An Archaeological Survey of

a Portion of the Hermit Park Locality,

Larimer County, Colorado

By

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Sponsored by

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Abstract

In July 2007 the seventh in a series of PAAC Summer Training Surveys was initiated in southern Larimer County at Hermit Park, a recent acquisition for county open space lands. The survey covered about 360 acres of the park, with the help of 18 PAAC volunteers. Surprisingly, prehistoric sites were not encountered, just two isolated finds (IFs) of debitage. But eight sites and seven IFs dating to the Historic period were recorded. The documented sites are primarily ranching-related features and artifact scatters dating to the late 19th and early-mid 20th centuries. Minor evidence for exploration of minerals is present as well. Modern land use impacts, including diverse recreational activities, are widespread in Hermit Park and may in some way contribute to the paucity of archaeological remains found.

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Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION FORM

Please complete this form and attach a copy behind the Table of Contents of each standard survey report.

Federal acres of Potential Effect/Project:	0	Acres surveyed:	N/A
State acres of Potential Effect/Project:	0	Acres surveyed:	N/A
Private acres of Potential Effect/Project:	0	Acres surveyed:	N/A
Other [county] acres of Potential Effect/Project:	1,362	Acres surveyed:	359
TOTAL:	1,362	TOTAL:	359

Legal Location of Project (*add additional pages if necessary)*

Note: Only generalized subdivision ("quarter quarters") within each section is needed

Principal Meridian: 6th Quad. map name(s) and date(s) Panorama Peak, CO (PR 1978)
County: Larimer

Township: 4 North	Range: 72 West	Sec.: 4	¼ s SW	of NE		
Township: 4 North	Range: 72 West	Sec.: 4	¼ s NW	of NW		
Township: 4 North	Range: 72 West	Sec.: 4	¼ s SW			
Township: 4 North	Range: 72 West	Sec.: 5	¼ s SE			
Township: 4 North	Range: 72 West	Sec.: 5	¼ s S½	of N½		
Township: 5 North	Range: 72 West	Sec.: 33	¼ s NE	of SE		
Township: 5 North	Range: 72 West	Sec.: 33	¼ s SE	of SW		
Township: 5 North	Range: 72 West	Sec.: 34	¼ s NW	of SW		

	Smithsonian Number	Resource Type				Eligibility				Management Recommendations						
		Prehistoric	Historical	Paleontological	Unknown	Eligible	Not Eligible	Need Data	Contributes to Natl Register District	No Further Work	Preserve/Avoid	Monitor	Test	Excavate	Archival Research	Other (specify on additional pages)
Sites	5LR11792		×				×			×						
	5LR11794		×				×			×						
	5LR11795		×					×			×		×		×	HABS or other architectural study
	5LR11796		×					×			×		×		×	
	TOTALS	0	4	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	2	0	2	0
Isolated Finds	5LR11802		×				×			×						
	5LR11803		×				×			×						
	5LR11804		×				×			×						
	TOTALS	0	3	0	0		3			3						

Principal Investigator Name: Kevin D. Black Date **August 8, 2008**
(please print or type)

Principal Investigator's Signature _____

Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION FORM

(Continuation page)

	Smithsonian Number	Resource Type				Eligibility				Management Recommendations						
		Prehistoric	Historical	Paleontological	Unknown	Eligible	Not Eligible	Need Data	Contributes to National Register District	No Further Work	Preserve/Avoid	Monitor	Test	Excavate	Archival Research	Other (specify on additional pages)
Sites	5LR11797		×				×			×						
	5LR11798		×					×			×		×		×	HABS or other architectural study
	5LR11799		×				×			×						
	5LR11800	×	×				×			×						
	TOTALS	1	4	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	1	0
Isolated Finds	5LR11805		×				×			×						
	5LR11806		×				×			×						
	5LR11807		×				×			×						
	5LR11808	×					×			×						
	5LR11809		×				×			×						
	TOTALS	1	4	0	0		5			5						

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Acknowledgments

As always, the success of the survey reported herein was due in large part to the field efforts of our 18 PAAC volunteers, all identified in the Introduction below. Their boundless enthusiasm and patience made my work seem a lot less like work. Permission to survey the Hermit Park area was generously granted by the Larimer County Parks and Open Lands Department in Loveland, represented by resource specialists Ernst Strenge and Meegan Flenniken; Ms. Flenniken was also extremely helpful by providing numerous maps and with information about access through the area, camping options for the crews, and future development plans for the park. Thanks are also due to archaeologist Nicole Branton of the USDA Forest Service, Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests, for help with the Kruger Rock trail corridor survey. Several PAAC volunteers including Mary Ann Gabriel, Lucy Burris, and Katherine McComb helped with production of final site sketch maps and site forms. PAAC volunteer Joel Hurmence provided valuable information on the recent history of Hermit Park from his recreational experiences as a Hewlett-Packard employee, including use of the line shack (5LR11795) as a camping facility. Many thanks are extended to everyone, including those unnamed but not forgotten.

Introduction

Every field season since 1991, an avocational training survey is conducted for volunteers in the Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC), sponsored by the Office of the State Archaeologist of Colorado (OSAC), within the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP) at the Colorado Historical Society in Denver (e.g., Black 1997a). Most volunteers are members of either the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) or another preservation-minded organization such as the San Luis Valley Archaeological Network (SLVAN), who receive credit toward the certification requirements in PAAC as a result of their participation on the survey. During the 2007 field season, the PAAC Summer Training Survey was conducted at Hermit Park, a 551 hectare (1,362 ac) tract of land in north central Colorado that was recently purchased for open space by the Parks and Open Lands Department of Larimer County (Figure 1). Legal location of the project area is T. 4 N., R. 72 W., Sections 4–5 and T. 5 N., R. 72 W., Sections 33–34, 6th P.M. as depicted on the Panorama Peak, CO 7½' topographic map (USGS 1978, photorevised; see Appendix I, this report). This report summarizes the results from the single field season that covered about 145 ha (359 ac) of the project area's terrain.

As with previous PAAC inventories (see Black 1992, 1995, 1997b, 2000a, 2003, 2004, 2007a), the project at Hermit Park was designed both to provide training in archaeological surveying and mapping techniques to PAAC volunteers, and to gather baseline data on the archaeological record of Colorado state lands. A total of 18 volunteers participated on the project in July 2007, conducted in one session totaling eight days of fieldwork. Selection of the Hermit Park project area was based not only on its location in a mountainous part of northern Colorado where relatively little previous research had been conducted, but also on its ownership status as a county property (therefore, a "political subdivision" of the state) which helps OSAC meet one of its statutory functions. Hermit Park is a small valley almost completely surrounded by rugged hills in the Front Range of Colorado just southeast of Estes Park and south of U.S. Highway 36 (Figure 1). The park and surrounding lands were in private ownership, serving as a company recreational area for the Hewlett-Packard Co. and later Agilent Technologies, Inc., from 1967 until its sale to Larimer County early in 2007.

No major construction projects were known to threaten any part of the project area, but Larimer County's near-future plans for trail system changes and maintenance work on the existing roads and recreational facilities such as camp grounds and cabin sites guided decision-making on what parcels to prioritize for the inventory. Present land use on the property is limited to recreational pursuits such as hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, and camping (Larimer County Department of Natural Resources 2008a). However, previous recreational activities that pre-date Larimer County ownership have resulted in fairly widespread impacts to the landscape, and in part may account for the paucity of prehistoric cultural resources observed. Those same modern activities hindered identification of authentic historical cultural resources such as with the extensive evidence of wood stacking, building of tipis, and stacked rock "kid's forts," etc.

The Hermit Park parcel is located about two miles (3.2 km) southeast of the town of Estes Park, and five miles (8 km) north of the Boulder County line in southern Larimer County (Figure 2). Inventory was conducted on July 6–13, 2007. All survey and training was supervised by the author, who is Assistant State Archaeologist with OSAC and served as principal investigator on the project. The work was conducted under the provisions of Colorado State Permit #2007–21, issued in

accordance with the "Historical, Prehistorical, and Archaeological Resources Act" of 1973 (amended 1990; C.R.S. 24–80–401ff).

Figure 1. Satellite view of the Southern Rocky Mountains showing the location of the Hermit Park area [☆] in the northern Front Range of Colorado; NASA Visible Earth image, autumn 2002.

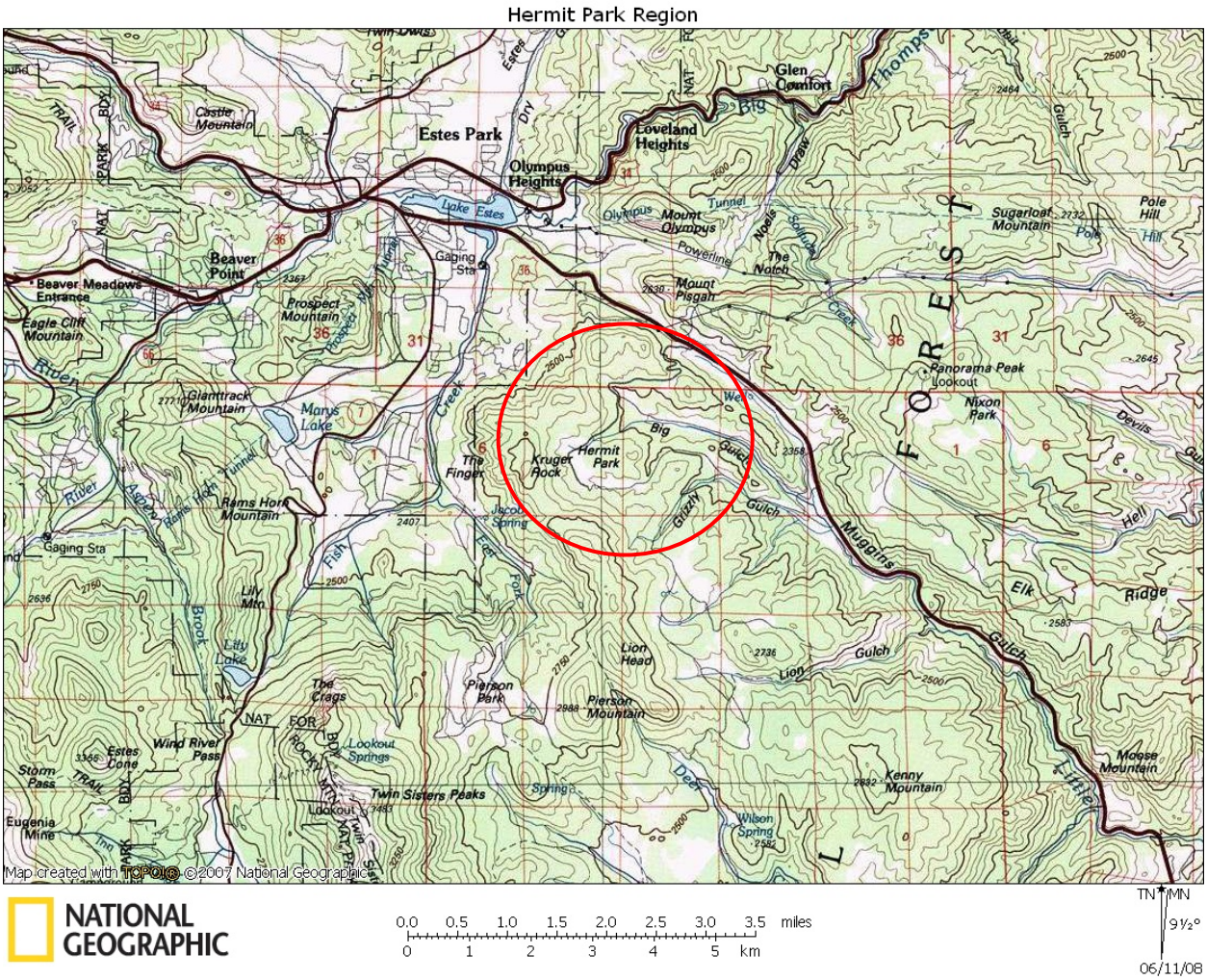


Figure 2. Map of a portion of southern Larimer County showing the Hermit Park area and surrounding features.

The training program called PAAC has been in existence since the late 1970s, through a cooperative agreement between OSAC and CAS. Training proceeds through several levels emphasizing surveying skills, artifact recognition and description, and laboratory work. Volunteers earn certificates through successful completion of sets of courses in combination with field survey or lab activities (Hand 1983). Currently there are thirteen courses offered in the program, all taught by the author in cities and towns throughout Colorado, primarily where CAS chapters exist. Course length ranges from eight to 25 hours. Participation on training surveys such as at Hermit Park, thus, counts toward the field work requirements for PAAC certification. Volunteers can earn at least six certificates: three in the survey "module," two in laboratory work, and one or more in "specialty" areas.

The Hermit Park project is the seventh PAAC training survey sponsored by OSAC (see Black 1997a), the others having been conducted at Dinosaur Ridge in Jefferson County, at the Heckendorf State Wildlife Area in Chaffee County, on the Blanco Trading Co. lease area in Montezuma County, around Trinchera Cave in Las Animas County, at the Tomahawk State Wildlife Area in Park County,

and at Pike's Stockade State Historical Monument in Conejos County (Black 1992, 1994, 1995, 1997a, 1997b, 2000a, 2003, 2004, 2007a). Prior to this report, data on the Hermit Park project was made available in preliminary form during a conference presentation (Black 2007b).

A total of 18 volunteers, including 17 people affiliated with five different chapters of CAS and one person not affiliated with any CAS chapter or other preservation organization, participated on the survey at various times and received PAAC credit for their efforts. By CAS chapter affiliation, these crew members included Melissa Bradley, Mary Ann Gabriel, Larry Livingston, Donna Morgan, Bruce Wahle, and Anne Winslow (all of the Denver chapter); Gretchen Acharya, Cheryl Damon, Cecil Fenio, Bernie Holien, Kris Holien, Katherine McComb, and Christine O'Toole (from the Indian Peaks chapter, Boulder County area); Lucy Burris and Joel Hurmence (from the Northern Colorado chapter, Fort Collins–Loveland area); Tom Doerk (from the Pikes Peak chapter, Colorado Springs area); Keith Wells (San Juan Basin chapter, Durango); and unaffiliated volunteer Kazi Jestribek (Ogallala, NE). Several of these individuals' training at Hermit Park brings them close to earning PAAC certificates, and seven (Melissa Bradley, Cheryl Damon, Mary Ann Gabriel, Kris Holien, Larry Livingston, Bruce Wahle, and Anne Winslow) have earned 12 total PAAC certificates as a result of previous training in course work, field projects, and/or lab experience.

