

1382

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

RECEIVED OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NOV 01 1993

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Twin Pines Lodge and Cabin Camp

other names/site number Frontier Court; Twin Pines Motel

2. Location

street & number 218 West Ramshorn not for publication
city or town Dubois vicinity N/A
state Wyoming code WY county Fremont code 013
zip code 82513

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

John J. Keck 10/18/93
Signature of certifying official Date

Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

RECEIVED

NOV 10 1993

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

NATIONAL REGISTER

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Entered in the National Register

- entered in the National Register _____
See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register _____
See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register _____
- removed from the National Register _____
- other (explain): _____

Greg M. Rapley 12/10/93

for Signature of Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>7</u>	<u>4</u> buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>7</u>	<u>4</u> Total

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

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

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Motel

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Motel

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: log architecture

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
roof Wood shingles
walls log
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

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

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

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

=====
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance 1929-43

Significant Dates 1929
1934
1941

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Afiliation N/A

Architect/Builder
Stringer, Oliver Ernest
Johnson, Ernest

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====
9. Major Bibliographical References -- See attached Sheet
=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property 1.7 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>12</u>	<u>610350</u>	<u>4820780</u>	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	_____ See continuation sheet.					

=====
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Eileen Starr and Gwen Bruner
organization Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins date April 1992
street & number 218 West Ramshorn, PO Box 683 telephone 307-455-2600
city or town Dubois state WY zip code 82513

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Gwen and James Bruner
street & number 218 West Ramshorn telephone 307-455-2600
city or town Dubois state WY zip code 82513
=====

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 6

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

The Twin Pines Lodge and its ten associated cabins are an interesting combination of an early cabin camp located in a complex with a well-crafted log lodge constructed to serve tourists traveling by car. The complex is located on approximately 1.7 acres and when construction began, it was one quarter of a mile from "downtown Dubois." The cabins and lodge form a modified U shape with the lodge and two 1934 cabins located along Ramshorn Street, the main street in Dubois. The town of Dubois, elevation 6970 feet, is bounded by the Wind River Mountains to the south, the Absoraka Mountains to the north, the Greater Yellowstone area to the west, the Washakie Mountains to the east, and the Badlands and Horse Creek run through the main part of town. The area is known for its recreational use including hiking and hunting as well as ranching and the logging industry. The earliest cabins, erected in 1929 by a local entrepreneur, were frame. A rustic "style" log laundry and shower facility, which also included two rental housing units, was added to serve the needs of travelers in 1934. Five single rustic log cabins were also built in 1934 and their design emulated the appearance of folk architecture. Architecturally, the most interesting component of this tourist camp was started in 1939 and opened in 1941, the lodge itself. The lodge is a distinctive log structure with one of Wyoming's finest interiors illustrating exquisite log craftsmanship; it is one of northwest Wyoming's most significant log buildings. Although not exclusively arts and crafts in "style", owner and builder O. E. Stringer was obviously influenced by arts and crafts designers as well as the National Park Service's rustic architecture that is found in Yellowstone National Park and was codified in Albert Good's Park and Recreation Structures. The lodge has arts and crafts characteristics with its use of natural materials; the interior relays its origins in the arts and crafts movement in a number of different ways including the large open space in the lobby that extends to the second floor, the huge stone fireplace, and the decorative gnarled logs that are used in the staircase. The interior is much more ornate and perhaps more interesting than the outside. The exterior is less decorative than the interior, yet craftsman characteristics can also be found on the exterior, such as the log dormers, difficult to construct, physically illustrate their purpose for light and ventilation. Similarly, the substantial log beams that support the upper story are evident on the facade and communicate their structural purpose. The exposed rafter ends are another hallmark of arts and crafts construction. The complex retains a high degree of integrity although the 1929 cabins have been modified. Twin Pines continues to serve the tourist industry and has a strong sense of integrity in terms of feeling, association, location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship.

