1 NAME
HISTORIC
Historic Resources of Yellowstone National Park: Faithful Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
Yellowstone National Park
N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN
Yellowstone
STATE
Wyoming
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
At Large
VICKINOY OF
N/A
COUNTY
Teton
CODE
039

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
DISTRICT
X BUILDING(S)
X STRUCTURE
X SITE
OBJECT
Multiple
X Resource

OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC
PRIVATE
BOTH

PUBLIC AQUISITION
N/A
IN PROCESS
BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS
X OCCUPIED
X UNOCCUPIED
WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
YES: RESTRICTED
X YES: UNRESTRICTED
NO

CATEGORY
PRESENT USE
X DISTRICT
AGRICULTURE
COMMERCIAL
EDUCATIONAL
GOVERNMENT
INDUSTRIAL
MILITARY
MUSEUM
PARK
PRIVATE RESIDENCE
RELIGIOUS
SCIENTIFIC
TRANSPORTATION
OTHER

4 AGENCY
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region
STREET & NUMBER
655 Parfet Street, P.O. Box 25287
CITY, TOWN
Denver
STATE
Colorado

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Yellowstone National Park
STREET & NUMBER
N/A
CITY, TOWN
Yellowstone National Park
STATE
Wyoming

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
List of Classified Structures
DATE
1978
FEDERAL
STATE
COUNTY
LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office
CITY, TOWN
Denver
STATE
Colorado

### CONDITION

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### CHECK ONE

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### Date

1971

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The Old Faithful Historic District of Yellowstone National Park is a portion of the Multi-Resource for Yellowstone National Park. The Old Faithful Historic District is on a low rise south of the Firehole River, surrounded on the northeast and east by lodgepole pines and volcanic cliffs, the northern boundary near and surrounding the Old Faithful Geyser is open to bare vegetation and west of the district is a wet meadowland. The district lies on the Grand Loop Road between Madison Junction and the West Thumb area.

The district, dominated by the Old Faithful Inn (listed on the National Register of Historic Places, July 23, 1971), consists of the Old Faithful Lodge, 3 stores, 2 service stations, 5 dormitories, 10 support buildings, and the guest cabins behind the Old Faithful Lodge and the Snow Lodge.

The first 11 buildings listed are of similar architectural style to the Old Faithful Inn and retain their architectural and historical integrity. The following 11 buildings have historical significance as support buildings and they are compatible with the historic scene. The cabins have historical significance and do reflect the type of cabin construction in Yellowstone National Park. While the cabins in the Old Faithful Lodge still retain some architectural integrity, the cabins behind the Snow Lodge have been altered considerably and have lost their architectural integrity.

### Building #2337: Old Faithful Lodge

Construction began in 1923 with several additions made through 1927. The irregular plan building is of frame construction with stone masonry walls, wood shingled exterior siding, and half log decorative elements. The lodge is approximately 28' long with a 52' x 45' extension, a 36' x 96' extension, and a 51' x 122' extension plus another 100' x 136' wing along the east side. The windows are casement and double hung. Stepped stone masonry columns and large log poles support the porte cochere and other covered porches. Stepped stone masonry pilasters are used at some corners. The 19 room building has a wood shingled, gable roof with monitored roof over the recreation hall. Exposed log rafter ends and log brackets are used.

### Building #2306: Powerhouse and Laundry

Built in 1929 by the Yellowstone Park Company, the one-story, two-room L-shaped frame structure with wood shingle exterior siding on concrete foundation has a wood shingled gable roof with louvered type windows. The building has exposed log rafter ends. It is approximately 121' x 79' with the L extension being approximately 61' x 36'. This building is scheduled to be reduced in size if laundry facilities are park centralized.

### Building #2310: Caretaker's Quarters

Built in the late 1920's, the one-and-a-half-story building has four rooms. The approximately 24' x 18' rectangular frame structure on concrete foundation has wood shingle exterior siding and a wood shingled gable roof with a transverse hip at one elevation. The windows are both double hung and casement. The building has exposed log rafter ends. The building is now the winter keeper's residence.

### Building #2311: Laundry Manager's Residence

Built in 1926, the approximately 16' x 24' rectangular plan frame one-story structure has two rooms. The building has wood shingle exterior siding and a wood shingled gable roof with a transverse gable roof and casement window. The roof has exposed log rafter ends and large ridge poles which are compatible to the Old Faithful Inn.
The Old Faithful Historic District is both historically and architecturally significant. The historical aspect is its role in concessions development in the early 1900's, to accommodate the thousands of people who came to view the well-known symbol of the National Parks, the Old Faithful Geyser. The Old Faithful Inn, designed by Robert Reamer and built in 1903-04, is one of the premier rustic structures in the country and is considered one of America's grand old hotels. The adjacent support structures, the lodge, auto camp stores, and the gas stations which all addressed the new auto tourism, were designed to be compatible with the Inn. The use of the rustic log architecture represents the idea of enhancing rather than detracting from the spirit of the wilderness. This concept, the sensitivity of the architecture to the environment, would be a model for the National Park Service for succeeding decades.

