

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Herbert Summer Cabin

Other names/site number: 24PA1760

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

Street & number: West Boulder, Lot 1

City or town: Big Timber State: MT County: Park County

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 x meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A B X C D

<p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:</p> <p>_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
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<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>_____ Signature of commenting official:</p> <p>Title : <u>MT State Historic Preservation Officer</u></p>	<p>_____ Date</p> <p><u>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</u></p>

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>5</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>5</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/camp

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/camp

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Regional

OTHER: Log

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

CONCRETE: block; stone

Wood (Roof)

WOOD: Log

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Herbert Summer Cabin is a recreational cabin site located on an east-facing mountain slope above the West Boulder River in southcentral Montana. The property encompasses approximately 0.69 acres and sits in a clearing surrounded by fir, spruce and aspens. No visual intrusions to the landscape exist and the view from the property inspires awe. The Herbert Summer Cabin is occupied under a Forest Service recreational residence special use permit first issued in 1935 and falls within the Custer Gallatin National Forest, approximately 30 miles south of Big Timber, Montana.

Charles and Lucile Herbert received the permit in 1935 and spent most summers on the West Boulder until 1962. Charles Herbert, who first came to Montana in 1923, was a recognized photographer who filmed local newsreels of dude ranches, rodeos, Yellowstone Park, and other locations throughout the world.

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The Herbert Summer Cabin property consists of five historic buildings: the Main Cabin, a Guest Cabin, a Sleeping Cabin, outhouse, and a wood shed. Three log cabins at the property represent a rustic style of architecture utilizing locally available native materials such as log and stone and exhibit the fine craftsmanship of a local Norwegian carpenter. The buildings retain an excellent degree of integrity in all aspects.

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### **Narrative Description**

The Herbert Summer Cabin is situated within an open meadow surrounded by mature fir, spruce and aspens on a gently sloping 0.69 acre lot on national forest lands within the Absaroka Mountains of southcentral Montana above and west of the West Boulder River drainage. The property consists of five buildings in an open clearing that lacks a distinct boundary as fences or any type of enclosure are not allowed on forest service lands.<sup>1</sup> The three log cabins – the Main Cabin, the Guest Cabin and the Sleeping Cabin – were built in 1935, with a log addition added to the Guest Cabin in the early 1940s. All display uniformity in design of materials, workmanship, and paint scheme. Other buildings on the property include a wood shed, also built around 1935, and an outhouse built in the 1960s. The property is reached on foot by Forest Service Trail 38 and a faint Forest Service two-track road that approaches from the south.

### **Main Cabin (one contributing building, 1935)**

The Main Cabin is a one-story L-shaped round log building built in 1935 that sits on an east-facing sloping hillside. The 29-ft. x 30-ft. cabin consists of a rectangular, north/south gabled roof core, an attached shed roofed wing extending off the gable's west slope, an enclosed porch (13 ft. x 9 ft.), and a wood deck. A stone foundation originally supported the building but due to the unstable soil beneath the cabin, it now rests on wood posts, concrete block piers, and cribbed timber supports, all hidden by vertical boards between the sill log and the ground. The gable roof is supported by a ridgepole and purlins that project beyond the end walls. An interior log King Post brace supported by a metal post sits centered in the gable presumably for extra support against heavy snows. Wood shakes clad the roof and a metal (red) ridgecap covers the gable roof ridge.

Most window openings are framed with trimmed half logs, all painted red. The majority of windows consist of six-light sliders of two or three units. All walls, interior and exterior, feature horizontal round logs that extend into the gable ends. Saddle notching joins the corners and plaster daubing fills the interstices. All log ends are sawn with the ends painted red as they were historically. The size of the logs ends decrease in length as they approach the top of the walls.

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<sup>1</sup> Although the property hosts five resources, it has always been historically referred to as the Herbert Summer Cabin.

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The corner end logs at the porch and bay window exhibit a modest arc with the middle log projecting slightly farther than those above or below.

An 11 ft. x 30 ft. shed roof wing crosses the entire west wall of the main cabin section and is supported by projecting sawn log purlins painted red. A 13-ft. x 9-ft. very low gable roofed screened-in porch (eating porch) extends west off the south end of the wing's shed roof (forming the "L" shape to the cabin). A ridgepole and two purlins support the porch roof and a metal (red) ridgecap covers the roof ridge. Paired vertical log posts support the two corners. At the corners, the sawn log ends present a modest arc with the middle logs extending lightly beyond those above and below.

A centered gable native stone chimney dominates the north end wall. To the east (left) of the chimney is a shed roofed board storage box. West of the chimney on the end wall of the shed roof wing is an offset 6/6 sliding window that provides natural lighting to the bedroom. Slope instability beneath the cabin resulted in maintenance to the chimney using many of the same stones.

The east wall is symmetrical and holds a wide centered pine vertical plank door flanked by window openings on each side. The door exhibits a deer antler latch and its fronting screen door displays a small burl wood door handle. Window openings mirror each other with a ribbon of three 6-light sliders with a central screen. A wood deck that measures 20 ft. x 20 ft. extends off the east wall (beginning 5 ft. from each corner). It has an open wood railing and approached from the south by wood steps. The Herberts referred to the porch as their "front terrace;" it originally measured only half its present size.

The exposed west wing wall holds only two small window openings (a 6-light and a 2-light) high on the wall below the eaves.

The gable roofed enclosed porch extends off the south end of the west wing wall. A solid vertical board door entry opens into the north porch wall near its juncture with the west wing wall and directly onto the porch. Both the south and north porch walls mirror one another with a row of three 6-light and one 4-light sliding windows. The porch's west end wall holds three 6-light slider units.

A bay window centered on the south gable end wall measures 9 ft. across and defines the south elevation; a shed roof supported by vertical log posts at the corners protects the window. A central picture window is flanked on each side by a slightly angled 6-light double-hung unit. The south end wall of the shed roofed wing holds two 6-light sliding windows for the kitchen. The Herberts sited the bay window to obtain the magnificent view to the south.

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The interior of the main cabin reflects much of its original historic character with its exposed logs, open high ceiling, and exposed log ridgepole and purlins. The cabin retains its original room divisions that consist of the living area, a bedroom with a closet, bath, kitchen, and enclosed eating porch. Entering the cabin from the front (east) door, one steps into the living area, dominated by a massive stone fireplace centered on the north wall and distinguished by a centered bay window on the south wall that affords an amazing vista of the valley and mountains beyond. The flooring is fir. A door from the living room leads from the north end of the interior log wall into the bedroom that contains a small closet. The bath is accessed both from the bedroom and from the kitchen and consists of simple toilet facilities including a toilet, sink and bathtub. Entering the cabin into the porch, one steps into the eating area and then moves to the east (left) into the kitchen that contains a massive Crescent Grand wood/coal cook stove. A counter shelf divides the kitchen from the living area. Some of the Herbert's furniture remains in the cabin combined with some pieces built by Kenneth Boom's (second cabin owner) family members.

#### **Guest Cabin (one contributing building, 1935, c. 1942-1945)**

Standing uphill approximately 64 ft. southwest of the Main Cabin, the Guest Cabin is a 25-ft. x 13-ft. one-story, horizontal log building that sits on large rocks placed under the corners and in a few selected points beneath the sill logs. Horizontal half logs fill the east gable end (where a buffalo skull has hung since the 1930s) while vertical boards cover the west gable end. Saddle-notching joins the corners and plaster fills the interstices. Log sawn ends are flush at the corners except for the plate log that extends beyond the wall. The Guest Cabin consists of two gabled roof sections, one dropped, separated by a common log wall. The original east roof covers the 16-ft. x 13-ft. combined living/sleeping area, and the west slightly dropped lower gable roof covers the bath and small kitchen space, measuring 9 ft. x 13 ft. Wood shakes clad both gable roofs and a tall metal stovepipe protrudes from the west gable north roof slope.

The north wall of the east block holds a solid vertical board door offset to the west fronted by a wood screen door and a ribbon of three four-light sliding window units. The west section's gable end wall holds a solid vertical board door offset to the south with a small 4-light window positioned immediately to and parallel with the top of the door below the gable. The south wall holds a ribbon of three 4-light sliders in its east section and two 6-light on its west portion.

Interior flooring consists of tongue and groove. An open ceiling finished with fir boards reveals a ridgepole and purlins supporting the roof of living/sleeping area. The living/sleeping area holds two single beds. A framed opening in the interior log wall enters the west section where a tin bathtub sits against the south wall. Mr. Herbert painted this tub red after they found it in a junkyard.

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### **Sleeping Cabin (one contributing building, 1935)**

This small, rectangular, one-room 13-ft. x 10-ft. horizontal log building (called the maid's cabin by the Herberts) stands about 102 ft. northwest of the Main Cabin. The building sits on concrete blocks at the corners with rock supports placed intentionally elsewhere beneath the sill log. A large rock serves as a step to the front door. Ridgepole and purlins form the gable roof and extend beyond the end walls (as does the roof). Wood shakes clad the roof. The horizontal log building exhibits saddle-notching with a mix of both axed and sawn logs ends. The logs extend into the gable ends.

