1. Name of Property

*historic name: Manges Cabin*

*other names/site number: (Old) Elbo Ranch Homestead Cabin; Taggart Creek Barn; Mangus Cabin/Smithsonian #48TE0921*

2. Location

*street & number: South end of Grand Teton National Park, southeast of Taggart Lake*

*city/town: Moose*

*state: Wyoming code: WY county: code: 039 zip code: 83012*

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 _ meets _ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _ nationally _ statewide X locally. (_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Department of Interior, National Park Service

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency or bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- [ ] entered in the National Register see continuation sheet
- [ ] determined eligible for the National Register see continuation sheet
- [ ] determined not eligible for the National Register see continuation sheet
- [ ] removed from the National Register see continuation sheet
- [ ] other (explain)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action
Jim Manges’s distinctive two-story log cabin is located southeast of Taggart Lake, just west of Cottonwood Creek, on an open terrace adjacent to the first upward surge of the Teton Range. An irrigated hay meadow lies to the east and a collusion of pine and aspen flank the property to the west. A modern corral system to the south testifies to the cabin’s current use as a park service barn. A two-track dirt road provides access from Teton Park Road near the Cottonwood Creek turnout.

Impacts to physical integrity are limited to minor changes in fenestration patterns and to the application of a second board-and-batten roof. The historic homestead and dude-ranch settings have been altered by removal of a historic barn and numerous tourist cabins and by construction of the modern corral system and a tack room.

Manges Cabin (Building #684), constructed 1911.

The Manges cabin is a one and one-half story log building with a rectangular footprint. The building is constructed on a dry stone foundation. The steep gable roof features very wide eaves, which hang five feet over the cabin walls and are supported by large log brackets. Hewn, square-notched wall logs are daubed with a mixture of mud and sand, and secured with small poles.

See continuation page.
Manges Cabin
Teton County, Wyoming

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A
Significant Person(s): N/A
Cultural Affiliation: N/A
Area* of Significance: Architecture
Period(s) of Significance: 1911
Significant Date*: N/A
Architect/Builder: James Manges

Narrative Statement of Significance

Manges cabin is eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under criterion C for its association with vernacular architecture. Although constructed as part of a homestead and later used as part of a tourist facility -- a locally significant historical theme -- the building retains little integrity of setting or association, does not meet the registration requirements established in the GRTE MPS for homestead properties or dude ranches; and is not recommended for listing under criterion A. The cabin's period of significance is limited to 1911, the year of construction. Although now used for hay and equipment storage, the interior floorplan and dominant finishes appear to date to the historic period and contribute to the building's significance.

On August 11, 1911, James H. Manges filed a claim to 160 acres along Cottonwood Creek, under the terms of the Forest Homestead Act of 1906 (SWNE, W2SE Section 11, NWNE Section 14, T43N R116W). By 1927, Manges had developed the Elbo Ranch at the southern end of his claim.

In 1942, the Snake River Land Company (SRLC) hired A.E. Kendrew to conduct a survey of historic properties within Jackson Hole, on land being acquired by the company for ultimate donation to the federal government and incorporation within an expanded Grand Teton National Park. This survey included Mange's Elbo Ranch, of which Kendrew reported:

Jim Mangus [sic] ... built a very small shack on the place, then worked for Mr. Wort in the woods during the winter. He said that by running to work and 'chopping wood all winter' he could keep warm in his summer clothes... During the winter he was also able to get out the logs for a new cabin on his homestead claim and in the following year, 1911, he built the cabin which is still standing on the Elbo Ranch... The wide overhanging eaves and gable as well as the unusually steep roof were to prevent snow and ice gathering on the roof and walls of the buildings... Mr. Mangus said that the scuttle in the first floor gave access to a pit about 9' square and 5' deep which was used for the winter storage of root vegetables...

He said that the barn now non-existent was built soon after the cabin and to the northeast of it. It had a hipped roof of logs with no other covering...

