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Cultural landscape report for the Lewis and Clark Expedition's Travelers Rest campsite near present-day Lolo, Montana

Susan L. Knudsen
The University of Montana

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The Cultural Landscape Report
For The Lewis And Clark Expedition’s Travelers Rest Campsite
Near Present-day Lolo, Montana

by

Susan L. Knudsen

B.A. in Anthropology

from the University of Montana, Missoula, 2001

presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of

Master of Arts

The University of Montana

May 2003

Approved by:

[Signatures and dates]

Chairperson

Dean, Graduate School

Date
Gustavus Sohon 1860 – Artist rendition of the trail to the Bitterroot Mountains, looking northwest towards Travelers Rest (Lolo Creek). Rendered while with Governor Isaac Stevens’ Trans-Continental Railroad Survey crew.
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INTRODUCTION

A cultural landscape is defined as "a geographic area, including both cultural and
natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with a historic
event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values" (Bimbaum
1995:1). A cultural landscape report (CLR) identifies landscape characteristics and
features, both natural and man-made, such as geology, watercourses, vegetation, climate,
structures, and use that develop overtime.

In cultural and natural resource management, a CLR provides detailed, site-
specific information that can supplement other resource management documents and
describe the relationship between natural and cultural resources in a particular landscape.
A cultural landscape report can be "the principal treatment document for cultural
landscapes and the primary tool for long-term management of those landscapes" (Page et
al. 1998:3).

The four general kinds of cultural landscapes are ethnographic, historic designed,
historic vernacular, and historic site (Bimbaum 1995:1). This report deals with the
cultural landscape of the proposed Travelers Rest National Historic Landmark. Because
of the Travelers Rest site's association with the Lewis and Clark expedition, the cultural
landscape is classified under the fourth category as a historic site.

The site, located southwest of present-day Lolo Montana, T12N R20W Section 34
SE ¼, is not an isolated historic site but one of many sites used by the Lewis and Clark
expedition. The expedition was the culmination of President Jefferson's vision to control
the Pacific Northwest and expand the territory of the United States of America. Though
small in overall area, at approximately twenty-five acres, the Travelers Rest site adds
significant information to this larger historic context. As a noted Professor once said, “Small places have the ability to tell large stories” (Clow, personal communication 2003). Such is the case with the Travelers Rest cultural landscape.

PURPOSE AND METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this report is to document the natural and cultural resources of the Travelers Rest landscape. This report is a baseline of information that can be used by the Travelers Rest Preservation and Heritage Association (TRPHA), in association with the Montana State Fish Wildlife and Parks Department, Missoula County, and the Lolo community, to determine management goals and practices for the Travelers Rest State Park.

Information for this section of the report was gained through inventory and documentation of existing structures, geological features, vegetation, watercourses, and topography. Research was conducted to determine past and present landscape characteristics and features and their relevance to the time period of the Lewis and Clark expedition’s encampment in the area. Photographs of the site proper and its viewshed area were taken and a photo-log kept. Aerial photos, topographic maps, sketch maps, and community development maps, were used and developed to determine and illustrate the characteristics and features of the area. The Missoula County Extension Office, the Salish Cultural Committee, the Missoula Office of Planning and Grants, and the Travelers Rest Preservation and Heritage Association, were contacted for relevant cultural landscape information. Investigation of literature relevant to the Travelers Rest CLR was conducted at the Missoula County Public Library, the University of Montana

The Lewis and Clark information comes from the Gary E. Moulton hardback edition of thirteen volumes published between 1983 and 2001. Information from these volumes will be referenced by the combined publication years, the specific journal utilized, and the specific page containing the information. Citations are copied directly from the Moulton volumes, which retains original spelling, grammar, and punctuation utilized by expedition members in their own journals.

Other pertinent information for this report comes from personal experience as an archaeologist participating in the investigation of the site and through reports and personal communication with other members of the investigation.