The east façade exhibits a solid vertical wood slab door left of center and the north wall holds a small window directly below the eave near its northeast corner. The south wall displays a centered 6-light sliding window. The west wall lacks fenestration.

### **Wood Shed (one contributing building, c. 1935)**

Located approximately 42 ft. north of the Main Cabin, this 10-ft. x 15-ft. wood frame two-room building serves as the wood and storage shed. The building displays a north/south gable roof with shed roof addition across its east wall sheathed in asphalt shingles. Walls are clad in horizontal wood slabs to the gables. The south wall contains a centered wood door below the gable and another in the shed wall. No openings appear in the west wall and the east wall was not visible due to vegetation. A boarded-over opening appears in the north gable end wall.

A 1930s photograph shows the original gabled roof woodshed in the background with Lucile Herbert in the foreground working in the garden. It is unknown when the shed addition was added.

### **Outhouse (one contributing building, circa 1960s)**

This one-seater, wood frame outhouse (pit toilet) sits about 72 ft. west of the Main Cabin. The 5-ft. x 5-ft. outhouse sits on concrete blocks at the corners with scattered rocks underneath the frame. The outhouse has a low gable roof sheathed in plywood and topped with rolled asphalt with exposed log purlins that extend over the east façade. The frame walls are covered with vertical half-log slabs. The east façade holds a centered vertical log slab door. This outhouse replaced the original outhouse and was built by Kenneth Boom, the second owner, after 1962.

### **Landscaping**

The Herbert Summer Cabin presents a park-like appearance and the grounds are well kept, following forest service guidelines for recreational residences. Due to vegetation, no other features were visible except for a vertical metal pipe (water spigot) protruding from the ground



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and a board covering a spring box. The 2024 site form mentions a retaining wall east of the Guest Cabin but vegetation obscured it from view.

### **Integrity**

The Herbert Summer Cabin reflects a timelessness only associated with well-used and well-loved cabins. The log buildings all strongly evoke their aesthetic and historic character. All the buildings stand in their original location and the setting remains undisturbed. The property reflects a wonderful recreational residence that follows Forest Service guidelines to blend with the natural environment with limited impact. The cabin location on Forest Service lands protects the site from any new construction or development. The district retains superb integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. The property functions much as it did when established in 1935, remaining totally off-the-grid. Modifications to the buildings are limited and none significantly diminish integrity as the resources retain their historic appearance and reflect their rustic style architecture displaying construction from local materials by local craftsmen. The three cabins display their full log design, retaining multi-pane sliding windows and offer a uniformity of design enhanced by the red stained log ends and wood exterior door and window trim. Materials are original to the property and little change has occurred to the immediate setting besides natural vegetation growth.

The Main Cabin stands mostly undisturbed by any alteration or modification. Unstable ground beneath the cabin resulted in structural issues over the years resulting in the original stone foundation being replaced through various means, hidden by vertical boards beneath the sill logs. Unstable ground also resulted in both the interior fireplace/exterior chimney being rehabilitated in the same location using many of the original stones. The size of the front deck increased at an unknown time.

The west gable section of the Guest Cabin was added during World War II. It appears exactly like the east block suggesting its construction by the same craftsman who constructed the original block. A wing was added to the wood shed in the 1960s. The present pit toilet outhouse, constructed in the 1960s, replaced the original outhouse but is compatible with the historic character of the cabin with its vertical log slab siding and door. All changes within the property occurred within the period of significance.

The Herbert Summer Cabin has remained essentially untouched through four owners who all cherished and cherish today the property with constant maintenance as a testament to the Herbert's vision of a summer home.

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**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

**Period of Significance**

1935-1975

**Significant Dates**

1935, 1962

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Toshi Stenberg

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Herbert Summer Cabin Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance. The Herbert Summer Cabin is significant under Criterion A for its historic association with recreational residences constructed in the 1930s within the former Absaroka National Forest, now the Custer Gallatin National Forest. The Herbert Summer Cabin stands alone as the only recreational residence within the West Boulder drainage and retains remarkable integrity reflecting its historic appearance and character.

The Herbert Summer Cabin Historic District is also eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as representative of the vernacular rustic style architecture influenced by locally available native materials of log and stone near the property. The three log cabins exhibit a simple, modest, rustic architectural style and display a high level of workmanship by local Norwegian craftsmen.

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The period of significance for the Herbert Summer Cabin begins in 1935, reflecting the construction of the Main Cabin, and extends to 1975, the end of the historic period.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Forest Service Evaluation for Recreational Residences**

In 2006, the Forest Service Northern Region (Region One) developed a regional-level approach to understand and evaluate the historical significance of recreation tracts and their individual residences.<sup>2</sup> This approach recommended actions for evaluating residences for National Register of Historic Places eligibility. Per the report's author, HHM's Inc.'s "Recreational Residence Historic Contexts for Eight National Forests in USDA-Region 1: Gallatin National Forest" guidelines, the Herbert Summer Cabin is eligible for listing under Criterion A for the property's association with the New Deal Recreation Planning period (1933-1942):

Significant summer home development on the Gallatin National Forest occurred during the New Deal. Increased construction of roads and large Congressional appropriations for Forest Service recreation work fueled this growth. In addition, the hiring of landscape architects and recreation specialists by the regional office enabled the creation of many new recreation land use plans and residence tracts. As a result, interest in summer homes strengthened as the public viewed favorably the Forest Service's public works investments in recreation. The start of World War II and the cessation of New Deal funding in 1942 represents the end of this period.<sup>3</sup>

New Deal Recreation Planning, 1933-1942. The CCC and other New Deal work-relief programs helped develop infrastructure and recreation facilities such as campgrounds, bathhouses, and picnic sites in the National Forests. Although these groups did not work directly with recreation residences, their projects improved forest access and facilities, encouraging further development of recreation residence tracts and tourism in general.<sup>4</sup>

Per HHM Inc., the Herbert Summer Cabin is also eligible for listing under Criterion C:

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<sup>2</sup> Although this report concentrated on residences within recreational tracts, the evaluations for historic significance also pertains to individual recreation residences.

<sup>3</sup> The significance statement is defined in "Recreational Residences Period of Significance" in "Recreation Residence Historic Contexts for Eight National Forests in USDA-Region One Gallatin National Forest Montana," Prepared for USDA Forest Service Northern Region One, Missoula, MT, by HHM, Inc., Austin, TX, July 2006, 6.5.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, "Section III Recommended Actions for Evaluating Recreational Residences for NRHP Eligibility" 7-20.

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. . .its significance derives from the physical qualities of design, construction, and/or craftsmanship. To be eligible under Criterion C, a resource must retain its historic character and embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of master; represent a significant entity whose components may lack individual distinction or possess high artistic value.<sup>5</sup>

In 2024, the Custer Gallatin National Forest initiated an inventory of 20 individual residential residences located within the Yellowstone Ranger District (formerly Big Timber District), including properties within the Boulder Valley in Sweet Grass County and Park County, south of Big Timber, Montana. Most of these log cabins are located within the Main Boulder River drainage with construction dates ranging from 1925 to 1936. The report followed the guidelines for applying NRHP criteria for evaluation provided by HHM Inc.'s report as stated above. The survey found the majority of the cabins ineligible for listing in the NRHP due to lack of integrity with only six, including the Herbert Main Cabin, determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.<sup>6</sup> The Main Cabin was determined eligible for listing for its association with New Deal Recreation Planning (1933-1942); it retains integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association. The cabin "remains associated with USFS recreational residence development as it retains its original rustic characteristics" and retains "the requisite integrity and is eligible for listing under Criterion A."<sup>7</sup>

Following HHM Inc.'s evaluation guidelines, the 2024 report determined the Main Cabin eligible under Criterion C for its strong integrity as it "has retained its original form and materials" and with "the high level of workmanship evident in the residence's construction and that it retains a majority of its original materials."<sup>8</sup>

### Introduction

The Herbert Summer Cabin originally sat within the Absaroka National Forest. On September 4, 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt created the Absaroka Forest Reserve, which merged with the Teton and Yellowstone Reserves to form the Yellowstone Forest Reserve less than a year later, in January 1903. In 1908, the Forest Service reestablished the Absaroka National Forest when President Roosevelt "authorized the realignment of Western forests and creation of new

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid,

<sup>6</sup> The survey limited National Register determination to only the Main Cabin. Amanda Foundation, Mariah Justice, Laura Palma-Blandford, and Amanda Peters, "A Class III Intensive Cultural Resource Survey of 50 Acres for the Recreation Residence Survey and Site Recordation for the Custer Gallatin National Forest-Yellowstone District, Park and Sweet Grass Counties, Montana." Prepared for USFS by Logan Simpson, Salt Lake City, UT, October 2024, 40.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid, 40.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid; See also Site 24PA1760, AE-R Form 1 for further discussion on significance and evaluation, on file, Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

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ones.”<sup>9</sup> The second Absaroka National Forest encompassed both the Crazy Mountains and the Absaroka Mountains. In 1945, the Gallatin National Forest, first established as a reserve in 1899, subsumed the southern portion of the Absaroka Forest, including the 64,000 Absaroka Primitive Area established in 1932. The headquarters for the Absaroka Forest was in Livingston until its absorption into the Gallatin when the forest established the Big Timber Ranger District. The Herbert Summer Cabin sits currently within the Yellowstone Ranger District, Custer Gallatin National Forest, created in 2014, consolidating the Custer and Gallatin National Forests.<sup>10</sup>

### **Changing Attitudes Toward the Natural Environment**

The creation of Yellowstone National Park in 1872 marked the emergence of conservationism towards protecting natural resources in the West. This contrasted with the attitude of utilization and exploitation of natural resources that prevailed in the West in the nineteenth century. Economic growth and development took precedence over any environmental considerations during this period.

