



History Colorado

March 16, 2026

Charlotte Graveline
Historian
National Park Service
Park History Program
Historic Preservation Services

Re: Preliminary Property Evaluation for the Powder House at Colorado National Monument.

Dear Charlotte,

Based on the preliminary review by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, we have determined that the above named property does not appear to meet the criteria for the National Register of Historic Places or the State Register of Historic Properties.

The information provided on the nomination form will be sent on to our Information Management department for encoding into our database and storage with our site files. The form will be available to any researchers who request to see it, and so we do appreciate the time taken to document the resource. If we can be of further assistance regarding eligibility or the nomination process, please do not hesitate to contact me at 720.262.1042 or contact me by e-mail at damion.pechota@state.co.us.

We appreciate your interest in historic preservation and the National and State Register programs.

Sincerely,

Damion Pechota
Senior National and State Register Historian

Resource Number:
Temporary Resource Number: 7

OAHP1403
Rev. 9/98

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Official eligibility determination
(OAHP use only)

Date _____ Initials _____
____ Determined Eligible- NR
____ Determined Not Eligible- NR
____ Determined Eligible- SR
____ Determined Not Eligible- SR
____ Need Data
____ Contributes to eligible NR District
____ Noncontributing to eligible NR District

I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number:
2. Temporary resource number: 7
3. County: Mesa
4. City: Fruita
5. Historic building name: Powder House (B49)
6. Current building name: Powder House (B49)
7. Building address: Colorado National Monument, Fruita, CO 81521
8. Owner name and address: US Government, Colorado National Monument, 1750 Rim Rock Drive, Fruita, CO 81521

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. 6th Township 11S Range 102W
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 13
10. UTM reference
Zone 12; 695472 E, 4330426 N
11. USGS quad name: Colorado National monument
Year: 1975 Map scale: 7.5' Attach photo copy of appropriate map section.
12. Lot(s): N/A Block: N/A
Addition: N/A Year of Addition: N/A
13. Boundary Description and Justification: Building Extent

III. Architectural Description

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): RECTANGULAR PLAN
15. Dimensions in feet: Length 6 x Width 3
16. Number of stories: ONE
17. Primary external wall material(s): SANDSTONE
18. Roof configuration: FLAT ROOF
19. Primary external roof material: SANDSTONE ROOF

Resource Number:

Temporary Resource Number: 7

- 20. Special features: N/A
- 21. General architectural description: The Powder House is a small, rectangular storage building carved into the north face of a sandstone cliff. A rectangular, metal-reinforced wood door with strap hinges in a deteriorated sandstone frame is all that is visible from the exterior. NPS documentation indicates that the interior measures 19.5 square feet and has wood ceiling, walls, and floor.
- 22. Architectural style/building type: NO STYLE/INDUSTRIAL
- 23. Landscaping or special setting features: The building is cut into the sandstone cliff face about 1,200 ft southwest of Rim Rock Drive and 170 ft southwest of the Saddlehorn Utility Area. The surrounding desert landscape includes juniper and pinyon trees, native brush and vegetation, and natural sandstone geologic formations. The soil immediately in front of the entrance is unstable.
- 24. Associated buildings, features, or objects: A small square box to store the blasting caps separate from the explosive powder is built into the sandstone wall about 150 ft north of the Powder House.

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

- 25. Date of Construction: Estimate: _____ Actual: 1956
Source of information: NPS Individual Building Data
- 26. Architect: N/A
Source of information: NPS Individual Building Data
- 27. Builder/Contractor: US Government
Source of information: NPS Individual Building Data
- 28. Original owner: US Government
Source of information: NPS Individual Building Data
- 29. Construction history (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions): No known alterations
- 30. Original location X Moved ____ Date of move(s):

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

- 31. Original use(s): INDUSTRIAL STORAGE
- 32. Intermediate use(s):
- 33. Current use(s): NOT IN USE
- 34. Site type(s): Colorado National Monument
- 35. Historical background: The US Government constructed the Powder House in 1956 to store explosive powder used as blast material for construction in the Monument. It is currently not in use.
- 36. Sources of information:
NPS, Individual Building Data (Form 10-768), "Powder House." On file, Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, Denver, CO.

