

Colorado Cultural Resource Survey

OAHP1400

Management Data Form

Rev. 9/98

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The Management Data Form should be completed for each cultural resource recorded during an archaeological survey. Exceptions to this are isolated finds and re-evaluations, neither of which require a Management Data Form. Please attach the appropriate component forms and use continuation pages if necessary.

1. Resource Number: 5ST972 2. Temporary Resource Number:

- 3. Attachments (check as many as apply)
4. Official determination (OAHP use only)
Prehistoric Archaeological Component
Historic Archaeological Component
Historic Architectural Component Form
Sketch/Instrument Map (required)
U.S.G.S. Map Photocopy (required)
Photograph(s)
Other, specify:
Determined
Determined Not Eligible
Nominated
Need Data
Contributing to NR Dist.
Not Contributing to NR Dist.

I. IDENTIFICATION

- 5. Resource Name: Griffith Mill
6. Project Name/Number:
7. Government Involvement: Local X State Federal
Agency: Town of Breckenridge
8. Site Categories: Check as many as apply
Prehistoric: archaeological site paleontological site
in existing National Register District? yes no name
Historic: archaeology site X building(s) structure(s) object(s)
in existing National Register District? yes no X name
9. Owner(s)'s Name and Address: U.S. Forest Service
10. Boundary Description and Justification: Extent of visible features and artifacts.
11. Site/Property Dimensions: 109.7 m x 100.6 m Area: 11035.8 m^2 (+4047) 2.7 acres
Area was calculated as: Length x Width X OR (length X width) X .785
rectangle/square ellipse

II. LOCATION

- 12. Legal Location
PM 6 Township 6 S Range 76 W Section 1/4 of 1/4 of 1/4 of 1/4
if section is irregular, explain alignment method: The area is unsurveyed for Township and Range.

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13. USGS Quad: Keystone 7.5' X 15' Date(s): 1958 (attach photocopy)  
14. County: Summit 15. Other Maps: \_\_\_\_\_  
16. UTM Reference:  
A. 13; 421980 mE 4374865 mN  
17. Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_ Block \_\_\_ Addition \_\_\_\_\_  
18. Location/Access: From the intersection of Hwy 9 and Tiger Run Rd, travel east on Tiger Run Rd 5.8 miles to the mouth of North Fork of Swan valley. Turn east and travel 2.2 miles on a gravel road to a logging camp (Site 5ST970) at the mouth of Garibaldi Gulch. Turn south on a rough road, cross the North Fork, and ascend .5 miles to the site.

**III. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

19. Topographic Feature(s)  
 mountain \_\_\_\_\_ ledge \_\_\_\_\_ playa  
 hill \_\_\_\_\_ terrace/bench \_\_\_\_\_ talus slope  
 tableland/mesa \_\_\_\_\_ canyon \_\_\_\_\_ alluvial fan  
 ridge  valley \_\_\_\_\_ plain  
 saddle/pass \_\_\_\_\_ basin \_\_\_\_\_ dune  
 alcove/rockshelter \_\_\_\_\_ floodplain \_\_\_\_\_  
 cliff \_\_\_\_\_ cutbank \_\_\_\_\_  
 slope \_\_\_\_\_ arroyo/gully \_\_\_\_\_
20. Site Topographic Description (mention named landforms): The site lies in Garibaldi Gulch  
21. Site Elevation: 10900 feet = (x .3048) 3322.3 meters 22. Aspect: Northeast-facing  
23. Degree of Slope on Site: 8-32 24. Soil Depth: Unknown cm  
25. Soil Description (character and color): Medium-brown cobbly, silty loam  
26. Depositional Environment:  
 Aeolian  Colluvial  Residual  
 Alluvial  Moraine  None  
 Other, specify; \_\_\_\_\_
27. Nearest Water: name/nature: Garibaldi Creek distance: As above ft.  
28. Nearest Permanent Water: name: As above distance: \_\_\_\_\_ m \_\_\_\_\_ ft.  
29. Vegetation on Site (list predominant species): Engleman spruce, subalpine fir, arctic willows, mountain juniper, kinnickinnick, forbes, grasses  
30. Vegetation Associations/Communities Surrounding Site: Spruce and fir forest

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**IV. National/State Register Eligibility Assessment**

31. Context or Theme: Western precious and industrial metals mining

32. Applicable National Register Criteria:

Does not meet any of the below National Register criteria

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

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

C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent 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; or

Qualifies under exceptions A through G.

Level of Significance: National  State  Local

33. Condition

a. Architectural/Structural

Excellent

Good

Fair

Deteriorated

Ruins

b. Archaeological/Paleontological

Undisturbed

Light disturbance

Moderate disturbance

Heavy disturbance

Total disturbance

34. Describe condition: All structures and equipment were removed, except for the boardinghouse which burned in decades past. Because the site lies at the bottom of a valley at the confluence of two creeks, it is heavily overgrown and features on the valley floor are marshy. The site possesses archaeological integrity.

35. Vandalism: yes  no  describe: \_\_\_\_\_

36. National Register Eligibility Field Assessment:

Eligible  Not Eligible  Need Data

Statement of Significance/N.R.H.P. Justification: See the attached sheet.