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The cultural landscape of the Travelers Rest site is significant historically due to its use by the Lewis and Clark expedition in September 1805 and June/July 1806.
Indications are that, unlike its use by the expedition, the site’s agricultural use is not related to any specific person or event of local, state, regional, or national historical significance, nor does it embody any unique design elements. Because the Lolo Trail, a Native American travel route, is located in the general vicinity of the site, and because of evidence obtained from personal communications with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Culture Committee, the archaeological investigation, and expedition journal information, among other things, it is known that Native Americans used the site well into historic times. However, the site does not contain elements of significance to the tribal entities relevant to the area and evidence indicates this context does not add significantly to the overall body of knowledge for the use of the area by Native Americans. Therefore, the historic context of concern for this report pertains to the use of the site by the Corps of Discovery almost 200 years ago.

The current structures on the site, located on the benchland area, including the main house, garage, equipment barn, small storage shed, and garden shed, are of more recent construction and pertain to the agricultural and residential characteristics of the property. They are currently used as the park office and visitor information area. The visible impact of these structures to the bottomland can be reduced with native vegetative screening. The historic barn located on the benchland west of the main residential structures, is not part of the park at this time and was not included in the investigation of the site. Its impact on the site is visual and outside the historic context but is important in its own right as a representation of the agricultural element of the general site area and could become part of the site’s historic development interpretation.
The benchland area has been utilized as a hayfield and is fenced with a segment of an unused irrigation ditch north of the barn. This area contains the possible “plains” used by the Lewis and Clark expedition and Native Americans for foot and horse races during the expedition’s stay at the site June 30 to July 2, 1806. As such, the fact that this particular area is still “open” adds to the impression of them as once having been “plains.”

The dense tree and brush area across the property line on the eastern edge of the site in the bottomland area blocks most of the view of commercial and residential development and Highway 93 and allows the view to rise to the undeveloped hillsides rising towards Skalkaho pass and the Sapphire mountain range.

The undeveloped hillsides to the southwest, west, and a small portion to the north, add to the overall effect of the site being the same as when the expedition camped in the area. Although the western view is highly impacted by the trailer-house and residential development that begins twenty yards from the property line, low brush and trees added to that area could reduce that impact. The view to the west, above the housing area, is of the Sleeman Creek drainage and the Bitterroot Mountains; the direction the expedition took when they left Travelers Rest. The view towards the north is impacted by housing but the trees along the current creek help to block a majority of that impact. The view to the south is highly impacted by housing development but is harder to see from the bottomland, the area indicated as containing the majority of the expedition’s encampment. The southwestern view rises from open foothills to Lolo Peak of the Bitterroot Range and is less impacted by development than that to the south but could benefit from vegetative screening as well.
The lower bottomland area contains not only the current Lolo Creek streambed but also the dry bed and banks of the 1806 channel as well as meander scars of other channels. The bottomland area was used for grazing and contains no structures or man-made features such as irrigation canals. The relative openness of this area and its close vicinity to the creek adds to the impression that it could have been an ideal campsite. The cottonwoods and brush along the current creek and the dry 1806 channel also add to the feeling of wilderness. There are two half-moon or ‘bowl’ landforms in the slope between the benchland and bottomland, one on the southeastern, and one on the southwestern corners of the bottomland. Either one of these could have been used as a corral area for the expedition.

A large portion of the current variety of vegetation at the site, except within the riparian areas, is altered from what was most likely present 200 years ago. The reintroduction of native plants with a planned growth and disbursement pattern to mimic unaltered plains and bottomland ecologies would add to the overall effect of the site. Plans to develop footpaths and kiosks in the bottomland area should include as little obtrusive visual impact as possible on the view from the lip of the benchland towards the creek. The benchland area should also be maintained as “open” as possible.

Given the current level of development in the area, it is surprising the amount to which the site retains a feeling of openness and wilderness. This is, in part, due to the nature of the landform and, in part, due to the process of ownership. The benchland and bottomland were maintained as a unit, with little activity in the wetter bottomland to disturb its natural preservation, and structures were built on the benchland in a clustered fashion that limited the impact on the openness of its fields.
SECTION A: OVERVIEW

Subsection A-1: Study and Site Boundaries

The current Travelers Rest National Historic Landmark (NHL) was designated as "near US Highway No. 93 about 1 mile south of Lolo, Montana," in 1960 (Hall et al 2003). In 1976, a new NHL nomination was submitted with most of the 700-acre site area located east of Highway 93 (Figure No. M1, Wells 1976).