The building program, beginning with construction of the Inn through the cabin construction period in the 1940's followed the aim of the National Park Service of blending the structures with the environment. This concept was followed throughout the National Park system in the West. Similar cabin construction was done at Zion National Park and Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah and many other areas. More importantly, the adherence to rustic qualities was followed even in the most ordinary buildings such as service buildings. While all of the buildings in the Old Faithful area, except the Inn, do not have national significance in architecture, they do possess local and state significance.
I MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
Haynes, Aubrey L.  

Leavengood, David.  

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  160 Acres

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
The boundary starts at Point A and goes 300 meters slightly southwestard to Point B then 1,150 meters southeastward to Point C, then 600 meters slightly northeastward to Point D, then 200 meters eastward to Point E from which the boundary follows the Firehole River to the north then westward approximately 900 meters to Point F. From Point F the boundary crosses the Geyser Field 250 meters southwestward to Point A.

(See continuation sheet for Boundary Justification)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

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FORM PREPARED BY
Mary Shivers Culpin, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION
National Park Service

ADDRESS
655 Parfor, City or Town

STATE  Colorado  80225

DATE
March 16, 1981

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES  NO

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE Associate Director, Cultural Resources Management

DATE  7/30/82

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Building #2302: Lower Service Station. This building was built by the Hamilton Store Company at an unknown date. It is a modified T-plan structure, approximately 80' x 24', with a 22' x 40' extension. The exterior walls are horizontal siding with vertical half-timbers. The roof is wood shingled and extends over the gas pumps. Hamilton stores, Inc., and the National Park Service each have joint ownership of the building.

Building #2303: Lower Hamilton Store. Built as Klamer Store in 1894 and sold to Charles Hamilton in 1914. Hamilton expanded the store over the years. The modified U-plan is two-story with 13 rooms plus baths. The building is approximately 152' x 30' with the two extensions being approximately 21' x 83' and 39' x 83'. The frame constructed building has novelty siding and a wood shingled gabled roof with several transverse gables. Burled branches and logs are used as brackets and decorative elements on the north and east elevations. An unusual element is the use of the burled wood in spelling out HAMILTON STORES which hangs over the entrance to the salesroom. The interior is typical store design of the time, but the second floor contains a small sitting room called "The Million Dollar Room," papered with canceled checks whose total is $1,000,000. This fact is reportedly recorded in Ripley's Believe It or Not. Hamilton Stores, Inc., and the National Park Service have joint ownership of the building.

Building #2780: Photo Shop. Built in 1927 by Haynes, Inc., the T-plan structure, approximately 44' x 36' with the leg being 61' x 27'. The two-story, 25-room store is of frame construction with half-log and shiplap siding. A porch extends across the front of the building. The wood shingled gabled roof has exposed log rafter ends. The store reflects the concession architecture in Yellowstone National Park during the 1920's and 1930's. The building was moved to its present location in 1971.

Building #2326: Upper Hamilton Store. Built in 1929 by Hamilton Stores, Inc., as a store and employee dormitory. The two-story, 33-room structure is approximately 45' x 118', and in a U-shaped configuration. The windows are both casement and double hung sash. The walls are constructed of concrete laid to resemble hewn logs. The building is placed on a masonry stone foundation with stepped stone masonry pilasters and stepped stone masonry columns that support the two covered entrance porches. The eaves of the wood shingled gabled roof are wood shingled with exposed log rafter ends; log rafter purlins are used in the roof structure of the two covered entrance porches. The tips of the log rafter ends and the purlins are tapered and whittled to resemble beaver gnawings. The building was originally part of the Old Faithful Auto Camp. Hamilton Stores, Inc., and the National Park Service each have joint ownership of the building.
Building #2327: Upper Gas Station. Built in 1929 by Hamilton Stores, Inc., the Latin Cross plan structure has two rooms with three of the wings canopied over the gas pumps. The walls are of concrete construction laid to resemble hewn logs. Stepped stone masonry pilasters are used at the corners, similar stone columns support the canopies. The gabled roof has wood shingles and exposed log rafter ends. The structure has casement windows. Hamilton Stores, Inc., and the National Park Service each have joint ownership of the building.