Resource Number:
Temporary Resource Number: 7

VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation: Yes ____ No X Date of designation: ____

Designating authority:

38. Applicable National Register Criteria:

____ A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history;

____ B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

____ C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

____ D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

____ Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual)

X Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria

39. Area(s) of significance: N/A

40. Period of significance: N/A

41. Level of significance: National ____ State ____ Local ____

42. Statement of significance: N/A

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance: N/A

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible ____ Not Eligible X Need Data ____

45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes ____ No X

Discuss: The Powder House is outside the existing Saddlehorn Utility Area Historic District and is not associated with the construction of the utility area. It is a small utilitarian industrial building that has no architectural significance.

If there is National Register district potential, is this building: Contributing ____ Noncontributing ____

46. If the building is in existing National Register district, is it: Contributing ____ Noncontributing ____

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph numbers: 7_1.jpg

Negatives filed at: Digital images filed at Colorado National Monument

48. Report title: N/A

49. Date(s): June 4, 2024

50. Recorder(s): Laura Kline and Holly Herbster

51. Organization: The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc.

Resource Number:

Temporary Resource Number: 7

52. Address: 26 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI, 02860

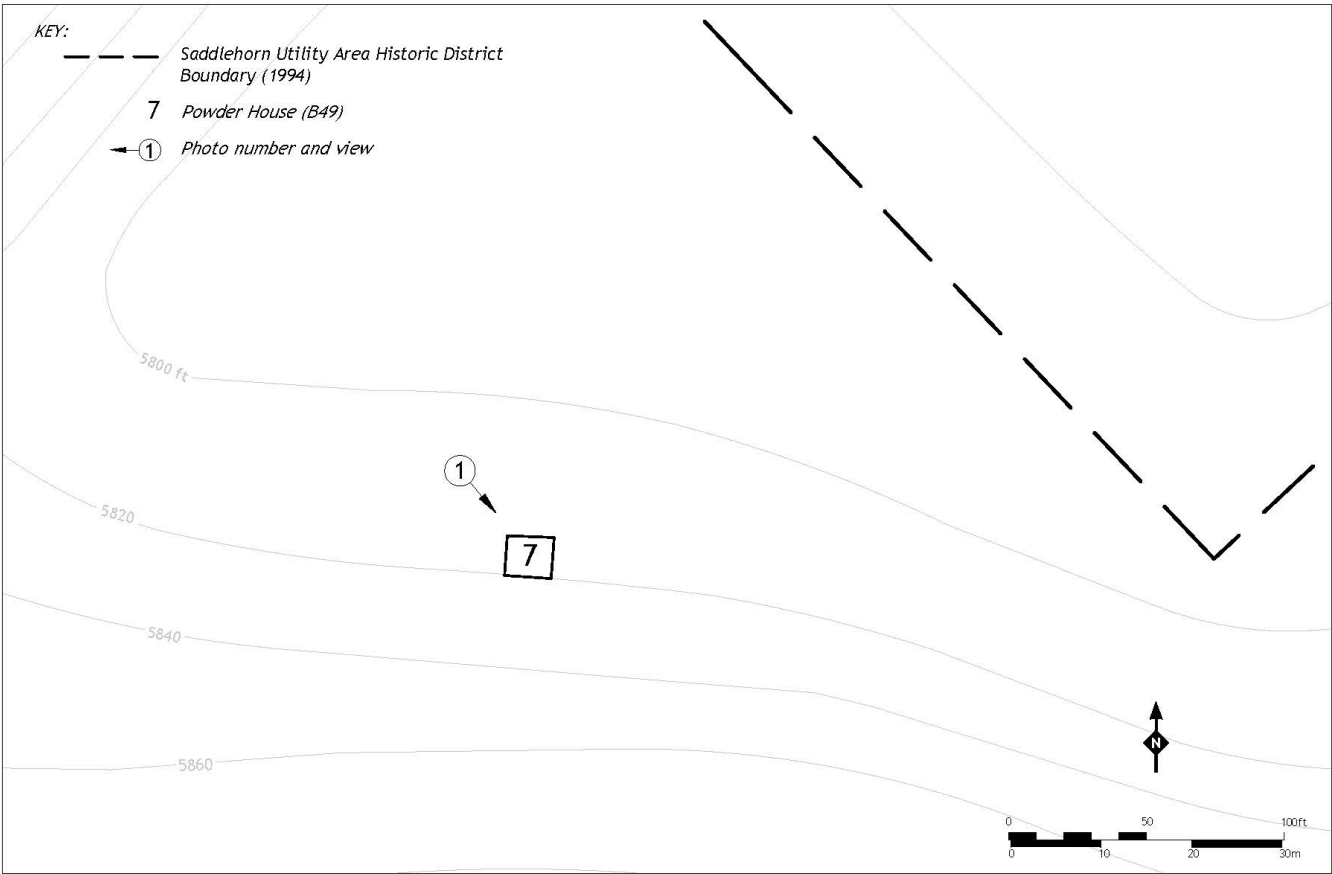
53. Phone number(s): (401) 728-8780

NOTE: Please include a sketch map, a photocopy of the USGS quad map indicating resource location, and photographs.