Effective Environment

Physiography and Topography

Hermit Park is located in the eastern portion of the Front Range about 70–75 km south of Colorado's border with Wyoming, which is within the Southern Rocky Mountains physiographic province (Madole et al. 1987; Thornbury 1965:337–339). The project area is in foothills terrain at elevations of 2,410–2,745 m (7,900–9,000 ft), about 18.5 km (11.5 mi) east of the high peaks along the Continental Divide in Rocky Mountain National Park. Hermit Park itself is a rather small valley at about 2,560 m (8,400 ft) elevation, surrounded by rocky ridges, knobs, and hills on virtually all sides (Figure 3). The most distinctive—albeit not the highest—of these hills is Kruger Rock, just outside the western boundary of the project area. Kruger Rock has been, and continues to be, a popular destination for Hermit Park visitors, as it affords a commanding view of the surrounding landscape (Figures 3–4; Johnson 2007).

To the north, a line of rocky hills define a rugged ridge bordering the headwaters of the Little Thompson River, along which U.S. Highway 36 runs northwesterly over the low pass at Park Hill into the broad valley of Estes Park. Even higher terrain rises to the south beyond Kruger Rock, topping out on Lion Head and Pierson Mountain just a few km south of the project area. Apart from the modern gravel road which crests a saddle at 2,540 m (8,340 ft) elevation near Park Hill, the easiest access into Hermit Park in the days before road-building was from the east, following the Big Gulch drainage system along any one of its numerous headwater streams.

The gentlest topography in the project area is in the central portion of Hermit Park, where the valley bottom is a nearly flat floodplain bordered by low gradient hill slopes (Figure 5). Small areas of fairly level terrain also can be found on ridge tops and hill crests, although these are commonly punctuated by prominent outcrops of bare rock. Upper slopes of the higher hills in the area tend to be steepest near the summits, in excess of 30° in some cases. These steepest slopes were generally avoided in the current survey.

Figure 3. Photograph looking east from the crest of Kruger Rock showing the terrain in the central portion of the Hermit Park project area.

Geology and Toolstone Sources

The geology in the vicinity of the project area is summarized by Braddock and Cole (1978, 1990), KellerLynn (2004), and Wilson and Bryant (2006), among others. This portion of the Front Range is dominated by metamorphic and igneous rocks of Proterozoic age. Most widespread are granitic rocks of the Longs Peak-St. Vrain pluton (Silver Plume Granite), locally dated to ca. 1,419 mya (million years ago; Wilson and Bryant 2006). This granite forms most of the bare rock outcrops in Hermit Park, such as the knoll next to the line shack (Figure 6). Locally, the granite has intruded metamorphic deposits dated to 1,664–1,725 mya, for example the biotite gneiss observed on Kruger Rock (Figure 7).

Figure 4. Estes Park and Lake Estes as seen from Kruger Rock, looking northwest toward the Mummy Range on the horizon.

Figure 5. Looking northwest, the valley floor of Hermit Park in the southern portion of the survey area is bordered by low, rocky knolls and ridges.

Figure 6. Northwest view toward line shack site 5LR11795 in Hermit Park, bordered by rocky knolls and ridges of Silver Plume Granite.

Although not present within the project area, much younger formations occur not far north and west of the study area. These represent intrusions that occurred late in the mountain-building era (the Laramide orogeny) in Paleocene and Eocene times ca. 45–58 mya (Wilson and Bryant 2006). Many of the major ore bodies mined historically are associated with such intrusive events in the region such as in western Boulder County (KellerLynn 2004:8), although again the immediate Hermit Park area does not contain significant mineral-bearing formations. Apparently, however, early prospectors had not yet defined the most promising areas for mining in the region as several prospect pits were documented on the current survey (see Results section, this report).

Given the types of rocks found in this part of Larimer County, it is not surprising that knappable toolstone sources of any significance are not found in the Hermit Park area. Studies in Rocky Mountain National Park, the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area, and adjacent areas of the Front Range (e.g., Benedict 1985a, 1985b, 1990, 1993, 1996; Benedict and Olson 1978; Brunswig 2005; Cassells 2000; Wunderlich and Brunswig 2004) show that the main sources of toolstone represented in local assemblages occur in lower elevation areas in the mountain parks to the west (e.g., Kremmling or Troublesome chert) and along the foot of the mountains to the east (e.g., Parker petrified wood). Black's (2000b:Figure 9.6) review of the OAHP database confirms that the mountain parks and eastern foothills hold the nearest major toolstone sources to the Hermit Park

area. It is worth noting, however, that in a few cases minor utilization of more local rock types has been documented. Brunswig (2005:187) describes the occurrence of a "relatively coarse volcanic rhyolite/andesite which outcrops on a former crater remnant on Specimen Mountain and pyroclastic flow deposits on western Trail Ridge" in Rocky Mountain National Park. One rhyolite/andesite flake was recorded on the Hermit Park survey. The uncommon use of local crystal quartz is also mentioned (Brunswig 2005:115), a material recorded in Hermit Park both in very rare flaked stone artifacts and small vein outcrops (Figure 8).

Figure 7. Near the crest of Kruger Rock, granitic rocks overlay biotite gneiss—the two main rock types observed in the Hermit Park area. The arrow marks the contact between the two deposits.

Figure 8. Exposure of vein quartz within a granite outcrop in central Hermit Park. The piled wood at right is from recent recreational activity in the area. Photograph by Joel Hurmence.

Soils

Soils within the project area are not especially diverse owing to rather uniform granite bedrock and only limited variations in vegetation cover, availability of moisture, and topographic settings. Moreland (1980) mapped eight different soil units in areas topographically similar to, but east of the Hermit Park area, most of which are described as sandy loams or loams. In the current project area, direct observations in the course of recording sites and isolated finds documented very shallow, gravelly, light brown to grayish brown loamy sands on the ridges and benches next to granite outcrops. Colluvial and alluvial deposits below the outcrops are somewhat deeper but still gravelly, brown sandy loams. The alluvium in the valley bottoms is less rocky with more organic matter, and was described on the survey as a dark brown sandy loam. As one might expect, the potential for intact buried cultural materials is higher in the thicker soils of the valley bottom and adjacent colluvial slopes, but is all but non-existent on the ridges, benches, and knolls where bedrock outcrops extensively.

Hydrology and Water Sources

The availability of reliable water within the survey area varies somewhat depending on topographic position, but overall is rarely very far away. As noted above, most of Hermit Park is drained by headwater tributaries of Big Gulch, itself a southeast-flowing tributary of the Little Thompson River, which also flows southeast, reaching the plains near the Boulder-Larimer county line south of Carter Lake Reservoir. Although surface water within Hermit Park can be hard to come by, bottomlands are quite boggy (Figures 5–6), and Big Gulch becomes a perennial stream just east of the survey area. At the edges of the Hermit Park property, hillsides drain outward away from the Big Gulch system. In the far northeast corner adjacent to U.S. Highway 36, the low pass at Park Hill is a drainage divide separating the head of the Little Thompson River from an unnamed, northwest-flowing tributary of the Big Thompson River. At the northwest and southwest corners near Kruger Rock, hillsides slope generally westward into the Fish Creek system. And at the extreme southeast corner of the survey area, drainage is east and southeast into Grizzly Gulch, another tributary of the Little Thompson River.

Climate and Paleoclimate

The nearest weather station to Hermit Park is at Estes Park, a few miles northwest of the survey area and several hundred feet lower in elevation (ca. 2,292 m or 7,520 ft). Records at this station spanning the 1948–2001 period show that January is both the coldest and driest month (mean values being -2.6° C/27.4° F and .94 cm/.37 in), while July is both the warmest and wettest (means of 16.8° C/62.2° F and 5.66 cm/2.23 in; Western Regional Climate Center 2008). These records also show an average annual snowfall of 86.1 cm (33.9 in) that peaks in March with an average of 21.8 cm (8.6 in), while average annual precipitation is 35.6 cm (14.01 in) with extremes of 23.7 cm (9.34 in) in 1977 and 54.3 cm (21.39 in) in 1961.

The low temperature extreme of -39.4° C (-39° F) on February 1, 1951 contrasts with the all-time high temperature of 35.6° C (96° F) on July 8, 1989; the average annual temperature is 6.3° C (43.3° F). The length of the growing season is short (69–128 day range, avg. 95 days), limiting current "crop" production to pasture grasses, with prehistoric farming a non-issue locally. In Estes Park, chances are 50–50 that the last day below 0° C (32° F) in the spring will occur as late as June 3, and that the first freeze in the fall will arrive by September 8. In all likelihood the Hermit Park area is only slightly wetter and cooler on average than these figures given its slightly higher elevation, although winter low temperatures may be warmer than Estes Park's due to cold air drainage patterns.

Ancient environments and climatic changes influential in the archaeological record of the Front Range have been documented more thoroughly in this part of Colorado than virtually any other. Summaries can be found in Benedict (1985a), Brunswig (1992), Doerner (2004, 2005, 2008), Elias (1985, 2001), Short (1985), and Tate and Gilmore (1999:30–40). For the Paleoindian period, the end of full glacial conditions in the Front Range ca. 14,000–12,000 BP (14,700–11,900 cal BC; Madole et al. 1998) saw the retreat of ice from the high mountain valleys above Estes Park, providing greater access to the high country west of Hermit Park. Post-glacial warming temporarily ended with the Younger Dryas climatic oscillation of ca. 11,100–10,000 BP (10,800–9500 cal BC; National Climatic Data Center 2008), a period that was significantly cooler and wetter than both preceding and subsequent centuries, resulting in widespread cirque glacier advances, a lowering of

upper timberline, and a rise in freshwater pond and lake levels. For example, Benedict's (1985a:75–77) Satanta Peak glacial advances likely correlate with this interval. Grazing herbivores, notably bison, were more abundant during these times, and Folsom hunters took advantage of this bounty. Warmer and drier conditions of the Early Holocene resulted in a rise in tree limit comparable to modern conditions by 9500–9000 BP (9100–8200 cal BC), with maximum warming over the following two millennia (Elias 1985).

For the subsequent Archaic period (Middle and Late Holocene), the timing of climatic changes does not perfectly correlate between researchers using different data sets, but there appears to be broad agreement that a couple of major climatic intervals can be recognized. Using Benedict's (1985a) terminology and dates from the Indian Peaks region as the best-known study, these are the return to cooler conditions ca. 5200–3000 BP (4000–1200 cal BC; "Neoglaciation," a.k.a. Triple Lakes advances); and a period of unstable conditions, initially cooling then generally warmer after ca. 2500–2400 BP (750–400 cal BC; Audubon advances). During the post-Archaic era, regional data suggest high frequency–low magnitude climatic changes such as those described by Benedict (1999) and Tate and Gilmore (1999:37–40). Episodic cooling resulted in expanded snowfield areas in the higher altitudes and prolonged snow cover in the lower foothills that likely had a negative impact on the frequency and intensity of human use of the high country (Benedict 1999). The most recent such period is the well-documented "Little Ice Age," locally termed the Arapaho Peak advance of ca. AD 1600–1850 by Benedict (1985a).

Flora and Fauna

Vegetation communities in the Hermit Park area include a variety of woodland zones interspersed with open grassy meadows (see Emerick 1995:47–140 for a regional summary). The western reaches of the parcel toward Kruger Rock are covered in a quite diverse, dense forest of Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, limber pine, lodgepole pine, and Rocky Mountain juniper, along with a few aspen and spruce. Ponderosa pine dominates in the hillside forests elsewhere in the area, particularly around the granite outcrops just above the grassy bottomlands. Aspens are prevalent on moist slopes around the pavilion area in central Hermit Park, and both Douglas-fir and blue spruce occur in greater frequency along and near drainages. Under-story shrubs include common juniper, kinnikinnik, bitterbrush, ninebark, fringed sage, twinberry, buffaloberry, wild currant, gooseberry, wild raspberry, wild rose, shrubby cinquefoil, and choke-cherry. Riparian zones along Big Gulch and its tributaries include sandbar willow, alder, birch, snowberry, sedge, elephanthead, marsh marigold, and wetland grasses. A wide variety of forbs was observed during the survey, including many flowering forms: Fremont's geranium, columbine, sedum, sulfur flower, fleabane, Indian paintbrush, penstemon, yellow pea, cryptanth, yarrow, sky pilot, bistort, field chickweed, blue-eyed grass, mariposa lily, bracken fern, monkshood, mullein, horsemint, mountain ball cactus, and harebell. Among the many meadow grasses observed was a notable stand of timothy in the valley bottom near the line shack—perhaps a remnant of hay meadow plantings from the ranching era (Butler 2005:287).

Local faunal populations today are in part a reflection of modern wildlife management practices in the Rocky Mountain National Park region, where the abundance of big game mammals such as elk and bighorn sheep draw tourists from around the world. Predator diversity, on the other hand, is now heavily weighted toward smaller species such as coyotes and bobcats. During the Hermit Park survey, our crews saw brief glimpses or signs of such animals—notably elk, mule deer,

and coyotes (scat only)—but far more abundant were a wide variety of birds and small mammals. Among the small animals observed here were cottontail rabbits, chipmunks, marmots, golden-mantled and thirteen-lined ground squirrels, rock squirrels, garter snakes, bluebirds, stellar jays, flickers, swallows, western tanagers, nuthatches, robins, hummingbirds, and a variety of hawks.