Building #2305: Old Faithful Inn. The Old Faithful Inn was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, July 23, 1973. Herein specifically, the nomination will be expanded to include the following interior spaces: the dining room, the lobby, Rooms 10, 127, 154, and 229. The rustic log quality of the exterior is carried throughout the interior. The lobby, a 64' square space rising 85' to the ridgeline, is encircled with tiers of balconies used as lounges for the guests. The use of exposed logs for the ceilings, walls, the purlins and rafters are further accented by the use of vertical log supports of the second and third floor balconies and for the small open room near the ceiling called the "Crow's Nest." In earlier days, the "Crow's Nest" was used by musicians as a place to assemble and entertain the guests far below. The lobby is further enhanced by the lighting effect produced by the many glass dormer windows placed in the steep gabled roof. An immense 16' square native stone fireplace with hearths on each of its four sides dominates one corner of the lobby. Tons of local stone were used in the construction of the fireplace. The fireplace towers to the ceiling. Suspended from the ceilings in the lobby and dining room are copper light fixtures designed by the Inn's architect, Robert Reamer. Imitation candlesticks, also designed by Reamer, are mounted on the log columns and form sconces on the log walls. The original log walled dining room is open to the roof with the log ceiling supported by log scissor trusses. A massive rock fireplace, modified after the 1959 earthquake, centers on the south wall. In 1921, the south wall ground level windows were removed to install doorways for a new dining room addition. In 1927, a multisided addition was made to the east wall of the original dining room. The original wall was removed and replaced with three support columns and panels. Interesting and significant elements of the room and the 1921 dining room addition are the arabesque on the fir panels, the spare columns, and the frieze. The etched design are of flora and fauna and are the only rustic touches in the room. The room was converted to "The Bear Pit" a more formal cocktail lounge in 1962. Room No. 10, off the west corridor on the first floor, is one of the original rooms with modified bathroom in tact. The log walled room, approximately 12' x 14', has original built-in light fixtures and call buttons. The ceiling has the original end to end shingle.
Historic Resources of Yellowstone NP

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

covering. The adjoining bathroom has the original high tank oak toilet, clawfoot bathtub, and red marble lavatory. Linoleum covers the original fir flooring. The bathroom is approximately 10' x 12'. Other typical hotel rooms with rustic qualities are No. 127 and No. 154, on the second floor, and No. 229, on the third floor. The walls and ceilings are rough sawn pine. Room No. 127 has an adjoining bath with tongue and groove walls and original high tank toilet, clawfoot bathtub and white marble lavatory. Room No. 154 has wooden casement windows and a seating nook on the north window. Room No. 229 is similar to Room No. 154, but larger size. Part of the room is the opening provided by the dormer window. All of the rooms have nonhistoric lavatories added in the 1930-1940's. The stairway in the west wing should be cited, the half-log stair and tread and gnarled railings.

Original furnishings in the Old Faithful Inn are significant components of the building and the collection is a good representation from the Arts and Crafts Movement. In the public spaces are two or three styles of loose cushioned settees, arm chairs, rockers, and wing back chairs. Octagonal base tables with leather tops and brass studded trim, and writing desks and chairs. These pieces of Mission Furniture probably came from a manufacturer in upstate New York. The dining room is still furnished with the natural hickory side chairs of rustic style from the Old Hickory Furniture Company. The Bear Pit has leather topped tables with brass studs. Some bedrooms have iron bedsteads with a brass printed finish, dresser with drop front drawers and wash stand stained green with copper tops.

Building #2312: Girl's Dormitory. Built in 1925, the L-plan building, approximately 170'x63', has two stories and 80 rooms. It is of frame construction with exterior wood shingle siding and wood shingled mansard roof. The building is similar in design to the 1913 addition of the Old Faithful Inn.

Building #2307: Shop. Built in late 1920's, the one-room L-shaped frame structure on concrete foundation is approximately 28'x51' and has wood shingle exterior siding, and wood shingled gable roof.

Building #2309: Shed. Built in late 1920's, the one-room 10'x14' frame structure has wood shingle exterior siding with wood shingled hip roof and exposed log rafter ends.

Building #2313: Employees Laundry. Built in late 1920's, the rectangular 16'x55' two-room, frame structure has wood shingle exterior siding and wood shingled gable roof.

Building #2314: U-Plan Dormitory. Built in 1913, the modified U-plan is approximately 200'x71'. The building is of frame construction with half-timber and shingle exterior siding. The one-story building has 8 rooms. The wood shingled gable roof has exposed log rafter ends.

