

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1451
RECEIVED 413

OMB No. 1024-0018

NOV - 8 1994

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Idaho Rocky Mountain Club

other names/site number Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch

2. Location

street & number State Highway 75

N/A not for publication

city or town Stanley

X vicinity

state Idaho

code ID

county Custer

code 037

zip code 83278

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 _____ nationally X statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

John R. Hill
Signature of certifying official

1 Nov 94
Date

John R. Hill, State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

X entered in the National Register.

_____ See continuation sheet

_____ determined eligible for the National

Register. _____ See continuation sheet

_____ determined not eligible for the

National Register.

_____ removed from the National Register.

_____ other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall
Entered in the
National Register

for
Signature of Keeper

12-9-94
Date of Action

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Property Name Idaho Rocky Mountain Club

County and State Custer County, Idaho

Page 2

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<u>X</u> private	<u> </u> building(s)		
<u> </u> public-local	<u>X</u> district	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u> buildings
<u> </u> public-State	<u> </u> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u> </u> public-Federal	<u> </u> structure	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<u> </u> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>14</u>	<u>10</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____ No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

N/A

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>Hotel</u>
<u>RECREATION AND CULTURE</u>	

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>Hotel</u>
<u>RECREATION AND CULTURE</u>	

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: log cabin

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation CONCRETE

walls WOOD: log

roof WOOD: shingle

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Idaho Rocky Mountain ClubCounty and State Custer County, IdahoPage 3**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 a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance

1929-1944

Significant Dates

1930

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Bjorling, Ellis (architect)

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Property Name Idaho Rocky Mountain Club

County and State Custer County, Idaho

Page 4

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 878

UTM References

1	<u>1/1</u>	<u>6/7/0/8/8/0</u>	<u>4/8/8/5/9/7/0</u>	3	<u>1/1</u>	<u>6/7/2/5/2/0</u>	<u>4/8/8/5/2/2/0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>1/1</u>	<u>6/7/2/5/0/0</u>	<u>4/8/8/6/0/2/0</u>	4	<u>1/1</u>	<u>6/7/3/3/2/0</u>	<u>4/8/8/5/2/4/0</u>

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Linda Morton-Keithley, Oral Historian

organization Idaho State Historical Society

date July 15, 1994

street & number 210 Main Street

telephone 208-334-3863

city or town Boise

state ID zip code 83702

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Rozalys Smith

street & number P.O. Box 3720

telephone 208-726-3408

city or town Ketchum

state ID zip code 83340

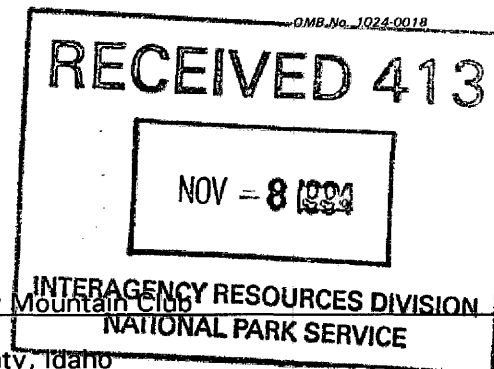
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Name of Property Idaho Rocky Mountain Club

County and State Custer County, Idaho



The Idaho Rocky Mountain Club is located in central Idaho's Stanley Basin, approximately nine miles south of the town of Stanley. The property sits in a valley, roughly surrounded by Gold Creek on the north, the White Cloud Mountains on the east, Williams Creek on the south and the Salmon River on the west. The property is privately owned but is located within the boundaries of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and is subject to compliance with a scenic easement administered by the Forest Service.

The Club consists of two clusters of buildings--the lodge site and the lower ranch site--located on nearly 900 acres of otherwise undeveloped land. With the exception of State Highway 75 which bisects the property, the viewshed from the lodge contains only the ranch buildings, waterways, open meadows, and Sawtooth Mountains.

The lodge site consists of the lodge building, nine guest cabins, the hydroelectric plant, fish pond and several small, non-contributing structures. All significant buildings are log construction, using peeled round logs with saddle notched corners and cement mortar, and have gable roofs covered with wood shingles. Each structure sits on a concrete foundation and has multi-light casement-style windows, trimmed with green paint. All fireplaces/chimneys are built of locally-gathered stone. Light fixtures are rustic; shades are generally sheathed with unpeeled, half-round timbers. Interior and exterior doors are also clad with unpeeled, half-round timbers. All metal fixtures, such as door handles, hinges, curtain rods and andirons were manufactured on site using scrap iron and a coal forge.