1929 Cabin. Noncontributing. (1 cabin) (12'6" x 14'6")

One original one story frame cabin, rectangularly shaped, was covered with half log siding and tar paper after 1944. The original foundation consisted of red sandstone and was recently replaced with concrete foundations. The cabin is a simple dwelling with an single entry on the facade and a moderately pitched front facing gable with asphalt shingles. The door is a simple wooden door with a screen door. The gable ends contain vertical half logs painted white. The eaves on the side of the cabin are exposed. The windows on the sides and back of the cabin are double hung replacement units and the windows have decorative

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 7

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

pierced shutters with a pine tree motif. The cabin illustrates the basic nature of autocamp housing in the 1929 and retains its simple form, design and massing. But the changes in construction materials, specifically the siding and windows, renders the structure noncontributing although the cabin does not detract from the district and when the construction materials reach fifty years old, the cabin could be considered contributing. The current owners are in the process of rehabilitating the cabin to bring it up to code.

1929 Cabins. Noncontributing. (3 cabins) (34'6" x 14'6")

Six of the original 1929 autocamp cabins were changed substantially when six cabins were joined to make three cabins. The simple one story front gable roofs, identified as part of the 1929 cabin, were altered so that a flat roof connected two cabins in between the existing gables. Few architectural embellishments decorate the exterior with the exception of the exposed eaves. The windows and doors have also been replaced with modern units. The exterior frame siding was covered with half log. New concrete foundations were added recently. The original materials, massing, feeling, and association has been altered over the years so these cabins are considered noncontributing but they are not intrusive within the district. Oral histories indicate that two (of the three) cabins were linked before 1939, but this information cannot be substantiated in the tax records or with historical photographs. The present owners are renovating these cabins (new foundations, water and sewer lines, new electric lines) and have found signatures on the interior walls dating back to September 10, 1929.

1934 Laundry and Shower Cabin. Contributing (1 building)

By 1934, the owner chose a rustic appearance for the exterior of his newer cabins and constructed the restroom/laundry cabin with peeled lodgepole logs. The building with all the modern amenities of indoor plumbing was built to serve the entire complex and was placed in the middle of the area. The log corners are saddle notched and the ends of the logs are graduated which is typical of Scandinavian log construction. The building is a one story, modified T shape, with two residential units located on the sides of the T and the laundry and shower placed in the middle. The foundation for the building is concrete. A central entry, which provided access to the showers, is located in the middle of the building through an advance pavilion with a front facing gable that intersects the main side gable. Two wood doors, each with three panels and one stationary lite, are located beside each other in the entrance. A transom window with eight lites is centered above the doors in this central pavilion.

The residential units located on the east and west sides have the appearance of a "Rocky Mountain" cabin type with a front facing gable and overhanging porch. A casement window and door are placed on the entry facades in both rental units. The gable above the porch is decoratively filled-in with vertical log-inset work typical of commercial buildings in downtown Dubois. The original interior partitions are made of log and are noticeable on the exterior. The eaves are exposed and the roof is now covered with asphalt shingles although originally it had wood shingles.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Page 8

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

A small gablet with flared log ends painted white on the rear of the building was originally used as an entry but has been altered. The restrooms and showers have been removed since the other cabins have been modernized with individual bathrooms. The laundry room was expanded when the restrooms and showers were removed.

1934 Cabins. Contributing (5 cabins). (14'6" x 18'6" or 24' x 15')

The builder of the 1934 cabins achieved a rustic look with log construction. The cabins are built with round peeled lodgepole logs; the log corners are saddle notched and the log ends are graduated. The foundations are concrete. Entry to the simple one story rectangularly shaped cabins is through a wooden door on the facades. A sliding window flanked by decorative shutters with a pine tree motif accents the facades. The eaves are exposed and the gables are to the side and are covered with asphalt shingles. The gable ends underneath the roofs are covered with decorative wood shingles. Additional windows and doors are located on the sides and backs of the cabins. Currently, four of the cabins are used as rental residential units and one of the units, located along Ramshorn Street, has been converted to a store. An arsonist torched this cabin in 1989 when the town's newspaper was located in the building; the cabin was damaged extensively but has been repaired. The current owners are sensitively rehabilitating these cabins to ensure their long term survival.