Environmental Constraints

Overall, there were a moderate number of environmental constraints encountered on the Hermit Park inventory. Weather-related delays were infrequent and usually brief, with only a few hours of cumulative time lost to rain and/or lightning over the course of the survey—primarily on July 12, 2007. By contrast, ground visibility was extremely variable, ranging from good to excellent over most of the lower slopes and benches around the rock outcrops, but only fair to poor on floodplains and on the more heavily wooded slopes in the southern and western portions of the survey area. Also limiting for the survey were the presence of steep gradients exceeding 25º on the upper hill slopes surrounding Hermit Park. Relatively little of this steeper acreage was surveyed, as our crews focused on the gentler landforms and corridors along drainages once the paucity of archaeological sites in this area became obvious. The most frustrating aspect of the survey, however, was the presence of a large number of wood and rock features of recreational origin dating to the modern era (Figures 9–10; see Table 3). Not only were some of these features of a form difficult to distinguish from more ancient archaeological remains, but it's also possible that older features (especially of rock arrangement) were dismantled as a source of materials for these more recent constructions. No doubt child's play accounts for some—particularly the small fort-like enclosures—but the modern record also includes larger tipis, possible tent platforms, firewood stockpiles, and cairns. The majority of these features were encountered around "Camp Area 2."

Existing Data and Literature Review

A search of files at the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation in Denver conducted prior to the field season revealed that relatively little work had been done in the vicinity of the project area. Only one site had been recorded in or adjacent to the project area previous to our survey: homestead site 5LR1072, located on Grizzly Gulch about 150 m (500 ft) east of the southeast corner of our survey area (Burney and Mehls 1986). All other previous surveys have covered lands more distant from Hermit Park, such as small projects by Brechtel (2006), Hand (2005, 2006), and Zietkiewicz (2001). As noted previously, more comprehensive work has taken place in Rocky Mountain National Park and in the adjacent Indian Peaks Wilderness Area to the west and southwest of Hermit Park (e.g., Benedict 1985a, 1985b, 1990, 1993, 1996; Benedict and Olson 1978; Brunswig 2005; Butler 2000; Cassells 2000). The results of much of this research have been comprehensively summarized by Gilmore et al. (1999), and will not be repeated in detail here given the near dearth of prehistoric archaeology found on the Hermit Park project. Also see Johnson (2007:4–7) for a short summary of the prehistoric and historic record in this part of Colorado.

Figure 9. Fort-like stick enclosures such as this one are not uncommon near well-used camping sites in Hermit Park.

Figure 10. This stacked rock enclosure of recent construction is located immediately above a modern camp site in Hermit Park.

Prehistoric Context

In the Platte River Basin context book by Gilmore et al. (1999:51–335), the chronology of the basin is presented as a sequence of four general stages: Paleoindian, Archaic, Late Prehistoric, and Protohistoric. Multiple time periods are defined for the first three of those four stages (Table 1; Chenault 1999a:3). Examining the site maps for the various time periods in Gilmore et al. (1999), it is apparent that the majority of significant research projects in the Estes Park region beyond that of small surveys have occurred in environments a bit different from that of Hermit Park—either in high altitude settings to the west and southwest, or in lower foothills zones to the east. Relatively few large projects have taken place in upper foothills locations such as Hermit Park, as is evident from the file search data cited above.

Table 1. Stages and Time Periods Used in the Platte River Basin Context (Gilmore et al. 1999)

Stage	Time Period	Date Range
Protohistoric	unnamed	AD 1540–1860
Late Prehistoric	Middle Ceramic	AD 1150–1540
	Early Ceramic	AD 150–1150
Archaic	Late Archaic	1000 BC–AD 150
	Middle Archaic	3000–1000 BC
	Early Archaic	5500–3000 BC
Paleoindian	Plano	10,850–5740 BC
	Folsom	11,340–8720 BC
	Clovis	12,040–9750 BC

Typical of this research pattern, the database on Paleoindian archaeology in the northern Front Range is dominated by information from plains and lower foothills sites such as Lindenmeier (e.g., Wilmsen and Roberts 1978; Chenault 1999b:64–67), with far fewer data forthcoming from high altitude sites—Caribou Lake being one of those exceptions (Benedict 1985a; Pitblado 2000). The "big-game hunting" pattern traditionally associated with the Paleoindian stage is well-represented in the region, although camp sites such as Lindenmeier and Caribou Lake have helped to broaden our perspectives on hunter-gatherer lifeways of the era. Paleoindian use of at least a few of the high altitude game drives along the mountain crest west of Hermit Park also has been suggested (e.g., Benedict 2000).

For the Archaic stage, settlement patterns show a continued higher site density in lower foothills and western plains areas, as well as continued traditional use of high elevation zones. Game drive complexes such as on Flattop Mountain and Trail Ridge in Rocky Mountain National Park have clear evidence of Archaic use (Benedict 1996). One of the more obvious differences in the Archaic site record compared to the Paleoindian stage is the prevalence of camp sites compared to kill-butchery locations. Well-studied examples include Bode's Draw, Button Rock, Kinney Spring, and Spring Gulch (Benedict 1993; Grant and DeAngelo 1998; Kainer 1976; Morris 1983; Morris et al. 1984; Tate 1999). One of the more unusual sites near Hermit Park that apparently has its origins in Archaic times is Old Man Mountain (Benedict 1985b), a probable sacred site used as a place of offerings, among other ceremonial activities. The Archaic evidence here, however, could represent artifacts collected and reused by later post-Archaic populations.

Late Prehistoric stage archaeology in this region is both more abundant and more diverse than earlier materials. Again, many of the sites mentioned above have evidence of continued use in the post-Archaic era such as Bode's Draw, the Flattop Mountain game drive, Kinney Spring, Old Man Mountain, and Spring Gulch (Benedict 1985b, 1993, 1996; Gilmore et al. 1999; Kainer 1976; Morris et al. 1984). The well-known technological changes from spear to bow-and-arrow and the production of some ceramic containers help distinguish these sites from earlier deposits. Other local sites of note include Early Ceramic period burials at Carter Lake and Hutchinson, the Valley View architectural site containing a tipi ring and stone-walled pitstructure, and sheltered camp site Echo Cave near the Big Thompson River (Brunswig 1990, 1999; Gilmore et al. 1999; Gleichman and Mutaw 1994; Wade 1966).

Historic Context

Protohistoric stage archaeology refers specifically to the material remains of Historic period tribes such as the Arapaho (Toll 2003), Apache, and Ute. Clark (1999) provides an excellent overview of both the complexities of the culture history in the Front Range during the period, and of the difficulties archaeologists have encountered in verifying tribal affinities with archaeological materials. Also, Brunswig (2005:86–98, 125–135) summarizes the Protohistoric record of Rocky Mountain National Park. Among the Protohistoric resources documented in the Hermit Park region are the Flattop Mountain game drive, the Lykins Valley site, Old Man Mountain, Tahosa Creek, a single scarred tree at site 5BL7096, and the Wickiup site (Benedict 1985b, 1996; Clark 1999; Ohr et al. 1979; Rowen 1981). The Lykins Valley site collection continues to be a resource for research, with several conference papers reporting new studies in recent years (e.g., Newton 2008).

Historic period activities of non-Indian groups in the vicinity of the project area largely involve ranching and recreation, with lesser evidence of other pursuits such as mineral exploration. See Butler (2005) for an extensive review of these and other themes in and near Rocky Mountain National Park. Other useful historical summaries for the area include Bancroft (1968), Buchholtz (1983), Dunning (1967), Jessen (1996), Mehls (1984), Mills (1905), Pickering (1999), Scott and Shwayer (1993), and Watrous (1976). One local historic architecture study is that of Zietkiewicz (2001), who describes the vernacular rustic architecture in the Longs Peak region.

There are very few documented sites anywhere in the region directly attributable to Spanish explorations or the early fur trade. Fur trappers likely were in the area by the turn of the nineteenth century (Butler 2005:361), and Kit Carson apparently spent the winter of 1840–41 in Estes Park with a band of trappers gathering furs (Watrous 1976:176). However, it's not until the first Gold Rush of 1858–1860 that any permanent settlement occurred.

On October 1, 1859 Joel Estes with his son Milton were on a hunting and exploring trip when, from the top of Park Hill, they spotted the valley that would later bear their name. The following year Estes blazed a crude trail along the route of much of future U.S. Highway 36, and established a home for his family at the confluence of Fish Creek and the Big Thompson River that they occupied into 1866 (Dunning 1967:4, 60; Scott and Shwayer 1993:17; Watrous 1976:176). Some mineral exploration also occurred in the Longs Peak district in that same era, but no major mines were ever developed north of Allenspark. A second mining boom hit the Longs Peak district in 1896–1897, followed by a third brief rush ca. 1903 (Butler 2005:126–127; Spude 1990). It's quite possible that the small prospect pits recorded on the Hermit Park survey date to this 1896–1903 activity.

The first road over Park Hill was built ca. 1874–75 as an improvement to Estes' trail when it was operated as "MacGregor's Estes Park Toll Road" connecting Estes Park and Lyons (Scott and Shwayer 1993). A charge of $1 per team was assessed at a gate positioned a short distance down-stream from Park Hill near where the road crossed the Little Thompson River. Tolls on the road were abolished late in the 1800s, but it remained a rough and dangerous route into the 20th century (Dunning 1967:8, 58; Jessen 1996:30–33). Initially designated State Highway 11s, it was re-numbered as State Highway 66 when it was upgraded in the 1920s. The road was paved during the New Deal programs of the 1930s, then made part of an extended U.S. Highway 36 in 1967 when tolls were dropped on the Boulder Turnpike section (Salek 2001, 2008).

The ranching heritage of the area is well-represented in Hermit Park, and has been the subject of some research locally, most notably at Homestead Meadows south-southeast of Hermit Park where Burney and Mehls (1986) documented 12 historic sites and four isolated finds in a survey of ca. 607 ha (1500 ac). Although their report evaluated the various homesteads as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, public interest and further review of the resources led to a re-evaluation, and the area was eventually listed as a National Register District on October 4, 1990 (5LR1403; OAHP–Denver site files). The area is now managed in part for recreational values including hiking to view the homestead sites (Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland 1997, 2008; Fogelberg and Grinstead 2006:64–67). The trail system in Hermit Park links to Homestead Meadows trails via Grizzly Gulch beyond the southeast corner of the survey area (Larimer County Department of Natural Resources 2008a).

The documented ranching/homestead sites in the area generally post-date 1870, with the period 1890–1940 best represented (Butler 2005:285–294; Pickering 1999), and Hermit Park resources fit this pattern. Among the Homestead Meadows sites, for example, eight homesteads were established between 1889 and 1923 (Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland 2008), and the last occupation there ended ca. 1952. (US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region 2007). To support themselves and their stock, local ranchers grew hay, grains, and vegetables but the challenging climate made the task difficult. Butler (2005:287) mentions that ranchers around Rocky Mountain National Park grew timothy hay to improve feed quality, and that seems to have been the case as well in Hermit Park in the valley around the line shack. According to local reports, the "hermit" of Hermit Park known as Dutch Louie grew potatoes during his time in the area in the early 1900s, in addition to hunting and trapping game (Friends of Hermit Park 2007).

Land records for the Hermit Park area document property transactions primarily during the period 1891–1922 (Bureau of Land Management 2008). Quite possibly, some of the land claims in this early period were made with the intention of selling out after the land patent was gained to raise funds for other endeavors (Church and Clark 2007:258–260). The earliest record is a cash entry dated October 27, 1891 to James Mathews for 160 ac around Park Hill adjoining the north edge of the current Hermit Park property. However, since such land purchases required only six months prior residence, the earliest local occupation may have been by Jane Sanford, who proved up on a homestead of 128.54 ac just east of Hermit Park, with title granted in July 1892. Homestead entries required a minimum of five years residence, or maximum of seven years, so Sanford likely settled on the property in the period 1885–1887.

Other land records listed in Table 2 cast some doubt on historical details about the mysterious character called "Dutch Louie" and a Mr. [Frank W.?] Crocker on whose land Louie supposedly squatted. No information on Dutch Louie was found in any of the local history books cited previously,

Table 2. Early land records in the Hermit Park region.

Name(s)	†Legal Location: T4–5N, R72W (Size)	Issue Date	Land Record
James S. Mathews	N½ of NE¼ + SE¼ of NE¼ + NE¼ of NW¼ of Sec. 33, T5N, R72W (160 ac)	October 27, 1891	Doc. # 15536; Acc. # COCOAA 037858
Jane Sanford	NE¼ of NW¼ of Sec. 3, T4N, R72W; and S½ of SE¼ of Sec. 34, T5N, R72W (128.54 ac)	July 20, 1892	H.E., Doc. # 3187; Acc. # COCOAA 037579
James E. Blair	N½ of NW¼ + N½ of NE¼ of Sec. 4, T4N, R72W (160 ac)	October 28, 1896	H.E., Doc. # 4311; Acc. # COCOAA 037585
Isaac J. Sanford	SW¼ of Sec. 34, T5N, R72W (160 ac)	May 17, 1897	H.E., Doc. # 4377; Acc. # COCOAA 037869
William F. Keller	NW¼ of SW¼ of Sec. 4; and S½ of SE¼ + NE¼ of SE¼ of Sec. 5, T4N, R72W (160 ac)	November 22, 1897	H.E., Doc. # 4460; Acc. # COCOAA 037586
John L. Jacobi	E½ of SW¼ + NW¼ of SE¼ + SE¼ of NW¼ of Sec. 5, T4N, R72W (160 ac)	February 3, 1898	H.E., Doc. # 4512; Acc. # COCOAA 037587
Christ Wilhelm Deuschle	NE¼ of NW¼ + NW¼ of NW¼ of Sec. 4; and NE¼ of NE¼ of Sec. 5, T4N, R72W (142.91 ac)	February 9, 1901	C.E., Doc. # 16847; Acc. # COCOAA 037591
Adolph N. Krueger	S½ of NE¼ of Sec. 5, T4N, R72W (80 ac)	February 9, 1901	C.E., Doc. # 16848; Acc. # COCOAA 037592
Neil C. Sullivan	NW¼ of SW¼ + SW¼ of NW¼ of Sec. 3; and NE¼ of SE¼ + SE¼ of NE¼ of Sec. 4, T4N, R72W (160 ac)	July 31, 1903	H.E., Doc. # 5712; Acc. # COCOAA 037597
Frank W. Crocker	SW¼ of SW¼ of Sec. 27; and S½ of SE¼ of Sec. 28, T5N, R72W (120 ac)	October 2, 1905	C.E., Doc. # 17692; Acc. # COCOAA 037916
Christianne M. Krueger, Adolph N. Krueger	N½ of NE¼ of Sec. 5, T4N, R72W (80 ac)	May 19, 1910	H.E., Doc. # 04491; Serial Patent # 131183
Charles O. Bourk	S½ of SE¼ of Sec. 32, and S½ of SW¼ of Sec. 33, T5N, R72W (160 ac)	July 14, 1920	H.E., Doc. # 021394 & 021472; Serial Patent # 761416
Legora E. Thomas, Charles E. Thomas	NW¼ + S½ of NE¼ + N½ of SE¼ of Sec. 34, T5N, R72W (320 ac)	February 1, 1922	H.E., Doc. # 023132; Serial Patent # 846471
Griffin Smith	SE¼ of SW¼ + S½ of SE¼ of Sec. 4; and NE¼ of NW¼ of Sec. 9, T4N, R72W (160 ac)	September 7, 1922	H.E., Doc. # 022833; Serial Patent # 878492
Arthur E. Pew, Jr.	NW¼ of NW¼ + NW¼ of SE¼ + W½ of SW¼ of NE¼ of Sec. 3; and NE¼ of NE¼ + NW¼ of NE¼ + SW¼ of SW¼ of Sec. 4, T4N, R72W; and SE¼ + SW¼ of NE¼ + N½ of SW¼ + S½ of NW¼ + NW¼ of NW¼ of Sec. 33, T5N, R72W (662.7 ac)	June 11, 1947	L.E., Doc. # 054377; Serial Patent # 1122342
Hewlett Packard Co.	NW¼ of NE¼ + NE¼ of NW¼ + SW¼ of NW¼ of Sec. 5, T4N, R72W (133.39 ac)	April 22, 1983	L.E., Doc. # 5830011; BLM Serial # COC 030156FD