Individual buildings are described below:

Lodge (1929-1930) - contributing

The lodge is a one and one-half story structure consisting of three connected units, arranged in a rear-facing L plan. The ground floor of the building is used primarily for guest services, while the upper half-story contains staff housing and storage.

On the west elevation, rustic hewn log steps lead to a shed-roof porch which extends the length of the central unit of the building. The eight porch columns are peeled timbers resting on a half-log base. The double doors which serve as the primary (guest) entrance to the building are located at the left (north) end of the porch and are flanked by windows. At the right (south) end of the porch is a second set of double doors, also flanked by windows. The roof line of the front elevation is punctuated by two gable-roof dormers and a central chimney. The south elevation of this unit has four sets of windows at the ground floor and two sets of windows at the upper floor. This portion of the building houses the lobby and dining room.

To the left (north) of the central unit is a wing used primarily for guest and staff lodging. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2 Name of Property Idaho Rocky Mountain ClubCounty and State Custer County, Idaho

ground floor of the front (west) elevation exhibits three larger and three smaller (bathroom) sets of windows. The upper floor is punctuated by two gable-roof dormers. The north elevation contains a secondary entry door flanked by windows, at the ground level. At the upper level is a set of double doors which access a tack storage area. The exterior stairs and landing were removed several years ago due to deterioration. The rear (east) elevation has two large and three small sets of windows at the ground level.

The rear (east) unit of the lodge houses the kitchen and various storage/service areas. The south elevation has two sets of windows at the ground level and two gable-roof dormers at the upper level. A small one-story addition (built c. 1978) with metal roof houses the laundry facility. The addition has a door and window on the east elevation and one door on the south elevation. The east elevation has two windows and one service door at the ground level and two windows at the upper level. The north elevation of this rear unit has one set of large and four small windows at the ground level and one gable-roof dormer at the upper level. Sitting directly behind the kitchen area is the loading dock and a small, non-contributing ice/storage building.

Guest Cabins - Duplexes (1929-1930) - seven contributing, one non-contributing

Eight virtually identical duplex guest cabins flank the lodge, four on each side. The single non-contributing cabin was built c. 1991 to replace an original cabin which burned down in 1951. Each cabin has a central fireplace/chimney, and lean-to addition at the rear. The front elevation of each has a narrow, centrally placed porch with shed roof. Entry doors to the individual units are located at the center of the elevation, with one set of windows placed at the outside edges. Side elevations have one window each placed at the gable and lean-to ends. The rear elevation of each unit has a single window. Each unit contains a bedroom, dressing room and bathroom.

Guest Cabin - Single (1929-1930) - contributing

A single cabin, referred to as the "honeymoon" cabin, is located in the group of guest cabins to the right (south) of the lodge. The centrally-placed porch has a gable roof supported by peeled timber supports. The entry door is flanked with windows. The fireplace/chimney is located along the north elevation, as are three windows. Two windows are placed on the south elevation and a single windows is located on the rear (east) elevation.

Hydroelectric Plant (1929-1930) - contributing

The hydroelectric plant is a single-room structure with metal roof. A single window opening is located on the south elevation and the entry door is on the north elevation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3 Name of Property Idaho Rocky Mountain ClubCounty and State Custer County, IdahoFish Pond (1929-1930) - contributing

The fish pond is located in front of the lodge and was built using a team of horses and fresnoes.

Pump House (late 1950s) - non-contributing (by virtue of date)Ice/Storage House - non-contributing

The lower ranch site contains the pool and change rooms, staff and owner housing, barns, and corrals. Many of the structures at this site date to the era of the ranch's use as a cattle operation. Several other buildings date to the original homesteader of the property.

Individual buildings are described below:

Pool/Change Rooms (1929-1930) - contributing

The pool is a concrete-lined structure surrounded by a wood deck. It is placed on a hillside, exposing the lower side which has been enclosed to create two small change rooms. The pool is filled with natural hot water piped from a spring located a short distance away, across the Salmon River.