Twin Pines Lodge, 1941. Contributing.

Construction on the main lodge began in the spring of 1939. O.E. Stringer and his wife designed the building and Ernest Johnson, also known as "Rough Log" Johnson, a local tie hack, assisted with construction. Stringer himself was known as both a capable carpenter and craftsman. The lodgepole pine logs used for constructing the building were gathered from the Lava Mountain area a few miles west of Dubois.

The building is constructed with peeled lodgepole logs with saddle notched corners. These logs attest to the consistency and straightness of the lodgepole pine; the logs used in construction are a uniform size. Even though lodgepole pine tends to grow in dense stands making them very straight and uniform in size with very few limbs, they are susceptible to disease. As a result of diseases, there are uniquely shaped lodgepole limbs. Interior woodwork found in the lobby consists of a stairway banister and a balustrade made of gnarled wood gathered from a diseased patch close to Pelham Lake which lies at the base of Lava Mountain. Some very unique and distinctive posts are found in the Twin Pines lobby. Originally, the exterior was treated with linseed oil preserving the natural color and beauty of the logs. Sometime in the 1960s, former owners painted the exterior with a dark brown paint. Hand hewn chinking strips were placed between the horizontal logs to augment the chinking.

The building is basically rectangular with an advance pavilion in the center of the facade providing an entry for the lodge's dramatic lobby. The foundation is concrete with rebar used to reinforce the concrete. A large basement houses boiler equipment for the entire complex including the lodge. Substantial

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

lodgepole beams extend across the width of the lodge and are evident on the exterior between the first and second floors on both the front and back; these beams help carry the upper floor. The advance pavilion is also supported by a saddle-notched log wall. The saddle notching at the corners extends above the first story and meets the overhanging eaves on the second.

The facade (south) is symmetrical and the structure is one and a half stories high. The facade has a three bay front. Double hung windows, with eight lites over eight lites, are found on either end of the facade centered below the upper story's log dormers. Large windows flank the front door; these windows appear double hung but are stationary and have eighteen lites over eighteen lites. These windows not only afford a nice view of the Wind River Mountains, but also attribute to solar warming during the day. The front door is wood and has twelve lites. The transom light over the door is stationary with three lites. The window and door surrounds are plain and have been painted white.

The roof, which covers the upper story, is one of the most important architectural elements on the facade. The steeply pitched side-gable roof with an intersecting hipped roof on the facade covers the advance pavilion on the front. Three substantial gable dormers constructed of log, each housing one double hung window unit, pierce the main gable and the hipped roof on the upper story. The original wooden shingles painted green still cover the roof. The eaves are exposed. Three stone chimneys are evident on the exterior, two on the south slope of the roof and one on the north.

The east and west sides of the original lodge remain the same with a double hung window on the upper story placed directly over an identical window on the first floor. Each unit has eight lites over eight lites. A kitchen addition was added in the northwest corner of the lodge in the 1950s.

The roof on the rear or northside of the building is as dramatic as the front. In the center of the roof two parallel gables intersect the hipped roof and main side gable. Actually, the gabled unit overhangs the first story and is reminiscent of a New England jetty. The central stone chimney is located between the gables near the center of the roof. The gables are steeply pitched with a boxed cornice on the north side and overhanging exposed eaves on the east and west part of the gables. A double hung window is located in each of the gables. The first story has a carport on the north east side of the building with a shed roof and flared eaves. The kitchen addition is treated in a similar manner. Original double hung windows are found on the north side with the exception of the kitchen. An original door located in the middle of the wall has been sealed and entrance through the back is now through the kitchen.

The door on the facade provides access to the lobby. The lobby is dominated by a large stone fireplace and open space that extends to the second story roof. The original log woodwork exhibits exquisite craftsmanship in the lobby as well as other interior areas. A gnarled wood banister and balustrade accent the staircase and the upper floor.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 10

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

The lobby contains a polished stone fireplace that sits on a ten foot concrete base in the basement. The fireplace extends upward for the full length of the upper story. The fireplace mantel is fashioned of the same stone and is contained within the fireplace. The stones were gathered from the nearby Wind River and were hauled by wheelbarrow from the river to the building site. The fireplace was built by a professional from Jackson, Bill Woodward, who also had the help of Fritz Peterson, a well-known oldtimer around Dubois. Mr. Stringer had been told to be sure and let the fireplace "cure" before starting a fire. He didn't wait quite long enough, and to this day a small crack can be seen running up the entire length of the fireplace.