Key to Table 2: Acc. = accession code that identifies the state, volume number and page number of the original General Land Office (GLO) document; C.E. = cash entry sale of public land under federal act of 1820; Doc. = document number on GLO record; H.E. = homestead entry patent of public land under federal act of 1862; L.E. = land exchange for public land under federal act of 1922, as amended 1925, excluding subsurface uranium, thorium, and similar minerals as well as utilities rights-of-way. With the exception of the final entry, only the initial transactions are shown in this table; changes in ownership through sale, inheritance, or other means after the dates of these records are not listed. For instance, Hewlett Packard Co. acquired far more land in Hermit Park than the 133.39 ac described here.

but brief history segments on Larimer County web sites about Hermit Park state that "an Estes Park local named Crocker purchased the property. He probably grazed a few head of cattle and hunted the place himself. While Crocker owned it he allowed a loner known as "Dutch Louie" to build a cabin and live there seven miles from Estes Park. Dutch Louie trapped a little bit, hunted some and grew some potatoes to use and trade in the town. Louie kept to himself and kids thought he was strange so his hangout became known as the "Hermit's Park." (Friends of Hermit Park 2007). Further, "The best known history of Hermit Park Open Space is that it was occupied by Dutch Louie, a hermit who squatted on the Crocker Ranch. He built a two-story log cabin around 1910. The structure still stands, although Dutch Louie was allegedly hanged for livestock rustling" (Larimer County Department of Natural Resources 2008b).

However, the only record of someone named Crocker around Hermit Park is the October 1905 cash entry for Frank W. Crocker, who purchased 120 ac in Sections 27 and 28 north of Park Hill (and 0.5 mi north of the Hermit Park property boundary) where the "Crocker Ranch" is depicted on the 1978 Panorama Peak 7½' topographic map. Instead, the lands around Dutch Louie's house—"Hermit's Cabin" site 5LR11798—are associated with records of other homesteaders dating to 1896, 1901, and 1910 (although it is possible that Crocker bought them out or paid them to make their claims for his benefit).

Three of these records are of interest due to the names involved. A cash entry dated February 9, 1901 involved a purchase of just under 143 ac in the Big Gulch area to Christ Wilhelm Deuschle. Although not officially a "Louie," Mr. Deuschle's last name could be pronounced a bit like "Dutch" and it's tempting to suggest that locals anglicized his name in that way. Two other land transactions in 1901 and 1910 mention the name Adolph Krueger, probably the namesake of Kruger Rock, albeit the 1901 record has his middle initial as N. and for 1910 it is given as H. It is unknown whether in fact there might actually have been two Adolph Kruegers living in the Hermit Park area at the turn of the century! The 1901 record is a cash entry on the central Hermit Park area around and north of the pavilion, and was made on the same day as Deuschle's purchase. The homestead entry for 1910 is immediately north, overlaps with part of Deuschle's parcel in the area of the Hermit's Cabin site, and was granted to Christianne Krueger who was listed as Adolph's widow on the land patent. Table 2 summarizes historical land transactions in and around the Hermit Park area, all from the on-line database maintained by the Bureau of Land Management (2008). Note that these data have not been cross-checked with records at the BLM's state office or the Larimer County courthouse.

Statement of Objectives

The primary objective of the Hermit Park inventory was to provide supervised field experience for participants in PAAC, as described in the Introduction to this report. Both the field surveying time and site recording experience count as credit toward certification, in two of the six PAAC

modules. A second objective was to document as many cultural resources as could be found in the project area, in keeping with one of the objectives of OSAC to inventory land in Colorado, as defined in state law (C.R.S. 24–80–405d). Because there are both short-term and long-term plans for development of the recreational resources at Hermit Park (Larimer County Department of Natural Resources 2008a), the results of the survey reported herein provide baseline data on cultural resources that can inform and guide future management decisions affecting the parcel. For example, the first two days of inventory occurred along proposed trail segments slated for development in 2008 (Johnson 2007). Finally, the survey was intended to add to the limited database on montane archaeology in Larimer County, generally to explore prehistoric and historic settlement, the lithic landscape [a hopeful objective that clashed with reality], and historical ranching topics. For the Historic period, the known resources of the nearby Homestead Meadows National Register District provided a local context for interpreting ranching sites in the project area.

Based on the data available at the beginning of the project, in combination with more general data on mountain archaeology from the author's own experience as well as that summarized in Benedict (1985a, 1985b, 1993), Brunswig (2005), Burney and Mehls (1986), Butler (2005), Cassells (2000), and Gilmore et al. (1999), there was a general expectation that prehistoric site density would be higher on flatter landforms close to the drainages and the pass at Park Hill, and quite low both on floodplains and on terrain farther from the river. Sites such as Old Man Mountain (Benedict 1985b) showed that prominent rock outcrops also could hold evidence of prehistoric use. The survey by Burney and Mehls (1986), on the other hand, suggested that prehistoric resources might be sparse overall but that historical features may be present. Open lithic scatters and short-term camps were the primary prehistoric site types anticipated, with lower expectations for lithic sources, rockshelters, tipi rings, or other large features. The game drives known from the high mountains to the west were not expected to occur in the Hermit Park area. Impacts from recreational activities were expected to be obvious, but not so great as to completely obliterate the archaeological record.

For the Historic period, there was a slight expectation for 18th–19th century Indian encampments with such evidence as glass beads and perhaps the kinds of perishable features found in old growth forests such as scarred trees or scaffolds—before the survey, it was not certain if any old growth remained in the area given the history of ranching-related logging in the region. Non-Indian sites were expected to mainly be indicative of the ranching industry with less evidence for mining, logging, Spanish exploration, or other activities anticipated. A historic cabin site and line shack were among the ranching resources known in advance to be present in the study area. We did not expect to encounter any significant evidence of recreational activities more than 50 years old, given the fact that the Hewlett Packard Co. only began accumulating acreage in the area in 1967.

Among the research questions of interest at the start of the inventory were:

- Is there a higher-than-average density of Early Archaic sites at Hermit Park as seen at higher elevations in the Front Range?
- Is there any significant difference in site types or site density on landforms close to Big Gulch and its tributaries compared to more distant locations?
- Is there any significant difference in lithic materials on sites within the study area?
- Is west slope material such as Kremmling chert more heavily represented on sites than eastern Front Range materials such as Parker petrified wood?
- What evidence for non-local exchange will be found at Hermit Park, such as obsidian?

- Are any old-growth forest resources present such as culturally peeled trees?
- Is there any evidence for ceremonial use of Hermit Park, as is present on Old Man Mountain?
- Is ranching activity in Hermit Park contemporaneous with that in Homestead Meadows?
- Are any major historic activities other than those related to ranching in evidence at Hermit Park?
- What is the earliest evidence of recreational activities present in Hermit Park?

Methods

The cultural resources survey of Hermit Park was accomplished using standard pedestrian tactics to cover approximately 359 ac (145 ha) of the total 1,362 ac parcel. The unsurveyed acreage primarily covers the highest terrain and adjoining steeper slopes (≥ 30°) on the north, west, and south sides of the parcel. Survey was targeted specifically on areas known to be part of future developments in the open space park, and the gentler terrain considered to have a higher probability of holding sites. Inventory transects were generally oriented to the cardinal directions east-west in the lower valley portions of Hermit Park, but followed ground contours elsewhere on the hill-slopes, benches, and spur ridges. Crew size ranged from three to five volunteers, all supervised by the author. Spacing between crew members was maintained at 15 m (50 ft), except where closer spacing was needed while inspecting road and drainage cutbanks, rock outcrops, ridge tops, and other terrain of special interest. In addition, coverage was tighter at 5-10 m (16–33 ft) on the two trail segments adjacent to the Hermit Park property. In contrast, portions of the slopes (< 30°) to the south and southwest were surveyed with the crew spacing at 20 m (65 ft).

Barbed wire fencing, in some cases rather deteriorated, marks the open space property boundary along portions of the east side of the parcel in Section 4, and along the US Highway 36 right-of-way at the northeast edge of the survey area. No fencing was encountered where the boundary is mapped on the west side below Kruger Rock, and other property boundaries were not within the areas surveyed in 2007. Selected positions along the fence lines, at fence corners, survey monuments, and at modern cultural features were documented with UTM coordinates using a Garmin GPS II Plus receiver (Table 3). This GPS unit was calibrated to the 1927 North American Datum (NAD 27) to correspond to the grid lines shown on the 1978 quad map.

Sites are defined as loci with artifacts and/or features having any of the following characteristics: artifact scatters covering areas more than 30 m in diameter; diverse artifacts indicating the occurrence of multiple activities; any discovery in a context suggesting the presence of buried cultural material; any prehistoric feature; any historic architectural feature; or any combination of these. Isolated finds (IFs) are defined as loci exhibiting single artifacts or a low diversity artifact scatter, or a historic non-architectural feature in a confined area less than 30 m in diameter, indicative of a single brief activity with no evidence of buried remains. Modern materials less than 50 years old were not recorded, but the locations of modern features were documented as noted in Table 3. Newly recorded sites were assigned temporary field numbers starting with the prefix HPS (i.e., Hermit Park Survey), followed by a year code and a consecutive number. Thus, HPS–07–1 was the first site recorded in 2007. Isolated finds were similarly numbered with the addition of an IF code with the consecutive number, e.g., HPS–07–IF1. There were no previously recorded sites within the project area and, thus, there was no need to re-record any cultural resources.

Table 3. UTM Coordinates (NAD 1927, zone 13) for Selected Modern Cultural Features

Feature	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
N-S barbed wire fence just north of Big Gulch tributary	0460725m	4464989m
Barbed wire fence corner south of Big Gulch tributary	0460750m	4464858m
Barbed wire fence corner on live tree near Grizzly Gulch	0461140m	4464880m
1962 BLM survey cap, ¼ Section 5–4 line, property corner	0460318m	4465239m
Undated CDOT Highway 36 R-O-W survey monument	0461314m	4467276m
Camp fire ring north of Kruger Rock	0458967m	4465844m
Small wood pole "enclosure" near pavilion	0459680m	4465420m
Cut wood stacked against two sides of rock	0460046m	4465349m
"Kids' Fort" of wood on three sides of rock crevice	0460385m	4464820m
"Kids' Fort" of wood on outcrop at north edge of valley	0460366m	4464998m
Rectangular rock "foundation" in Camp Area 2	0460240m	4465275m

Figure 11. Northwest view of recording and mapping in progress by volunteers at site 5LR11799; figures at left stand next to the tripod marking the mapping station. Note the flagged artifact concentration in the foreground.

Recording procedures were paced to emphasize volunteer training in filling out forms, drawing sketch maps, and illustrating artifacts such as embossed glass. All site sketch maps were hand drawn in reference to true north, using a magnetic declination adjustment of just under 10º east; a precise declination of 9º44' east was calculated for the center of the project area in July 2007 using the National Geophysical Data Center model on its web site now found at http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/geomagmodels/Declination.jsp. The sketch maps were made in reference to a mapping station arbitrarily positioned at or near the center of each site; no semi-permanent physical tags such as rebar or incised metal tags were used to mark datum points at any site or IF. At all sites, mapping was done with a Brunton compass and metric tape measure or by pacing distances when using the tape was not practical, and the compass was typically mounted on a tripod. The tripod is a visual marker for the mapping station shown in many of the site photographs (Figure 11).

All sites and IFs were plotted on the USGS 7.5' topographic map for Panorama Peak, Colorado (Photorevised 1978) based on UTM coordinates determined using the GPS receiver as described previously. UTM coordinates from the GPS receiver were taken at the mapping station on each site. At least one photograph was taken at each site as well, using black-and-white print film. Supplementary color digital images were taken of sites, one IF, artifacts, and landscape features as appropriate. No artifacts were collected on any sites or IFs during the survey.

In the lab, because no artifacts were collected, tasks focused on finalizing site forms and analyzing site and IF data for this final report. Film was developed for black-and-white prints, and some of the color digital images were included on the PAAC web site (www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/paac/summersurvey.htm) to enhance the progress report posted on the project. All field line drawings of artifacts, and site sketch maps, were inked for inclusion with the final site forms (Appendix II), with selected examples included in this report.

