is the uppermost of three Chinese terraced gardens on a southeast facing ridge of China Mountain above the South Fork of the Salmon River. Celadon Slope Garden occupies approximately 15 acres and consists of a series of terraces, an irrigation ditch, a partially intact root cellar, 3 rock cairns, and an extensive surface scatter of artifacts. Numerous artifacts of Chinese origin and association have been found in conjunction with cut nails, implying a habitation or other wooden structures once occupied an area of the site. There is evidence of early 20th century Euro-American occupation in another area of the site. These intrusive features do not significantly affect the integrity of the Chinese garden area. The Celadon Slope Garden maintains integrity of location, design, setting, feeling and association necessary to be considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Celadon Slope Garden is located on one of the few flat areas above the South Fork of the Salmon river. The site is located 9 miles from the mining town of Warren, Idaho where a large Chinese population once flourished. Proximity to Warren was a critical factor in site location since Warren was the major market for produce cultivated in the Warren Mining District. The selection of this site was probably influenced by level ground surface, southeastern exposure, and the presence of permanent water sources nearby. China Creek lies to the north, and K Creek is south of the site. A small spring is situated on the western boundary of the site.

Contributing features in the Celadon Slope Garden include garden terraces, an irrigation ditch, a scatter of Chinese artifacts, a root cellar and 3 rock cairns. The remains of over 30 terraces are visible within the site boundary. The terraces vary in size and shape and are cut into the slopes at a slight incline, conforming to the local topography. An irrigation ditch leading south from China Creek follows the eastern perimeter of the site. There are two small terraces located next to the spring on the west edge of the site.

Remains of a large root cellar exist near the northern boundary of the site. Vegetation was removed from this feature in 1988, exposing

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Ethnic Heritage/Asian

Agriculture

Commerce

Period of Significance

1870-1920

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Overseas Chinese

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Celadon Slope Garden represents the successful adaptation of traditional Chinese agricultural technology to the terrain of the Salmon River Mountains of Idaho. This site also reflects efforts of 19th century Chinese immigrants to maintain their ethnic lifeways and identity while engaging in a commercially profitable enterprise. The Celadon Slope Garden is significant under Criterion A, as part of the history of the overseas Chinese on the Idaho Mining Frontier, particularly on the Warren Mining District from 1870 to 1920.

The nineteenth century Chinese immigrant population is unique in American history because of the temporary nature of their stay. The overseas Chinese sojourner came to the American west during the gold rush to make a fortune and return home to his native province of Kwangtung. The stay in America was regarded as an economic necessity and the sojourner had little interest in assimilating with mainstream American culture.

The Chinese gardeners of Celadon Slope Garden were part of the mining community of the Warren Mining District. Gold was discovered in Warren in 1862 and the first Chinese immigrants are recorded in the vicinity around 1870. After the easily retrieved gold was depleted, companies of Chinese placer miners replaced Euro-Americans. For a period of over 20 years (from 1870 through the 1890's), the population of Warren was predominantly Chinese.

There was a small permanent community of Chinese and Euro-Americans in the Warren Mining District which swelled every summer with an influx of Chinese miners who wintered in Portland, Oregon. The 1870 U.S. census lists placer mining as the major Chinese occupation in the Warren Mining District. By 1880 there are four farmers and three gardeners counted among Chinese residents in the area. This indicates that the Celadon Slope Garden was established soon after the initial Chinese immigration to the Warren area.

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Fee, Jeffrey M.

1986 Idaho's Chinese Mountain Gardens. Unpublished manuscript on file at Payette National Forest offices. McCall, Idaho.

☐ See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository:

Payette National Forest S.O.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approximately 15 acres

UTM References

A

1	1
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6	1	2	0	2	0
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5	0	0	7	9	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

C

1	1
---	---

6	1	2	4	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

5	0	0	8	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

B

1	1
---	---

6	1	2	0	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

5	0	0	8	1	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

D

1	1
---	---

6	1	2	2	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

5	0	0	7	0	4	0
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☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of Celadon Slope Garden is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked by the following UTM reference points: A 11 612020 5007970, B 11 612080 5008190, C 11 612420 5008000, D 11 612280 5007040. This polygon is illustrated on the accompanying USGS 7.5 minute series map titled "Pilot Peak Idaho, 1969".