Homestead Barn and Shed (date unknown) - contributing

These two structures pre-date the construction of the lodge and were presumably built by the original homesteader of this section of the property. Both are of peeled log construction.

Homestead Cabin and Garage - non-contributing (both have been moved and extensively remodeled)Machine Shop (c. 1953) - non-contributing (by virtue of date)Barn (c. 1953) - non-contributing (by virtue of date)Horse Barn (c. 1958) - non-contributing (by virtue of date)Manager's Residence (1975) - non-contributingOwner's Residence (c. 1978) - non-contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1 Name of Property Idaho Rocky Mountain Club

County and State Custer County, Idaho

Ernest White and Company (builder)

The Idaho Rocky Mountain Club (IRMC) is significant under Criterion A as an example of one facet of Idaho's recreation industry, specifically a guest ranch facility, as it developed in the early decades of the twentieth century. The property is among the earliest such ranches to have been built in Idaho and today continues to exhibit a high degree of integrity.

Guest ranches developed as a near "cousin" to the dude ranch. The term dude ranch specifically refers to a working cattle operation that also accepts paying guests. The guests may or may not take part in the actual day-to-day ranch operations. Guest ranches, on the other hand, developed without the dependance on a cattle operation. In both cases, however, horses and horseback riding have historically been an important ranch activity. Although its precise beginning cannot be documented, the birth of dude ranching is generally credited to the Eaton brothers of Dakota Territory in the 1880s. The brothers moved their operation to Wyoming in 1904 and Wyoming soon became the leader in dude ranches, followed closely by Montana and Colorado. To a lesser extent, Idaho, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona also entered the recreation market with dude/guest ranches.

As is common in many western states, recreation has long been an important aspect of the Idaho way of life. Early settlers recognized Idaho's natural beauty and responded by taking fishing, hunting and sightseeing trips. Eventually, these recreational activities were seen as a potential source of income if appropriate accommodations and convenient transportation could be developed to lure the nonresident to the area. As early as the 1880s, North Idaho communities such as Sandpoint and Coeur d'Alene began to develop accommodations and railroad routes for the express purpose of attracting tourists and others to spend time in the area. A variety of activities soon developed, including boating, bicycling, fishing, hunting, camping, musical programs, and dancing. Likewise, in other areas of the state, recreational activities were promoted as access was made available. During the last two decades of the nineteenth century, local homesteaders in what is now called the Island Park area in eastern Idaho (near Yellowstone National Park) supplemented their income by offering their services as guides for hunting and fishing parties, and serving as "home stations" on the stage route into Yellowstone. Many wealthy visitors began to build summer homes and a number of resorts and inns were built for use by those who could not afford (or did not want) to build their own home.

In central Idaho's Stanley Basin, the 1920s saw the beginning of summer visitors as a major addition to the local economy. The earliest dude ranch in the area is believed to have opened in 1926. The Idaho Rocky Mountain Club was incorporated in September of 1929, with three principal stockholders--Winston Paul, C.W. Gillespie and P.G. Snedecor. Paul was a Frigidaire

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2 Name of Property Idaho Rocky Mountain ClubCounty and State Custer County, Idaho

distributor from New York who had previously spent time in Stanley Basin as a guest of hunting guide Dave Williams. Gillespie was a local resident who had lived in the area for a number of years. Snedecor became involved with promotion of the property and acted as on-site manager for several years.

The three men began purchasing smaller parcels of land to create the current acreage, including lands owned by Dave and Carrie Williams, Claude and Mary Gillespie, and others. Construction on the IRMC, locally referred to as the "dude ranch," began in the fall of 1929 and was completed in the spring of 1930, providing important jobs for local laborers at a time when money was scarce. The local newspaper ran regular reports on the Club's progress, such as, "It is reported that the Dude Ranch at Stanley which has furnished employment for many Challisites the past few months, has closed down for the winter."¹

A workcrew of fifty to sixty men, including blacksmiths and stonemasons, camped on the grounds during construction. One worker, Bryan Connyers, recalls that he worked six days a week and was paid 50¢ per hour for a nine-hour day. The lodgepole pine logs for the buildings were cut primarily on nearby Williams and Gold creeks and were hauled to the work site by horse and wagon. The Club was designed by architect Ellis Bjorling and constructed by Ernest White and Company of Twin Falls, Idaho. The present owner recalls that Mr. White once visited the Club after her family took ownership in 1951. He reflected that he had never before (and never again) worked in log construction, but felt unable to turn down the opportunity for work during those early years of the Depression.