Figure M1 – Current Travelers Rest NHL Designation
Between 1977 and 1979, National Park Service (NPS) representatives visited the Travelers Rest site several times and concluded that the National Historic Landmark (NHL) site designation was not correct but that pin-pointing the actual location would be impossible because of changes in the Lolo Creek channel, grazing, agriculture practices, deep grass, and the abundance of other types of sites in the area. These representatives also expressed concern about the level of development in the area (Hall et al 2003).

Between 1980 and 1982, the Lolo National Forest Archaeologist, C. Milo McLeod, and Eastern Washington Archaeological and Historical Services concluded the Lewis and Clark expedition’s maps and narratives indicated the Travelers Rest campsite should be located on the south side of Lolo Creek, west of Highway 93 and one to two miles from the confluence of the creek and the Bitterroot River. But because the actual site determination was considered an improbable task, the 1976 nomination was officially approved in 1983 (Figure No. M2; Bergantino 1998; Moulton 1983-2001).

In 1984, Bob Bergantino, a professor at the Montana School of Technology, Butte, and an internationally recognized Lewis and Clark map expert, assisted the NPS in an effort to determine the Travelers Rest campsite coordinates. He reevaluated the original coordinates using additional information in the form of aerial photographs, General Land Office maps, and journal information (Bergantino 1998:2). Bergantino’s report, “An Evaluation of Original Lewis and Clark Information to Determine the Location of Travelers Rest Camp, Lolo, Montana” (1998), places the campsite on the south side of Lolo Creek, about 1.5 miles northwest of its confluence with the Bitterroot River (Figure No. M3; Bergantino 1998).
Figure M2 – Travelers Rest camp area, originally from William Clark’s depiction of the area.
Figure M3 – Prof. Bob Bergantino’s preferred area for the actual location of the Travelers Rest campsite.
During these efforts to correctly identify the campsite location, the rural landscape of the general site area was noted, but also noted were concerns over protection and preservation of the site by representatives of the National Park Service. These concerns centered on disruptive agricultural practices in the general area and on urban development south of the town of Lolo, which was seriously encroaching on the land south of Lolo Creek in the vicinity of the proposed Travelers Rest campsite location (Hall et al. 2003). By 1996, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Chapter in Lolo, Montana, took it upon themselves to begin the process of trying to locate and protect the actual campsite. A comprehensive archaeological investigation was eventually conducted to determine the location of the expedition's campsite and submit a new NHL nomination form (Hall et al. 2003).

The location that has been established as the Travelers Rest State Park, south of Lolo, contains the investigation area. The park itself is twenty-five acres in size. The original boundaries of the proposed Travelers Rest State Park had been fifteen acres but, before the park officially opened, another ten acres, to the north of the original fifteen, were purchased, allowing access from US Highway 12. Another ten acres, west of and adjacent to, the northern ten recently purchased, gave easement rights to the park. The current streambed of Lolo Creek runs through the northern portion of the park with US Highway 12 bordering the northern end. Mormon Creek Road borders the southern end. Private property, delineated by a barbwire fence, marks the boundary on both the eastern and western edge of the park (Figure No. M4, Main map, located in folder at back of document; McCann 2003).
The Travelers Rest archaeological investigation site boundaries used for the NHL documentation are similar to but not exactly the same as the park (Figure No.M4). This report deals specifically with the Travelers Rest archaeological investigation site boundaries but includes reference to the larger physiographic context of the site’s spatial organization and viewshed.

The viewshed is linked to the spatial organization of the site and includes all that can be seen from the site itself and all the surrounding area from which the site can be seen (Figure No. M4). This area includes the benchland above the proposed main encampment area, the developed and undeveloped hillsides to the east, south, west, and north, and such associated geography as the toe of the ridge that has been indicated as the most probable area from which William Clark took his distance and bearing of the Travelers Rest campsite when the expedition left heading west to cross the Bitterroot mountains on September 11, 1805, (Figure No. M5, Bergantino 1998:3-4).