A progress report was submitted to Meegan Flenniken, resource specialist with the Larimer County Parks and Open Lands Dept. in Loveland, and filed with permit records at OAHP in Denver. Wider dissemination of this information was provided in a CAS annual meeting presentation (Black 2007b). Site forms and the report draft were produced in Word *.doc format at OAHP; copies of all forms and this final report were sent both to Ms. Flenniken in Loveland and to forest archaeologist Nicole Branton with the USDA Forest Service in Fort Collins. Other report copies, minus the site and IF forms, were distributed to CAS chapter libraries, the Estes Park Museum, and local libraries in Estes Park and Lyons. All field forms, notes, correspondence, negatives, prints, and disks are stored at OAHP–Denver.

Results

Within the ca. 359 ac of the Hermit Park parcel inventoried, a total of eight sites and eight IFs was recorded. This does not include the one site and one IF recorded outside the east boundary of Hermit Park during the trail survey (Johnson 2007). Sites have been assigned permanent numbers 5LR11792–11800; IFs are numbered 5LR11801–11809 (see Table 5). Of this total, seven of eight sites and seven of eight IFs are exclusively Historic period Euro-American resources, one site has both prehistoric American Indian and Historic period non-Indian components, and one IF has only prehistoric American Indian cultural materials (Table 4). It should be noted that these numbers represent conclusions about the age of certain features that are by no means certain. For example, a

wood covering on a rock crevice at 5LR11794 is tentatively assigned a Historic period date based on field characteristics such as the degree of natural deterioration of the wood in the absence of diagnostic artifacts, although it could very well date to the modern era.

Overall, then, only one [12.5%] of the sites and one [12.5%] of the IFs have evidence of American Indian activities of any kind. Non-Indian occupations of the Historic period are more common in the area, but overall site density regardless of age is quite low. As will be explored later in this report, site and artifact data suggest that the bulk of those Historic period activities post-date A.D. 1880.

Table 4. Affiliation and Chronology of Recorded Sites at Hermit Park

Affiliation & Chronology	*# of Recorded Sites*
American Indian, prehistoric (pre–AD 1600)	0
American Indian, historic (AD 1600–1880)	0
American Indian, prehistoric & historic	0
Non-Indian + American Indian	1
Non-Indian	7

The Sites

5LR11792 (HPS–07–1) is composed of a single wickiup or tipi frame—possibly of modern [< 50 yrs old] construction—with eleven standing aspen poles on a central live (but aged and dying) aspen tree, plus at least ten more poles collapsed on the ground. The feature is near the western boundary of the Hermit Park tract, immediately adjacent to a two-track jeep trail, which supports the interpretation of a modern construction date, yet all the poles are very weathered and decaying (and little bark remains; Figure 12) so that an older date for its construction cannot be ruled out. Pink flagging tape was recently attached to the feature. No obvious 3- or 4-pole frame is visible, nor is a door/entry apparent, but use is made of a fork in the living aspen tree to hold most of the poles in position. No carvings were observed in the rotting trunk of the living tree. Base dimensions are 4.83 m NW-SE × 4.26 m NE-SW; the height is about 4.0 m. No artifacts are visible on the surface, or in the road cut near the feature, and the potential for intact buried material is considered very low. This site is evaluated not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

5LR11793 (HPS–07–2): a Historic period artifact scatter found on the trail survey east of Hermit Park; see Johnson (2007:11–12) for details.

5LR11794 (HPS–07–3): This is a wooden feature of uncertain age with no associated artifacts, located at a prominent outcrop of granite near the east edge of the survey area. The only feature on the site is composed of a collapsed wood structure of unknown function, constructed at a crevice in the south-facing portion of the granite outcrop (Figure 13). The wood consists of downed, debarked poles and some single-faced, circular saw-marked poles; the approximate pole length averages 2 m (6 ft). There is no obvious floor or rockshelter in the outcrop, however milled lumber is primarily located in the base of the crevice and projects southward from the outcrop. An in situ, horizontal pole parallels the rock face. Roughly 25 poles are preserved here, with diameters varying

Figure 12. Close-up of tipi frame of aspen poles at 5LR11792, viewed to the southeast from a jeep trail, the edge of which is visible at the lower right.

Figure 13. View northwest of site 5LR11794, with the wood structure visible at the right edge amidst the rocks. Photo by Joel Hurmence.

from 6 to 25 cm; maximum length is 3 m. Collapsed poles extend 2.5 m across the face of the outcrop and project 3 m out from it. Scattered saw-cut poles and lumber lay within 2–3 m of the collapsed structure to both sides, approximately 11 pieces total. One axe-cut pole is west of the feature. Some poles also have axe cut ends and chop marks. One possible use of the feature is a cache since rocks and lumber have filled the narrow bottom of the crevice. The bottom of the structure is roughly 1 m below the in situ poles. No artifacts other than wood structure components are visible on the surface, and the potential for buried material is virtually non-existent due to the extensive bedrock outcrops here. It is evaluated not eligible for the NRHP.

5LR11795 (HPS–07–4) is the "Hermit Park Line Shack" site, which lies at the edge of a grassy meadow on the northeast side of a granite knoll in Hermit Park (Figures 6, 14–15). The main feature of the site is a log building with a sign on the porch roof identifying it as a line shack. This building is in excellent condition, maintained for the last 30+ years as a recreational camping cabin. Associated features include a possible root cellar, a possible privy pit, a rock retaining wall, and a stone fireplace/grill with a chimney. The line shack is a one-room, one-story Pioneer Log building with a gabled roof and added full front, screened porch with a shed roof. The building faces east toward the grassy meadow of Hermit Park, and is sited at the northeast foot of an isolated rock knoll topped with a flagpole. The doors of both the main room and porch align in the southern portion of the east walls. Shuttered 4-light casement windows are in the eastern portion of the north and south walls. Saddle-notched logs of the main shack are cribbed on a mortared rock foundation, while the pole frame porch addition is built on a concrete slab. The gabled ends of the shack have vertical board-and-batten siding. The exterior walls are of logs (mostly unhewn; a few half-hewn) and milled lumber, with the porch on the east elevation probably post-dating original construction. The main building dimensions are 14 ft square, with an additional 7 ft E-W when the porch is included. Evidence of modern maintenance of the line shack is obvious, such as the asphalt roofing. The main gravel road into Hermit Park curves past the north side of the site, continuing around the west side of the rock knoll. A gravel driveway extends south-southwest from the road to the front (east side) of the shack.

Immediately to the north of the line shack are ⊏-shaped rock foundation walls enclosing a depression, probably a root cellar or other dugout. It is heavily overgrown with brush—mainly chokecherry—that obscures feature details and may hide associated artifacts. Barely visible within the brush are fragments of juniper/cedar, the end of a log, and an unidentifiable metal object protruding from the embankment nearest the line shack. Also heavily overgrown with brush, southeast of the line shack, is the possible privy pit: an 8 ft diameter depression containing a couple of badly rusted cans. Southwest of the privy pit—and farther south of the shack—is the stone fireplace/grill, an east-facing rectangular structure with the chimney on its west side. A metal name plate on the east wall of the chimney is embossed, "**CROCKER**." Six wire nails and several nail fragments were found in the fireplace. Extending in front of the grill, and curving out from near its northeast corner, is a retaining wall of dry-laid, unshaped granitic rock. A modern flagpole tops the rock knoll, to the southwest of the line shack. Nearby is a vertically set pipe protruding 4½ ft out of the bedrock; its function is unknown, but it may be the remnant of an earlier flagpole. A variety of artifacts are scattered about the surface of the site including crimped seam cans, metal scrap, bottle glass shards, ceramic fragments, wire nails, and an alarm clock part with embossed patent dates of 1889 and 1901. Collectively, the features and artifacts here indicate an occupation in the general date range of 1895–1930, apart from modern reuse of the line shack; the line shack is said to date to ca. 1915 (from Hermit Park historic records). The potential for buried material is highest in and

Figure 14. View northeast from the crest of the knoll at site 5LR11795, showing the proximity of the line shack visible at bottom left to the pavilion area in Hermit Park. Photo by Lucy Burris.

Figure 15. View southwest at the line shack, site 5LR11795, with recording in progress. The tripod in front of the building marks the mapping station. Photo by Lucy Burris.

around the two overgrown features, and in the toe slope deposits at the foot of the knoll. Site 5LR11795 is on land homesteaded by John L. Jacobi in the mid-1890s (land patent dated February 3, 1898) and is immediately adjacent to a parcel purchased by Adolph N. Krueger just after the turn of the century (cash entry dated February 9, 1901; see Table 2). Whether the line shack was constructed by, or on behalf of, either individual has not been determined. This site is potentially eligible for the NRHP under both criterion c (architectural significance for the line shack) and criterion d (archaeological significance for the other feature and artifact deposits).

5LR11796 (HPS–07–5): The site consists of two dugout features, a rock wall, a wooden fence line, a fence tree, a small rock ring, and scattered artifacts mostly confined to a grassy, gently sloping meadow east of a prominent knoll overlooking wet bottomlands in the southern portion of Hermit Park. The associated artifacts include both wire and square-cut nails, soldered and crimped seal cans, barbed wire, wooden posts, and saw-cut planks. Feature #1 is a dry-laid granitic rock wall that appears to have been altered in recent years; the wall served an unknown function, built below a rock ledge on the east side of the meadow. Feature #2 is a ⊏-shaped dugout foundation lying at the eastern toe of the prominent knoll, its upslope (west) wall exhibiting unshaped rock construction with a slight depression evident in the heavily vegetated downslope section. Feature #3 is a larger dugout on a dry slope at the far southeast end of the site; it is characterized by earthen mounds on three sides and rocks along the fourth (downslope, south) side, placed such that a doorway may be inferred. A large saw-cut log rests on the north side of the feature. Other smaller poles, a wood post, an iron fragment and spikes lay on the inside surface, and indicate possible use(s) other than just storage. Feature #4 is a wooden fence line on a small saddle at the far west end of the site, north-northwest of the prominent knoll. It closes a small gap between rock outcrops, similar to other barrier-type fences in the area (e.g., see 5LR11797 below). Feature #5 is a hearth-like stone ring around the base of a tree stump, but appears to post-date the tree and may be of recent construction (child's play?). It is composed of granitic cobbles 3"–4½" to 8½" in diameter. Feature #6 is a "fence tree" at the northeast end of the site, where two lengths of double-strand barbed wire were stapled 22"–26" apart onto the trunk of a ponderosa pine tree, i.e. the living tree was used as a fence post for a fence no longer in existence. The trunk is vertically scarred (partly healed over) between the stapled wires, suggesting the fence wire may have been attached at a blaze in the bark.

The combination of features and artifacts here suggests ranching activities including storage, with little evidence of long-term habitation, although the large size of dugout Feature #3 indicates it could have served a habitation function. The occupation appears to date to the turn-of-the-century, ca. 1895–1925, based on the diagnostic artifacts including both wire and square cut nails (similarly weathered, in the same planks and posts indicating contemporaneity), crimped seam cans, and soldered cans. In addition to the documented surface assemblage, there is some potential for buried material in and around the dugout features. Along with a few other nearby sites and IFs including line shack site 5LR11795, this location is part of the same 160 ac parcel homesteaded by John L. Jacobi in the mid-1890s (land patent dated February 3, 1898; Table 2). It's possible that all the historic resources in this immediate area are related components of a Jacobi ranching operation. The site is evaluated potentially eligible for the NRHP.

5LR11797 (HPS–07–6) consists of the remnants of barbed wire fencing, a stacked rock feature, and sparse artifacts located at the northwest end of the rocky ridge between line shack site 5LR11795 to the northwest and dugout site 5LR11796 to the southeast. All three sites are on the Jacobi homestead parcel mentioned above. Fencing here appears to be used to block off gaps

between rock outcrops to keep cattle confined to pasture [other barrier-type fences occur in nearby areas]. A small rock wall was also built here for a similar purpose, supplementing one wire fence that fills a small gap in a saddle between rock knolls. In general association, there is a wide and light scattering of purple (sun-colored) glass shards, soldered seam cans, pieces of milled lumber, and a wood picket. The main features consist of two sections of barbed wire fencing and a rock wall within the rock outcropping (east) portion of the site. Wire fencing is wrapped around tree trunks, rocks, and log fence posts. In a few places, baling wire was used to secure barbed wire to log fence posts and trees. Also, fencing on a couple of tree trunks has been overgrown by healing of the trunk so that the fence wire is now embedded within the wood. A piece of baling wire located at the base of a tree at the foot of a slope (next to the gravel road) to the west across the valley bottom from the outcrops suggests—but does not prove—a fence line across the narrowest spot in this part of the valley. Cement block fragments near the middle of these bottomlands also may indicate such a fence was once present (used as bracing for a fence post?). Diagnostic artifacts on the site include the sun-colored glass, wire nails, neatly soldered cans, and Glidden-type barbed wire indicating an occupation sometime between ca. 1895 and 1925. The depth of the site is clearly limited around the outcrops, with potential for more deeply buried material only at the foot of slopes in the meadows. However, the sparse nature of surface materials and lack of architectural features argue against the presence of significant, buried archaeological deposits. Thus, the site is evaluated not eligible for the NRHP.

5LR11798 (HPS–07–7) is the "Hermit's Cabin" site of "Dutch Louie." The site consists of a standing, 1½-story log cabin and associated features on a wooded slope near the head of Big Gulch, north of Hermit Park. Signs above both doors of the cabin identify it as the "Hermit's Cabin" of "Dutch Louie." The "cabin" is Feature A at the site, a fairly large Pioneer Log building with a moderately steep, single-pitch roof—its large size, sturdy construction, and milled lumber details identify it more as a log ***house*** than a cabin (Figure 16). It measures 25' 7" E-W × 21' 5" N-S, faces east toward the curving gravel road to Hermit Park, and adjoins a modern parking-picnic area on the west featuring a BBQ pit and picnic table. The building is a two-room, 1½ story house of unpeeled pine(?) logs, four framed windows, and an upper half story of board-and-batten construction (quite possibly an addition to the original construction) under a gabled roof of moderate pitch. Access to the attic-like upper floor was via a stairway in the north-central part of the house, now boarded up for safety considerations. The two doors on the ground floor are in the southern portion of the east wall, and the western portion of the south wall, adjacent to the two largest windows. Viga-like log extensions protrude above the entry door on the east side, perhaps the remnants of a roof over a small portico. The main floor has two distinct sizes of floor boards front and back. Apparently original metal repairs to the floor used can lids and other scrap metal. Joists for the upper floor fit into one large, slotted log running lengthwise E-W. Half-square notched and abutted logs of the ground floor are stacked on a dry-laid rock foundation that levels the natural eastward slope of the land.