History Colorado - Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
1200 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203 (303) 866-3395

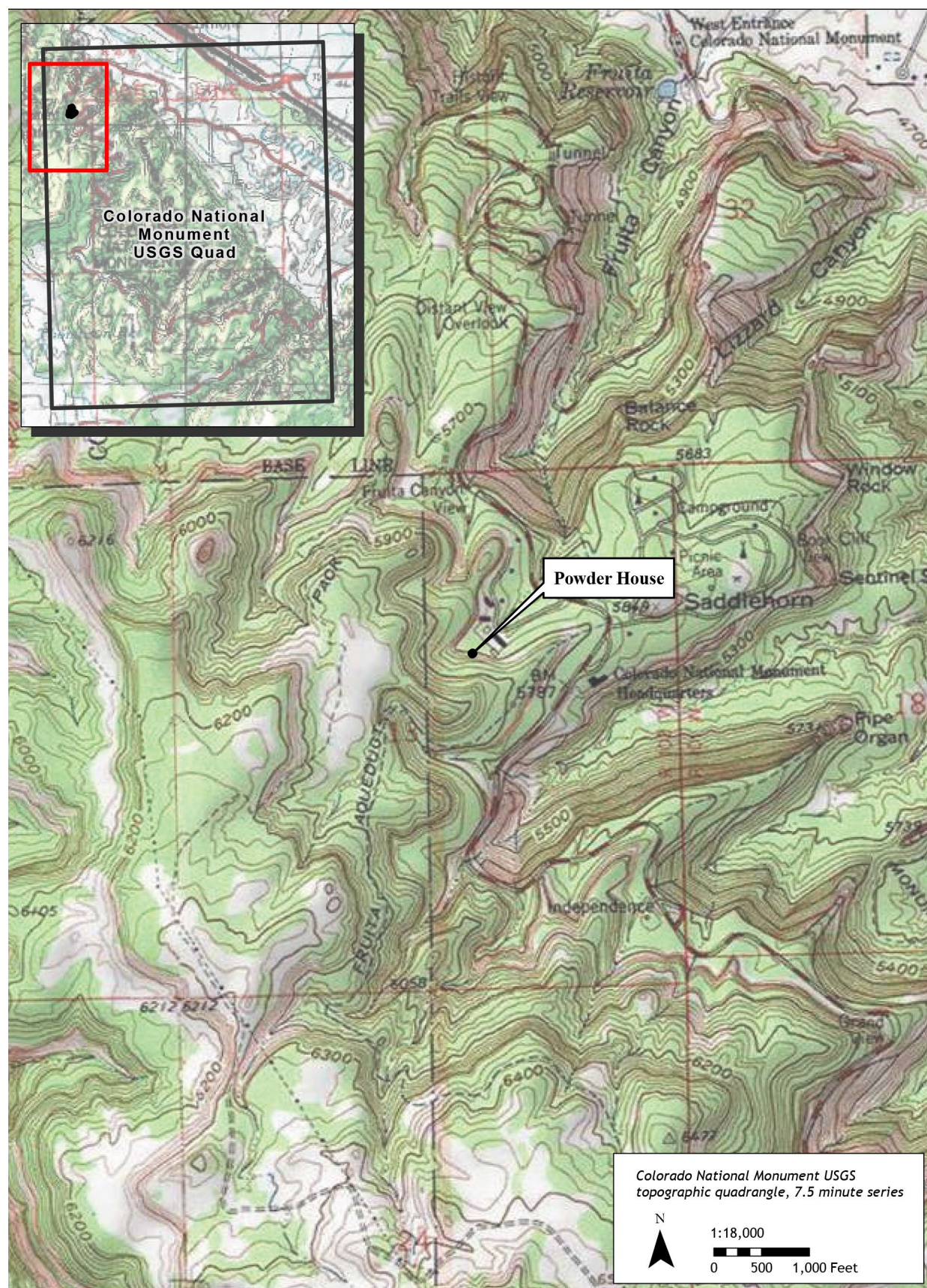
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SKETCH MAP



Resource Number:
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USGS MAP



Resource Number:
Temporary Resource Number: 7

PHOTOGRAPHS



7_1. Powder House entrance, view south.