People’s attitude towards nature gradually began to move towards the romanticism as expressed by the writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau to “esthetic values” through convincing the “public to visualize the great outdoors as a pleasure ground.” This shift in attitude evolved slowly. The disappearance of the frontier, as perceived by Frederick Jackson Turner in 1893, brought a public nostalgia for wild lands and the pioneering spirit, in turn creating an image of the West where “life was primitive but also simple, real and basic.”<sup>11</sup>

As the twentieth century approached, the emerging conservation movement gained momentum, where the “American spirit and experience,” depended on the preservation of wild lands. John Muir championed the preservation of undeveloped forest lands, thus introducing “wilderness” as a management concept and ideal for remote and beautiful public lands. Muir and his followers clashed with the emerging government view regarding undeveloped public lands. Forester Gifford Pinchot led the “wise use” philosophy that espoused sound resource development of

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<sup>9</sup> National Register of Historic Places nomination “Main Boulder Ranger Station”, on file, Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT, 15.

<sup>10</sup> Peter L. Stark, “Absaroka Forest Reserve, Montana; Absaroka National Forest, Montana Names, Boundaries, and Maps: A Resource for the Historical Geography of the National Forest System of the United States The Northern Region (Region One) 55-62; <http://forestsevice.museum.or/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Northern-Region-Nove19.pdf>; John B, Leiberg, *Forest Conditions in the Absaroka Division of the Yellowstone Forest Reserve, Montana*, Professional Paper No. 29, Series H, Forestry, USGS, Dept. of Interior, GPO Washington DC1904, <http://pubs.usgs.gov/pp/0029/report.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> Han Huth, “Yosemite: The Story of an Idea,” accessed at [www.yosemite.ca.us/library/yosemite\\_story\\_of\\_an\\_idea.html](http://www.yosemite.ca.us/library/yosemite_story_of_an_idea.html); Roderick Nash, *Wilderness and the American Mind* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1967), 146-149; Richard White, *“It’s Your Misfortune and None of My own” A History of the American West* (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1991), 621.

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forests while leaving its essential character intact, the predecessor to multiple use management of today.<sup>12</sup>

Congress seriously debated the concept of forest reserves as early as the 1880s, but it was not until March 1891 when they enacted the Forest Reserve Act or the Creative Act of 1891 that allowed the President to withdraw and reserve public lands “wholly or in part covered with timber and undergrowth, whether of commercial value or not.” In 1897, the Organic Administration Act, better known as the Forest Management Act, provided management provisions and monies to protect these newly created forest reserves. For most of the twentieth century, this “organic act” served as the standard for all public land management agencies.<sup>13</sup>

In the early twentieth century, President Theodore Roosevelt, an ardent conservationist, set aside over 140 million acres of western forests under the Forest Reserve Act. The Transfer Act of 1905 transferred the forest reserves from the Department of Interior to the Department of Agriculture and created the Bureau of Forestry, establishing the Forest Service as we know it today. All reserves were renamed national forests in 1907.

#### **Recreational Residences on National Forest Lands<sup>14</sup>**

The creation of the Forest Service paralleled the “growing national outdoor recreational movement” in the West. In 1905, Gifford Pinchot, the first chief forester of the Forest Service, held the philosophy of “the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run.”<sup>15</sup> Pinchot’s *The Use of the National Forest Reserves* presents the first policies pertaining to recreational use of forests. Although not a priority in the early years of the Forest Service, by 1912, recreation augmented by improved access, continued to increase on forest lands. A 1912 *Report of the Forester* noted: “In some of the most accessible and desirable localities the land has been divided into suitable lots of from 1 to 5 acres to accommodate as many visitors as possible.” The following year, the 1913 annual report stated, “recreation use of the Forest is growing very rapidly” with “hundreds of...camps and cabins built” on forest lands “obtained through permits of the Forest Service...”<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Robert Athearn, *The Mythic West* (Lawrence, KS; University Press of Kansas, 1986), 195; for a discussion of John Muir, see Nash, *Wilderness and the American Mind*, 122-140.

<sup>13</sup> Harold K. Steen, “The Origins and Significance of the National Forest System,” *The Origins of the National Forest*, ed. Harold Steen, (Durham, NC: Forest History Society, 1992): 3-9.

<sup>14</sup> In 2006, USDA Forest Service Region 1, which manages public lands in Montana and Idaho under its Section 106 responsibilities of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, prepared a historic context that addresses historic recreation residences within Region 1. The following discussion on the Forest Service is partially derived from this report. HHM Inc. “Recreational Residences Period of Significance” in “Recreation Residence Historic Contexts for Eight National Forests in USDA-Region One Gallatin National Forest Montana,” Prepared for USDA Forest Service Northern Region One, Missoula, MT by HHM, Inc., Austin, TX, July 2006.

<sup>16</sup> William C. Tweed, *Recreation Site Planning and Improvement in National Forests 1891-1942* (Washington, DC: United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, 1980), 1-3. These early cabins fell under the Organic Act of 1897 that . . . .

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The leasing of forest service lands for recreational purposes first appeared in an 1899 Mineral Springs Leasing Act that allowed for the possibility to lease forest service grounds for sanitariums or hotels near mineral or medicinal springs and further authorized the erection of tents or temporary dwelling houses for visiting public for health and pleasure.<sup>17</sup>

In response to increased recreational use on forests, Congress passed the Act of March 4, 1915, or Occupancy Permits Act, authorizing permits that allowed private use and development of forest lands including hotels, cabins and resorts. Of particular interest is the permitting for the use and occupancy of suitable areas of land within the national forests, not exceeding five acres and for periods not exceeding thirty years, for the purpose of constructing or maintaining summer homes and stores . . .”<sup>18</sup>

In 1917, the Forest Service hired Frank Waugh, a landscape architect, to conduct a survey of recreation on forest public lands. In his report, Waugh strongly recommended recreation be recognized equal in importance with other forest uses like timber and grazing. He presented an outline to summer home development that adhered to his landscape ideals, emphasizing “lots and summer homes... must be arranged according to environmental conditions and with minimal impact upon the natural beauty of the landscape.” Waugh’s recommendations greatly influenced Forest Service recreational planning into the future.<sup>19</sup>

In the 1920s, as the demand for summer homes on forest lands increased, recreation regulations became more defined about how improvements would occur. The Forest Service required plans of proposed buildings and laying out tract developments that emphasized importance of being in harmony with the environment. The summer home tracts were reduced to one acre or less and term permits ranged from 5 to 15 years.<sup>20</sup>

In the 1930s, under President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s administration, New Deal programs like the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) concentrated their efforts on public recreation facilities. The CCC developed campgrounds and built roads and trails throughout national forests in the West. Since the Forest Service held the responsibility for the administration of the CCC on forest lands, other land uses, like recreational homes, received less attention.

In 1937, the Forest Service created the Division of Lands and Recreation to coordinate policies and management. The expansive public recreation improvements of the 1930s also brought a changing philosophy regarding summer homes. The 1938 recreational policy’s declared “overall

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<sup>17</sup> Act of February 28, 1899 (Ch. 211, 30 Stat.908; 16 U.S.C. 495) in United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, *The Principal Laws Relating to Forest Service Activities* (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1993).

<sup>18</sup> Act of March 4, 1915 (P.L. 63-293, Ch. 144. 38 Stat. 1101), as amended, in United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, *The Principal Laws Relating to Forest Service Activities* (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1993).

<sup>19</sup> HHM, Inc., “Recreational Residences Historic Contexts-Gallatin National Forest,” 5-4; Tweed, “*Recreation Site Planning*,” 6-7.

<sup>20</sup> HHM. “Recreational Residences Historic Contexts-Gallatin National Forest,” 5-6, 5-7.



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mission” stated “recreational resource of the National Forests will be managed for the fullest use of the general public and not for the exclusive use of individuals or small groups.” Furthermore, “additional summer homes will be granted only where there appears to be no reasonable possibility of any need... by recreational uses of a less exclusive nature” and where summer homes exist, “... if lands are needed for campgrounds, picnic grounds or other higher priorities of recreational use, the permits will be terminated after due notice.”<sup>21</sup>

Forest Service recreational use and development stalled during World War II but exploded after the war. Public recreation on forest lands expanded to serve the growing needs of the public while recreational residences continued as a low priority until eventually the Forest Service eliminated any special use permits for summer homes.