The house may or may not be contemporaneous with Features B & C at Big Gulch across the road to the north. Feature B is a 15' 2" SE-NW × 13' 2½" NE-SW × 4' high concrete foundation of uncertain function, near the south bank of Big Gulch. Its east corner is missing, but a single milled plank frames the opening in the northeast wall, suggesting the position of the door. Adjacent is Feature C, a 13' 2" NE-SW × 7' 2" SE-NW wood (log and plank) foot bridge crossing the gulch toward a modern corral on the north side of Big Gulch (Figure 17). The corral is a log structure with metal gates. In more credible association with the Dutch Louie Cabin are Features D & F.

Figure 16. View northeast at the Dutch Louie cabin, site 5LR11798, showing the doorway in the south elevation, windows, and rock foundation.

Figure 17. View southwest across Big Gulch on site 5LR11798, showing the modern corral just in front of the foot bridge, next to the concrete foundation.

Feature D is a 25' N-S × 20' E-W depression south of the house, possibly a dugout/root cellar that has been recently bladed, obscuring its outline. A scatter of trash in and around the depression suggests it may have been used as a dump as well: burned bone, bottle glass, tinned can scrap, and stoneware shards occur here. Feature F is a wire-girdled tree standing next to the BBQ pit about 15 ft west of the house. The bark of the live conifer has overgrown the encircling wire, indicating it pre-dates the modern era. Feature E is across the road to the northeast of the house, and is of doubtful cultural origin; it is a 16' 5" NE-SW × 11' SE-NW oval depression on a grassy slope. It may exist from natural weathering of the slope, but could also be a poorly preserved cultural feature such as a privy or dugout. The overall artifact density on the site is sparse, with a few diagnostics such as wire nails and purple (sun-colored) glass supporting an early 1900s date as indicated from limited historical records.

Among those local historical records, the following is quoted from the web page http://www.larimer.org/Parks/hermitfunds/history.htm: "The land undoubtedly saw transient Native American hunters pursuing the deer and elk that grazed the meadows. It was around that time that an Estes Park local named Crocker purchased the property. He probably grazed a few head of cattle and hunted the place himself. While Crocker owned it he allowed a loner known as "Dutch Louie" to build a cabin and live there seven miles from Estes Park. Dutch Louie trapped a little bit, hunted some and grew some potatoes to use and trade in the town. Louie kept to himself and kids thought he was strange so his hangout became known as the "Hermit's Park." Dutch Louie died of unknown causes, but his legend remained." On that same web page, a photo caption states that the cabin was built "around 1910." A bit more came out in the recent open space park brochure, on-line at http://www.larimer.org/naturalresources/brochure_hermitpark.pdf: "The best known history of Hermit Park Open Space is that it was occupied by Dutch Louie, a hermit who squatted on the Crocker Ranch. He built a two-story log cabin around 1910. The structure still stands, although Dutch Louie was allegedly hanged for livestock rustling."

Verifying these historical tidbits has not proved easy. For example, as mentioned in the historic context section of this report, the only record of someone named Crocker around Hermit Park is the 1905 cash entry for Frank W. Crocker, who purchased 120 ac in Sections 27 and 28 north of Park Hill (and 0.5 mi north of the Hermit Park property boundary) where the "Crocker Ranch" is depicted on the 7½' topographic map. Instead, the lands around Dutch Louie's house are associated with records of other homesteaders dating to 1896, 1901, and 1910 (although it is possible that Crocker later bought them out or paid them to make their claims for his benefit). The most suggestive is the cash entry from February, 1901 involving a purchase of about 143 ac in the Big Gulch area to Christ Wilhelm Deuschle. Did Mr. Deuschle's neighbors and acquaintances mispronounce his surname as "Dutch" and did they give him the nickname "Louie" in a playful or derisive gesture? Like line shack site 5LR11795, this site is potentially eligible for the NRHP under both criterion c (architectural significance for the cabin) and criterion d (archaeological significance for the other feature and artifact deposits).

5LR11799 (HPS–07–8) consists of a scatter of broken glass and ceramics, along with one small concentration of the same kinds of artifacts, located in a grassy meadow around two small rock outcrops in the central portion of Hermit Park. This is yet another turn-of-the-century historical resource located on the parcel first homesteaded in the 1890s by John Jacobi (Table 2). The artifact concentration at the southeast end of the site (next to an outcrop near the gravel access road) is the only feature observed, contains generally small, non-diagnostic items, and measures about 3 m N-S × 2 m E-W. The potshards appear to be from a stoneware crock with buff paste and brown glaze

on interior and exterior body walls. The broken glass represents multiple containers, with four different glass colors observed, including sun-colored amethyst diagnostic of the 1880–1925 era. No embossing or other labeling has been observed on any of the artifacts. The sparse artifacts here are indicative of a short-term camp or other brief activity, probably related to turn-of-the-century ranching. The low overall artifact density and diversity on the site—and the lack of features other than the small concentration—suggest a very low potential for intact buried materials, and the site is evaluated not eligible for the NRHP.

5LR11800 (HPS–07–9) is a scatter of broken glass (predominately), ceramic, and metal artifacts, along with three small features of uncertain association, located in a grassy meadow on a small pass at the top of Park Hill next to US Highway 36, at the northeast edge of the survey area. The three features include a log pen, metal tie-down, and a concrete post anchor—all located together at the northwest edge of the site on the upper slope of the pass. The functions of the features are uncertain, although the 3 m × 2 m log enclosure—secured with baling wire—could have been used to contain 1–2 small domestic animals such as sheep. Most of the artifact scatter, dominated by bottle glass, is distributed within a 30 m diameter on the east side of the site. The glass scatter represents multiple containers, contains two bottle finishes and several embossed shards, and is predominantly sun-colored amethyst diagnostic of the 1880–1925 era. Other non-glass artifacts are quite sparse, including a couple ceramic pieces and a crimped-seam can (sardine?). The low overall artifact density and diversity on the site—and the lack of habitation-related features—suggest a low potential for intact buried materials here.

The historic site materials here may be from a short-term camp, possibly related to turn-of-the-century ranching. The fact that it is located next to (truncated by) the south road cut for US Highway 36 at the Park Hill pass also suggests that transportation-related activities should not be ruled out. The first road over Park Hill was built ca. 1874–75 when it was operated as a toll road connecting Estes Park and Lyons. Tolls on the road were abolished late in the 1800s, but it remained a rough and dangerous route into the 20th century (Jessen 1996:30–32). Initially designated State Highway 11s, it was re-numbered as State Highway 66 when it was upgraded in the 1920s. The road was paved during the New Deal programs of the 1930s, then made part of an extended U.S. Highway 36 in 1967 when tolls were dropped on the Boulder Turnpike section (Salek 2001, 2008).

The prehistoric component of 5LR11800 consists of a single flake that would have been recorded as an isolated find, except for its association with a Historic period component. This is an early stage core reduction flake of gray-brown rhyolite (Figure 18), found near the ROW fence south of the US Highway 36 road cut. No diagnostic artifacts, other tools, artifact concentrations, or other cultural features have been observed here, but one possible finishing flake of white quartz was noted about 13 m east [at 97°] of the rhyolite flake on the north (CDOT) side of the ROW fence. The paucity of artifacts here is somewhat puzzling given the prominence of this topographic position on a pass along an access route to Estes Park. Possibly, the original road construction along US Highway 36 destroyed a portion of the site through the center of the pass. Considering the very sparse nature of the remaining site area, there is a low potential for buried prehistoric material here. Considering both the historic and prehistoric components here, the site is evaluated not eligible for the NRHP.

Figure 18. Close-up of the ventral surface of a brown rhyolite(?) core reduction flake found on site 5LR11800.

Isolated Finds

Eight isolated finds (IFs) were documented during the Hermit Park inventory, and all but one are of Historic period non-Indian origin. One of the IFs contains two prehistoric artifacts. All IFs are inherently insignificant resources that are not eligible for the NRHP.

5LR11801 (HPS–07–IF1): a Historic period rock feature found on the trail survey east of the Hermit Park property; see Johnson (2007:12) for details.

5LR11802 (HPS–07–IF2) is one short segment of 2-strand barbed wire fencing and three deteriorated fence posts, on a rocky hill slope at the east edge of Hermit Park, above (north of) the main Big Gulch tributary. Stretching across an open slope next to rock outcroppings, this 30 m NE-SW long feature is a probable stock barrier fence to block access to higher rocky terrain. Some live trees were used in lieu of fence posts for this fence; bark has overgrown on wire strands, indicating some age for the feature. Unfortunately, no artifacts were found associated with the fence, so the precise age of the feature remains unknown. Barbed wire fencing generally post-dates AD 1875, but if this feature is contemporaneous with other ranching sites described above, a construction date in the period 1890–1930 is suggested.

5LR11803 (HPS–07–IF3) consists of a single metal stock tank, badly deteriorated with the bottom rusted out, found east of 5LR11802 at the toe of a hill slope at the east edge of Hermit Park. The N-S boundary fence for the Hermit Park property is 36 m east of the tank. Its remnants are scattered down the slope although the major part of the tank is still circular in general shape with a juniper tree growing within it. The tank measures an estimated 8 ft in diameter. The only item possibly associated with the tank is a nearby juniper log with an axe cut mark, perhaps an old fence post. This is a probable water tank for stock animals, probably cattle. As with 5LR11802, its precise age is unknown but the tank's use in the period 1890–1930 would be consistent with other ranching-related sites in the area. A later date in the mid-1900s prior to the Hewlett-Packard Co.'s land purchase in 1967 also cannot be ruled out.

5LR11804 (HPS–07–IF4) is similar to 5LR11802, a 2-strand twisted (Glidden) barbed wire fence that fills a gap between two rock outcrops, probably to form a barrier to keep stock out of the higher, rugged terrain. This IF is at the edge of a rocky bench and adjacent hill slope, in the southern portion of Hermit Park just west-northwest of dugout site 5LR11796. The fence has three lengths of wire strung between two trees and one end post, extending 15 m NW-SE. No artifacts are associated with the fencing, but bark has overgrown the wire on two live trees, suggesting an age > 50 years for the fence, with the period 1890–1930 considered most likely as explained above.

5LR11805 (HPS–07–IF5) is another short, 2-strand twisted (Glidden) barbed wire fence running 22 m NW-SE that fills a gap on a low saddle between granite knolls, in the southwestern portion of Hermit Park. northwest of the fence at 5LR11804 and southeast of site 5LR11797. Built with saw-cut log posts, the fence here has one artifact associated: a metal tub lid of unknown age or container type/contents. As with all the other similar "barrier fences" in the survey area, this is a probable stock barrier fence to block access to higher rocky terrain, and may date to the same 1890–1930 period suggested above.

5LR11806 (HPS–07–IF6) contains one 3 m × 3 m × 1 m depression next to shrub-covered backdirt, possibly a prospect pit. It has been dug in the toe of a hill slope at the edge of a floodplain, at the southeastern edge of Hermit Park south of IF 5LR11802. The backdirt has been piled on the downslope (north) side of the pit, immediately above (south of) the unpaved Hermit Park access road. No artifacts are associated with the depression. As a probable mineral prospector's pit, the age of the feature could be anytime in the Historic period post-AD 1858. Local mining history, however, suggests that prospects in Hermit Park may date to a short-lived boom in the Longs Peak district ca. 1896–1903.

5LR11807 (HPS–07–IF7) consists of another depression, 3.2 m × 1.6 m × 0.6 m in size, next to a low mound of vegetated backdirt, like 5LR11806 possibly a prospect pit. This feature is at the northeast end of an interfluvial ridge, just southwest of the confluence of Big Gulch and its major tributary, directly downstream from Hermit Cabin site 5LR11798 at the east edge of the survey area. The 1.9-m-wide backdirt pile is on the southeast side of the pit. No artifacts are associated with the depression, which may also date to the short-lived boom in the Longs Peak district ca. 1896–1903.

5LR11808 (HPS–07–IF8) consists of two optically clear quartz artifacts found 2 m apart on a low interfluvial ridge, just north of Big Gulch and south of one of its tributaries. The flakes are 65 m east of the porch of the Big Spring cabin. One artifact is a definite flake fragment with two flake scars on one lateral edge. The second piece is of the same material—a possible flake fragment

without definite scars or a platform. These represent the early stage of flaked stone tool manufacture, but date to an unknown prehistoric time period.

5LR11809 (HPS–07–IF9) is one 4.5 m × 3.0 m × 0.5 m depression, possibly another prospect pit, next to a low backdirt mound. The pit is on the lower edge (toe) of a hill slope, and at the southwest edge of a spring-fed tributary of Big Gulch not far above site 5LR11799 in the western reaches of Hermit Park. The 3-m-wide backdirt pile is on the east-southeast side of the pit. Two sawed off stumps are nearby, 7.5 m southwest and 8 m south of the pit. No artifacts are associated with the depression. Like the others, this probable mineral prospector's pit post-dates AD 1858 and possibly was part of exploring activity ca. 1896–1903.

Site Types

Based on the surface evidence, the eight sites in the Hermit Park survey area can be categorized into several different historic site types (Table 5). Prehistoric site types are entirely lacking as the sole prehistoric component on site 5LR11800 would have been documented as an isolated find had it not been found in spatial association with a Historic period resource. The most common types represented in the study area are Historic period sites and IFs (four each) related to ranching and/or farming. Among these are a habitation site (the Hermit Cabin, where "Dutch Louie" apparently grew some potatoes); ranch support facilities (the line shack and related features at 5LR11795 and dugout site 5LR11796); stock fences located as barriers between rock outcrops (at two sites and 3 IFs); and an isolated stock tank. The trash scatter at site 5LR11799 also may be related to local ranch activities, but there is nothing distinctive about the artifacts there to confirm this.