See continuation page

1 "Dude Ranches Out West," ca. 1927, S. N. Leek Collection, 3138, University of Wyoming Archives, as cited in Daugherty, "A Place Called Jackson Hole," chapter: The Dude Wranglers, pp. 8, 15. Daugherty reports that although included in the Union Pacific guide to Jackson Hole dude ranches, "whether [the Elbo] qualified as [an] actual dude ranch is doubtful." The brochure estimated the valley's dude-ranch pillow count at 394, and estimated the pillow count at the Elbo, Flagg Ranch, Jackson Lake Lodge, Sheffields' Teton Lodge, and Leek's Camp -- distinguished from dude ranches -- at 325 (Ibid).
9. Major Bibliographic References

Freeland, Edward D. Superintendent GRTE, to Regional Director, Region 2, June 20, 1952, File "Highlands 05-120," Lands Files, Mail and File Room, GRTE Headquarters.


10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing
A 12 521503 4838199

Verbal Boundary Description
The boundaries parallel the foundation line, 10' beyond the eave overhang.

Boundary Justification
These boundaries conform to National Register guidelines for architecturally significant properties where integrity of the adjacent (and historically associated) land base has been compromised.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Janene Caywood, Ann Hubber, Kathryn Schneid
organization: Historical Research Associates, Inc. date: 1997
street & number: P.O. Box 7086 telephone: 406 721-1958
city or town: Missoula state: MT zip code: 59807-7086

Property Owner

name/title: National Park Service
street & number: Grand Teton National Park Headquarters telephone: 307 739-3300
city or town: Moose state: WY zip code: 83012
7. Narrative Description, continued

Although the window openings no longer contain glass, the 5" board frames remain intact. A vertical plank door strengthened by a Z-brace is centered on the east elevation, and provides entry to the main floor. An exterior wooden ladder, nailed to the wall immediately left of the main door, leads to the large, shuttered window opening of the second story. The shutters are functional and made of vertical planks. The east elevation also features a small metal stovepipe above the window opening.

An opening, which could accommodate a double-hung window, is located on the east side of the south elevation. The north elevation features a similar opening, immediately west of center. The window frame is centered in the west elevation, below a vertical plank entry door to the half-story.

The unusual front gable roof was constructed from a double layer of random width (6" - 12") boards applied over log purlins. The large eaves are open, exposing the purlins and roof boards. The purlin ends are also exposed.

Interior
The ground floor of Manges cabin consists of one open room. Unfinished logs, chinked with split poles, form the walls. Tongue and groove hardwood covers the floor. The window openings are trimmed with four- and five-inch unfinished boards. The open ceiling exposes log floor joists and the six to eight inch rough-cut floor boards of the half-story area. Access to the loft is gained from the exterior only.

8. Statement of Significance, continued.

He seems to be quite prosperous on this present place consisting of 4.9 acres and twelve tourist cabins for he found time to go fishing at anytime provided his mother who lives with him would "let him off."

In a private letter to SRLC attorney Harold Fabian, Kendrew noted: "The fact that it has a second floor is unusual, and it is highly probable that this is one of the first homesteaders' cabins in the Jackson Hole country that provided second floor space."

In a later description of the wide overhanging eaves, neighbor and fellow Jackson Hole pioneer Marvel Lesher described the unique roof and eave design as the result of "a lot of native intelligence." Secondary outbuildings at the Elbo Ranch also attested to Manges's skill:

We had a man come in here that was an engineer and he took pictures of the old bridge that Uncle Jim built over to the double story cabin . . . He says, "For anyone that didn't study engineering, it was the best bridge that he ever saw." . . . [Uncle Jim] was very good [at building things].

Ca. 1956, the National Park Service, heir to the Elbo Ranch, converted the ranch to employee housing. Ca. 1973, upon NPS acquisition of The Highlands, Manges's barn, the Cottonwood Creek bridge, and the twelve guest cabins were removed from the site and the Manges cabin was converted to a barn.

