NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 10024-0018

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction 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 an 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 Lake Haiyaha Trail

other names/site number Nymph Lake Trail; Dream Lake Trail; 5LR.11899

2. Location

street & number Rocky Mountain National Park (ROMO) [N/A] not for publication

city or town Estes Park [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Larimer code 069 zip code 80510

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] locally. ([ ] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Joe Wallia Acting F.P.O. 1-22-08
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Mark Wolfe Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 12/26/07
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

[X] 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
[ ] See continuation sheet.

for Edson A. Beall
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 3.5.08

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

[ ] private
[ ] public-local
[ ] public-State
[X] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

[ ] building(s)
[ ] district
[ ] site
[X] structure
[ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

Rocky Mountain National Park
Historic Park Landscapes In National and State Parks

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ outdoor recreation
LANDSCAPE/ park
TRANSPORTATION/ pedestrian-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ outdoor recreation
LANDSCAPE/ park
TRANSPORTATION/ pedestrian-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Other: Rustic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation
walls
roof
other EARTH
WOOD
STONE

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

Lake Haiyaha Trail
Name of Property

Larimer County/ Colorado
County/State

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.)

[X] **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.

[X] **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.)

Property is:

[ ] **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

[ ] **B** removed from its original location.

[ ] **C** a birthplace or 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.

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

ENTERTAINMENT/ RECREATION
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Periods of Significance
1930-1945

Significant Dates
1930
1935

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

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
National Park Service
Dunn, Allison van V.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(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:

[X] State Historic Preservation Office

[ ] Other State Agency

[X] Federal Agency

[ ] Local Government

[ ] University

[ ] Other

Name of repository:
Rocky Mountain National Park
Colorado Historical Society

Lake Haiyaha Trail
Name of Property

Larimer County/ Colorado
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 36.4 acres

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

1.	13	445119	4462393	(NAD27)
	Zone	Easting	Northing	
2.	13	445062	4462079	
	Zone	Easting	Northing	
3.	13	444736	4462169	
	Zone	Easting	Northing	
4.	13	444544	4462316	
	Zone	Easting	Northing	

The UTM points were derived by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation from heads-up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHP by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

[x] 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 Sierra Standish, contract position (RMNP contact- Cheri Yost)

organization Rocky Mountain National Park date 14 November 2006

street & number 1000 Highway 36 telephone (970) 586-1394

city or town Estes Park state Colorado zip code 80517

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Rocky Mountain National Park, U.S. Department of the Interior

street & number 1000 Highway 36 telephone (970) 586-1394

city or town Estes Park state Colorado zip code 80517

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

DESCRIPTION

Location: The Lake Haiyaha Trail is on the east side of Rocky Mountain National Park. This trail begins alongside Bear Lake and ascends westward toward Tyndall Gorge, passing Nymph Lake along the way. Upon reaching Dream Lake, the trail moves up a southward slope, into the Chaos Canyon drainage, and arrives at Lake Haiyaha.

Setting: The trail starts in the densely forested Bear Lake area and climbs westward toward the lily pad-speckled Nymph Lake. Continuing to the west, the trail moves up steep rocky area, crosses a small creek, and arrives at the eastern shore of Dream Lake. Looking westward, the clear waters of Dream Lake are framed by the grandeur of Tyndall Gorge, with Flattop Mountain to the northwest and Hallett Peak to the southwest. The trail then turns south, moving up a dark, forested slope into the lower end of Chaos Canyon. Higher up, views open to the east, and Bear Lake and Bierstadt Moraine spread out below. Lake Haiyaha is located at timberline along Chaos Creek.

Built: 1930 (first section), 1931 (second section), 1933-1935 (final section).

Materials: Earth, local rock, log/wood, asphalt. Destination: Lake Haiyaha

Length of main trail: 2.1 miles Trail Width: Ranging from 2 to 5 feet

Significant built features: Bear Lake Comfort Station, now a generator building (5LR.531, National Register listed in 1988, NRIS87001137, outside trail nomination boundary), dry laid rock walls, log stringer bridge, log and rock water bars and drains, stone steps and switchbacks.

Significant natural features: Bear Lake, Nymph Lake, Dream Lake, Lake Haiyaha, Tyndall Gorge, Flattop Mountain, Hallett Peak, Chaos Canyon and Chaos Creek.