### **Charles Herbert Comes to Montana**

Born in 1897, Charles “Herb” Herbert began his photography career as a free lance photographer in the early 1920s. In the spring of 1923, a chance meeting in Miami with Dick Randall of the National Register-listed OTO Dude Ranch, located north of Yellowstone National Park, marked the beginning of his adventures in Montana.<sup>22</sup>

*Walking down Flagler Street one evening he spotted a store window dressed up with a saddle, chaps, big hat, cowboy boots, a rifle, a bear trap and some pictures of horseback riders in the mountains. Inside he found Dick Randall, big game hunter, stagecoach driver and operator of the OTO Dude Ranch in Montana near Yellowstone Park.*<sup>23</sup>

Dick Randall encouraged Charles Herbert to make his first trip to Montana in 1923 and film the dudes at the OTO. Partially supported by Fox News, he arrived at the OTO in the early summer and stayed until early winter. Herbert worked on a promotional film of the dudes and all OTO ranch activities and created a reel titled “What the Dudes Do on a Dude Ranch.” Herbert also helped with ranch work, haying, milking, and maintenance.<sup>24</sup>

This first 1923 trip to Montana introduced Herbert to the West Boulder Valley where he and his future wife eventually built their summer home. Herbert accompanied and filmed Forest Ranger

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<sup>21</sup> Ibid, 5-10, 5-11.

<sup>22</sup> “The OTO Homestead and Dude Ranch,” listed October 12, 2004, NR #99000054; Unpublished typed manuscript, Box 43, Folder 613, Charles and Lucile Herbert-Western Ways Features Manuscript and Photograph Collection, MS1255, Arizona Historical Society-Tucson, AZ (hereinafter referred to as Manuscript). The OTO Dude Ranch was the first dude ranch in Montana with paying guests beginning around 1912. Dick Randall was a dude ranch marketing genius and traveled across the country to promote the OTO. [For a history of OTO, see Roberta Cheney and Clyde Erskine, \*Music, Saddles & Flapjacks Dudes at the OTO Ranch\*, \(Missoula, MT: Mountain Press Publishing Company, 2000\).](#)

<sup>23</sup> Manuscript 1923.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

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Harry Kaufman of the Absaroka National Forest, creating a motion picture entitled “A Day with a Forest Ranger, Big Timber Ranger Station, Montana.”<sup>25</sup>

Herbert returned to the OTO the next two summers, helping around the ranch while filming local Montana wildlife, people, and Yellowstone National Park. In July 1925, he once again spent time with Harry Kaufmann to produce an educational film where he filmed moving bands of sheep from lower pastures to the mountain ranges in the Absaroka National Forest. While the primary purpose of the film was “an educational campaign” against loco weed for local showing, it undoubtedly added to Herbert’s familiarity with the West Boulder Valley and Absaroka Mountains, the location of his future summer cabin.<sup>26</sup>

Herbert returned to Miami for the winter where he met Lucile who he married in June 1926. Lucile quickly became fully involved in his photography business. The following year (1927), he brought Lucile to Montana where Dick Randall offered them a cabin near the OTO for the summer.<sup>27</sup> During this time, Herbert concentrated filming features in Yellowstone National Park for Fox News.<sup>28</sup> By 1929, he began making movies in both sound and pictures for Fox, including the opening of Yellowstone National Park and the Livingston Rodeo.<sup>29</sup> In 1929 and guided by Forest Ranger Harry Kaufman, he once again packed into the Absaroka National Forest “to photograph large bands of sheep enroute to and on their summer range,” requiring “14 pack horses to carry their supplies.”<sup>30</sup>

After traveling the world for Fox Movietone “Magic Carpet” newsreels for two and a half years, the Herberts finally returned to Montana in September 1934 when they took a “leave-of-absence” and stayed with Eliza Talcott in Livingston.<sup>31</sup> In October, they visited Harry and Coral Kaufmann at their ranch home in the West Boulder Valley for about a week.<sup>32</sup> Coral Kaufmann inherited a homestead from her uncle George Knight, and Harry also held some land in the same vicinity.<sup>33</sup> Presumably, this is when Herb and Lucile chose their cabin location on

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<sup>25</sup> This promotional film is in the Morris Family Papers at the Independence National Historic Park in Pennsylvania. For an excellent history of Harry Kaufman and the Big Timber Ranger District, see National Register of Historic Places nomination Main Boulder Ranger Station, on file, Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, Preservation Office, Helena, MT. Harry Kaufman does not mention his time with Herbert or the film in his 1923 ranger diary, on file, Yellowstone Gateway Museum, Livingston, MT.

<sup>26</sup> *Sweet Grass News*, July 1, 1925.

<sup>27</sup> Manuscript 1926.

<sup>28</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, June 14, 1927; he even broke his arm while chasing a woodchuck, *Livingstone Enterprise*, July 31, 1927.

<sup>29</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, April 19, 1929, June 22, 1929

<sup>30</sup> *Sweet Grass News*, June 26, 1929.

<sup>31</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, September 30, 1934, October 18, 1934. Eliza Talcott was the daughter of Merrill and Jane Ballinger, early settlers in the Paradise Valley south of Livingston. She married E. H. Talcott, president of the National Park Bank in Livingston and they had one of the finest homes in Livingston.

<sup>32</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, September 20, 1934, 3; October 18, 1934.

<sup>33</sup> Sheila Ruble, *A Moderately Accurate History of the WBRA . . . and the West Boulder Valley*, Bozeman, MT: Executive Services, 2022, 39-40.

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the Absaroka National Forest. Harry Kaufman undoubtedly helped them with the survey and paperwork necessary to obtain their Forest Service recreational residence permit.<sup>34</sup>

### **A Place of Their Own –Herbert’s Summer Home**

Charles and Lucile Herbert obtained their Forest Service recreation residence special use permit for their recreational residence on May 8, 1935.<sup>35</sup> At that time, the permit fell within the Big Timber District of the Absaroka National Forest. Today it sits within the Custer Gallatin National Forest.

After obtaining their permit, it appears construction quickly began despite the Herberts presence in South America. Toston “Tosti” Stenberg is credited with the construction of the Herbert Summer Cabin resources. John Hemingway in his book *Yonder*, called Stenberg “West Boulder’s acclaimed carpenter,” and identified several buildings he constructed over the years along the West Boulder.<sup>36</sup>

Mr. Stenberg immigrated from Norway in 1909 to Sweet Grass County, presumably to the Norwegian community near Melville, Montana. He was a recognized skilled carpenter and log craftsman in the region. In 1929, he partnered with others to purchase the Triangle Seven Ranch southeast of Livingston where he constructed log cabins and furniture for the dude ranch. He built the log cattle pavilion at the Livingston Fairgrounds in 1935, supervised WPA construction of the Wilsall School log gymnasium, and served as construction foreman for Fort Harrison in Helena, Montana.<sup>37</sup>

When the Herberts returned in June, their summer cabin was “under construction on the West Boulder.” Lucile stayed with Eliza Talcott in Livingston awaiting the cabin’s completion; Charles left for a project in Alaska at this time.<sup>38</sup> When he returned in July, they left for their new summer cabin, described by the *Livingston Enterprise* as a “beautiful lodge in the Rockies” where “much of their spare time is spent resting at this spot.”<sup>39</sup> Herb, however, stayed busy and travelled again to Yellowstone to make “camera studies of CCC activities” for “The March of Time” newsreels.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> Unfortunately, the years between 1930 and 1936 in the manuscript in the Herbert Collection have not been discovered.

<sup>35</sup> Case History, Cabin Permit File, Special Use Permit, Recreational Residences, Livingston Ranger District, Custer-Gallatin National Forest, Livingston, MT.

<sup>36</sup> Unfortunately, the manuscript in the Herbert Collection did not discuss the construction of the cabins. John Hemingway, *Yonder a place in Montana*, (Washington, DC: Adventure Press, 2000), 78, 217.

<sup>37</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, December 1976; *Park County News*, March 14, 1935, April 9, 1936; *Sweet Grass News*, January 7, 1929, and November 12, 1929; Hemingway, Ruble

<sup>38</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, June 27, 1935.

<sup>39</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, June 24; July 27; August 14.

<sup>40</sup> The “March of Time” became a staple in movie theatres across American and the world, “in a unique combination of newsreel and documentary formats;” Manuscript 1935.