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GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK
MANGES CABIN
NR STATUS: ELIGIBLE

LEGEND

- - - - - FENCE LINE
--- --- POST AND WIRE FENCE
-- -- FIELD LATERAL
--- --- SITE BOUNDARY

SCALE IN FEET
0 5 10 15 20

NRA PROJECT, JR07, MANGES.DWG 7/18/95 BDL
John Manges rode into the Jackson Hole country in the fall of 1910 having left his home in Kansas. He filed a homestead claim in 1911 on land later known as the (old) Elbo Ranch, now part of the Grand Teton National Park.

A present ranch east of the Snake River bears the Elbo Ranch name.

The two story log structure is one of the first homesteaders' cabins in the Jackson Hole country that provided second floor space. It is also believed to be one of the first structures constructed west of the Snake River.

The cabin's unique design of a steep pitched roof, wide overhanging of the eaves and gables served a real purpose in preventing snow and ice gathering on the roof and walls of the building.

The first roof was constructed of a single layer of boards with the joints covered with slabs. Later, building felt covered the boards and another layer of boards with battened joints was added.

The building today is structurally sound and now serves as a storage building.

Recorded by the United States National Park Service
This project was financed from funds of the "Mission 66" program of the National Park Service project under direction of Charles St. George Pope supervising architect, historic structures.

Measured and drawn June-Sept 1965 under the supervision of John N. DeHaas, Jr., Architect, Montana State University.

U. James Blackburn
Durward K. Sobek
Jack Oyama
Dick Shanahan
Charles B. Goldy, Jr.

Montana State University
Montana State University
Montana State University
Montana State University
Montana State University

Half-size reproduction
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

- STAIRS MISSING
- OPENING ENLARGED AT A LATER DATE - ORIGINALLY A WINDOW

MANGES CABIN
GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK
MOOSE, WYOMING

NAME AND LOCATION OF STRUCTURE

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NOTE
ORIGINAL DOORS & WINDOWS MISSING
SOUTH ELEVATION

NOTE-1: ROOF - DOUBLE LAYER OF WIDE BOARDS (12" TO 14") WITH BATTENS ON TOP & ASPHALT PAPER BETWEEN - ORIGINAL ROOF WAS ONE LAYER OF BOARDS WITH SLAB BATTENS.
NOTE-2: WINDOWS ARE MISSING - ORIGINAL WINDOWS WERE 12 LIGHT DOUBLE HUNG WINDOWS.
NOTE
ROOF - DOUBLE LAYER OF WIDE BOARDS (12" TO 14") WITH BATTENS ON TOP & ASPHALT PAPER BETWEEN.
ORIGINAL ROOF WAS ONE LAYER OF BOARDS WITH SLAB BATTENS.

SECTION

SECTION A - A

FLOORING - 2 X 6 BOARDS
LOG FLOOR JOISTS

NOTE
FLOOR JOISTS & FLOORING ARE SAME FOR FIRST & SECOND FLOOR.

MANGES' CABIN
GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK
MOOSE, WYOMING

M. CHARLES B. GOLDS, JR.

WYOMING SURVEY NO. WYO 22
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 6 OF 6 SHEETS
Marges Cabin
GRTE/6084

GRTE, Teton County, WY
Photographer: HRA 1995
View to W
Location: Bneg: NPS, Denver, CO
Roll/Frame: jobw10 #34
Manges Cabin
GRTE / 684
GRTE, Teton Co., WY
Photographer: HRA, 1995
View to NE
Location of Negs: NPS, Denver, CO
Roll / Frame: JCBW10 #35
Manges Cabin
GRTE/684
GRTE, Teton Co., WY
Photographer: HRA, 1995
View to SE
Location of neg: NPS, Denver, CO
Roll/Frame: JCBW10 #36
Margie Cabin
GRTE/1684

GRTE, Teton Co., WY
Photographer: HRA, 1995
View to E
Location: 6 negs: NPS, Denver, Co
Roll/Frame: JCBW10 #37