



History Colorado

March 16, 2026

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

Re: Preliminary Property Evaluation for the Wastewater Lagoons and Pumphouses 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: 9

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: 9
3. County: Mesa
4. City: Fruita
5. Historic building name: Pumphouses at Wastewater Lagoons
6. Current building name: North and South Pumphouses at Wastewater Lagoons
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. 31 Ute Meridian Township 1N Range 2W
SE ¼ of SE ¼ of SW/SE ¼ of _____ ¼ of section 31
P.M. 6th Township 11S Range 102W
NW ¼ of NE ¼ of NE ¼ of NE ¼ of section 13
NE ¼ of NE ¼ of NW ¼ of NW ¼ of section 13
10. UTM reference
Zone 12; 695322 E, 4331004 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: Fenced sewage treatment area

III. Architectural Description

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): SQUARE PLAN
15. Dimensions in feet: Length 9 x Width 9
16. Number of stories: ONE
17. Primary external wall material(s): SYNTHETICS

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18. Roof configuration: SHED ROOF

19. Primary external roof material: SYNTHETIC ROOF

20. Special features: N/A

21. General architectural description: The pumphouses are each small, wood-frame buildings with shed roofs and horizontal composite siding.

22. Architectural style/building type: NO STYLE/INDUSTRIAL

23. Landscaping or special setting features: The pumphouses are part of a sewage treatment plant in the northern part of Colorado National Monument approximately 5 miles from the Monument's west entrance. They serve two oblong tarp-lined wastewater lagoons (or ponds) with earthen berms. The north lagoon is approximately 100 ft wide by 220 ft long. The south lagoon is approximately 135 ft wide by 260 ft long. A gravel path runs along the east and north edges of the lagoons to provide access to the pumphouses. The area is enclosed by a chain-link fence and accessed from the west side of Rim Rock Drive by the gravel Boneyard Road. The surrounding desert landscape includes juniper and pinyon trees, native brush and vegetation, and natural sandstone geologic formations.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects: N/A

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction: Estimate: _____ Actual: 1976

Source of information: NPS Master Plan

26. Architect: N/A

Source of information: NPS Master Plan

27. Builder/Contractor: US Government

Source of information: NPS Master Plan

28. Original owner: US Government

Source of information: NPS Master Plan

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): PROCESSING SITE

32. Intermediate use(s):

33. Current use(s): PROCESSING SITE

34. Site type(s): Colorado National Monument

35. Historical background: The NPS constructed the lagoon-type sewage treatment plant for the Saddlehorn area in 1975–1976.

Resource Number:

Temporary Resource Number: 9

36. Sources of information:

NPS, Colorado National Monument Master Plan, May 1976. On file, Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, Denver, CO.

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 pumphouses and wastewater lagoons are utilitarian structures not associated with any significant development program at Colorado National Monument.

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: 9_1.jpg, 9_2.jpg, 9_3.jpg

Negatives filed at: Digital images filed at Colorado National Monument

48. Report title: N/A

Resource Number:

Temporary Resource Number: 9

49. Date(s): July 12, 2021, and June 4, 2024

50. Recorder(s): Laura Kline and Jill Miller

51. Organization: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

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

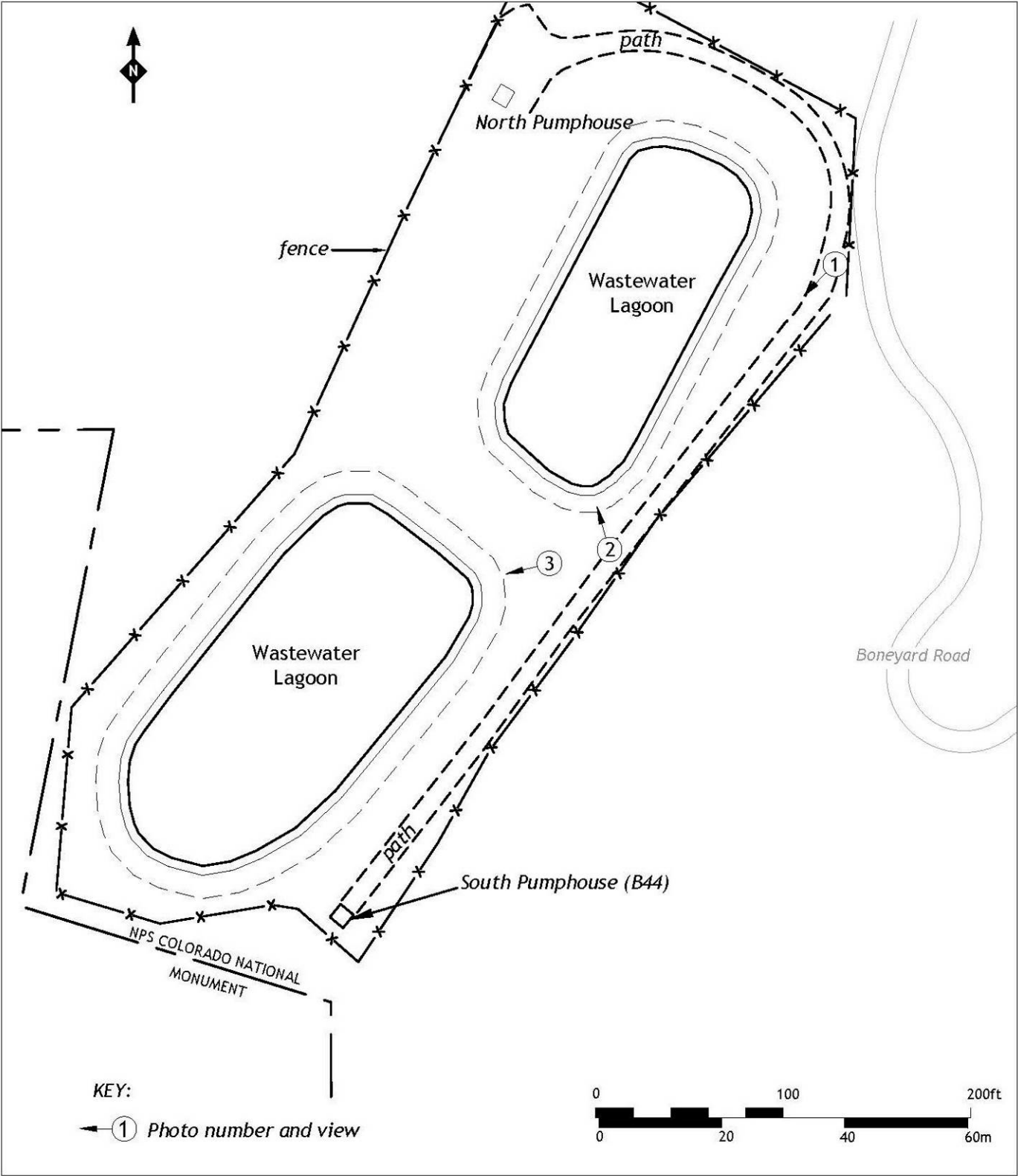
53. Phone number(s): (401) 728-8780

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

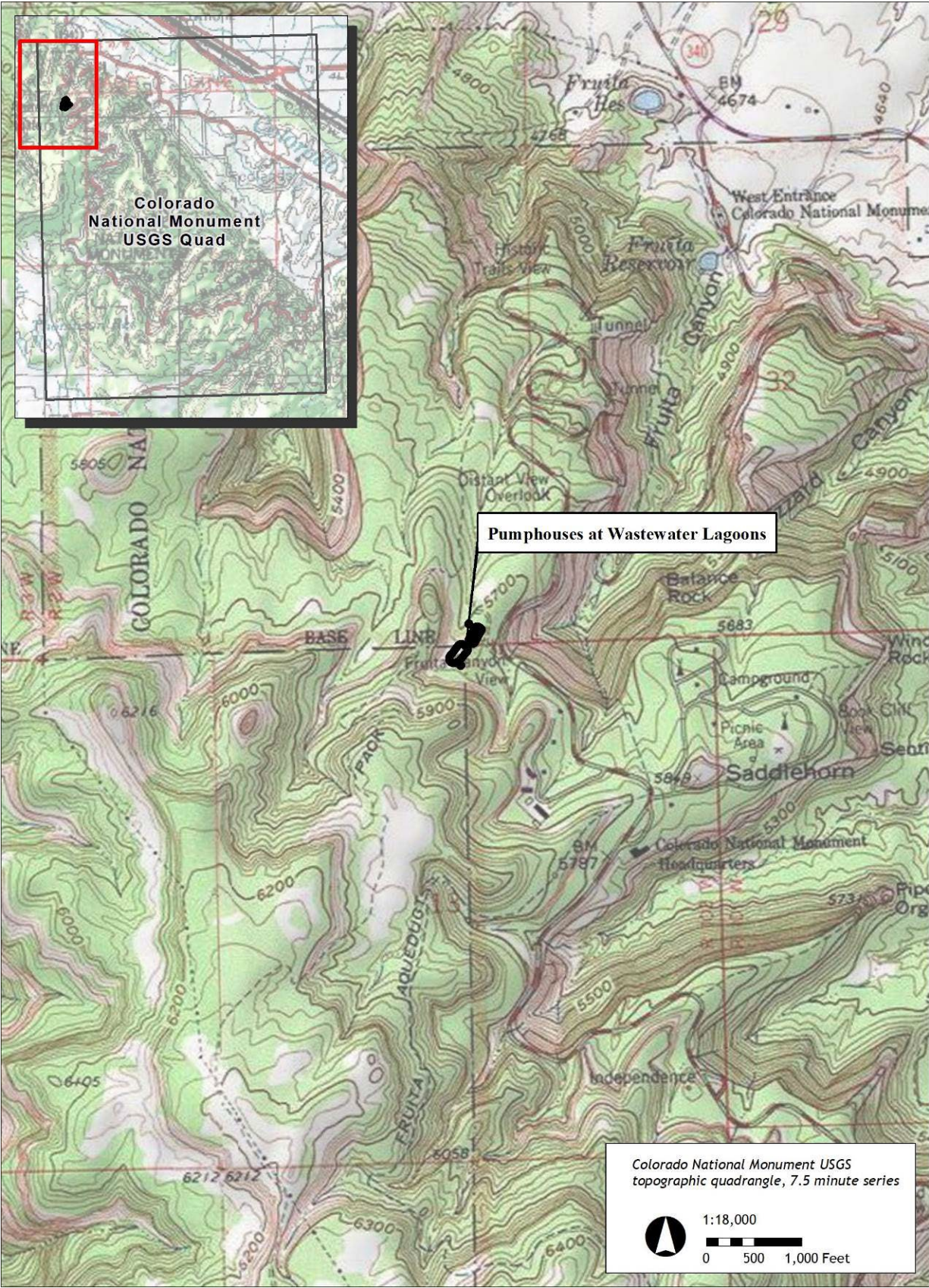
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SKETCH MAP



Resource Number:
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USGS MAP



Resource Number:
Temporary Resource Number: 9

PHOTOGRAPHS



9_1. South Pumphouse and South Wastewater Lagoon, view southwest, June 4, 2024.



9_2. North Pumphouse and North Wastewater Lagoon, view north, July 12, 2021.

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9_3. South Wastewater Lagoon, view southwest, July 12, 2021.