Of the other site types dating to the Historic period, the small and enigmatic features associated with a light trash scatter at 5LR11800 may be from recreational and/or transportation-related activities, given their proximity to US Highway 36 at the pass over Park Hill, but a ranching connection also cannot be ruled out. Two more sites have wooden features. At 5LR11794, poles and a bit of milled lumber were arranged over a crevice in a granite outcrop to form a kind of cover or small roof. This appears to be the remnants of a cache feature, likely not too ancient. In fact, as with many other wood features observed in the area, this site may represent no more than child's play dating to the early years of recreational activity in Hermit Park, although this feature has a more weathered appearance than the more obviously modern constructions seen nearby (Figure 19A–B).

The other wood feature type is the tipi, recorded at 5LR11792 and observed elsewhere in obviously modern contexts in and around Camp Area 2 (Figure 20A–B). None of these features is likely to be of American Indian manufacture, although more ancient wickiups are known from pine and aspen woodlands in the region (e.g., Butler 2004; Johnson 1972). One other Historic period feature type in the area was recorded at three IFs: single prospect pits not accompanied by any artifacts or other features. Such features are ubiquitous in areas subject to more intensive mineral development, such as the mining districts of Lake and Summit Counties, where clusters of pits are commonly found along with the bottle and can debris of the prospectors. However, mineral deposits in the Hermit Park area are not of the quality or quantity that would have attracted the attention of fortune-seekers. The few, small pits recorded by our crews appear to represent little more than a spillover effect from the mining activity farther west in the Longs Peak District.

Table 5. Cultural Resources of Hermit Park

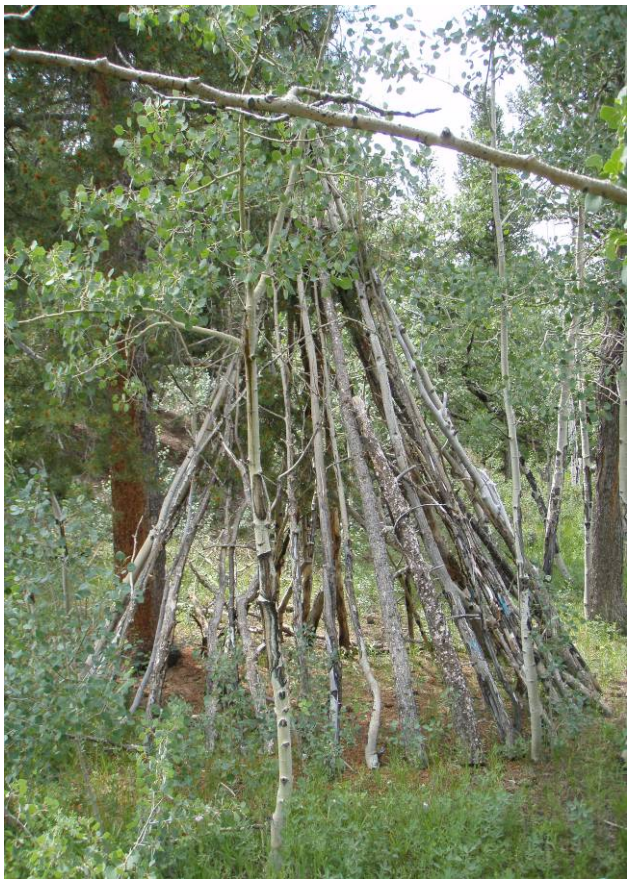
Site #	Site Type and Age (if known)	NRHP Eligibility	Artifacts Collected
5LR11792	Tipi frame: Historic period or modern	not eligible	none
5LR11793	Trash scatter: Historic period [recorded on trail survey; see Johnson 2007]	not eligible	none
5LR11794	Wood structure/cache cover: Historic period	not eligible	none
5LR11795	Line shack & outbuildings: Historic period ca. 1915	potentially eligible	none
5LR11796	Dugouts & barrier fencing, habitation and/or storage: Historic period	potentially eligible	none
5LR11797	Barrier fencing & trash scatter: Historic period	not eligible	none
5LR11798	Cabin & outbuildings, habitation: Historic period ca. 1910	potentially eligible	none
5LR11799	Trash scatter: Historic period	not eligible	none
5LR11800	Trash & feature scatter: Historic period; isolated flakes, unknown prehistoric	not eligible	none
ISOLATED FINDS			
IF #	**IF Type and Age (if known)**	**NRHP Eligibility**	**Artifacts Collected**
5LR11801	Cairn or hearth: Historic period [on trail survey; see Johnson 2007]	not eligible	none
5LR11802	Barrier fencing: Historic period	not eligible	none
5LR11803	Stock tank: Historic period	not eligible	none
5LR11804	Barrier fencing: Historic period	not eligible	none
5LR11805	Barrier fencing & lid: Historic period	not eligible	none
5LR11806	Prospect pit & spoil pile: Historic period	not eligible	none
5LR11807	Prospect pit & spoil pile: Historic period	not eligible	none
5LR11808	Two flakes: unknown prehistoric	not eligible	none
5LR11809	Prospect pit & spoil pile: Historic period	not eligible	none

A.

B.

Figure 19. Close-up of the wood feature on site 5LR11794 (A., at top) compared to an example of modern wood and rock stacking at an unrecorded feature within Camp Area 2 (B. photo at bottom, by Joel Hurmence).

↑A.



←B.

Figure 20. Tipi, or not tipi. Two examples of probable modern tipi construction from central Hermit Park, neither of which was formally recorded. Compare with the wood tipi feature recorded at site 5LR11792 (Figure 12), perhaps of similar age. A., at top, is on a slope north of rock outcrops near Camp Area 2; B. is a tipi within Camp Site 64. Both photos are by Joel Hurmence.

Features

Of the eight sites and eight IFs recorded at Hermit Park, all of the sites and seven IFs have one or more features, and a grand total of 32 features have been documented. Many of the feature types recorded coincide with the site types discussed above such as stock barrier fences, a stock tank, the wood tipi, wood cache cover, line shack, cabin, dugouts, and prospect pits. Beyond those already described are other features at five sites, which occur in groups of as many as six on a single site (i.e., 5LR11796 and 5LR11798). All of these features date to the Historic period as no prehistoric constructions of any kind were found on the survey. Artifact concentrations can be quite common on some surveys but are notably rare at Hermit Park, with just a single small example containing glass and stoneware shards recorded at 5LR11799. Thermal features are likewise rare, limited to the stone grill and chimney at the line shack site. Apart from the line shack itself, the other features found at 5LR11795 include a retaining wall and two depressions: one large elongated foundation of a probable dugout, and a small crater-like pit that may be the former location of a privy. The combination of features at 5LR11795 is a logical one to service ranch workers whose homes may have been miles away.

Likewise, site 5LR11796 has a group of features at least in part consistent with ranching activity: two dugouts—both presumably root cellars for storage—remnants of two stock barrier fences, a rock wall of uncertain function, and another enigmatic rock ring surrounding a tree trunk. Finally, Hermit Cabin site 5LR11798 has a rather eclectic group of features that are likely not all contemporaneous with Dutch Louie's original occupation there. Next to his cabin is an eroded dugout—again, probably a root cellar—and a wire-girdled tree from a clothes line or similar hanging wire, both probably original features with the cabin. Across the access road, however, the features are of less certain association with the cabin. These include a wooden foot bridge across Big Gulch, an adjacent concrete foundation from a small building of uncertain purpose, and a clearly modern corral. One other small depression near the road may be from natural erosion; if not, it could date to the cabin era of the early 1900s. Finally, the three features at 5LR11800 are unlike any others in the survey area. They may be the remains from a facility to service travelers along the adjacent road to/from Estes Park, but the precise function of these is not clear. All three are on the northwest end of the site, on the upper slope just below the crest of the pass: a concrete anchor for a post, a metal tie-down, and a small log-and-wire (animal) pen.

Settlement Patterns

Given the relatively small amount of acreage surveyed at Hermit Park, any statements about geographical patterns in the distribution of local Historic period resources should be considered suggestive only. Areas beyond the valley sections of Hermit Park are the least represented in the inventory; higher elevations were covered only briefly on the west and south edges of the parcel. Having said that, two notable trends are apparent in our limited survey sample. One is the obvious tendency for barbed wire fences to be positioned so as to fill gaps between rock outcrops, clearly an effort to prevent stock from accessing the rocky uplands surrounding the hay pastures in the valley. The second trend is for ranching/farming habitations and outbuildings to be sited at the margins of the valley. Although the sample of such resources here is especially small, the recoded locations are quite logical in being readily accessible both to the water sources of the valley bottoms and to upland resources such as game and wood for fuel or construction. No pattern can be discerned in the

limited number of prospect pits recorded. The geology of the area was simply unfavorable for mineral development.

Chronology and Cultural Affiliation

No temporally diagnostic artifacts have been documented from the single site and one IF with flaked stone debitage. The scant number of flakes observed at Hermit Park could date from any prehistoric time period documented in the region as a whole. For the Historic period resources, six of the eight sites and three of the eight IFs have at least some evidence of the time frame of occupation. Diagnostic items on these sites and IFs include (sun-colored) amethyst glass fragments, tinned cans with either soldered or crimped seams, machine cut and wire nails, barbed wire, and the rare artifact with a date stamp such as the alarm clock part found near the line shack.

The overall pattern from the artifact assemblages observed here is very consistent with the dates for historical activities identified in nearby areas. For example, settlement of the Homestead Meadows area took place in the period 1889–1923, almost identical to the dates for land records in and around Hermit Park (Table 2). Artifact styles found during our survey correspond as well, with the period 1890–1930 best represented. As noted previously in this report, the earliest occupation at Hermit Park is suggested from homestead records at ca. 1885–1887. In several instances, artifactual evidence was too limited to determine a date range, such as for the numerous stock barrier fences for which the presence of barbed wire can only confirm construction of the fencing after 1875.

Unfortunately, the mineral exploration evidence in the survey area is limited to a few prospect pits lacking any associated artifacts. Although it is not known whether these pits were dug during the first Gold Rush of 1859–1865 or during later ones in 1896–1897 and 1903, one or both of the latter periods is suspected based on trends in the nearby Longs Peak mining district. Modern materials post-dating 1957 were not formally recorded, but are more abundant in Hermit Park than many other rural settings due to the intensive recreational use of the area since 1967. Of some interest is the fact that so little material dating to the immediately preceding decades ca. 1930–1967 was observed on the survey. Apparently the area was not being frequented by local ranchers during that time.

Comments on Project Objectives

At the start of the inventory, several research questions of interest were posed. However, many of these related to the prehistoric archaeological record, which is virtually absent in the survey results. Thus, no data are available to address many of the questions, which are repeated here with discussion of our findings.

- Is there a higher-than-average density of Early Archaic sites at Hermit Park as seen at higher elevations in the Front Range?

If the absence of prehistoric archaeological remains in Hermit Park is due more to the absence of prehistoric cultural activity than to erosional effects, then clearly the site density for all time periods is extremely low in the montane zone of this part of the Front Range.

- Is there any significant difference in site types or site density on landforms close to Big Gulch and its tributaries compared to more distant locations?

Likewise, there are few data to evaluate this issue. The only flakes found on the survey were discovered on the pass at Park Hill and on an interfluvial ridge adjacent to Big Gulch.

- Is there any significant difference in lithic materials on sites within the study area?

Three of the four flakes discovered here are made from quartz—probably from a local source—and one from brown rhyolite, also likely of local origin.

- Is west slope material such as Kremmling chert more heavily represented on sites than eastern Front Range materials such as Parker petrified wood?

Unless the quartz and rhyolite artifacts are from non-local sources west of the Front Range, then the answer is no, albeit the conclusion is drawn from a miniscule sample.

- What evidence for non-local exchange will be found at Hermit Park, such as obsidian?

There is no evidence of prehistoric exchange in the survey results.

- Are any old-growth forest resources present such as culturally peeled trees?

No peeled trees or other Historic period American Indian resources were found. However, some moderately old growth forest does exist in the area, so the possibility exists that such resources may be present in unsurveyed areas.

- Is there any evidence for ceremonial use of Hermit Park, as is present on Old Man Mountain?

No evidence of ceremonial use of the area was discovered on the survey.

- Is ranching activity in Hermit Park contemporaneous with that in Homestead Meadows?

As discussed above, evidence suggests that ranching activities in Hermit Park are entirely contemporaneous with the occupations in Homestead Meadows, from the 1880s to the 1920s.

- Are any major historic activities other than those related to ranching in evidence at Hermit Park?

No other major activities are represented in the archaeology of the area, for the time being. Mineral exploration is only sparsely represented, and the presence of a few scattered stumps show that a minor amount of logging also occurred. However, once the huge number of recreational sites and IFs in the area reach the 50 year old mark, they will no longer be evaluated as modern. Archaeologists of the future will have many more sites to document than our crews recorded.

- What is the earliest evidence of recreational activities present in Hermit Park?

If some or all of the artifacts and features at site 5LR11800 are from recreational activities along U.S. Highway 36, then the earliest evidence would date sometime in the period 1880–1930. Given that the first road over Park Hill was built in the mid-1870s, it's possible that slightly earlier recreational resources may be found in other areas near the highway.

Evaluations and Recommendations

The Management Information Form (MIF) at the beginning of this report summarizes the significance evaluations for the eight sites and eight IFs recorded at Hermit Park, in terms of their eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). In general, eligibility assessments tended to be conservative ones, favoring preservation of the cultural resources except where clearly unwarranted. The only known near-term, specific, planned threat of land disturbing activities in the project area at the time of the survey was for two proposed trail segments from Hermit Park west and south to the crest of Kruger Rock, and from near the Homestead Meadows trailhead at the southeast edge of Hermit Park to the northeast at Big Gulch. Both trail segments cross USDA Forest Service lands, and these were surveyed separately at the start of the current project (Johnson 2007). Thus, within Hermit Park, there was no perceived need for immediate test excavations to definitively evaluate the significance of sites considered potentially eligible for the NRHP. On the other hand, there are longer term plans for developments and maintenance involving trails, camp sites, and the like (Larimer County Department of Natural Resources 2008c) that should take potential impacts on sites into account when firmer plans arise.

