

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 27 1977

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME** Yellowstone National Park Multiple Resource Area  
 HISTORIC Historic Resources of Yellowstone National Park (Partial Inventory;  
 AND/OR COMMON Obsidian Cliff Kiosk)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

N/A

N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Mammoth Jct

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Yellowstone National Park N/A VICINITY OF

At Large

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Wyoming56Park029**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY****OWNERSHIP****STATUS****PRESENT USE**☐ DISTRICT☒ PUBLIC☐ OCCUPIED☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☒ BUILDING(S)☐ PRIVATE☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☒ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☐ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ SITE**PUBLIC ACQUISITION****ACCESSIBLE**☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ OBJECT

N/A IN PROCESS

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFICmultiple☐ BEING CONSIDERED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ resource☐ NO☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Park Service

STREET &amp; NUMBER

655 Parfet Street, P.O. Box 25287

CITY, TOWN

Denver

N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. N/A

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Yellowstone National Park

CITY, TOWN

Wyoming

STATE

N/A**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

List of Classified Structures Inventory

DATE

1976-1977☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDSNational Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT

☒ GOOD

☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED

☐ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Obsidian Cliff Kiosk nomination is a portion of the multiple resource nomination for Yellowstone National Park. The kiosk is set against a cliff on the west side of the Grand Loop Road approximately 12 miles south of the Mammoth Hot Springs Headquarters area and just to the north of Beaver Lake.

The kiosk is approximately 16' x 6'. The clustered piers are constructed of large basaltic stone blocks formed into columns. The wood shingle roof covers the exhibit panel which is mounted in cast aluminum with no glass covering. The kiosk's original exhibits were behind plate glass. The roof has exposed 8' log rafters and 9' verge logs. Stone paving surrounds the kiosk. The structure was built in 1931 although the exhibit panel is of more recent years.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Park
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1931

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

National Park Service

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Obsidian Cliff Kiosk is significant for its outstanding representation of "individuality achieved by the use of a material which is a phenomenon of the immediate environs" and because it is the first wayside exhibit built in the National Park System. The "open air museum-in-miniature" aids the public in understanding and enjoying the natural aspects of the nearby Obsidian Cliff, a mountain of volcanic glass which extends for approximately 2 miles. This exhibit was one of the many significant innovations in interpretation made by Carl Russell, which are widely reflected today in how parks are interpreted and in how they are experienced by visitors.

Good, p. 176.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Good, Albert. Park and Recreation Structures. Part I. Administration and Basic Service Facilities. Washington: National Park Service, 1938.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 26' x 36' less than an acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 12 521045 4963020  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
C         

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
D         

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Obsidian Cliff Kiosk is on the west side of the Grand Loop Road 12 miles south of the Mammoth Hot Springs Administrative Area. The kiosk is approximately 25 feet off the Grand Loop Road. The nominated area is 26' x 36' or less than an acre.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mary Shivers Culpin, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

National Park Service

DATE

November 30, 1981

STREET & NUMBER

655 Parfet

TELEPHONE

(303) 234-2764

CITY OR TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

## 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES   

NO   

NONE   

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE Associate Director, Cultural Resources Management

