

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

N. K. Boswell Ranch

AND/OR COMMON

Boswell Ranch

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Headquarters in
SW $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{2}$ Section 14, T21N, R77W

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF Woods Landing

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
First

STATE

Wyoming

CODE
56

COUNTY
Albany

CODE
001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
 - UNOCCUPIED
 - WORK IN PROGRESS
- #### ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
 - YES: UNRESTRICTED
 - NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Fred and Elizabeth McCabe

STREET & NUMBER

Boswell Ranch

CITY, TOWN

Jelm

VICINITY OF Woods Landing

STATE

Wyoming

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Albany County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Fifth Street and Grand Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Laramie

STATE

Wyoming

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Wyoming Recreation Commission, Survey of Historic Sites, Markers and Monuments

DATE

1967; revised 1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Wyoming Recreation Commission

CITY, TOWN

Cheyenne

STATE

Wyoming

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Boswell Ranch is located in Albany County, Wyoming, the southern boundary of both the ranch and the county being the Wyoming-Colorado state line. The ranch is in a valley on the east flank of a major range of the Rocky Mountains. To the east are thinly-vegetated hills separating the valley from a broad expanse of grassland called the Laramie Plains. To the west, hills merge with pine-studded peaks of the Medicine Bow Range. The highest peak in the Wyoming portion of the chain is Medicine Bow Peak which is just over 12,000 feet above sea level, but in Colorado the highest points of the chain reach altitudes of over 14,000 feet. Although situated in a minor valley, the Boswell Ranch is not far from, and actually midway between, larger elevated basins. Southwest of the ranch and lying entirely within Colorado is North Park, in size thirty miles from north to south by fifty miles from east to west, and with an average elevation of about 8,000 feet. Northeast of the Boswell Ranch and lying entirely within Wyoming is the Laramie Plains, ninety miles from north to south by thirty miles from east to west, with an average elevation of about 6,500 feet. Through the ranch flows the Upper Big Laramie River, a classic, willow-lined trout stream whose headwaters are in the mountains encircling North Park. Here meandering through irrigated river bottomland and there slicing through narrow canyons, the river wends its way north through the Medicine Bow Range and the Laramie Plains to join the North Platte River at Fort Laramie, Wyoming.

The Boswell Ranch consists of approximately 1,750 acres of deeded land and 3,000 acres of public land leased from the Bureau of Land Management. The average Laramie Plains ranch contains just over 7,000 acres, but considering its particular mountain valley location the Boswell Ranch is average in size. The property consists of river bottomland where a fine crop of native hay is grown, grass and sage-covered hills, forested mountain slopes, and on the east bank of the Big Laramie River a headquarters complex containing twenty-four structures, including corrals.

The headquarters is bisected from east to west by a graded road that is a link in a historic transportation route between North Park and the Laramie Plains. On the south side of the road are eight structures: a one-and-a-half-story log ranch house, a log shed, three log cabins, two frame sheds and a set of log corrals. According to Historian Robert Homer Burns, the ranch house was built in 1873 by a man named Tom Walden (Waldron?). The log shed was probably built at the same time, but at least as early as 1894. Also built by 1894 is a log cabin, which has been remodeled to serve as a summer home for the ranch owner. On the north side of the road are sixteen structures: a one-story log barn with loft, a log bunkhouse, a log workshop, seven frame sheds, two frame privies and four sets of log corrals. The log barn is apparently the only structure among the sixteen built by 1894, and in that year it was a one-story structure capped by a sod roof. Scattered about the headquarters are accessories and appurtenances to operation of the ranch. Some, such as horse-drawn wagons, sleds, and slips are historic; others, such as an antique gasoline pump, are marginally historic; and still others, such as gasoline or diesel-powered vehicles and electrically-powered tools, are relatively recent in origin.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

At an early date in the history of Wyoming the livestock industry was established in the Laramie Plains. Stockraising was attempted there after 1862, the year in which traffic became heavy along the Overland Trail, a great, western, transportation artery passing through the area. The industry took root in the Laramie Plains because of the abundance of nutritious grasses and the availability of water. According to Historian Robert H. Burns, three of the earliest men to engage in the livestock industry in the Laramie Plains were Phil Mandel, Tom Alsop, and Charley Hutton. Mandel was one of the earliest settlers in the Plains, having made the first recorded land claim there when Wyoming was still a part of Dakota Territory. As station-master at the Little Laramie Station on the Overland Trail, Mandel purchased footsore, worn-out cattle from passing freighters, turned them out on the range, and found that they did remarkably well through the winter. Tom Alsop's interest in the Laramie Plains area dates from 1863 when, returning east from Salt Lake City, he was caught in a snow storm on Sherman Hill near the present city of Laramie, and was forced to turn his oxen loose to shift for themselves. He and his men continued on horseback toward Omaha, expecting that the oxen would die of exposure and starvation, but when Alsop returned the next spring he found them in a sheltered valley along Sand Creek, about twenty miles west of Sherman Hill. Not only were they alive, but they were healthy and had grown fat from the grass they had eaten. Together with Charley Hutton and Ed Creighton, Alsop started ranching at the Big Laramie River Crossing of the Overland Trail, located some eight miles southwest of Laramie.