The ceiling around the outer edge of the downstairs lobby is made of lodgepole pine planed boards which have been varnished. The hanging chandelier in the lobby is fashioned from an old oxbow found on the prairie in a nearby area. Two old kerosene lamps (converted to electricity) hang from this.

Two large bedrooms are found on either side of the lobby. All ceiling fixtures in the rooms have been made of wrought iron in the shape of a small square and have two "twin pines" cutout on all four sides.

The present kitchen was added in this space in 1953 (remodeled in 1970) as previous owners lived in the lodge and needed a larger kitchen and living quarters. The inside of this kitchen was built with cupboards and walls made of native lodgepole pine and finished with varnish.

The outside walls of this addition were built of logs but upon close inspection, one can see the difference between the construction of the original building and the addition.

The upstairs rooms has four bedrooms and all have varnished wooden ceilings as well as log exterior walls. The upstairs rooms on the south contain the log dormers which show the superb craftsmanship used in constructing this type of dormer. Above this second story is a rather large attic which is accessible through one of the upstairs closets. The floors in the second floor rooms are made of rough pine boards. These floors had originally been covered with linoleum and later carpeted.

The floors in the upstairs lobby, lower lobby, and the first floor rooms have tongue and groove finished wood (fir) floors. Most of the past owners used area rugs in the lobby area. The lobby floors were carpeted sometime in the late 1970s.

The lodge contains some of the original furniture that the Stringers purchased. The hand-painted furniture was bought in California and carries a trademark that shows it was made in China.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 11

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

Twin Pines Lodge is structurally sound and is in good condition considering its age and lack of maintenance over the years. The roof is a bit leaky in spots and new shingles will need to be applied in the near future. Due to the climate being quite dry in Dubois, the logs of the building are good and solid. There seem to be no sign of log rot. Some of the chinking and the wood chinking strips need to be repaired. The present owners who purchased the property in 1988 are in the process of repairing, scraping, and repainting the lodge and most of the cabins.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 12

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
Name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

The Twin Pines Lodge and Cabin Camp, as it was called in 1941, is an interesting combination of tourist cabins and a small, exceptionally well crafted, log lodge. Local businessman O. E. Stringer started a basic cabin camp with small frame cabins in 1929. As his business flourished, newer cabins and service buildings became more elaborate and he chose a rustic "style" of log architecture. The lodge, finished in 1941, is an excellent regional example of log architecture with with arts and crafts detailing; the craftsmanship on the interior is exceptional and the exterior design with substantial log dormers, steeply pitched gable and hipped roof, and overhanging jetty are unusual in Wyoming. Although there were log lodges constructed in Wyoming during the 1930s and 1940s, such as the Brinkerhoff Lodge and Berol Lodge in what is now Grand Teton National Park, and Ranch A in Crook County, architects designed each of these lodges. The owner of the property, O. E. Stringer, actually designed Twin Pines himself and had a Swedish tie hack assist him with construction. Although smaller in scale than the other log lodges in the area, Twin Pines clearly illustrates Mr. Stringer's skill. His lobby is one of the finest interior spaces in northwest Wyoming. Stringer was a craftsman and was familiar with large lodges; he crafted the bedsteads for the Two-Got-Tee Lodge, now known as Brooks Lake Lodge. The entire complex physically represents the evolution from a modest tourist camp in 1929 to a well established tourist facility by 1941. It is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C because the property is architecturally significant.

Architecturally, the entire complex is an interesting mixture of rustic "style" cabins and an "arts and crafts" lodge. The distinction between the two "styles" is not well defined yet there are architectural differences between the lodge and the 1934 cabins.