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Several historic photographs show construction stages of the cabin, including three men using the large band saw to cut and trim the logs in front of a very large pile of logs. Another shows a mule pulling logs skidded down the hillside above the site. Photos also display the cabin framed up with cut openings for all windows and doors. One shows Lucile Herbert standing at the framed front door and another sitting in the open bay window.<sup>41</sup>

After completion of the cabin, the Herberts “adorned” the interior with “souvenirs from world travels.” Over the years, the Herberts stayed long enough into the fall to get caught in early snowstorms; several amusing photos exist of them and their little dog posing in front of the cabin. Charles and Lucile were always active with a “rich mix of friendships made during their world travels” as well as many friends from the region. One individual called Greasy Bill Smith served as their caretaker and stayed in the sleeping cabin in the winter and served as a Western figure in some of Herbert’s photographs.<sup>42</sup>

The year after the cabin’s construction, 1936, Charles and Lucile traveled the world once again for “The March of Time” newsreels while family members and friends stayed at the West Boulder cabin.<sup>43</sup> However, during their trip they became ill in China and traveled to Hawaii to recover. They finally arrived back in Montana in July 1937 to “their mountain home on the West Boulder” where “much of their time was spent working on their cabin and having guests enjoy it with them.”<sup>44</sup> Charles started a new free-lance career, beginning with shooting stills in Montana for *Life Magazine*.<sup>45</sup>

The Herberts returned each year to their cabin on the West Boulder, “the first home of their own.” They continued to make travel reels, working on the cabin, and visiting friends. In 1938, between business trips, Charles got “some real enjoyment living in the cabin with Lucile and friends that came by for a stay with them.”<sup>46</sup> He created a film at the Ox Yoke and the Triangle Seven Ranch in Park County entitled “Dude Ranch;” the film came to be shown around the world. The following year he filmed a square dance sequence at the nearby 63 Ranch. In 1940, the *Livingston Enterprise* noted the Herberts were guests of Mrs. Talcott “until preparations for opening their West Boulder home have been completed.”<sup>47</sup> At the cabin, “they worked to get the cabin opened up, making minor repairs, and planting a garden but they both loved it and had an enjoyable time” and “meeting old friends again.”<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>41</sup> MS1255/Folder 18, Herbert Collection.

<sup>42</sup> Sheila Ruble, *A Moderately Accurate History of the WBRA . . . and the West Boulder Valley*, (Bozeman, MT: Executive Services, 2022), 51.

<sup>43</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, March 31; August 11; Aug 16.

<sup>44</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, July 31, 1936.

<sup>45</sup> Manuscript, Winter 1936-Summer 1937; Herbert made three features including Tourists in Yellowstone, Sheep Pilgrimage and Montana Ghost Towns.

<sup>46</sup> Manuscript 1938-1939

<sup>47</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, May 30, 1940.

<sup>48</sup> Manuscript 1941.

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In the fall of 1941, Herbert with a fellow photographer, Ross Madden of Livingston, decided the time was right for them to start the picture service they talked about the year before at sheep camp in the Absaroka National Forest. Their new company, Western Ways Features, started with a commission from the Livingston Chamber of Commerce to create promotional materials for Livingston. The West Boulder cabin served as the headquarters for the new company.<sup>49</sup>

The outbreak of the World War II curtailed Western Ways growth while both men served in the military. Lucile stayed in Miami with family but after both Madden and Herbert were discharged in 1944, Western Ways moved their winter headquarters to Tucson, Arizona where the Herberts had already spent two winters.

Each summer, Western Ways continued to work in Montana for various projects, like filming the Livingston Trout Derby seen across the United States, throughout the 1940s. In 1947, The *Park City News* reported their cabin “is the headquarters for cameramen and writers who go out after news and pictures.”<sup>50</sup>

The Herberts continued to spend summers at their cabin on the West Boulder. In 1955, they came to the cabin “with some guests to prove about merits of Montana as a vacationland.”<sup>51</sup> Although advocating the virtues of the state, the same year they advertised their West Boulder home for sale in a full-page ad in *Arizona Highways*. Why the Herberts decided to sell their summer home is unknown.

Another advertisement appeared in the *Park County News* that same year.

#### **MOUNTAIN HOME FOR SALE**

Three fine log cabins, eight beds, two baths, completely and attractively furnished. Spring water pipe under good pressure. Food cellar, screened porch, tool room, wood shed and plenty of wood available, sunny garden plot. SPECTACULAR location near West Boulder Ranger Station.<sup>52</sup>

Two years later, in 1957, a *Livingston Enterprise* ad read, “WILL sacrifice unusual log cabin mountain home near West Boulder Ranger Station.” And again in 1959 an ad emphasized “three lovely modern log cabins, unexcelled location.”<sup>53</sup> The cabin finally sold to Kenneth Boom in 1962, with the recreational permit transferring to him in October of that year.

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<sup>49</sup> Manuscript 1941; *Livingston Enterprise*, June 4, 1941. Western Ways Features became the premier photography service in Arizona.

<sup>50</sup> *Park County News*, September 25, 1947

<sup>51</sup> *Park County News*, August 11, 1955.

<sup>52</sup> *Park County News*, September 15, 1955.

<sup>53</sup> *Livingston Enterprise*, August 27, 1957; August 3, 1959.

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### **The Boom Family**

The Herbert Summer Cabin Historic District became a mountain retreat for Mr. Boom and his family.<sup>54</sup> Originally from North Dakota, Kenneth Boom moved to Montana in 1959 and opened a dental office in Livingston. They sold a cabin on the East Boulder to acquire the West Boulder property as they wanted someplace more remote without constant traffic. Kenneth Boom, his wife Diana, and three children (ages 2 to 7 when they purchased the recreational residence), made the Herbert Summer Cabin their family mountain home.

Mr. Boom drove up to the cabin in all months of the year and the whole family always went to the cabin for New Year's Eve regardless of the weather. Terri Tew, one of the daughters, remembers one winter when the temperature sank to 30 below; the family needed to keep all their layers of clothing on until the cabin heated up. More fun ensued with a walk to the outhouse through 2 feet of snow.

For the children, the place was a "wonderland" and they had a "blast" playing in frog ponds and creek. Some summers they stayed a month with Mr. Boom commuting into Livingston. Terri Tew recalls how they always "fell into a different pace whenever we spent time there – we read, baked in the old cookstove, played games, hiked, and just slowed down and spent time together."

The Boom family enjoyed the property for about 26 years but an eventual divorce, the kids no longer in Livingston, the constant maintenance of the buildings (plus fear of the cabin sliding down the hill) became too much for Kenneth Boom to deal with. When he sold it, he hoped the new owners would "have as much fun with the cabin as we have."

The Boom family held the Forest Service recreational residence permit until 1988 and therefore outside the period of significance. The property sold to Erich and Renate Grau and Paul and Marjorie Woetzel in October 1988 with the special use permit transferring in December of that year; the Graus and Woetzels held the Forest Service permit for about 28 years.<sup>55</sup>

In August 2016, Douglas and Hilary Klaiber purchased the property from Erick and Renate Grau and Paul and Marjorie Woetzel. They received their Forest Service special use permit for recreation residences in November 2016.

### **Rustic Style**

Rustic style architecture is generally characterized by "the use of native materials in proper scale," and "the avoidance of rigid, straight lines and over-sophistications." Through these simple means, the style "gives the feeling of having been executed by pioneer craftsmen with

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<sup>54</sup> All of the information about the Boom family is taken directly from Kenneth Boom letter to Paul Woetzel, no date, Livingston, MT, and Terri Tew letter to Douglas Klaiber, April 13, 2018, Choteau, MT, letters in possession of author.

<sup>55</sup> Case History Lot of West Boulder Tract or NE1/4NW1/4 Sec 25, T#S, R11E, on file, Yellowstone Ranger District, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Livingston, MT

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limited hand tools, “and when “successfully handled,” it “thus achieves sympathy with natural surroundings, and with the past.”<sup>56</sup>

The industrial development and urban growth in the decades leading up to the twentieth century “prompted many Americans to seek ways to retain the influence of wilderness in modern civilization.” A “gradual shift” from industrialism towards conservation of natural resources increased an appreciation of the esthetic and recreational aspects of nature by the end of the twentieth century.<sup>57</sup>

The architecturally designed Old Faithful Inn in Yellowstone National Park brought the rustic style to the West in 1903 with its use of native materials blending with its natural surroundings. Throughout the West, increased recreation saw the emergence of cabins and resorts built in the rustic style. In Montana, rustic architecture flourished during the “golden age” of dude ranching in the 1920s.<sup>58</sup> Dude Ranches populated the Boulder River drainage in the 1920s and 1930s. Construction of dude ranch buildings all used the locally available materials such as log and stone.

The three log buildings at the Herbert Summer Cabin property all present a uniformity in appearance, exhibiting saddle-notched, horizontal log buildings, gable roofs, log ridgepoles, and purlins. All originally sat on locally-sourced stone foundations. Toston Stenberg skidded the logs down from above cabin location, peeled them, cut and then laid the logs accordingly. The remoteness of the camp, and the accessibility of native materials made it practical and convenient to utilize the local natural resources.

The log architecture associated with the Herbert Summer Cabin represents a simple vernacular rustic style but exhibits a unique presentation. The architecture naturally blends with the landscape and harmonizes with the natural setting, strengthened by the use of locally available native materials. The historic buildings retain their original rustic qualities and seem unchanged for over 90 years.

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<sup>56</sup> Merrill Ann Wilson, “Rustic Architecture: The National Park Style,” *Trends*. (July August September 1976): 4-5.

<sup>57</sup> William C. Tweed, *Recreation Site Planning and Improvement in National Forests 1891-1942* (Washington, DC; US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, 1980): 1.

<sup>58</sup> Colorado’s Historic Architecture & Engineering Guide “Rustic Style,” accessed August 30, 2022, <https://www.historycolorado.org/colorados-historic-architecture-engineering-guide>.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 0.69 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

The center of the property is located at:

Latitude: 45.550360                      Longitude: -110.311890

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Herbert Summer Cabin is located in Park County, Montana at Latitude: 45.550360 Longitude: -110.311890 (NE1/4 NW1/ 4 Section 25, T3S R11E), within the boundaries of the Yellowstone Ranger District, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Montana. Please refer to maps on pages 29-31; reference to these maps note the exact location of the property.