This report will discuss the cultural landscape of the area investigated. The detail of this report is determined by several factors, including the size of the site itself, the fact that it is a historic site, and that one of the main purposes of this report is to be a continuation of documentation for the National Historic Landmark nomination form (Page et al. 1998:3-5). Because the full NHL documentation contains elements of research and investigation relevant to this report but included elsewhere, that specific information will be referenced, but not fully reproduced here.
Figure M5 – Depiction of route west from Travelers Rest to toe of ridge south of current Sleeman Creek where Clark took distance and bearing back towards the camp.
Subsection A-2: Geologic Context

Age dates on the basement layer of rocks in Montana show that most of them formed 2.7 billion years ago. About 1.5 billion years ago, thick deposits of sandy and muddy sediments began to accumulate in western Montana. These survive as the Belt formations of western and west-central Montana. During most of the Paleozoic time period, and into the Mesozoic, beginning 240 million years ago, a shallow sea covered most of the area comprising the state of Montana. This sea laid down sediments to thicknesses of several thousand feet. During this time, approximately 175 million years ago, the formation of the Atlantic Ocean pushed the tectonic plate that carried the North American continent into a collision course with the floor of the Pacific Ocean. This collision caused an intense heat that melted the granitic component of the ancient basement rocks, which rose into the upper continental crust, crystallizing into batholiths about 90 to 70 million years ago. These activities helped form the current shape of western Montana. By the end of the Mesozoic, about 65 million years ago, the land had risen to the extent that the inland sea that covered most of Montana had retreated and the thrusting crust and crystallized batholiths were forming the Rocky Mountains, and the mountains of the Bitterroot Range (Alt and Hyndman 2001:6-13).

The basic geological foundation of the Bitterroot Range is a formation known as the Idaho Batholith formed during the Cretaceous Period. The Idaho Batholith mixed granitic quartz monazite material with preexisting metamorphosed Precambrian sediments. There is evidence of intense metamorphic activity occurring along these contact areas (USDA, Forest Service 1976:9).
Glacial activity helped reshape the surface of this area when ice dams formed, causing the flow of runoff and streams to backup into a large lake that encompassed an area that included the Missoula, Clark Fork, and Bitterroot Valleys, reaching to an approximate elevation of 4,300 feet above sea level (Pardee 1910:376-386). This lake is now known as Glacial Lake Missoula and stretched from near Lake Pend d’Oreille, Idaho, east to Drummond, and south to Darby, Montana. This lake drained and refilled numerous times, each time both depositing sediments, and etching into the edges of this area. It drained for the last time at the end of the Pleistocene Period, approximately 13,000 years before present (Mullineaux et al. 1978).

The Travelers Rest archaeological investigation area is located on the west side of the Bitterroot Valley next to the Lolo Creek drainage area and below the Bitterroot Mountain Range. Two general physiographic levels occur on the west side of the Bitterroot Valley. The lower level consists of fan-terraces bordering bottomlands of the Bitterroot River and side valleys, including Lolo Creek. The soils range from very shallow to moderately deep. They developed over granitic stones and gravel. The higher level consists of older fans that are somewhat dissected. The soil materials of the higher level come from the same type of rocks as the lower level but are more weathered (Soil Survey Series 1951, No. 4:1).