The appearance of the 1934 rustic cabins had its origin in folk architecture. Log construction became an important design trend in twentieth century architecture especially for buildings constructed for tourists where logs were readily available. Architects such as Robert Reamer, designer of Old Faithful Inn and other buildings in Yellowstone National Park, helped to popularize the use of logs. The National Park Service advocated the use of native materials and many of their buildings exhibited a hand-crafted appearance; many of the Park system's buildings were created to be harmonious with their surroundings. Albert Good in the Depression era publication Park and Recreation Structures summarized what had been happening in the parks for the last thirty years. Good explained how to build a "rustic" style park building and he used several Yellowstone buildings as examples. The Civilian Conservation Corps utilized the same concepts in constructing their buildings during the 1930s.

Additionally, the popular press during the 1920s and 1930s extolled the virtues of building a log vacation home and used Abraham Lincoln's log cabin as an example.

Arts and crafts architecture also emphasized the use of hand crafted native materials. Yet, the origins of the arts and crafts movement started in England with people such as John Ruskin and William Morris. Gustav Stickley, a proponent of arts and crafts designs in the United States, was both a furniture designer

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 13

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
Name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

as well as publisher. Most of the designs featured in his publication "The Craftsman" were residential and the buildings included a variety of cladding materials not just log. Stickley, as well as other designers such as the Greene Brothers from California, created large open spaces in their homes. They sought to adapt twentieth century living patterns to houses such as bungalows. Arts and crafts designs emphasized the interior as an integrated whole and each piece of ornamentation had a function. The expression of the arts and crafts movement is not just relegated to one type of building or to architecture but can be found in a variety of pieces of material culture.

Old Faithful Inn, Ranch A, the Brinkerhoff Lodge and the Twin Pines Lodge all have similar characteristics. Native materials were used; large open spaces in the lobby with overhanging balconies and substantial stone fireplaces were created; ornamentation had a functional purpose but also had a handcrafted appearance. This craftsman approach to each of the buildings identifies their twentieth century origins and their debt to both architectural trends, "rustic" and "arts and crafts."

Interestingly, three of the four lodges were architect designed and three of the four were constructed by native craftsmen from Scandinavia, a mixture of formal education and traditional training. This mixture created memorable twentieth century buildings in Wyoming.

O.E. Stringer in his work as craftsman, designer, businessman, and carpenter traveled in northwest Wyoming and was influenced by both architectural trends when he constructed Twin Pines Lodge and Cabin Camp.

The Stringer family came to Dubois in 1901 with the arrival of three older brothers of O. E. Stringer. O.E. (Ernest) Stringer, who was born in Ohio on June 28, 1888, came to Dubois with his mother, sister, and three brothers. The Stringer family had an active role in the growth and development of Dubois. They homesteaded on a ranch west of Dubois. Carl, Nettie, Asa, and Paul were active in ranching while Albert and Oscar built the Stringer Hotel in 1913 which is presently the Ramshorn Inn. Ernest and Albert were former mayors of Dubois; and Oscar was postmaster in Dubois for twenty years. Ernest also served on the Town Council.

Ernest helped build the Episcopal Church, the Stringer Hotel, his sister's home (the first two story home in Dubois), his brother's home, and a school house (now a dentist's office). Ernest and Ethel, his wife, built and ran the Stringer (A.Y.P.) Garage, the Blue Star Blacksmith Shop where Ernest was the smithy, and the Frontier Cafe and Branding Iron Bar (now known as the Wild West Deli and the Outlaw Saloon). Mr. Stringer also installed the first water system in Dubois west of Horse Creek. Additionally, he placed a large water tank on top of the hill directly north of his property.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 14

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
Name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

Although ranching was the main business when the Stringers moved to Dubois, other ventures also played a role in Dubois' economy such as the timber and tourist industries. Early in the twentieth century forested areas around Dubois were harvested for railroad ties and the men who harvested those ties were referred to as "tie hacks." Many of these tie hacks were Norwegian and Swedish immigrants who spent the winter in the forest carving ties from lodgepole pines. Many local legends abound concerning the skill and strength of the Scandinavian tie hacks who helped push their ties down the river to Riverton during spring when the water was at its highest. During the operation of the Wyoming Tie and Timber, 10 million ties, mostly hand-hewn, were produced around Dubois. Although Ernest Stringer himself did not work as a tie hack, he commonly employed them.