From convenient watering places along the Overland Trail, ranching spread throughout the Laramie Plains and, following streams and creeks, penetrated nearby hills and mountains. It is understandable that at an early date the Big Laramie River, a major stream draining the east slopes of the Medicine Bow Range, would attract agricultural settlement, and that its banks would become dotted with ranches. The flow of the river was continuous, although the water level was irregular depending upon the season and the weather. This life-giving water not only served to quench the thirst of people and stock and provided the means for irrigation of small gardens, most importantly it was used to irrigate bottomland meadows, enabling man to produce forage crops to sustain livestock during periods of inclement weather. In such a way was the basis for permanent settlement laid. It should be noted that settlement also was based upon the Union Pacific Railroad, which not only provided a means for shipment of stock to markets, but itself created a demand for railroad ties, timber, coal and roadbed ballast, all of which are found in, or bordering, the Laramie Plains.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Addendum

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ^{1,768}

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1,480 acres (approx.)

See Cont. Sheet for UTM ref.

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>1,3</u>	<u>4,1,3,5,4,0</u>	<u>4,5,4,2,4,2,0</u>	B	<u>1,3</u>	<u>4,1,5,2,0,5</u>	<u>4,5,3,9,0,4,0</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<u>1,3</u>	<u>4,1,2,7,3,5</u>	<u>4,5,3,9,0,7,0</u>	D	<u>1,3</u>	<u>4,1,2,5,8,5</u>	<u>4,5,4,2,4,3,5</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The east and west boundary lines of the nominated property consist of the 7,800-foot contour lines that enclose not only the ranch headquarters, but also much river bottom-land. The north boundary line of the ranch is a line which is a portion of the south line of sections three and four of T12N, R77W. The north boundary line connects the 7,800-foot contour lines intersecting it. The south boundary line of the ranch is the Wyoming-Colorado state line, and it also connects the 7,800-foot contour lines intersecting it.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mark Junge, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Wyoming Recreation Commission

DATE

October 22, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

604 East 25th Street

TELEPHONE

(307) 777-7695

CITY OR TOWN

Cheyenne

STATE

Wyoming 82002

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Paul H. Westcott

TITLE

Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

October 26, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION, KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles [Signature]

DATE

2/26/77

DATE

7/19/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET Boswell Ranch. ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Log structures at the headquarters display two different styles of corner-joint construction: hewn dovetail and sawed, halved-log. The ranch house is the only example of the former, and the barn is the most notable example of the latter. The architecture of the Boswell Ranch is not unique in comparison with that of other ranches in the state. It is, rather, typical ranch construction. However, the two styles described above are well-represented at the Boswell Ranch because of the good physical condition in which structures are found. Furthermore, all structures are functional to the ranch operation and are in use today. In comparison, two deteriorated log structures built about 1900 and located about six miles west of the ranch are all that remain of a relay station along the Laramie Plains-North Park stage and freight route that passes through the Boswell Ranch.

Since the turn of the century the Boswell Ranch has seen physical change. A number of structures, such as sheds and guest cabins, have been added to the ranch headquarters, although all are architecturally and functionally compatible with older structures. Several historic ranch structures have been modified. For example, a lean-to addition has been made to the south side of the ranch house, the roof of the barn has been raised to provide a hayloft, and a log structure just south of the ranch house has been remodeled to provide a guest cabin. The steel and wood bridge across the Big Laramie River, although of comparatively recent construction, is in the same location as bridges shown in historic photographs of the ranch. Probably the most significant modern intrusion upon the ranch scene is a set of steel towers supporting five-wire strands of 245 kV power transmission line stretching from east to west, and located 3,000 yards north of the ranch headquarters. At the time this nomination is being written, a 345 kV power line is being constructed across the ranch adjacent, and parallel to, the existing line.