The basic geologic composition of the Lolo Creek watershed includes the valley fill and alluvium associated with the stream corridor and adjacent uplands, and glacial till and drift near Lolo Pass. The area of the watershed associated with the Travelers Rest investigation site is composed of weathered metasedimentary rocks including quartzite, argillite, and siltites (Lolo Region Plan 2002:4A-1).
The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) produced a soil survey for Missoula County with a corresponding map indicating soil types for specific areas (Figure No. M6; NRCS 1997). According to the NRCS, there are three main soil types within the site area. These are: L2g - Lolo gravelly loam, level, located within the benchland area of the site; Cb - Chamokane fine sandy loam, located within the bottomland area of the site; and, Ad - Alluvial cobbly land, level, located along the Lolo Creek drainage area also within the bottomland area of the site. A finger of the Ad soil type extends from the creek area into the bottomland area approximately 300 feet from the eastern edge of the site and is approximately 125 feet wide east to west (Figure No. M6).
The formation of soils consists of slow, overlapping, processes. First, parental material accumulates and then organic matter is introduced. Vegetation and climate affect depth of leaching and rate of weathering of these materials. Changes in the upper portion of the parent material through these outside influences begin the formation of soil profiles delineated by ‘horizons’. At first, only a surface soil or ‘A’ horizon develops above the parent material. As leaching and weathering continue a subsoil or ‘B’ horizon develops. This will differ in color, texture, structure, and other characteristics from the surface soil and the parent material. The longer the period of development, the more distinctive these differences become. Thus, age is relevant in soil formation and classification. An example of a young soil within the Bitterroot Valley is the Chamokane series (Soil Survey Series 1951, No. 4:11). A recent geological report concluded the bottomland landform at the Travelers Rest site, where Chamokane soil exists, is between 200 to 300 years old (Eckerle 2001).

At present, one of the most active geologic processes in the greater area of the investigation site is that of water, with the constant down cutting of streams and rivers (Benson et al. 1979:69). Fluctuations in the course of creeks and streams over time, affect the visual aspect of an area. The Travelers Rest investigation site is no exception. Even in the relative short time geologically since Lewis and Clark camped on its banks, the streambed of Lolo Creek has migrated.

Figure No. M7 is William Clark’s map of Meriwether Lewis’s return to the White Bear Islands. It clearly shows two distinct channels of what is now known as Lolo Creek in the vicinity of the Travelers Rest campsite. Professor Bob Bergantino explains that on the expedition’s second visit to the site in late June, early July 1806, the second channel
would have been more obvious because of runoff. In his report on the location of the Travelers Rest site (1998), Bergantino found evidence from an 1870 Government Land Office (GLO) plat for T12N R20W Section 34, an 1879 GLO resurvey, and a 1897-98 US Geological Survey topographic map of the Hamilton quadrangle that “the main channel of Lolo Creek changes location over time” (Bergantino 1998:6). This indicates the creek had more than one channel prior to human impact and that its current location fits its historic pattern of migration.

A Northern Pacific Railroad map has further evidence of variations in the number and location of Lolo Creek channels. The map contains information dating back to 1890 showing two channels of Lolo Creek, the southern one is located near the present location of Lolo Creek, and the other about 1.5 miles north (Figure M8; Missoula County Surveyors Office 2003). Also shown are locations acquired by the railroad for the purpose of channelizing Lolo Creek to avoid railroad bridge washouts at the confluence of Lolo Creek and the Bitterroot River. This channelizing effort was conducted downstream of the Travelers Rest site area.

A 1937 aerial photograph of the area appears to show the northern channel in existence, but a 1964 aerial photo suggests that water was no longer flowing in it (Figures No. A1 and A2; Hall et al 2003). Additional information on the geologic context of the site can be accessed in Chapter V of the Travelers Rest NHL report (Hall et al 2003).
Figure M7 – Depiction of Clark’s map of Lewis’s return to the White Bear Islands, illustrating two distinct channels of Lolo Creek near Travelers Rest campsite.
Figure M8 – Northern Pacific Railroad map south of Lolo circa 1890 depicting two distinct channels for Lolo Creek.
Figure A1 – View taken July 7, 1937. Site area is SSE of large black section number 34. Red sect. line aligned with portion of Mormon Creek Rd that constitutes south site boundary. View shows meander scars, landforms, topography, agricultural use in general area, and level of development at this time.
Figure A2 – Taken July 20, 1964. US Hwy 12 in center, running west, directly N of Lolo Creek. Site area access extends N from Mormon Creek Rd with ‘L’ turn to W. Shows meander scars, landforms, topography, agriculture in general area, and level of development at this time.
Subsection A-3: Climate