The tie hacks were known not only as master craftsmen, but as big men - hardworking, hard drinking, capable of swinging a seven-pound broadax into the felled trees "as easily as dipping a knife into butter", (Dubois Area History, p. 52). "So accurate were the men at their craft the ties gave the appearance of having been planed ...", (Knights of the Broadax, p. 17). Stringer was capably assisted by a Norwegian tie hack named Ernest Johnson. According to local oldtimers who knew him, Ernest Johnson's reputation for logwork was one of impressive skill. (He was also known as "Rough Log" Johnson.)

The history of the Twin Pines Lodge and the tie business are intertwined in the book American Log Homes. The publication discusses the role tie hacks played in constructing Twin Pines.

Tourism, specifically auto tourism, had a tremendous impact on the Dubois economy. Dubois, located between Lander and Moran Junction on the road to Yellowstone National Park, recognized the importance of tourist's dollars. Early explorers and a United States President traveled over Togwotee Pass on their way to Yellowstone, but due to the lack of a road, travel was, at best, difficult. A road from Lander through Dubois over Togwotee Pass and on into Yellowstone opened in 1917; the road was substantially improved with federal and state funds during the next ten years. Dude ranches, garages, and restaurants arrived in the 1920s to service the tourists traveling by auto or bus. Automobile travel had become very important by 1921, when Wyoming Governor Carey, Senator Kendrick and former Governor B.B. Brooks, Stephen T. Mather, Director of the National Park Service, and Horace Albright, Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park officially "opened" the road over the Pass on August 21, 1921, joined by hail, rain and snow. A corporation formed in 1922 to promote tourism in Lander, the Lander-Yellowstone Transportation Company, worked with the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad to bring tourists to central Wyoming. Then, White Motor Company buses took tourists to the Park by way of Dubois, the Two-Gwo-Tee Inn (now Brooks Lake Lodge), and Moran. The buses stopped in Dubois at the Welty Inn for lunch and then spent the night at the Two-Gwo-Tee Inn. The railroad as well as the Lander-Yellowstone Transportation Company and even the National Park Service itself promoted the use of the Lander-Dubois-Togwotee Pass road. Inevitably the town of Dubois grew and so did its facilities to assist tourists. According to T. A. Larson in his History of Wyoming, approximately 260,000 tourists visited the Park in 1929.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

Section 8 Page 15

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
name of property

Fremont Co., WY
County and state

On the land that O.E. Stringer purchased in 1929, he assembled a tourist camp with tourist cabins which were painted white and green. (Half log siding was added to these cabins later and they have been modernized.) The cabins opened in 1929 and were called "Frontier Court". According to architectural historian Chester Liebs, there were several different names for tourist facilities that developed because of automobile travel. In Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture, Liebs discusses campgrounds, at first provided by municipalities free of charge, as housing for tourists. As more Americans traveled by car, simple "cabin camps" sprang up to serve tourists with very basic enclosures. Actually, O. E. Stringer's Frontier Court was a cabin camp with very simple tourist cabins.

Frontier Court was not listed in the Wyoming Business Directory from 1929 to 1932 but other tourist facilities in the Dubois area were mentioned including one lodge, six to eight dude ranches, and one to three hotels, depending on the year. No doubt there were other simple cabin camps in Dubois that did not advertise but serviced the tourists. O. E. Stringer was listed as the agent for Continental Oil Company, a blacksmith, and as an operator of a restaurant during the years from 1929 to 1932.