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary of Celadon Slope Garden includes all terraced areas, structural remnants, and other historic features of Chinese association. The site area roughly corresponds to a large natural clearing on the slopes of China Mountain.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

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organization _____

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earthen walls. Numerous cut nails were located downslope to the east, amid Chinese ceramic fragments and other historic debris. This midden suggests the presence of wooden structures prior to the 1890's when wire nails became prevalent. The nature of the artifacts located on the surface and in the nearby graded roadbed indicate food was being prepared and consumed in this area.

Three rock piles or cairns, located at the east margin of the site probably represent clearing activities during terrace construction. During the 1930's a local informant observed remains of a woven willow and brush fence enclosing the entire garden area. This is consistent with known Chinese utilization of brush to construct huts and barriers. At the time of the Chinese occupation there must have been a stable or fenced area for the horses used to pack produce to Warren. Any brush or lumber superstructures were probably removed or recycled after the Chinese occupation of the site.

The non-contributing features in the 20th century occupation area of the Celadon Slope Garden site consist of a cabin, remnants of 3 associated wooden structures, a garden area, a trash dump, and a root cellar.

Celadon Slope Garden was abandoned by the Chinese prior to 1902. At that time a Euro-American squatter occupied the land, constructing a cabin, and raising horses in the site area. The site was later used as a District Ranger Station for the Idaho National Forest (later the Payette National Forest) and the garden areas were used to cultivate hay and graze horses. The road on the site was probably constructed in conjunction with Forest Service activities after 1908. The District Ranger Station was moved to Warren around 1918.

The Celadon Slope Garden site was used by the public as a habitation or grazing property from 1918 until the late 1930's. There is some evidence of aboriginal occupation of the site area. Lithic debitage consisting of secondary and tertiary flakes of chert were located in the graded roadbed. These prehistoric Native American artifacts may have been uncovered during historic gardening activities.

The terraces at Celadon Slope Garden have slumped or eroded from farming and grazing activities in the area, and are covered with a dense mat of grasses. Although vegetation currently obscures many terraces, it has contributed to preservation of those features. Ponderosa pines of uniform diameter have encroached on to several terraces. Celadon Slope Garden retains integrity through isolation, as there has been little physical disturbance on the site area since the 1930's. The site has not been subjected to much vehicular traffic, or the vandalism or artifact hunting which might ensue.

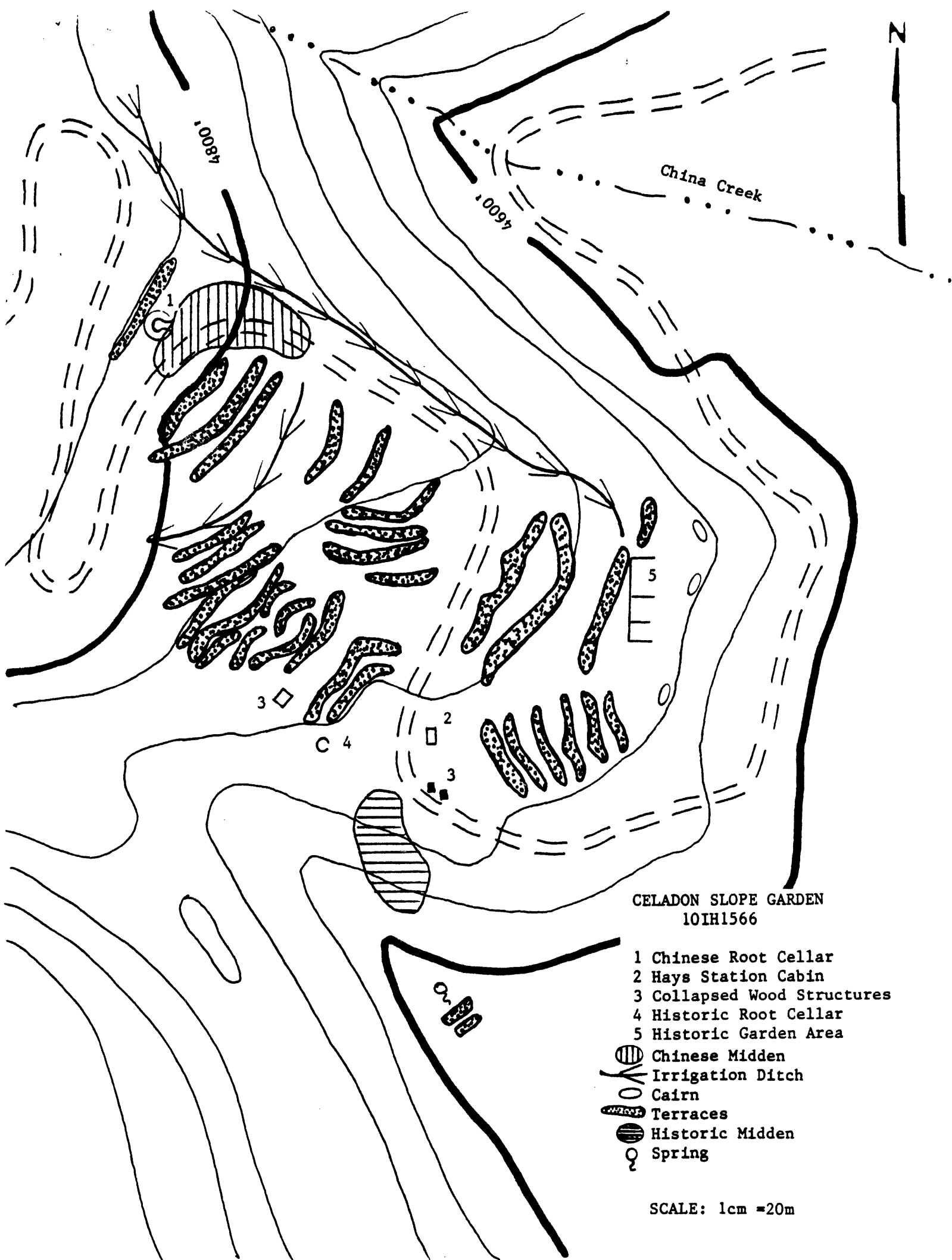
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Documentary accounts detail the existence of the Chinese gardens and describe how produce was packed by horseback 9 miles to supply Chinese and Euro-American residents of Warren. The existence of the Celadon Slope Garden supports claims that overseas Chinese went to some effort to maintain their traditional diet in an alien environment. The size of Celadon Slope Garden, and the other terraced gardens on China Mountain substantiate statements that they were commercial developments. Obviously the market was large enough to generate a support system for the local Chinese community.