Building #2315: Engineers Dormitory. Built in 1913, the rectangular plan, approximately 30'x17', frame structure has one-story and four rooms. The structure has exterior wood shingle siding, exposed log rafter ends and a wood shingled roof with a transverse gable along its length.
Building #2316: Employee’s Dormitory. Built in 1926, the rectangular plan, approximately 25' x 49', frame construction is one-story with 8 rooms. The building has wood shingle exterior siding and a wood shingled gable roof with exposed rafter ends. The building reflects the design and construction of the Old Faithful Inn. The dormitory was built by the Yellowstone Park Company as a service building for the Inn; it is now used as a recreation facility for employees.

Building #2338: Linen Room. Built ca. 1930, the two-story frame constructed building is an L-plan, approximately 60' x 30' with the extension being 30' x 16'. The exterior has exposed log studs and shiplap siding; the gabled roof is wood shingled. The building is east of the Old Faithful Lodge's north wing. The upper floor is used as a dorm and the lower floor is used as a linen storage for the cabins in the lodge area.

Building #2339: Power Plant and Boiler House. The frame constructed L-plan buildings, approximately 57' x 52' with a 33' x 28' extension. The building has a half-timbered and wood shingled exterior and a wood shingled gable roof. The building is on a concrete foundation.

Building #2343: Dormitory (Cinderella Dorm). Built in 1940, the rectangular plan building is approximately 112' x 38'. The exterior is half-timbered and plywood. The two-story structure, on concrete foundation, has a wood shingle gabled roof. The building is east of the lodge.

There are several different types and sizes of cabins in the Old Faithful area with the construction dates covering the period 1924-1942.

Between 1924-1942, one-story, one-room 13' x 11', 15' x 13', and 15' x 21', frame constructed cabins with wood shingled gable roofs were built by the Yellowstone Park Company. The cabins are on concrete foundations. They have 6 light wooden casement windows to the left of the front door. The walls are flush horizontal siding with both "logs out" and "studs out" construction.

In 1936-1937 three-room 29' x 13' "logs out" frame constructed cabins were built by the Yellowstone Park Company. They have wood shingled gable roofs and are on concrete foundations. These cabins have wood casement windows.

In 1936-1937 two-room 19' x 12½' "logs out" frame constructed cabins were built by the Yellowstone Park Company. They have wood shingled gable roofs; double 6 light wooden casement windows on either side of the front door and they are on concrete foundations.
In 1940 four room (Quad-cabins) cabins 27½' x 27½' were built by the Yellowstone Park Company. The frame constructed buildings have plywood walls with vertical/diagonal cut lumber moulding that gives the impression of a half-lumbered building. The buildings have wood shingled hip roofs with brick fireplaces at the apex.

The following are noncontributing buildings which do infill the historic district, but have been built in the past 30 years.

Building #2776: Dormitory. Built in 1952, the two-story, rectangular plan, frame constructed building, on concrete foundation, is approximately 39' x 122'. The exterior is covered with alternate sections of horizontal and vertical board siding. The gabled roof is wood shingled. A dormitory of similar design is just to the south.

Building #2304: Shed. The 25' x 30' wood frame two-story structure has two rooms. The exterior walls are board siding and the gabled roof is wood shingled. The building is behind and between the lower store and the Old Faithful Inn.

Small building to the north of the Tailor Shop (Building #2311) and west of the Powerhouse and Laundry (Building #2306) is now the residence of the fire chief. The building has exterior wood shingle siding and a wood shingled hip roof.

South of the Old Faithful Geyser and between the Inn and the Lodge are three visitor center facilities built in 1972. Although of modern design, the roof lines and the use of exterior wood shingle siding relate them to the historic buildings. Other recently built structures are a post office, built ca. 1970, the Snow Lodge built in 1958, a Mission 66 built Four Seasons Restaurant, and a comfort station. These structures and the accompanying parking lots, roads, and sidewalks have an impact on the historic scene, but they reflect the evolutionary process of providing access and services to the visitors who come to view the Old Faithful Geyser.

The survey of the historic structures in the Old Faithful Historic District, Yellowstone National Park, was completed by James Muhn, a consultant on historic properties, and under the supervision of Regional Historical Architect Rodd L. Wheaton during July and August 1978. Mr. Muhn used the criteria established by the National Register of Historic Places for his evaluations, and those structures considered eligible or potentially eligible were entered on the Rocky Mountain Region's List of Classified Structures Inventory.
The boundary of the Historic District includes the historic buildings and the Old Faithful Geyser. The district has three distinct units with the oldest buildings being in the Old Faithful Inn area, followed by the Lodge area, and the area with the most recent concentration of construction being the Snow Lodge.