In 1934, Mr. Stringer built a set of five single log cabins plus a large T-shaped log unit that contained two rental units, a laundry, and restroom facilities. Stringer changed his approach to architecture when the new log cabins were built in 1934 and emulated simple log cabins that had their origin in folk architecture. Stringer chose log construction and his cabins had side gables, saddle-notched corners with graduated ends, and exposed rafter ends. In the 1930s, techniques of log construction were discussed in the popular press such as Chilson Aldrich's 1931 book The Real Log Cabin. Published by Macmillan Company, Aldrich discussed how to construct a log cabin including the "sophisticated cabin" which had some of the accoutrements of vacation lodges. Since the Frontier Court was located in the heart of Wyoming timber country, Stringer made the obvious switch to log construction.

In spite of the national depression, tourism was still an important activity in Dubois. Interestingly, by 1937 the Wyoming Business Directory was listing five different types of tourist facilities in the Dubois vicinity including one lodge, seven dude ranches, two hotels, one tourist camp, and two establishments called cabins. Mr. Stringer was listed as having both a garage and cabins.

After the main lodge was built, and the cabins were provided with individual bathrooms, a boiler was installed in the basement of the lodge that was heated with coal for a source of hot water. The hot water was transported through a system of pipes and provided hot water for both the lodge and all the cabins, although today this boiler system no longer functions.

The main lodge building was started in the spring of 1939 and was completed and opened for business on May 17, 1941. The name was then changed to Twin Pines Lodge and Cabin Camp. Two pines (actually blue spruce trees) were planted in front when the building was completed. They are still growing there, only

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 16

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
Name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

they are considerably larger. Originally, no one lived permanently in the lodge. Mr. Stringer had a Chevrolet dealership and garage directly across the street, the A.Y.P. Garage. The office for the Twin Pines business was across the street in the gas station and rooms and cabins were rented from there. At the time, the lodge was opened in 1941, it was the only hotel in town with "rooms with a bath."

In the 1941-42 Business Directory, Mrs. Stringer was listed as the proprietor for Twin Pines Auto Court. In the same directory fourteen dude ranches in the Dubois vicinity were listed along with five cabin establishments and one hotel.

By 1950, Stringer had sold the Twin Pines and the business directory listed H. Poindexter as the proprietor. Substantially fewer dude ranches were listed in 1950, instead motels and cabins were the most popular type of tourist facility.

There are no other log lodges in Dubois similar to the Twin Pines. Through the years, Twin Pines has operated under a variety of names but the essence of the cabin camp as well as the log lodge still remain.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 17

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

BOOKS

- Aldrich, Chilson. The Real Log Cabin. New York: Macmillan Company, 1931.
- Allison, Mary, Project Coordinator. Dubois, Wyoming Area History. Dallas, Texas: Curtis Media Corp., 1991.
- Good, Albert. Park and Recreation Structures. Washington, D.C., National Park Service, 1935.
- Larson, Thomas A. History of Wyoming, second edition. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1978.
- Liebs, Chester. Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1985.
- Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company. Telephone Directory. June 1951.
- Pinkerton, Joan Trego. Knights of the Broadax: The Story of the Wyoming Tie Hack. Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, 1981.
- Thiede, Arthur and Teipner, Cindy. American Log Homes. Emmaus, Pa.: Rodale Press, 1986.
- University of Wyoming Extension Class of 1952, Instructor Clarence Jayne. Fremont County and its Communities. no printer or date.
- Wilson, Mary. Log Cabin Studies. Ogden, Utah: United States Forest Service, 1984.
- Wyoming State Business Directory. Denver, Co.: Gazetteer Publishing and Printing Co., 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1937, 1939-40, 1941-42, 1950.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

- The Dubois Frontier and the Dubois Courier, Dubois, Wyoming.
March 3, 1932, p. 1. Sept. 30, 1932, p. 3. March 16, 1934, p. 3.
June 22, 1934, p. 3.
- The Riverton Review Chronicle, Riverton, Wyoming. May 15, 1941, p. 6.
- Wyoming State Journal, Lander, Wyoming. May 22, 1941, p. 6.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 18

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

COUNTY RECORDS, FREMONT COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LANDER, WYOMING.

Abstract Title Records, 1929 to present.

Tax Records, 1929 to present.

Warranty Deed Records, 1929 to present.