DATE 6/17/82

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE 7-9-82

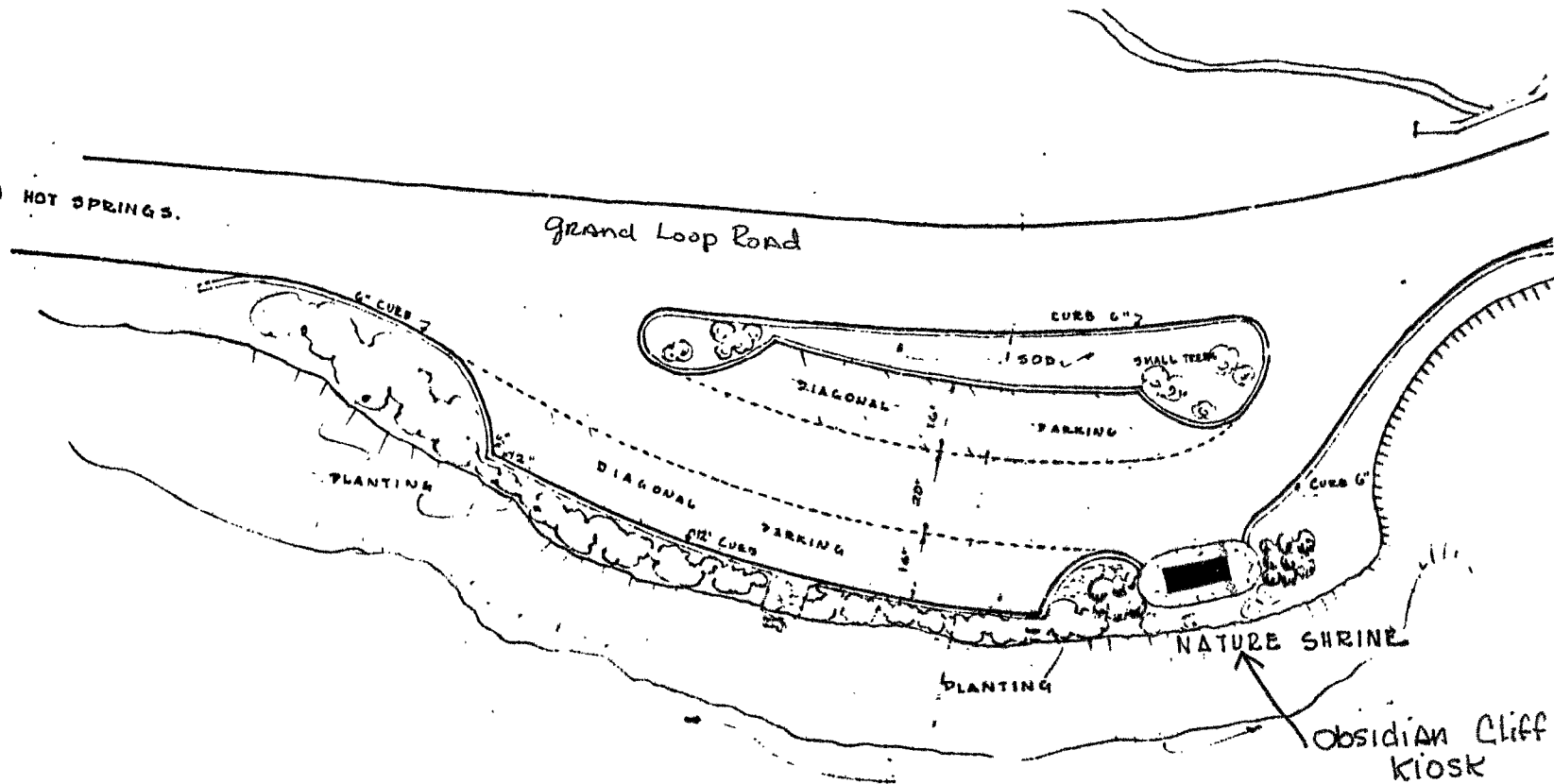
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TO MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS.

Grand Loop Road



PLAN  
SCALE 1" = 20'

Obsidian Cliff Kiosk - Yellowstone National Park



NAME: Obsidian Cliff Kiosk

LOCATION: Yellowstone National Park

PHOTOGRAPHER: Rodd L. Wheaton

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: August 1978

LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: Rocky Mountain

Regional Office, National Park Service

Denver, CO

VIEW: Looking southwest

PHOTO NUMBER: 1





NAME: Obsidian Cliff Kiosk

LOCATION: Yellowstone National Park

Masonry detail of Obsidian Cliff Kiosk

PHOTOGRAPHER: Rodd L. Wheaton

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: August 1978

LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: Rocky Mountain

Regional Office, National Park Service

Denver, CO

VIEW: Looking southwest

PHOTO NUMBER: 2