The present climate of western Montana is essentially the same as when the Corps of Discovery camped in the area of the Travelers Rest site. Western Montana, and the Bitterroot Valley, experience mainly warm, moist maritime air masses from the Pacific Coast with only occasional incursions of cooler, drier Arctic air patterns. The maritime air masses bring warm, short summers and relatively mild but long winters (McLeod 1984:6-8). Montana’s weather is notable for being extreme and unpredictable, with temperatures that can sink below minus 35 degrees and rise above 100 and can rise and fall over 30 degrees sometimes in minutes. High winds, sudden warm or Chinook winds, rain, or snow squalls can also occur rapidly. Although temperamental day to day, Montana’s relatively low precipitation and humidity often take the edge off these extremes (Merrill and Jacobson 1997:36, 45-46)

Temperatures along Lolo Creek are less extreme than in the eastern half of the state. The average annual temperature maximum for Missoula (just north of Lolo) for the period between 1893-1966 is 57 degrees Fahrenheit. The average annual minimum for the same period is 32 degrees. The average annual precipitation for the same locale and time period is 14 inches. For Stevensville (just south of Lolo), for the period from 1911 to 2001, the average maximum temperature is 58 degrees Fahrenheit; the minimum is 31 degrees and the average precipitation 12.5 inches (Western Regional Climate Center 2003). According to the Montana Natural Resource Information System, (MT NRIS), (2003), the average precipitation for the general project area ranges from 12 to 18 inches annually.
The temperature and precipitation levels vary in extremes, in specific geographic areas, due primarily to variations in altitude. Sun exposure and elevation can mitigate the Maritime fronts, creating individual microclimates within the ridges and draws of the mountains (McLeod 1984:6-8).

**Subsection A-4: Prehistoric Overview**

A variety of chronologies have been developed to illustrate specific prehistoric periods of time with projectile point typologies providing references for these perceived periods. The time periods used in this subsection were obtained from George C. Frison's text, "Prehistoric Hunters of the High Plains" (1991:24).

There is no unequivocal evidence of human occupation of western Montana prior to 11,500 years before present (BP). There is some evidence of human activity in the area during the period classified as Paleoindian, 11,500 BP to 7,500 BP. A small collection of Agate Basin complex projectile points have been found near Como Lake, west of Darby, near Clearwater Junction, at the Avon site along the Blackfoot River near Ovando, and within the Kootenai River drainage of western Montana (Thomas and Turner 1969:3, Taylor 1979; Melton 1983, McLeod 1984:18). No clear evidence of this type of early occupation has yet been found in the Bitterroot Valley (Ward 1973:104). Material evidence of the Early Plains Archaic Period, 8,000 BP to 5,000 BP, have been found in adjacent mountain valleys such as the Clark Fork, Flathead, and Ninemile, and possibly as far north as the Kootenai River Valley, demonstrating those areas were both accessible and utilized during this time. The similarities between the Clark Fork and Bitterroot valleys in types of game and vegetation, and the ease of access between the
two, lends to the contention that the Early Plains Archaic occupation time frame is just as compatible for the Bitterroot (McLeod 1984).

According to the Indians of North America Handbook (1998) the area containing the Travelers Rest site belongs to the Eastern Periphery Plateau culture area, and more specifically the area above natural salmon migration barriers, sometimes referred to as the Barrier Falls subarea (Roll and Hackenberger 1998:120). The absence of salmon in the Barrier Falls subarea led to cultural strategies that contrast with those of the remainder of the Plateau. A dispersed human population utilizing a forager strategy dependent on seasonal movement for accessing big game and seasonal abundance of selected plant foods is indicated by the available information for this area (Roll and Hackenberger 1998:124).

Towards the end of the Middle Archaic Period, 3,500 BP to 3,000 BP, it has been suggested that the Flathead/Salish migrated from the Northern Plateau culture area east into western Montana and spread out onto the Plains. They encountered the Pend d'Oreille, another Salishan speaking group, and others, already occupying this area. This time frame of migration is not conclusive (Turney-High 1937:12-13; Fahey 1974:6-7; Malouf 1998:297).

Linguistic evidence indicates a probable maximum 4500 year time span marking migrations of Salishan speakers from a central location within the Northern Plateau and a minimum of 500 years separation for the Kalispell Salishan dialect chain that includes the Flathead/Salish and Pend d'Oreille. Linguistic evidence also indicates Athapaskan speakers expanded southward into the general Plateau area within the past 1,000 to 1,500
years and it is “highly unlikely” they arrived before Salishan speakers in the Eastern Plateau (Kinkade et al. 1998:68).