MAGAZINES/JOURNALS

Bell, Thomas. "The Lander-Yellowstone Transportation Company."
Wind River Mountaineer 2 (April-June 1993): 4-28.

Leeper, John H. Muir's Original Log Home Guide for Builders and Buyers.
Spring/1992/Vol. 15. No. 2, pgs. 24-39; pgs. 46-48. Annual 1992 Director,
26-39.

INTERVIEWS

Charles "Pinky" Hanscum, helped O.E. Stringer gather burlwood for lodge, also
helped plant "twin pines: in front of lodge, by Gwen Bruner, June 15, 1989.

Fritz and Lenore Peterson, Fritz helped build the fireplace in the main
building and they also lived in some cabins on the property in the
winter of 1939, by James and Gwen Bruner, June 24, 1990.

Interviews with former owners: Lydia Weber, (George Deceased), owners from 1954 -
1963 by Gwen Bruner, July 3, 1990.

Mac and Ann Lee McGuire, owners from 1963 - 1972, now living in Dubois, by Gwen
Bruner, July 1989 and August, 1991.

Annie Redman, wife of Pete Redman who also helped build the Twin Pines Lodge, by
James and Gwen Bruner, August 31, 1991.

Tom Redman, former employee of O.E. Stringer and brother of Pete Redman
(now deceased), by James and Gwen Bruner, August 31, 1991.

Nancy Grieves Baker, former wife of Benjamin Bundy Grieves, Casper, Wyoming, by
Judy Aldrich, September 6, 1991.

UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPT

Back, Mary. "Dubois and Upper Wind River: A Summary of Historical Materials"
December, 1982.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 19

Twin Pines Lodge & Cabins
Name of property

Fremont County, Wyoming
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description

Twin Pines Lodge and its associated cabins are located in Block 1, Lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 of Switzerland Park of Dubois, Fremont County, Wyoming. Included within the nominated area are all of lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14. The south half or 70' of lots 3, 4, 5, and 6 are also included within the boundaries.

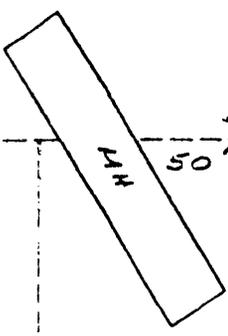
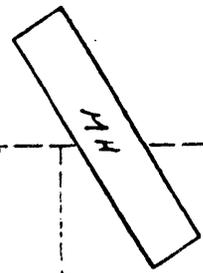


Boundary Justification

The boundary of Twin Pines Lodge and Cabins includes the lodge and its ten associated cabins. Also included is a green area with trees in the complex where picnic tables are located. The boundary is defined by an existing Street, Ramshorn, to the south with its curbs and gutters. The legal property lines for are the east and west boundaries. An artificial line is drawn to cut lots 3, 4, 5, and 6, in half so that only the south 70' of the 140' length of the property is included. Only the south half of lots 3, 4, 5, 6 were included because a trailer court is located in the north half of the aforementioned lots.

HELMER STREET
(VACATED)

60'



6

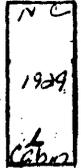
5

4

3

140'

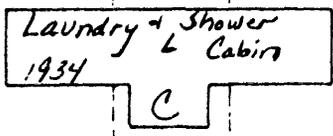
NRHP Boundary



BLOCK 1

20'

ALLEY (VACATED)



7

8

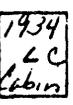
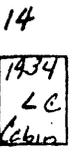
9

10

11

12

13



140'

RIVERTON AVENUE 60' R/W (GRAVEL)

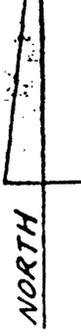
CONCRETE SW

CONCRETE SW

RAMSHORN STREET 80' R/W
(ASPHALT PAVING)

BOARD FENCE

POLE FENCE



SCALE 1" = 30'

LEGEND

MH MOBILE HOME
L LOG BUILDING

C Contributing

NC Noncontributing

Twin Pines Lodge ~ Cabins

Dubois Fremont Co. Wyoming