Trail tour:
Nymph, Dream, Emerald and Haiyaha are a string of lovely little lakes. All higher than 9,500 feet in elevation, they retain a lush setting well into summer. Their backdrop—the sheer eastern slopes of the Continental Divide—adds grandeur to the scene. This appealing region is easily accessible from Bear Lake, making the trail extremely popular.

The trail begins at 9,475-foot Bear Lake, at the end of Bear Lake Road. This location has long accommodated various facilities for visitors. Today, hikers are greeted by the new Bear Lake vault toilets and ranger contact station (rebuilt recently after arsonists burned the buildings on New Year's Eve 2001). The former Bear Lake Comfort Station (now called the Bear Lake generator building) stands on a low hill about 50 feet north of the trailhead. The lake is the starting place for four trails. From here, one can strike out upon the Flattop Mountain Trail, casually stroll on the well-groomed path around Bear Lake, walk toward the Loch Vale system of trails, or begin hiking the roughly two miles toward Nymph, Dream, and Haiyaha lakes.

As this latter trail breaks away from Bear Lake, it heads in an upward, southerly direction. Low rock walls support the uphill tread. Unlike most non-wheelchair accessible trails in the park, the trail intermittently uses pavement over the first half mile, the distance required to reach Nymph Lake. The pavement is bumpy, inconsistent, and clearly not new. This first stretch ascends and wraps around the southern end of a large hill, approaching Nymph from the south. Log checks and stone steps help maintain this high use area.

Nymph Lake, not much larger than a pond, is hemmed in by trees. Lily pads spread across the surface, providing this little lake's most distinctive feature. As the trail passes along the lake's eastern and northern shores, wood benches and viewpoints offer hikers a place to stop and observe the lake without obstructing traffic.

Next, the trail leaves behind its paved section, crosses above the eastern side of the lake, and ascends about one half mile to Dream Lake. This segment, though short, provides memorable views of Longs Peak from the sides of a relatively steep cliff. Log checks, stone steps, and five- to six-foot-high rock walls maintain the three to four foot-wide tread.

Dream Lake, a narrow, east-west running tarn, frequently earns breathless praise. The 9,900-foot-high lake sits at the mouth of Tyndall Gorge. Approaching the lake from the east, Hallett's Peak and Flattop Mountain frame the clear waters.

Just before Dream Lake, the trail crosses a small creek and reaches a junction. Here, hikers must choose between continuing to Emerald Lake or Lake Haiyaha. Emerald Lake, even further ensconced in the deep Tyndall Gorge, requires a .6-mile walk over newly constructed trail. In the recent past, trail users simply followed a social trail through the marshy grasses toward Emerald Lake.

The route on to Lake Haiyaha can claim substantial maturity and development. This mile-long stretch moves rapidly up and onto the side of the large hill just south of Dream Lake. A substantial series of rock walls support the first switchbacks through the trees. The trail then moves onto the exposed, east-facing side of the hill, and hikers gaze down onto Bierstadt Moraine. The trail continues southward, crosses a creek, and reaches a junction. From here, a small jaunt off to the west brings hikers to Lake Haiyaha.

The trail that continues southward—lightly used and maintained—reaches the Loch Vale Trail.

Trail construction and alterations:
As early as the 1910s, tourists bushwhacked from Bear Lake up to Nymph, Dream, Emerald and Haiyaha lakes. However, a purposefully built trail to these lakes developed relatively late. A formal trail evolved in stages. In 1930, the park built the first section up to Nymph Lake. The next half-mile, up to Dream Lake, reached completion in 1931. The section between Dream and Haiyaha was initiated in 1933, under the supervision of the park's first landscape architect who specialized in trail work—Allison van V. Dunn. The extensive dry laid rock walls in the switchbacks south of Dream Lake reflect the elevated attention to detail that Dunn represented. Completed in 1935, the project went well over budget. Given the quality of work and time period, it is extremely likely that the park employed Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) labor to build this section.

No known documentation dates the asphalt paving of the first half mile between Bear Lake and Nymph Lake. However, maps indicate that this section was rerouted—and probably paved—between 1947 and 1961. Although 1937 CCC trail plan for the Flattop Mountain indicates that the Lake Haiyaha Trail had been rerouted earlier, the CCC trail plans have been inaccurate in the past. The reroute conformed to Mission 66-era construction styles, but incorporated some NPS Naturalistic Design features like a steady grade and dry laid rock wall. The paving and reroute were likely based on the recommendations of ecologist Beatrice Willard, who in the early 1960s recommended hardening trails throughout the park in order to protect adjacent vegetation and prevent visitor trampling. Today, the park trail crew does not maintain the pavement and it is clearly disintegrating.