The IRMC opened its doors to guests in June of 1930. The staff at that time included a manager, cook, two young women who worked in the dining hall, two or three young women who cleaned cabins, and three or four young men who handled the stock and guided pack trips. The women were housed in the staff dormitory on the second floor of the main lodge building, while the men lived at the lower ranch. Mattie Hansen, one of the waitresses, recalls that the income from this summer job was a welcome addition to her schoolteacher's salary.

Guests came by invitation only and were primarily from the upper classes of the midwestern and eastern United States. In the early years they came as far as Shoshone, Idaho on the train and were met there by staff for the final drive of approximately 100 miles to the Club. (Unlike similar facilities in other areas of the West, Idaho's dude and guest ranches never developed a dependence on the railroad to deliver guests to the door or assist with the promotion of the property.) Once there, activities included horseback riding, pack trips, soccer, ping pong, and bridge. On Sunday evenings, staff and guests often gathered in the lobby for a session of singing. A natural hot water pool and private fishing pond were also available for use by the visitors. Guests occasionally

¹The Challis Messenger, November 27, 1929, p. 5 c. 2.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3 Name of Property Idaho Rocky Mountain ClubCounty and State Custer County, Idaho

attended the local rodeo and from time to time, nearby working ranches would allow visitors to assist with activities such as branding.

In addition to the guest operation, the Club also raised sheep, chickens, and dairy cows. This practice of stock raising continued with later owners, particularly Edmund Bogert who operated it as a cattle ranch, with no facilities open to the public. Bogert was also responsible for the name change from Idaho Rocky Mountain Club to the current Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch. [In 1936, the property had been sold to Domestic Exploration Corp., a New Jersey corporation; in 1942 to Josef Lanz, a clothing manufacturer; and in 1951, to Edmund Bogert, father of the current owner.]

Since 1977, the Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch has operated as a guest ranch open to the public. It retains a high degree of physical integrity. Many of the furnishings and fixtures built or purchased in 1930 remain in use, including light fixtures and iron pieces such as door handles, hinges, andirons and curtain rods. Much of the current furniture, such as bedroom dressers and lobby furnishings were selected by Mrs. Paul. A Mr. Pierce constructed the peeled pine bedsteads still in use in the guest cabins. (The guest cabins were originally furnished with twin beds, but a number have since been converted to queen size, using the same wood.) The cookstove in the kitchen remains in use, as does the original Frigidaire refrigerator. (Other, more modern, appliances are also in use today.) Samples of the original monogrammed (IRMC) china are on display in the lobby; the pattern has been reproduced and continues in use in the dining room. The hydroelectric plant installed in 1930 is no longer functioning, but the equipment--amp meters, Pelton wheel, General Electric direct current generator--remain in situ.

The physical setting of the property also retains its integrity with open meadows used for pasture, the Salmon River running along the west edge of the property, and a backdrop of the Sawtooth mountains. Because of its role of one of the state's earliest guest ranches and high level of integrity, this property is worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1 Name of Property Idaho Rocky Mountain Club

County and State Custer County, Idaho

Challis Messenger, The. (newspaper)

Chivers, Tom and Aileen. interviewed by Glenn Oakley (Boise and Stanley: Idaho State Historical Society and Sawtooth Interpretive Association), March 17, 1983.

Connyers, Bryan. interviewed by Floris Neustaedter and Sylvia Markley (Stanley: Sawtooth Mountain Mamas), 1988.

Deed Records. Custer County Courthouse. Challis, Idaho.

Hansen, Mattie. telephone conversation, April 19, 1994 and July 13, 1994.

Idaho Rocky Mountain Club. promotional brochure, [c. 1930].

McGown, Edna. interviewed by Glenn Oakley (Boise and Stanley: Idaho State Historical Society and Sawtooth Interpretive Association), March 16, 1983.

Smith, Rozalys Bogert. conversation, June 21, 1994.