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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the site encompasses Lot 1 of the West Boulder Tract, Term Special Use Permit for Recreation Residences, NE1/4 NW1/4 Sec. 25, T3S. R11E, Yellowstone Ranger District, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Montana.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Joan Brownell/Historian  
organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number: \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town: \_\_\_\_\_ state: MT zip code: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
date: April 2025

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**Land Ownership**

name/title: Douglas and Hillary Klaiber  
street & number: 3 Haleys Way  
city or town: Forestdale state: MA zip code: 02644  
telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Documentation**

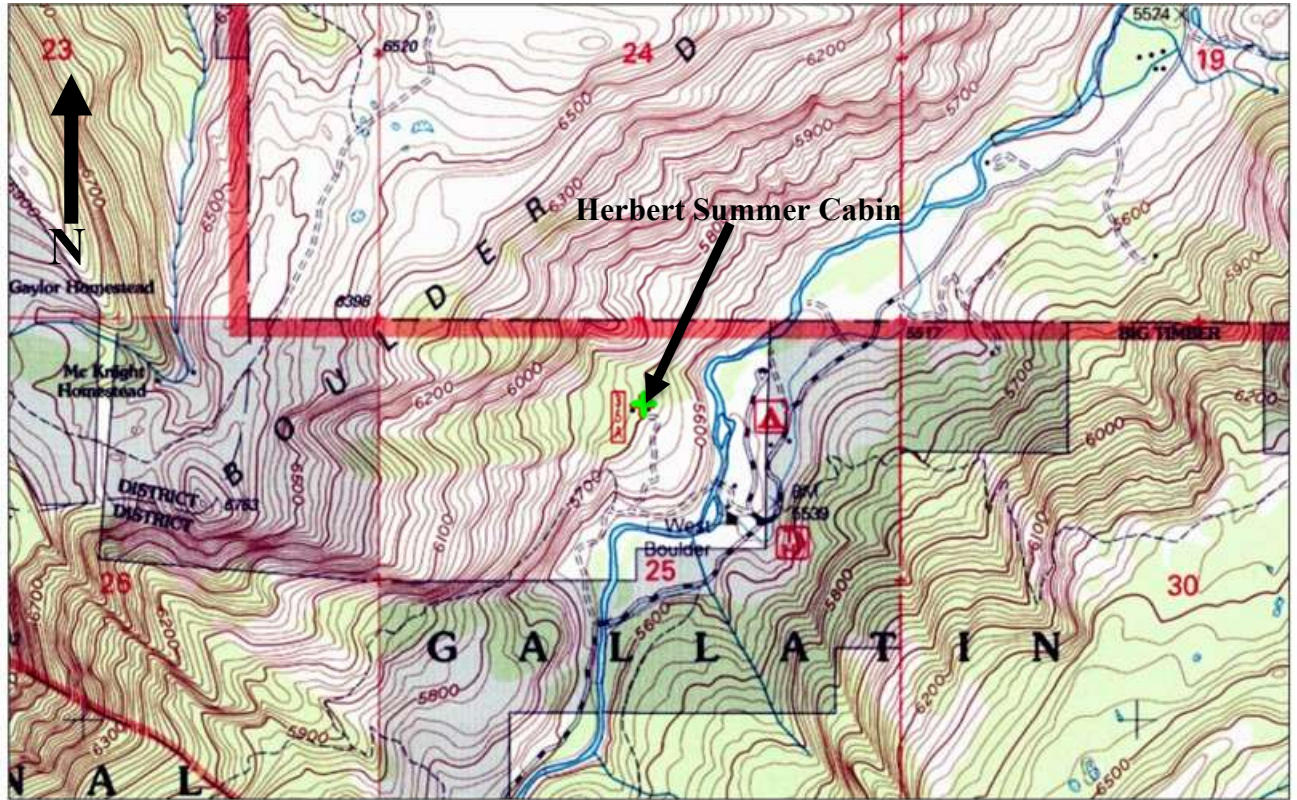
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
**Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and

### Maps and Floorplans



◆◆ = 1/2 mile

Map created using the Digital Atlas April 8, 2025  
<http://msl.mt.gov/GIS/Atlas>

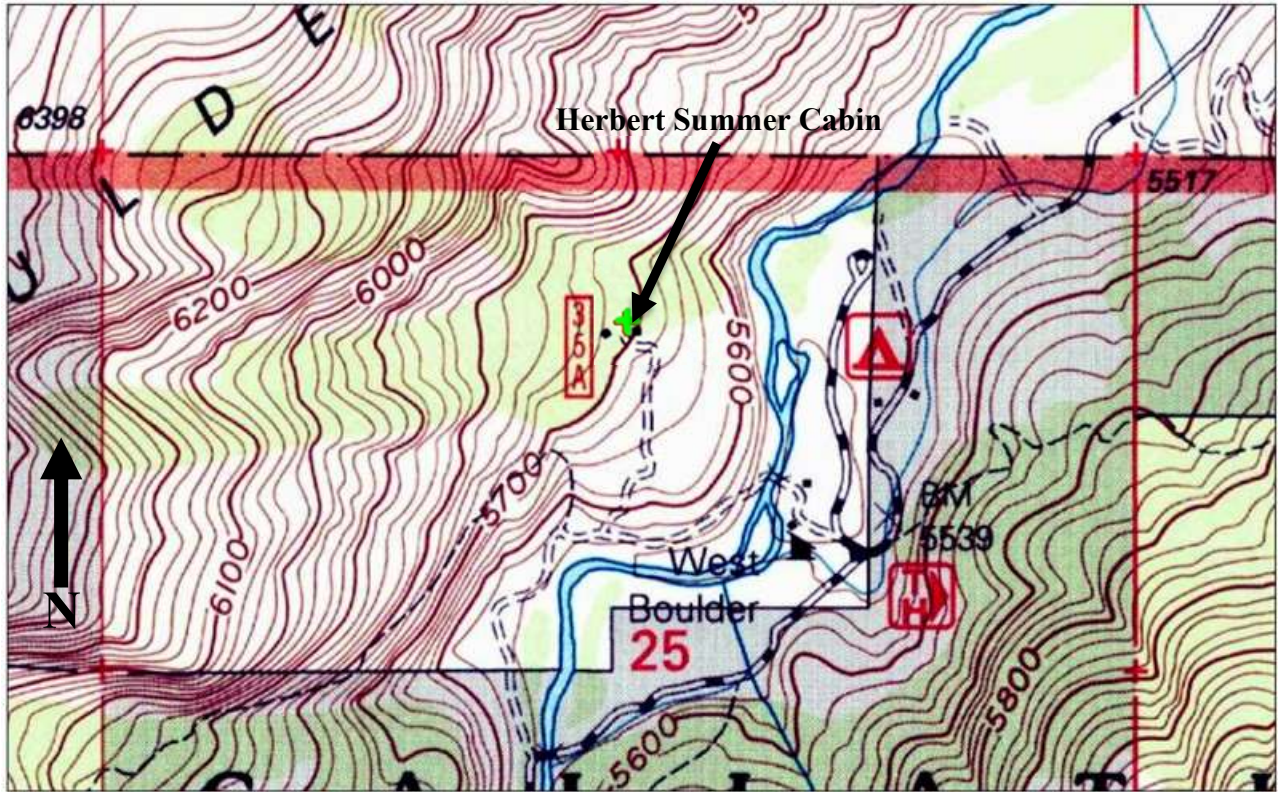
Montana State Library - Digital Library  
(406) 444-5354 | [geoinfo@mt.gov](mailto:geoinfo@mt.gov) | <http://msl.mt.gov>

Location of the Herbert Summer Cabin, Lot 1 of the West Boulder Tract, Term Special Use Permit for Recreation Residences, NE1/4 NW1/4 Sec. 25, T3S. R11E. Center point = Latitude: 45.550360, Longitude: -110.311890.



Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



↔ = ¼ mile

Map created using the Digital Atlas April 8, 2025  
<http://msl.mt.gov/GIS/Atlas>

Montana State Library - Digital Library  
(406) 444-5354 | [geoinfo@mt.gov](mailto:geoinfo@mt.gov) | <http://msl.mt.gov>

Location of the Herbert Summer Cabin, Lot 1 of the West Boulder Tract, Term Special Use Permit for Recreation Residences, NE1/4 NW1/4 Sec. 25, T3S. R11E. Center point = Latitude: 45.550360, Longitude: -110.311890.

Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



◆◆ = 600 ft.