In 1997, park crews improved the stretch between Bear Lake and Dream Lake. They added within-trail erosion control structures like water bars and check dams (steps) and imported good tread material.

Lake Haiyaha Trail integrity:
The trail retains a high degree of integrity from its 1930-1935 design and construction. A 1947-1961 (estimated dates) half-mile long reroute of the Bear to Nymph Lake portion have been minor; the alteration continued to reach its historic destination at Nymph Lake. The Mission 66 Era paving of the first half-mile from Bear to Nymph Lake is also minor. Park trail crews have replaced ephemeral features of the Bear Lake trail system such as wood bridges and log checks and rebuilt in-kind stone steps using materials gathered on site, following Naturalistic Design standards. Typical modern-day trail crew improvements consist of adding within-trail erosion control structures like water bars, check dams (steps) and importing good tread material. This is the typical with CCC era trails: great designs through steady grades and dry laid rock walls, but the CCC crews did not foresee the 'tread' material washing away leaving eroded gullies behind the rock walls.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Lake Haiyaha Trail is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, meeting the registration requirements set forth in the *Rocky Mountain National Park Multiple Property Listing*. The trail is eligible under Criterion C in the area of *Landscape Architecture*; the trail design reflects National Park Service (NPS) Naturalistic Design of the 1920s through the 1940s.

The Lake Haiyaha Trail demonstrates the national trends described in Linda Flint McClelland's *Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks Multiple Property Listing.* In this second context, the trail is eligible under Criterion A in the area of *Entertainment/Recreation* for its connection to the twentieth-century movement to develop national parks for public enjoyment. The trail is also eligible under Criterion C in the area of *Landscape Architecture* for a design that reflects NPS Naturalistic Design of the 1920s through the 1940s. The period of significance begins in 1930 with the completion of the first trail section and ends in the 1945, the year in which tourism in the park significantly changed due to increased automobile traffic after World War II.

Historical Background

Tourists romped through the country around Nymph, Dream, Emerald and Haiyaha lakes long before a formal trail could direct them. The easily accessible area offered classic mountain scenery—pretty little lakes nestled below the lofty eastern walls of the Continental Divide. As early as the 1910s, visitors bushwhacked from Bear Lake into Tyndall Gorge and Chaos Canyon. That local lodge owners neglected to build a trail is not surprising. The trip from Bear Lake up to the lakes was short, minimizing the need for the speed and guidance that a trail provides.

The ease with which these lakes could be reached seems to have contributed to their anonymity. In 1915 they existed as unlabeled lakes on the local hiking map; in 1917 Roger Toll labeled only Dream Lake on his map in *Mountaineering in the Rocky Mountain National Park*. Indeed, Dream Lake emerged as the most picturesque and best-known lake in the area.

As vehicular transportation of Bear Lake improved, visitors increasingly used the area:

> The Bear Lake Trail School, an alpine summer camp for boys and for their Dads if they care to come, announces itself for the season of 1924.
>
> ...This new trail school will be located on the shores of Bear Lake, which is almost the exact center of the Rocky Mountain National Park, a wild but beautiful and now accessible spot at the foot of Halletts Peak. The camp will be run in connection with the present Bear Lake Lodge.
>
> ...The mornings will be given over to organized instruction in woodcraft, horsemanship, forestry and natural science. The afternoons will be devoted to hiking, riding and field work under expert Guides and Boy Leaders. The evening will be spent in a great log and stone Council Ring where the woodcraft program will be promoted.[1]

[1] *Estes Park Trail Gazette*, July 27, 1923, 20.

There is no doubt that campers at the Bear Lake Trail School would have investigated neighboring attractions like Nymph, Dream and Emerald lakes and Lake Haiyaha.

Between 1930 and 1935, the park acknowledged the growing popularity of the nearby lakes by building a formal trail up to Lake Haiyaha. Construction progressed in stages. In 1930, the park built the first section up to Nymph Lake. The next half-mile, up to Dream Lake, was completed in 1931.