Yarber, Esther with Edna McGown. Stanley-Sawtooth Country (Salt Lake City: Publishers Press), 1976.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1 Name of Property Idaho Rocky Mountain Club

County and State Custer County, Idaho

UTM References -

5. 11/673350/4884000
6. 11/672120/4883960
7. 11/672080/4883600
8. 11/671690/4884760
9. 11/670910/4884740

Verbal Boundary Description -

Township 9 North, Range 14 East, Boise Meridian

Section 17: SW1/4

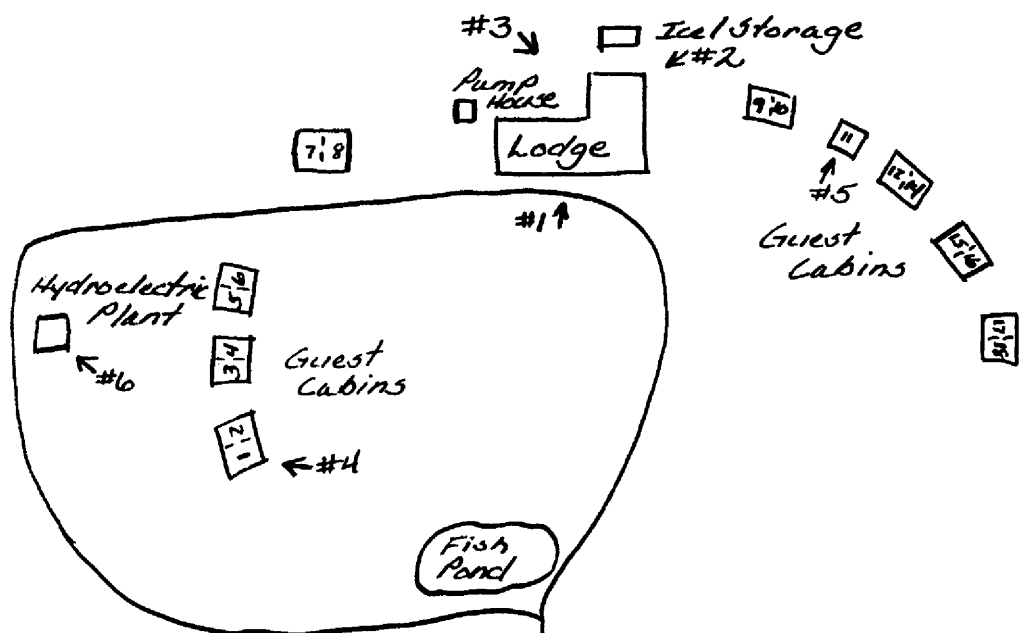
Section 18: SE1/4

Section 19: N1/2NE1/4

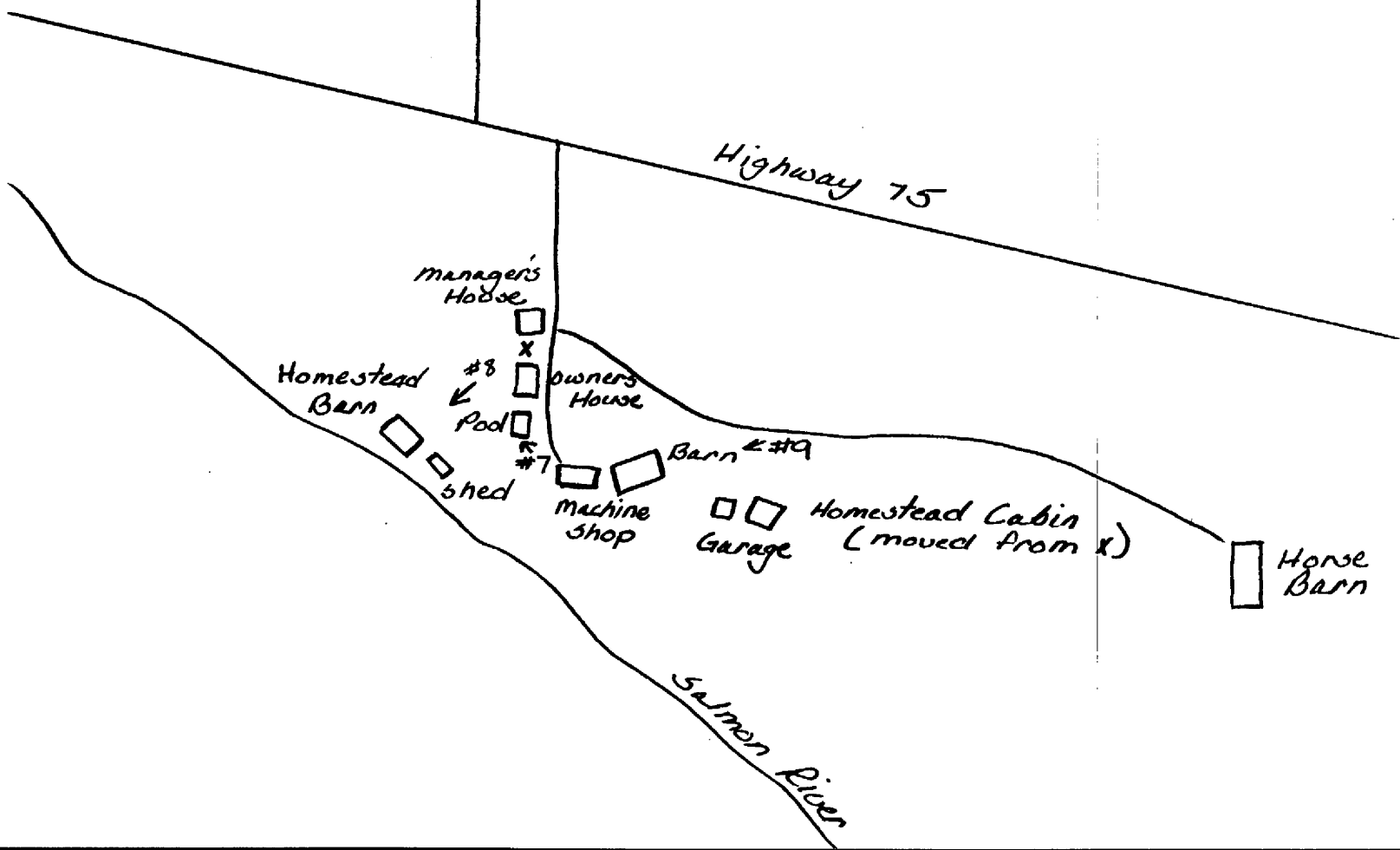
Section 20: NE1/4, NW1/4, N1/2SE1/4, NE1/4SW1/4 and all that portion of the W1/2SW1/4 lying east of Highway 93 [currently designated State Highway 75]

Boundary Justification -

The boundary includes all lands historically associated with the Idaho Rocky Mountain Club.



Idaho Rocky
Mountain Club
Custer County, Idaho





Lodge, Idaho Rocky Mountain Club

Custer County, Idaho

by Linda Morton-Keithley

6-21-1994

taken from W

Idaho State Historical Society, Boise

#1



Lodge, Idaho Rocky Mountain Club
Custer County, Idaho
by Linda Morton-Keithley
6-21-1994

taken from SE