Three of the eight sites are evaluated ***potentially*** eligible for the NRHP: 5LR11795, 5LR11796, and 5LR11798. Should future developments threaten these sites and avoidance is not possible, additional measures should be taken to determine their research potential. Test excavations, instrument mapping, and archival research are among the management recommendations made for these three sites. More detailed architectural studies are also recommended for the line shack and Hermit Cabin buildings, such as HABS documentation (National Park Service 2008). The remaining five sites are evaluated not eligible for the NRHP based on poor physical integrity, minimal potential for intact buried remains, and/or the presence of surface assemblages limited in quality and quantity of cultural materials. Likewise, all eight IFs are inherently insignificant resources that are evaluated not eligible for the NRHP. No further work is recommended for any of these ineligible resources. The potential to establish an archaeological or historical district within the PSSHM is considered very low. Unlike the Homestead Meadows district to the southeast, the historical resources documented in Hermit Park are too sparse and collectively have suffered too many impacts from modern recreational activities to be eligible for NRHP district status.

Summary and Conclusions

In July 2007 the seventh in a series of PAAC Summer Training Surveys was initiated in southern Larimer County at Hermit Park, a recent acquisition for county open space lands. The survey covered about 360 acres of the park, with the help of 18 PAAC volunteers. The non-random inventory focused on lower elevation areas near drainages, and on more gentle landforms considered to have a higher potential for archaeological sites. Eight sites and seven IFs dating to the Historic period were recorded. These documented sites are primarily ranching-related features and artifact

scatters dating to the late 19th and early-mid 20th centuries. Somewhat surprisingly, prehistoric sites were virtually non-existent, with only four pieces of debitage found at one site and one IF.

The Hermit Park survey project has added some useful new data to our knowledge of the historical archaeological record in the Front Range of northern Colorado. Historic period stock fences, building complexes, and trash scatters represent homesteading ranching activities beginning in the mid-1880s and extending through the 1920s. These resources very nicely compliment the well-documented cluster of historic places in the Homestead Meadows National Register District, located not far southeast of Hermit Park and connected with the survey area via a hiking trail. In addition, the presence of a few prospect pits shows that a bit of mineral exploration occurred in the area, probably the fringe of more intensive exploration in the Longs Peak district that likely dates to the turn of the 20th century ca. 1896–1903. Equally minor recreational or transportation-related endeavors are found in a single site next to U.S. Highway 36 on the pass at Park Hill. Far more abundant, but not formally recorded, are innumerable modern signs of recreational activity from the past 40 years: tipi frames, stacked firewood, children's forts of wood and/or rock, and small cairns.

Starkly contrasting with the Historic period record in Hermit Park is the near-absence of prehistoric sites or IFs. A paltry four pieces of flaked stone debitage at one site and one IF account for the only evidence of American Indian use of the area. While these extremely limited results are generally surprising in light of the range of prehistoric archaeological sites documented in the whole of Larimer County from the plains to the alpine heights of Rocky Mountain National Park, it does fit a more local pattern of low site density in the pine-clad hills of the montane zone. Similarly negative results, for example, were obtained from a larger survey of 607 ha (1500 ac) in Homestead Meadows by Burney and Mehls (1986).

The lack of evidence for prehistoric occupations in both Hermit Park and Homestead Meadows cannot be attributed solely to artifact collecting by modern campers and hikers, or to excessive vegetation cover. There are many landscape features surveyed at Hermit Park with level ground, good surface visibility, and nearby water sources that elsewhere would be expected site locations. Artifact collectors also do not generally pick up 100% of the debitage at every site they visit. More likely, the lack of prehistoric archaeological sites here truly reflects the infrequent use of the area in the annual rounds of hunter-gatherer groups. It may be that the Big Gulch and Grizzly Gulch drainages were seen as "dead ends" in terms of access to higher terrain in the subalpine and alpine zones, whereas the Little Thompson River corridor over Park Hill into the valley of Estes Park was a more functional route to engage in a greater variety of subsistence, social, and ceremonial activities. More large-scale surveys through a range of elevations in the foothills of Larimer County will be needed to determine whether the local settlement pattern is a typical or exceptional one.

Of the eight sites and eight IFs recorded in the project area, five sites and all of the IFs are evaluated not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. No further work is recommended at those resources. The remaining sites are considered potentially eligible for the NRHP, two of which exhibit standing buildings in relatively good repair and the third has structural ruins with some archaeological potential. Management recommendations for these three sites include avoidance, test excavations, archival research, surface instrument mapping, and detailed architectural documentation.

Finally, the training opportunity for our PAAC volunteers at Hermit Park has been of great value both for them and for the prospects of cultural resource preservation in Colorado.

Avocational training has produced a diverse band of volunteers whose talents and enthusiasm has been of great benefit on a wide range of projects in the state. While there were challenges in surveying certain portions of Hermit Park either due to low site densities or rugged, rocky terrain, the volunteer crews met these tests with good cheer and uncommon focus. The 18 people who volunteered on the project represent the largest group to participate on a Summer Training Survey since the inventory program began in 1991. Thanks to them all!

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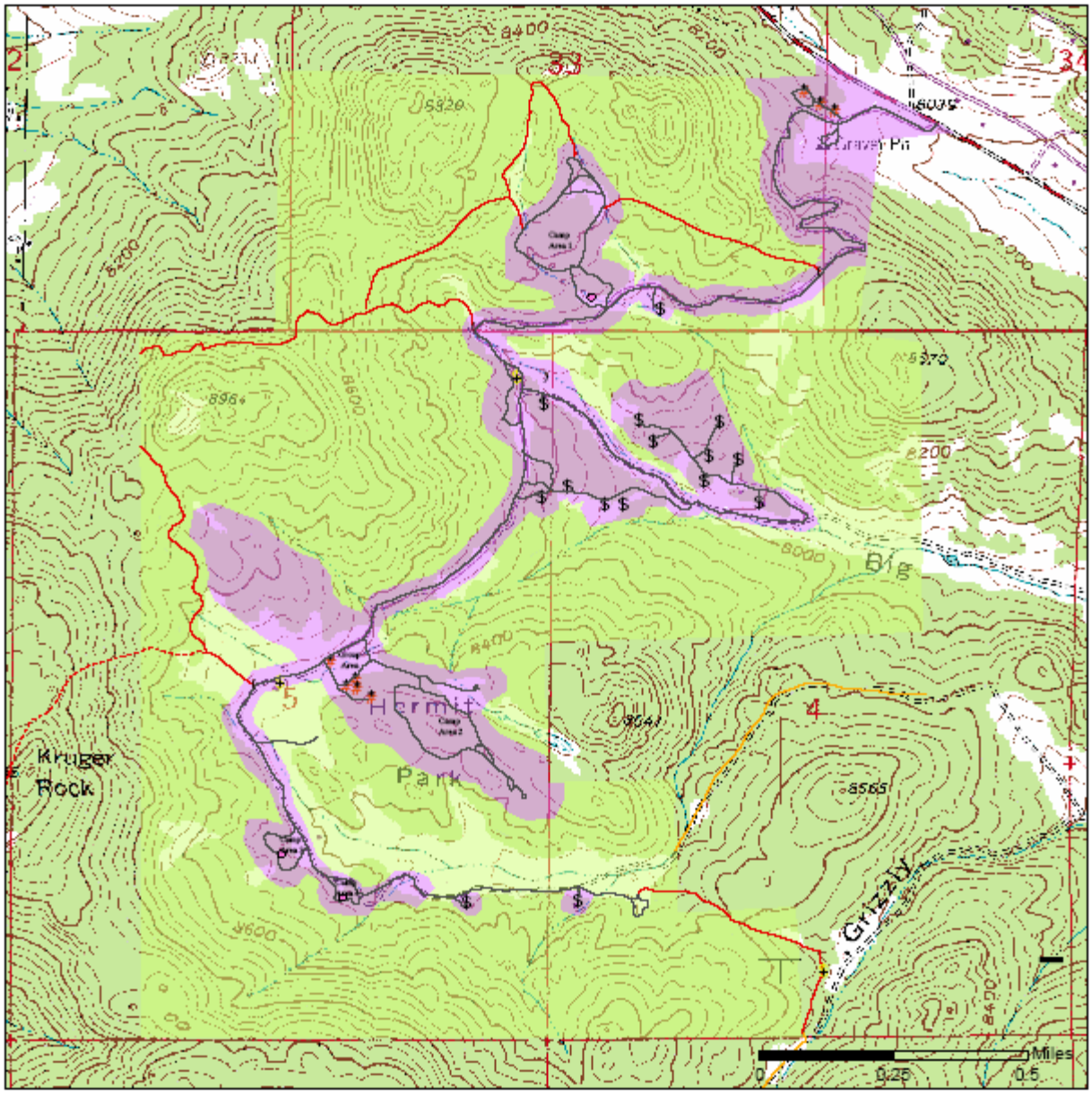
Appendix I

Project Area Maps

Hermit Park and Open Space Project
Park vs. Open Space Designation



Site Features

- Hermit Park Boundary (1,362 ac)
- Access Roads
- Structure
- Vault Toilet
- Camping Cabin
- Historic Building/Homestead
- Corral

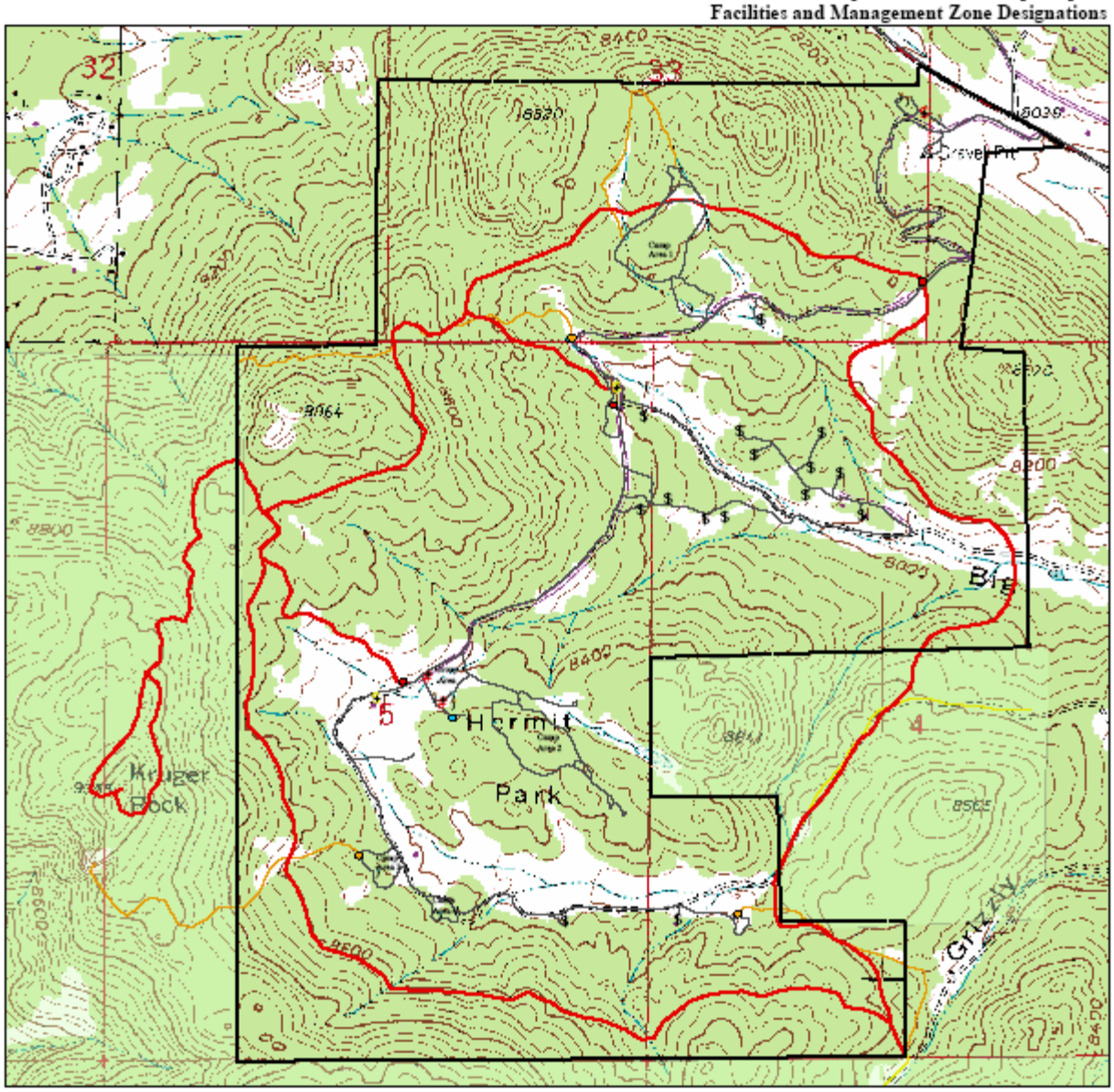
Trails & Trailheads

- Existing Trail - Hermit Park
- Existing Trail - USFS
- Proposed Trail - Kruger Rock
- Trailhead

Park & Open Space Zones

- Open Space - 75% (1,021.5 ac)
- Park - 25% (340.5 ac)

Map 3: Hermit Park Open Space
Facilities and Management Zone Designations



Site Features
- Camper Cabin
- Caretakers House
- Corral
- Historic Cabin
- Maintenance Garage
- Pavillion/Band Shell
- Toilets/Shower House
- 3 water tanks
- Access Roads

Trails & Trailheads

Proposed
- Proposed Trail - Hermit Park
- Future Trailhead

Existing
- Existing Trail - Kruger Rock
- Existing Trail - USFS
- Existing Trailhead

Land Ownership
- Hermit Park Boundary (1,362 ac)
- USFS

Miles
0 0.25 0.5

Appendix II

OAHP Site and IF Forms

[under separate cover]

NOTE: These forms contain locational information that is not available to the public, and is exempt from the federal Freedom of Information Act.
The Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP) is authorized to restrict access to this information by CRS 24–72–205ff, CRS 24–80–40–5ff, the Archaeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979 (as amended), and National Register Bulletin 29.
See OAHP's "Dissemination of Information – Policy/Procedure" document (index #1333, http://www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/publications/pubs/1333.pdf) for further information.