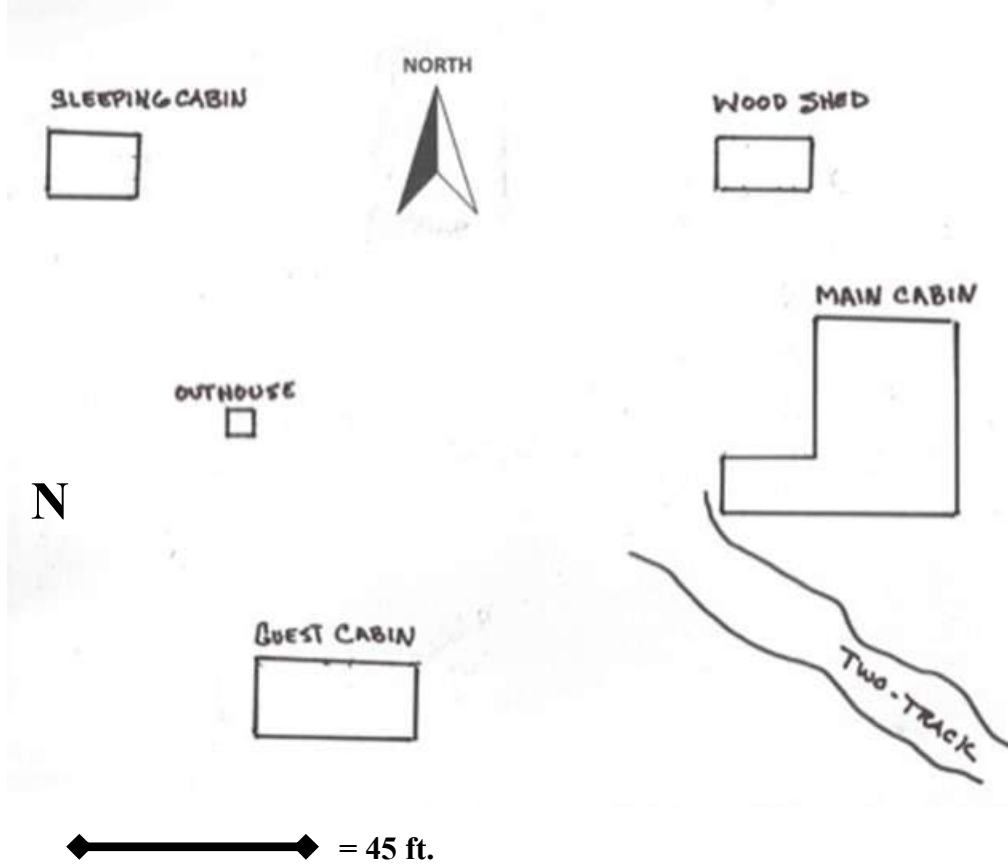
Map created using the Digital Atlas April 8, 2025  
<http://msl.mt.gov/GIS/Atlas>

Montana State Library - Digital Library  
(406) 444-5354 | [geoirfo@mt.gov](mailto:geoirfo@mt.gov) | <http://msl.mt.gov>

Location of the Herbert Summer Cabin, Lot 1 of the West Boulder Tract, Term Special Use Permit for Recreation Residences, NE1/4 NW1/4 Sec. 25, T3S. R11E. Center point = Latitude: 45.550360, Longitude: -110.311890.

Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



Sketch map of the Herbert Summer Cabin, Lot 1 of the West Boulder Tract, Term Special Use Permit for Recreation Residences, NE1/4 NW1/4 Sec. 25, T3S. R11E. Center point = Latitude: 45.550360, Longitude: -110.311890.

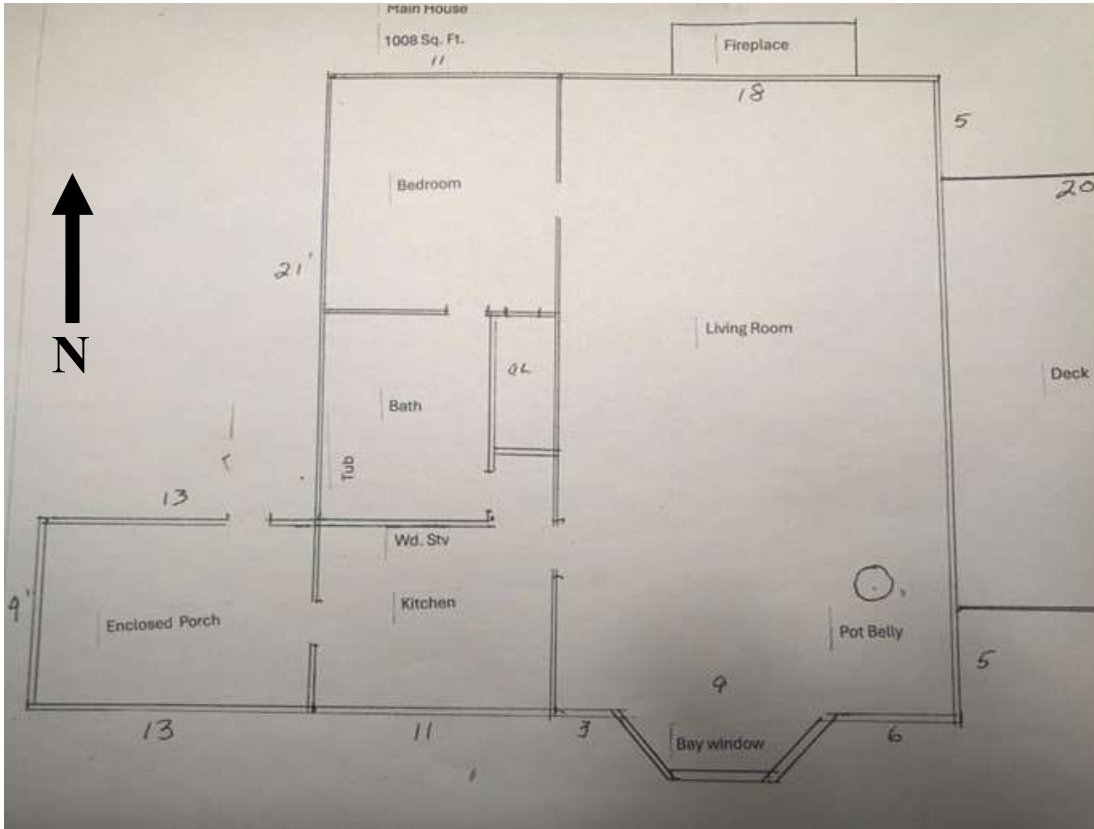


Herbert Summer Cabin

Park County, MT

Name of Property  
State

County and



Floor Plan of the Herbert Summer Cabin (Main Cabin), Lot 1 of the West Boulder Tract, Term Special Use Permit for Recreation Residences, NE1/4 NW1/4 Sec. 25, T3S. R11E. Center point = Latitude: 45.550360, Longitude: -110.311890.

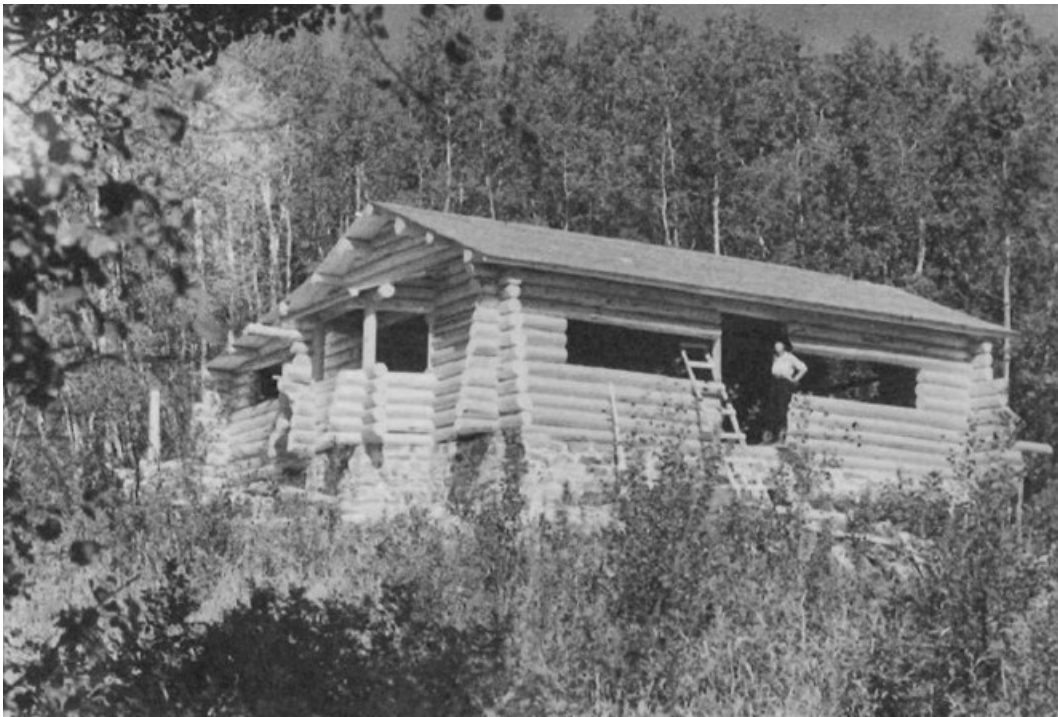
Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and

**Historic Images (courtesy of Charles and Lucile Herbert-Western Ways Features Manuscript and Photograph Collection, MS1255, Arizona Historical Society-Tucson, AZ.)**



**Overview of Herbert Summer Cabin, view to the west, circa 1935-1940.**



**Construction of Main Cabin, view to the southwest, 1935.**

Herbert Summer Cabin  
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**Main Cabin, view to the north, circa 1935-1940.**



**Main Cabin with garden in foreground, view to the west, circa 1935-1940.**



Herbert Summer Cabin  
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**Main Cabin, south wall bay window, view to the south, circa 1935-1940.**



**Guest Cabin, view to the northwest, circa 1942-1944.**

Herbert Summer Cabin  
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**Men at work in front of Sleeping Cabin, view to the northwest, circa 1935.**



**Sleeping Cabin, Lucile and friend, view to the northwest, circa 1935-1940.**



Herbert Summer Cabin  
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**MONTANA SUMMER HOME**  
**THREE LOG CABINS WITH ACCOMMODATIONS FOR EIGHT**  
**IN THE GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST • 24 MILES S.E. OF LIVINGSTON, MONTANA**



Main Cabin has bedroom, adjoining bath, living room with fireplace and bay window. Kitchen, front terrace, screened back porch and food cellar, double roof.