In summary, the Boswell Ranch reflects the changes of passing time while retaining the essential characteristics of a western cattle ranch. The essential natural characteristics of the ranch remain from the earliest days of its establishment, including mountains, hills, valley, stream, vegetation, and the presence of game animals. Spring floods may have cut new stream banks in places, but the Big Laramie River has not changed enough to cause the removal of the ranch headquarters. Trees and shrubbery have grown up at the headquarters, and the number of acres cleared for meadowland may have increased, but the vegetation of the surrounding landscape--consisting mainly of grass, sage and lodgepole pine--are the same. Game animals, including deer and elk, can still be seen on or around the ranch just as they could when white men first visited the area. Specific historic structures at the ranch headquarters have been altered and other structures have been added to the site, although the casual visitor will not notice all of the changes that have taken place. However, the essential man-made elements of the ranch, including ranch house, outbuildings, corrals and fences, exist today as they did in the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Boswell Ranch ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Located on the southwestern fringe of the Laramie Plains, the Boswell Ranch is one of a number of ranches along the Upper Big Laramie River. It was established in a valley, protected by hills and mountains, at a point where the alluvial plain is wide enough to permit the development of meadows and the construction of a ranch headquarters. The selection of the headquarters was also dependent upon level terrain, the availability of dry ground, and upon the availability of a convenient ford across the Big Laramie River. The significance of the ford location, later the site of a bridge or series of bridges, is that it became a link in the transportation route between settlements both northeast and southwest of the ranch. For the ranchowner the crossing has also served as a convenient access to meadows on the west bank of the river, and to nearby forest grazing land.

It may have been C. T. Waldron who, in the early 1870's, selected the Upper Big Laramie River site as the location of his ranch, although no reliable source material has been turned up to substantiate either the date, or the name of the person who started the ranch. An article in the Laramie Daily Sentinel for June 26, 1876 reads: "Good news from the North Park and Independence Mountain. C. T. Waldron, who has a ranch near crossing of Big Laramie on the road to North Park, called at the office. Showed us the following letter." The letter concerned gold that had been found in North Park and reflects the mining activity that took place and which helped establish permanent settlement of the Park. As stated in the Description portion of this nomination, Historian Burns placed the construction of the Boswell Ranch at the site during or following 1868, since a traffic route could have developed that early between North Park and the railhead at Laramie, by way of the Boswell Ranch. An Albany County title abstract record reveals that the first entry was made for the Boswell property in 1878, and since that time the ranch has changed owners a number of times. The present owners, Elizabeth and Fred McCabe, bought the ranch from the Hunt family in May, 1971. A total of 265 cows and bulls are presently run on the property; the working stock consists of ten horses.

Thus the Boswell Ranch has been in operation for approximately one hundred years. Although its setting and architecture are not unique or on a grand scale, the ranch is a typical Wyoming livestock operation. Not only is it a representative operation in size, its historic structures are in good condition, further justifying its selection as a representative operation. Yet the ranch is also set apart from other ranches of its type and general geographic location by its association with a citizen of regional importance in Western history, Nathaniel K. Boswell. According to Historian I. S. Bartlett, Boswell was born in Haverhill, New Hampshire on November 4, 1836, one of twelve children of John and Lucinda (Pike) Boswell. At the age of seventeen Boswell went to Michigan and afterward to Wisconsin, where he engaged in

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CONTINUATION SHEET Boswell Ranch ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

the lumber business. In 1857 he was married to Martha Salsbury in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. That year, while at work in Green Bay, he and three other men were in a boat that capsized. Two of the men drowned while Boswell and the other clung to the boat and finally reached land. As a consequence of the experience Boswell suffered a lung ailment, and upon the advice of a physician he left Wisconsin and went West. Boswell traveled to Boulder, Colorado and from there to Gilpin where he engaged in lumbering and mining, remaining in Colorado for eight years. According to an autobiographical statement, he fought and was wounded in the 1865 Sand Creek Massacre, a significant event during the High Plains Indian Wars.

Trading a mining claim for a stock of drugs, Boswell moved to Cheyenne, Dakota Territory in 1867 where he reportedly opened the town's first drug-mercantile store, operating it from 1868 to 1870. At approximately the same time he and a partner named Hewitt carried on a drug and mercantile business in Laramie, fifty miles west of Cheyenne. It is apparent that law-enforcement was more to Boswell's liking than the drug business, as he is reported to have served in an unofficial capacity as peace officer in Laramie in 1868, the year the railroad reached that place. In May, 1869 Boswell was officially appointed Albany County Sheriff by the first Wyoming Territorial Governor, John A. Campbell, and was later elected to that office three times. At the time Albany County, one of four counties in what later became the State of Wyoming, stretched from Colorado to Montana, a distance of 275 miles. The following year, as Albany County Sheriff, Boswell had the distinction of appointing the first woman bailiff and swearing in the first woman jury in the world. Boswell held other law-enforcement positions and at one time or another is reported to have been a United States Marshal, chief of detectives of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association from 1883 to 1887, a Union Pacific Railroad detective, and an employee of Dave Cook's Rocky Mountain Detective Agency. He also served as warden of the Wyoming Territorial Penitentiary when that institution was opened in Laramie in January, 1873. Boswell's reputation was that of a man who was reliable, one who could be depended upon to perform well against outlaws. Following is an anecdote from a biography of Boswell by I. S. Bartlett, illustrating that reputation.

