1. Name of Property

historic name White Grass Dude Ranch

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number N/A

city, town Moose

state Wyoming code WY county Teton code 039

3. Classification

Ownership of Property Category of Property No. of Resources within Property

private building(s) contributing 13

public-local district 0

public-State site 0

X public-Federal structure 0

X object 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Grand Teton National Park Historic

No. 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.

[Signature]

[Signature of certifying official]

[Date]

State or Federal agency or bureau

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

[Signature of commenting or other official]

[Date]

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

[Signature of the Keeper]

[Date]

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/hotel

Vacant/Not in Use
7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(enter categories from instructions)

foundations concrete and log
walls log
roof asphalt and wood
other wooden, covered, deck porches

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The White Grass Dude Ranch historic district consists of ten guest cabins, a lodge, a dining hall, and a service/laundry building on the western edge of the White Grass Valley. The valley stretches out to the east of the ranch and generally overlooks much of the southern portion of the Jackson Hole. West of the ranch are forests and the southern end of the Teton Range rises thousands of feet above the valley floor. Running roughly north and south through the ranch is a one lane road that acted as the central axis of the district.

The district buildings are all built in a style referred to as dude ranch vernacular, characterized by log construction with some other wood products, such as board and batten siding, also used for additions. The buildings all are one story and tend to be rectangular in shape, except for the dining hall and lodge, which have altered footprints due to additions, made both during and after the period of significance. These have not altered the character or feeling. The design of the individual buildings and the overall complex reflects attempts by the builders to capture the feeling of pioneer log structures is evident in the rough hewn timbers and brown stained dressed log exteriors. As a result earthtones are the predominate colors, except for the roofs in which red and green rolled asphalt roofing were used adding dashes of color. The cabins appear at first to be haphazardly scattered, but closer examination shows a pattern to the overall district with the main lodge and dining hall as the centers of activity within easy access of the central path and the cabins all lying north of the dining hall and on either side of the path.

The White Grass, as with other dude ranches of the area, such as the Bar BC, also has an arrangement that conformed to the activity pattern as impacted by local topographic features. At the White Grass this is the valley floor and forest. The district today appears much as it did during the period of significance, except that one feature, the barn, has been so altered with the addition of a second story game room and a quonset hut style shed that its feeling, design, and character have been lost and thusly it was not included in the district. The cabins and other contributing resources have not been altered to the extent the barn was. The cabin alterations generally are limited to the addition of bathrooms on their rears and other changes such as replacement of windows with newer, but wood framed ones. It is not felt that those alterations have compromised either the character, design, workmanship, or feeling of the cabins. The same can be said for the other buildings in the district as well, with most alterations done to expand the size of the structure and in materials sympathetic to the original buildings. Within the district boundaries as drawn, there are thirteen contributing buildings and two non-contributing structures(shed ruins). The quality that sets the district apart from its surroundings is the fact that the ranch is a manmade complex in a natural area.

See continuation sheet
8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ___ nationally   ___ statewide   X locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  X A  B  C  D 
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G 

Areas of Significance
(enter categories from instructions)  
entertainment/recreation

Period of Significance  1919-1938 
Significant Dates  N/A 

Cultural Affiliation  N/A 

Significant Person  Hammond, Harold; Bispham, Tucker; Galley, Frank T. 

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

The White Grass Dude Ranch Historic District is significant under Criteria A because as a dude ranch it helped define and set the standards for the local Jackson Hole industry along with the Bar BC and JY ranches and as a district it exemplifies the local development of dude ranches from cattle ranches in the area. The White Grass is associated with the Dude Ranching and Tourism context of the Grand Teton National Park Multiple Property form.

The ranch was built during World War I as a cattle ranch, but by 1919 its owners, Hammond and Bispham, converted it to a dude ranch. As such the White Grass represents a cattle ranch converted to a dude ranch as identified in the multiple property form. After the conversion, control of the property passed to Hammond's son-in-law Frank Galley who continued the operation until his death in 1985, making it the longest-lived active dude ranch in Jackson Hole. Throughout the White Grass' period of significance the ranch functioned as a dude ranch. The district was built to convey the western feeling that constituted much of the attraction of dude ranches. The log buildings and horizontal emphasis of the buildings in the complex follow the accepted practices of local dude ranches. The buildings considered contributing within the White Grass historic district fulfill the registration requirements set forth in the multiple property documentation in that they are in their original location, are fifty years old, and are of primarily log material and convey their design, materials, workmanship, and function/character individually and within the district. The alterations have not impaired the historic fabric of the buildings or the district. The interiors have been striped of furnishings and rebuilt, altering their character and are not significant. The two non-contributing resources do not meet the integrity requirements. The setting is similar to what it was during the period of significance so the feeling of a dude ranch is still present.

See continuation sheet
9. Major Bibliographical References


Previous documentations on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
- 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#

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:
- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify Repository:
- Grand Teton National Park, NPS

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 30 acres

UTM References

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description The boundaries of the White Grass Dude Ranch are defined by a polygon with vertices at UTM coordinates: A 12 518310 4833540; B 12 518390 4833580; C 12 518280 4833780; and D 12 518430 4833740. The ranch is located on the Grand Teton, Wyo., U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle map.

Boundary Justification The boundary as described includes the district and its setting and encloses all contributing resources associated with the property type. The boundaries exclude all but two of the non-contributing buildings. The buildings outside lack either the integrity or age needed to meet the registration requirements.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Steven F. Mehls, Principal Investigator
organization Western Historical Studies, Inc.
date 03/20/88
street & number 1225 Atlantis Ave.
telephone (303)-666-6208
state CO zip code 80026
List of Contributing Resources By Building Number

The following buildings are considered as contributing resources of the White Grass Dude Ranch:

1154  
1155  
1156  
1157  
1158  
1159  
1160  
1161  
1162  
1163  
1164  
1165  
1168
Photograph List White Grass Dude Ranch

<table>
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<th>View</th>
<th>Direction(to)</th>
<th>Photographer</th>
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<td>West</td>
<td>Nancy Prichard</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHG-2</td>
<td>Cabin Front (1164)</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>Steven Mehls</td>
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<td>WHG-3</td>
<td>Cabin Front 3/4 (1163)</td>
<td>Southwest</td>
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<td>Cabin Front 3/4 (1165)</td>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>Steven Mehls</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cabin Front (1154)</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>Nancy Prichard</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>WHG-8</td>
<td>Cabin Front (1160)</td>
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Negatives on file at Grand Teton National Park
Historic District at the White Grass Ranch
Grand Teton National Park

Key:
= contributing resource
= non-contributing
= NPS building number

Not to scale