The final section between Dream and Haiyaha was initiated in 1933, under the supervision of Rocky Mountain National Park's first landscape architect to specialized in trail work—Allison van V. Dunn. The extensive dry laid rock walls in the switchbacks south of Dream Lake utilized Dunn's technical background. Today, the rockwork in this section appears old (covered with lichen and settled into the surrounding dirt) yet is still very functional; it is likely that these walls are the original 1930s construction. Completed in 1935, the project went well over budget.

There is no known evidence that the Civilian Conservation Corps worked on the Lake Haiyaha Trail. However, given the quality of construction and time period, such activity was possible.

The new trail made the lakes significantly more accessible, further encouraging the visitation of more hikers, including minor celebrities:

> Dream Lake, located above Bear Lake at the foot of Mt. Hallett, has been selected as the "loveliest spot in the world" by Guy Thackeray, of Chicago, who is spending several days in Estes Park at Baldpate Inn.
>
> Mr. Thackeray, whose home is in England, is a graduate of Oxford and is a grandnephew of William Thackeray.[2]

Today, the Lake Haiyaha remains a favorite with park visitors who want to see lush lakes and soaring mountains.

[2] *Estes Park Trail*, June 26, 1931, 11.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Buchholtz, C.W. *Rocky Mountain National Park: A History*. Niwot, CO: University Press of Colorado, 1983.

Clatworthy, Fred Payne. *Road and Trail Map of Estes Park and Vicinity, Colorado.* Estes Park, CO, 1915.

Estes Park, Colorado, and Surrounding Region. Burlington Route, 1910.

Estes Park Trail Gazette, July 27, 1923; June 26, 1931.

McClelland, Linda Flint. *Building the National Parks: Historic Landscape Design and Construction.* Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998.

McClelland, Linda Flint. "Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks," National Register of Historic Places multiple property documentation form, August 8, 1995.

McWilliams, Carl and Karren McWilliams. "Multiple Resource Nomination for Rocky Mountain National Park," National Register of Historic Places multiple property document, August 1985, with revisions by Gregory Kendrick, February 1987. Sierra Standish, "Rocky Mountain National Park MPS (Additional documentation- Trails)," September 27, 2004.

Musselman, Lloyd K. *Rocky Mountain National Park Administrative History, 1915-1965.* Washington, D.C.: Office of History and Historic Architecture, Eastern Service Center, July 1971.

Ramaley, William C. *Trails and Trailbuilders of the Rocky Mountain National Park.* Unpublished manuscript, 1970s. Estes Park, CO, RMNP library.

"Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado," United States Department of the Interior, 1931.

"Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado Trail System Maintenance and Reconstruction Plan 2000: An Update to the May, 1982 Trail Plan."

Superintendent's Annual Reports. RMNP library.

Superintendent's Monthly Reports. RMNP library.

Topographic Map of Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado. USGS, 1947.

Toll, Roger. *Mountaineering in the Rocky Mountain National Park.* Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1919.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