37. Status in an Existing National Register District:

Contributing  Non-Contributing

38. National Register District Potential yes  no  discuss: See the attached sheet.

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**V. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE DATA**

39. Threats to Resource: Water erosion  Wind erosion \_\_\_ Grazing \_\_\_ Neglect   
Vandalism \_\_\_ Recreation \_\_\_ Construction \_\_\_ Other (specify): Recreation  
comments: \_\_\_\_\_
40. Existing Protection: None \_\_\_ Marked \_\_\_ Fenced \_\_\_ Patrolled \_\_\_ Access controlled \_\_\_  
other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
41. Local landmark designation: None 42. Easement: \_\_\_\_\_
43. Management Recommendations: See the attached sheet

**VI. DOCUMENTATION**

44. Previous Actions Accomplished at the site:
- a. Excavations: Test \_\_\_ Partial \_\_\_ Complete \_\_\_ Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Stabilization: Date(s): None
  - c. HABS/HAER Documentation: Date(s) & Numbers: None
  - d. Other: \_\_\_\_\_
45. Known collections/reports/interviews and other references (list): None
46. Primary Location of Additional Data: Town of Breckenridge
47. State or Federal Permit Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Collection Authorized: yes \_\_\_ no   
Artifact Collection: Yes \_\_\_ No  Artifact Repository: \_\_\_\_\_  
Collection Method: Diagnostics \_\_\_ Grab Sample \_\_\_ Random Sample \_\_\_ Transect  
Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
48. Photograph Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_ Negatives filed at: \_\_\_\_\_
49. Report Title: Mining the Golden Horseshoe: An Inventory of Select Historic Sites Around Breckenridge, Summit County, Colorado
50. Recorder(s): Eric Twitty Date(s): August 30, 2003
51. Recorder Affiliation: Mountain States Historical  
Phone Number: 303)499-4334

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

### Eligibility Recommendations

The Griffith Mill and Carrie Mine (Sites 5ST972 and 5ST971) were components of a single mining operation and are separated by approximately one-half mile. Most of the Griffith Mill site retains a high degree of archaeological integrity relative to the early 1900s. However, the mill's machinery and facilities are poorly represented due to natural decay of archaeological features, which impacts the site's overall integrity. The site's ambiance and feel are also poor due to natural decay and revegetation. The material evidence sufficiently represents the site's general content and history, and because of this and the site's integral ties with the Carrie Mine, the site is recommended eligible for the NRHP and SRHP under Criteria A and C. Because the mill operated for a short time, occupation was brief, which resulted in few domestic artifacts and probably only minor buried deposits. Based on this, the site is unlikely to yield important information.

In terms of *Criterion A*, because the site was a component of the greater Carrie Mine operation, it shares the same associations. The Carrie Mine is associated with the economic and social trends and themes discussed in the beginning of Chapter 8 in the report noted on MDF Line 49.

The Carrie operation is directly associated with the Swandyke Mining District rush of the late 1890s, which caused an excitement in Colorado's mining industry and especially the Blue River drainage. Prospectors found several veins on Wise Mountain during the late 1890s, and investors developed the property over the course of several years. At the height of its development, probably through promotion, the Carrie operation became one of the anchors for the Swandyke rush. While the mine and mill proved to be failures by around 1902, activity continued until 1906, which both helped to foster hope in a district-wide revival and served as one of the last economic bases for the town of Swandyke. The Carrie operation also participated in the overall late 1890s boom that swept the Blue River drainage.

The mill, which was a failure, is also associated with the development of the Blue River drainage's ore concentration industry. The mill employed the relatively new cyanide process to extract gold from the ore, and by serving as a failure, the mill demonstrated that cyanidation was ineffective for the region's complex gold and silver ore. Probably in part for this reason, the Blue River drainage saw few further cyanide applications.

In terms of *Criterion C*, the Griffith Mill site is an archaeological example of a well-planned, isolated mill and residential complex. The form and content of such complexes probably remained fairly constant from the 1870s into the 1900s. The site's organization and content are clear, with the mill located adjacent to a stream, the residential buildings nearby, and stables built away from residences. In addition, the boardinghouse was built close to the mill so workers could commute only a short distance during adverse weather. Material evidence represents the general flow path for ore, from input to primary crushing, through secondary crushing, and on to concentration. The crushing appliances can be determined, while the exact concentration methods cannot.

The site is also recommended eligible under Criterion C because it is an individual component of the greater Carrie Mine, which is also recommended eligible.

In addition to its eligibility, the Griffith Mill site holds the potential for several contributions. First, the site is a contributing element of the Swandyke Mining District's historic fabric, which possesses only several sites with mill remnants. The importance of the historic fabric has been discussed with the Carrie Mine, above. The Griffith Mill site, however, presents a minimal visual impact and contributes little to the Swandyke area's visual landscape. Second, the portion of the mining district surrounding the townsite of Swandyke possesses an assemblage of sites that retain various forms of integrity. This group holds the potential to form a historic district, and the Griffith Mill would be a contributing element through its association with the Carrie Mine and because it is one of the area's few archaeological intact mill sites.

### Management Recommendations

Management recommendations suggest pursuing district designation.