Chinese immigrants in Idaho were not able to farm flat, easily cultivated land along the South Fork of the Salmon River, as this ground was claimed by Euro-American settlers. To cultivate fruit and vegetable crops, gardeners relied on traditional subsistence patterns. The majority of Chinese immigrated from the Kwangtung province of China. Terraced hillsides and sophisticated irrigation systems were common in that region. The choice of China Mountain as a garden site was probably dictated by availability of permanent water, soil composition and aspect. The adaptation of traditional terraces and irrigation ditches to the rugged terrain of the Salmon River Mountains provides insight into the tenacity of the Chinese sojourner and the importance placed on obtaining elements of a traditional diet.

Numerous artifacts of Chinese association or manufacture lie on the surface, and allow identification of temporal and cultural elements of the site. The root cellar, irrigation ditch and terraces, contribute to the agricultural function of the property. The location and setting of these features, and the artifact assemblage present, attest to the ethnic identity of the Chinese gardeners who occupied this site in the late 19th century. An intrusive Rocky Mountain style cabin and aboriginal debitage are present in The Celadon Slope Garden area. The aboriginal material does not affect the significance of the Chinese garden area. The cabin and associated agricultural developments are confined to a central area of the Celadon Slope Garden site and do not seriously impact the integrity of the Chinese structure and sites. The Euro-American cabin, known as Hays Station, is significant in itself and will be the subject of a future National Register nomination.

The Celadon Slope Garden is significant for its location, size, complexity, landscape, and association with the Chinese community of the Warren Mining District. The Chinese occupation of this site offers a glimpse of a temporally and geographically defined locus of Chinese subsistence on the Idaho mining frontier. The Celadon Slope Garden casts Chinese in the role of farmers, merchants and consumers. This site yields insight into a distinctive segment of a cohesive ethnic population who contributed to the settling of the American west.



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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 90000891

Date Listed: 6/27/90

Celadon Slope Garden
Property Name

Idaho
County

ID
State

Chinese Sites in the Warren Mining District
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Antoniella Lee
for Signature of the Keeper

8/8/90
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: Under "Cultural Affiliation," Overseas Chinese is deleted.

This information was confirmed with Evan J. DeBloois of the USDA Forest Service and Elizabeth Eggleston of the Idaho SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



HAYS STATION AT CELADON SLOPE
GARDEN Chinese Sites in Warren Mining
WARREN IDAHO District MRA, ID

SUMMER 1989

Neg at Payette Nat'l Forest S.O.,

FACING SOUTHEAST

PHOTO 1 by Tom Dureka

Idaho Co