



Hunter Hereford Completion Report

Start Date: July 14, 2008

Completion Date: August 1, 2008

Project Leaders: Alan Williams and Greg Dodson

Supervisor: Craig Struble, WCHP Director

Background:

The Hunter Hereford Ranch Historic District was listed on the National Register in August 1998. The historic district is significant under criterion A for its association with the growth of hobby ranches in Jackson Hole and under criterion C for its association with vernacular architecture and with architect-designed rustic architecture. The site was featured in the movie *The Homecoming* and is also important to the history of Hollywood westerns in Jackson Hole (although a historic context establishing this significance has not been written). The Hunter Hereford Ranch is a popular destination for tours given by the Jackson Hole Historical Society and the Teton County Historic Preservation Board because of the uniqueness of the barn and scenic views of the Tetons from the ranch.

Description of Project:

This preservation project addressed four of the Hunter Hereford Ranch buildings: the Barn (HS-1271), the Garage (HS-1274), the Equipment Shed (HS-1297), and the Foreman's Residence (HS-1293). The majority of project work was executed by the Teacher Restoration Corps (a volunteer group from Wisconsin) under the supervision of WCHP personnel. Grand Teton National Park's Youth Conservation Program (YCP) participants performed cleanup work on the Garage and Foreman's Residence prior to the commencement of preservation work.

Summary of Work:

In preparation for preservation work, the YCP crew performed site cleanup work on July 14th. This work included removing debris from the interior and exterior of the Garage and Foreman's Residence. The interior of both structures was also sprayed with a bleach solution to protect against rodent-carried infections.

The Teacher Restoration Corps (TRC) also began work on July 14th. Over the next three weeks the TRC, working simultaneously on different buildings, performed preservation work on the Barn, Garage, Equipment Shed, and Foreman's Residence. Work conducted on these four structures is outlined as follows:

On the Barn:

- the front winter door of the Barn was repaired and realigned on the sliding track
- the front summer door was secured on the sliding track to the side of the winter door
- the upper door on the front side of the Barn was repaired
- glass was replaced and glazed where missing on the Barn windows
- roofing felt and rolled roofing were replaced on the loafing shed on the south side of the Barn
- the gate on the east side of the loafing shed was re-erected and repaired

On the Garage:

- the north elevation was re-shingled with #1 Chemco treated (fire retardant) 16" wood shingles
- a new ridge cap was installed

On the Equipment Shed:

- two of the five sliding doors were replaced in-kind
- the remaining three doors were repaired
- the sliding track was repaired
- a new concrete pier was poured to support the post separating the third and fourth doors from the left

On the Foreman's Residence:

- porch stabilization was initiated (but not completed)

Financial Summary:

A total of \$48,885.00 historic structure stabilization funding was allotted for the Hunter Hereford project.

Conclusion for Future Preservation:

Funding did not allow for preservation project work to address all of the building needs at the Hunter Hereford Ranch. The Foreman's Residence, Barn, and structures not addressed by this project require further preservation work.

On the Foreman's Residence the porch posts and floor frame were repaired, but the porch decking was only partially reinstalled. The remainder of the porch flooring needs to be reinstalled or replaced in-kind. After the volunteer project was completed, the WCHP patched and repaired roofing in the southeast corner of the Foreman's Residence to help stabilize the building. However, roof material was not replaced in-kind. The current rolled roofing needs to be removed and replaced with wood shingle. The roofing material on the northern side of the same gable is in need of repair/replacement. Several building sill and wall logs need replacement.

While the rear winter door to the Barn was rebuilt in-kind several years ago, the summer door was not repaired or replaced. The summer door is currently lying on the ground on the rear side of the Barn and should be repaired and reattached to the Barn. Similar to the front summer door, the door does not need to be functional, but should be secured in place for historic accuracy and aesthetic benefit.

The Bunkhouse (HS-1294), Chicken House (HS-1272), and Hay Shed (HS-1273) were not addressed by this project and still need stabilization. Repairs or replacements should be made to roof decking, wood shingles, sill logs, and board and batten wall materials as needed on each building.

Photographs:



Repaired winter door on front side of Barn



New rolled roofing on loading shed



Repaired gate on east side of loafing shed



New shingle roofing on Garage north elevation



New and repaired sliding doors on Equipment Shed



New door on Equipment Shed



Partial stabilization of Foreman's Residence porch