His life record reads like some tale of fiction, there are so many exciting experiences and interesting events in connection therewith. As sheriff in the early days he was possessed of not a shadow of fear and on many occasions has faced famous gunmen, outlaws, and bandits and horse and cattle thieves. He never undertook to arrest a single man but what he accomplished his purpose. On one occasion he had an encounter with a noted character by the name of Jack Watkins, who was not a criminal in the usual sense of the term but was most lawless

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CONTINUATION SHEET Boswell Ranch ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

when intoxicated. He was a remarkable shot and could hit any object he desired and he was known to be as brave as he was reckless. Mr. Boswell was at that time deputy United States marshal and also sheriff of Albany county. While visiting Judge Jones in Cheyenne who was his friend and later was delegate in Congress, Jack Watkins was on one of his proverbial sprees and was shooting up the town. He especially delighted in shooting out the lights in a noted dance hall. The judge called Mr. Boswell's attention to the fact and requested that he go and arrest Watkins, but as this was not his territory he declined. He was then, however, deputized as a United States marshal and papers were handed him, giving him the authority to assist the sheriff of Laramie county, located at Cheyenne, who was sent with Mr. Boswell but was apparently afraid of Watkins. As the two men approached the side street they saw two fellows facing each other with drawn revolvers, having an argument. The Laramie sheriff urged Mr. Boswell to arrest Watkins, one of the men. In the excitement Mr. Boswell had mistaken a deputy sheriff for Watkins and pounced upon him, while Watkins walked away and entered a grocery store. On learning his mistake Mr. Boswell followed Watkins, who covered Mr. Boswell with two revolvers and told him not to approach nearer or he would kill him. Without the least hesitation Mr. Boswell told him that he would not fire and that if he did five hundred men would riddle him with shot. He then proceeded to read the warrant to him, after which Watkins said: "Who in hell are you anyway?" Mr. Boswell told him, whereon the criminal ejaculated, "So you are Boswell. I heard about you and I like your nerve. Now, if you will protect me from this mob I will submit to arrest." On being assured that Mr. Boswell would do so Watkins handed over his gun and accompanied him toward the jail. On the way, however, the mob followed and three men, having secured lariats, demanded the prisoner. At this Mr. Boswell handed the prisoner his revolver again and so great was the fear of this remarkable shot that the crowd scattered in all directions. After this no further difficulties occurred and the man was put in jail, but was immediately released after giving bond. Ever afterward Mr. Boswell had a true friend in Watkins, whom he arrested dozens of times afterward, but the man never resisted, always going peaceably along.

In addition to law-enforcement duties, Boswell engaged in other enterprises. For example, in partnership with two others he once owned 240 acres of land twelve miles southwest of Laramie, an investment that apparently had something to do with soda lakes at that location. In partnership with G. W. Dana, Boswell pastured 3,500 sheep at Sportsman Lake, also southwest of Laramie. Boswell was a Mason and is reported to have helped organize masonic lodges in both Colorado and Wyoming.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Boswell Ranch ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 5

In 1903 he was given the honor and responsibility of choosing the horses used by a group of men in a famous 50-mile ride over the Laramie Mountains, from Laramie to Cheyenne. The ride itself was no exceptional feat but among the riders, Boswell included, was President Theodore Roosevelt. Boswell was also a friend of nationally-known Humorist Bill Nye and may have provided some of the grist for Nye's stories, since it is recorded that Boswell had the ability to tell a good story. Before he died in 1921 at the age of 85, it is likely that Boswell had direct contact with many other Albany County, and Wyoming, pioneers.