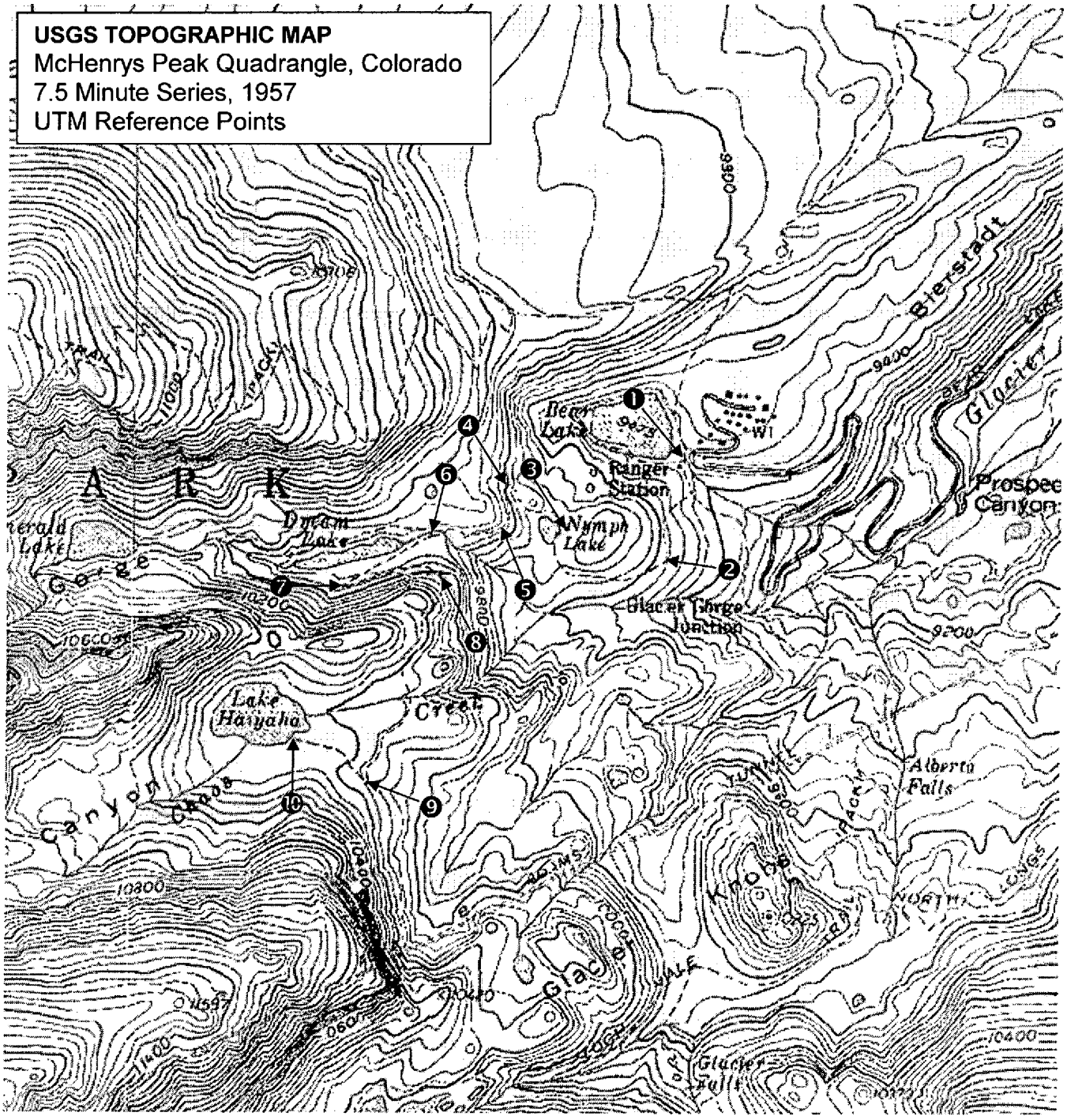
The trail is located entirely within Rocky Mountain National Park. Beginning at Bear Lake, the trail winds west toward Tyndall Gorge, the south into the drainage of Chaos Creek. The trail is 2.1 miles long. The boundary of this nomination extends a distance of 10 feet on either side from the centerline of the trail. The trail route is shown on the USGS topographic quadrangle map which follows.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes the resource and associated features such as (but not limited to) rock walls, bridges, drains and switchbacks. Though landscape features are important to the experience of the visitor traversing the trail and may contribute to the overall integrity of the trail, they are not included in this nomination. Park crews completed a trail between Dream Lake and Emerald Lake in 2005. Up until that point, an unplanned social trail had connected the two lakes, explaining why this spur is not included in the nomination.

UTM REFERENCES (cont.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	(NAD27)
5.	13	444536	4462182	
6.	13	444310	4462153	
7.	13	444020	4461986	
8.	13	444333	4462015	
9.	13	444103	4461347	
10.	13	443868	4461496	



topozone
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0 0.3 0.6 0.9 1.2 1.5 km
0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1 mi

Nymph Lake, USGS McHenrys Peak (CO) Quadrangle
Projection is UTM Zone 13 NAD83 Datum

N

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-6:

Name of Property:	Lake Haiyaha Trail
Location:	Larimer County/ Colorado
Photographer:	Sierra Standish
Date of Photographs:	July 2003
Negatives or digital files:	Rocky Mountain National Park and TIF digital files at the National Register in Washington, DC

Photo No.	Photographic Information
1	Low rock wall supporting tread, between Bear Lake and Nymph Lake. The section is covered in decomposing pavement.
2	Nymph Lake. View to northwest.
3	Rock wall supporting trail. Note log water bars on tread. View to west.
4	Dream Lake. View to south.
5	Rock wall supporting switchback between Dream Lake and Lake Haiyaha.
6	High rock wall supporting switchback between Dream Lake and Lake Haiyaha. Note the presence of lichen, needles and mud in between rocks; this wall has settled over the years.