Guest Cabin with twin beds, Bathroom with automatic hot water heater, large clothes closet and storage. Also—Smaller Maid's cabin with bunk beds, lavatory basin, outside toilet. Also—Wood Shed—Work Room.

Located a mile high, surrounded by mountains, in lush green West Boulder Valley, the cabins are in an aspen grove on open hillside above river. It is near the end of the Forest Service road and adjacent to 40 miles of wilderness back country with spectacular scenery, riding trails, excellent hunting and fishing. Only three neighbors in valley (all are cattle ranchers) are from one to four miles away. RFD twice weekly. One quarter mile line needed for telephone connection. Completely and attractively furnished throughout. Pure spring water piped under pressure to all cabins. Firewood handy. Kerosene lamps used. Cabins built on U.S. Forest land with 99 year lease. Price—\$18,000 Net. Write—Charles W. Herbert, 376 S. Stone Ave., Tucson, Ariz



Below—Living Room in Main Cabin.



Bedroom in Main Cabin has built-in clothes closet and adjoins bathroom. Hot water tank connected to kitchen stove. Two other combination couch-beds are in Living Room.



Picture window in dining area frames view of vast, primitive areas of the West Boulder Country.

“For Sale” Advertisement in *Arizona Highways* of Herbert Summer Cabin, 1955.

Herbert Summer Cabin

Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT

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## National Register Photographs

### Photo Log

#### All Photographs

Name of Property: Herbert Summer Cabin

City or Vicinity: West Fork of Boulder River southeast of Livingston

County: Park

State: Montana

Photographer: Joan Brownell

Date Photographed: October 2025



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0001. Property overview. View to northeast.



Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0002. View to south.



Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0003. Main Cabin, south and west walls.  
View to northeast.

Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0004. Main Cabin, north and west walls.  
View to south-southeast.



Herbert Summer Cabin

Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0005. Main cabin, north wall. View to southeast.

Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0006. Main Cabin, south wall and deck.  
View to north.



Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0007. Main Cabin, east wall. View to west.

Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0008. Main Cabin, south wall bay window.  
View to south.

Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0009. Main Cabin interior. View to south.



Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0010. Main Cabin east wall door. View to east.



Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0011. Guest Cabin, north and west walls.  
View to south.

Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0012. Guest Cabin, south and east walls. View to northwest.



Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0013. Guest Cabin interior. View to west.

Herbert Summer Cabin

Park County, MT

Name of Property  
State

County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0014. Sleeping Cabin, north and west wall.  
View to south.



Herbert Summer Cabin  
Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and

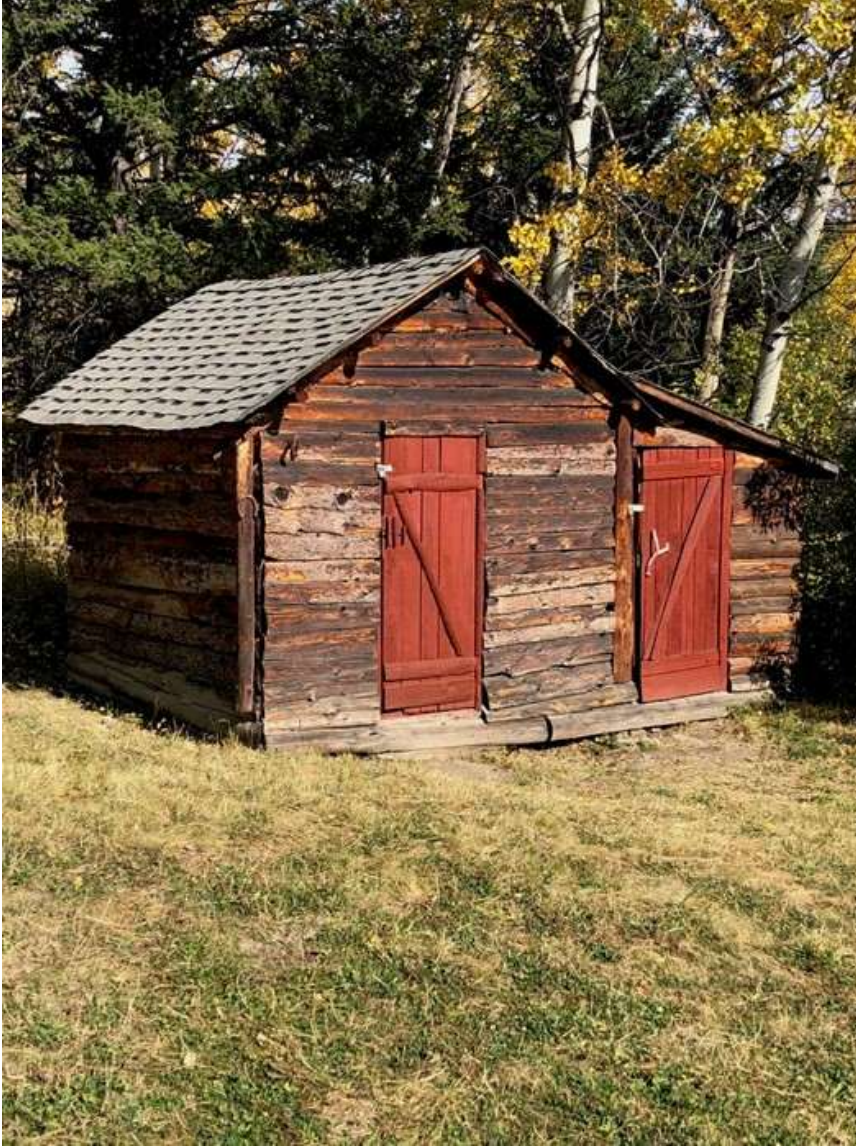


MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0015. Sleeping Cabin, south and east walls.  
View to northwest.

Herbert Summer Cabin

Name of Property  
State

Park County, MT  
County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0016. Wood Shed, south and west walls. View to northeast.

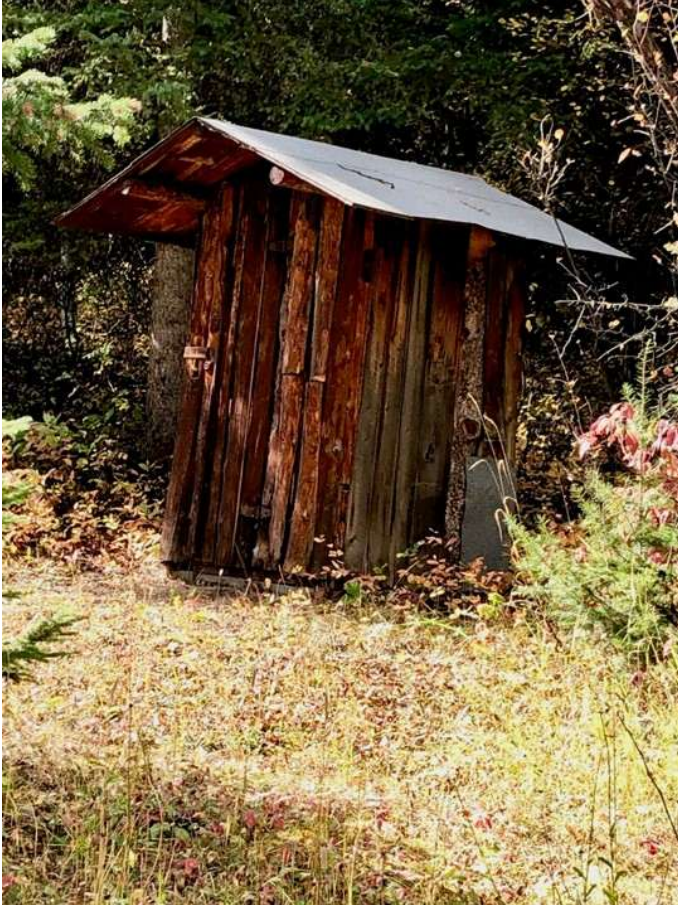


Herbert Summer Cabin

Park County, MT

Name of Property  
State

County and



MT\_ParkCounty\_HerbertSummerCabin\_0017. Outhouse, east and north walls. View to southwest.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.