There remain today at least two historic properties relating to the life of this historic figure: the Fort Sanders Recreation Center and the Boswell Ranch. The Recreation Center, which served as Boswell's home while he lived in Laramie, is located in the city's La Bonte Park. It was a former post building located at nearby Fort Sanders, and originally may have been hauled to that post from Fort Halleck, located further west along the Overland Trail and at the north base of Elk Mountain. A significant relationship also exists between the man Boswell and the ranch which he once owned and which was named for him. Boswell's interest in the ranch dates officially, at least, from 1886 when he first acquired, with William H. Hill, a half-ownership in the ranch. Until at least 1903, and perhaps even until his death in 1921, Boswell maintained an interest in the ranch at first by direct ownership, and later through ownership by his daughter, Minnie, and his son-in-law, C. D. Oviatt. Charles D. Oviatt was an Albany County pioneer himself, serving a total of five terms as Albany County senator and representative to the Wyoming State Legislature.

Another factor in determining the importance of the Boswell Ranch relates to its particular location along a freight and stage route. With the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad through southern Wyoming in 1867-68, local roads were established to link railheads to settlements within the Rocky Mountain interior. One network of roads tied together railheads at Laramie and Tie Siding, in the Laramie Plains, with mining and agricultural settlements such as Teller and Walden, in North Park. That network was used by freighters in the early 1870's and later also carried stagecoach traffic. The Boswell Ranch, located about halfway between the towns of Walden and Laramie and on a branch of that network, served both freighters and stagecoach passengers. It was a road ranch, a place where horses were changed and where travelers spent the night. The ranch was one of half a dozen or more stopping places along the road, and because of its location midway between termini, it is a logical choice for selection of a representative historic site along the road.

In summary the significance of the Boswell Ranch rests upon several bases, one of which is its place in the history of the livestock industry. Of importance also,

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CONTINUATION SHEET Boswell Ranch ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 6

and setting it apart from other ranches of its type, is its association with a man who was a colorful figure of local and regional importance. Essential to the history of the ranch also is its important location along the North Park-Laramie Plains road, during an early period in the history of transportation on the Far Western Frontier. Chosen by historic man as a place of habitation, the ranch was used also by prehistoric man. Evidence of aboriginal occupation, such as tipi rings and tool flakes, has been found by archeologists from both the University of Colorado and the University of Wyoming. Local residents mention the existence of Indian travois trails in the area, and if there are such trails perhaps they are parallel to historic trails and roads. Further research and documentation, however, is necessary before the full archeological significance of the site can be determined.



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- Ralph Harnden by Mark Junge. Laramie, Wyoming. 28 September, 1976.

JUL 21 1977

Boswell, N.K. RANCH - ALBANY Co., WY

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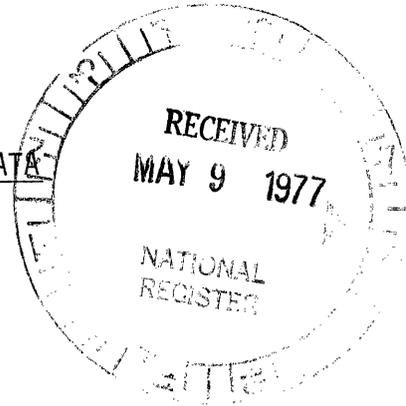
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WPA 314B- Ingham, W. S. "Bill Nye in Laramie," 9 pp.
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ADDENDUM: GEOGRAPHICAL DATA



N. K. BOSWELL RANCH NOMINATION
 APRIL 18, 1977

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	1 3	4 1 3 5 4 0	4 5 4 2 4 2 0
B	1 3	4 1 4 8 0 0	4 5 4 1 1 4 0
C	1 3	4 1 4 4 9 0	4 5 4 0 6 1 5
D	1 3	4 1 4 9 6 0	4 5 3 9 5 6 5
E	1 3	4 1 5 2 7 0	4 5 3 9 6 8 0
F	1 3	4 1 5 ¹²⁰ 105	4 5 3 9 2 4 0
G	1 3	4 1 5 2 0 5	4 5 3 9 ⁰⁶⁰ 040
H	1 3	4 1 2 7 3 5	4 5 3 9 0 7 0
I	1 3	4 1 2 3 1 0	4 5 3 9 ⁴⁰⁰ 0 0 0
J	1 3	4 1 2 7 3 0	⁴⁵³⁹ 4540 9 1 0
K	1 3	4 1 2 1 7 0	4 5 4 0 6 7 0
L	1 3	4 1 2 1 2 0	4 5 4 0 9 4 0
M	1 3	4 1 2 4 9 0	4 5 4 1 4 9 0
N	1 3	4 1 2 5 8 5	4 5 4 2 4 3 5

Section 11	3 acres
Section 14	45 acres
Section 15	610 acres
Section 16	360 acres
Section 9	320 acres
Section 10	430 acres
Total:	<u>1768</u> acres