Idaho State Historical Society, Boise
#2



Lodge, Idaho Rocky Mountain Club
Custer County, Idaho
by Linda Morton-Keithley
6-21-1994

taken from E
Idaho State Historical Society, Boise
#3



Duplex Cabin, Idaho Rocky Mountain
Club

Custer County, Idaho
by Linda Morton Keithley
6-21-1994

taken from SW

Idaho State Historical Society, Boise
#4



"Honeymoon" Cabin, Idaho Rocky Mountain
Club

Custer County, Idaho
by Linda Morton-Keithley
6-21-1994

taken from W
Idaho State Historical Society, Boise
#5



Hydroelectric Plant, Idaho Rocky
Mountain Club

Custer County, Idaho
by Linda Morton-Keithley
6-21-1994

taken from SW

Idaho State Historical Society, Boise
#6



Swimming Pool/Change Room, Idaho Rocky
Mountain Club

Custer County, Idaho

by Linda Morton-Keithley

6-21-1994

taken from SW

Idaho State Historical Society, Boise

#7



Homestead Barn and Shed, Idaho Rocky
Mountain Club

Custer County, Idaho
by Linda Morton Keithley
6-21-1994

taken from SE
Idaho State Historical Society, Boise
#8



Barn, Idaho Rocky Mountain Club
Custer County, Idaho
by Linda Morton-Keithley
6-21-1994

taken from 5
Idaho State Historical Society, Boise
#9