According to the ethnography by H. H. Turney-High for the Salish, both the Salish and Pend d’Oreille agree that a small, dark-skinned people already existed in the Bitterroot, Missoula, and Blackfoot area when they first arrived (1937:5). These people were called the “Semte’use” or “Foolish Folk”. They were described as using underground lodging and living along streams, being fishermen, having black stone points, and shell and either copper or zinc beads. They reportedly spoke “a Salishan language, had sloping narrow heads, square jaws, and were short, muscular, bow-legged, and flat-footed” (Turney-High 1937:16).

As possible evidence that a people similar to the Semte’use might have existed, Turney-High presents information pertaining to two flexed burials, one from Rollins Point on Flathead Lake found in 1932, and one in 1934 from a mining claim of Edward Lozeau, a Pend d’Oreille placer miner, in the talus of a hill above the south bank of the Missoula (present-day Clark Fork) River near Forest Grove (T15N R25W S9). Turney-High includes physical descriptions of the two from the anthropology laboratory at the University of Michigan and from his own investigation. These concur fairly well with the oral description of the Foolish Folk (Turney-High 1937:18-20).

Although further investigation of the first burial site was not possible, the second burial included discoidal beads that were not of bone, mineral, or rock, but possibly of horn, tubular beads of sheet copper, a dentalium necklace, a shell ear ornament, a large flat horn point, a small, flaked obsidian point, and a quartz scraper. Dr. Clarence Wilson of the Montana School of Mines analyzed the copper and reported that it had “a high
degree of purity, was cold-worked without annealing, and appears to be native copper of
great antiquity” (Turney-High 1937:19-21).

The evidence of prehistoric use of the Bitterroot area greatly increases during the
Middle Plains Archaic and into the Late Prehistoric period, from approximately 5,000 BP
to before 400 BP. Archaeological materials such as projectile points of the Duncan and
Hanna style, and those of the McKean complex, have been found throughout the
McKean complex points have also been found at high elevation sites in the northern
Bitterroot Range (Fredlund and LaComb 1971; Hogan 1974). Projectile points from the
Late Prehistoric Period (1,500 to 400 BP) have also been recovered from the Bitterroot
and Clark Fork Valleys as well as from high elevation sites, like Big Creek Lake
(Fredlund 1979:105).

Archaeological evidence indicates travel and/or trade was occurring between
western Montana and the Columbia Plateau, the Snake River country, and the Northwest
Plains culture areas (Malouf 1956; Kinkade et al. 1998:49). Windust-like projectile
points have been found in northwestern Montana along the Kootenai River and east of the
Continental Divide near Dillion (Choquette 1982). Cascade-type points have been found
in western Montana near the present-day town of Plains and east of the Continental
Divide at Canyon Ferry. Corner-notched points representative of the Late Plains Archaic
(3,000 to 1,500 BP) and Late Prehistoric Period in Montana (1,500 to 400 BP) and the
Harder phase in Idaho, have been found at Big Creek Lake on the east side of the
Bitterroot mountains and at Wilderness Gateway on the west (McLeod 1984:32).
The fact that these various geographic cultural areas interacted demonstrates that the Bitterroot Valley, as well as other western Montana mountain valley areas, were not isolated. The stylistic similarities of materials recovered from western Montana with those of the Columbia Plateau would seem to indicate the existence, by at least the Late Prehistoric Period (1,500 to 400 BP), of a west/east avenue of exchange (Ryan 1977:177).

Although historically the Bitterroot Valley was known as the homeland of the Flathead/Salish, their use of the area, as a central semi-permanent occupation site, was a relatively new development occurring sometime within the Protohistoric Period between 400 to 250 BP (Fahey 1974:17, 23; Walker and Sprague 1998:139). Due to pressure from other tribes, disease, and a reduction in population, the Salish moved west, off the Plains, most likely between 300 to 250 BP, and retreated over the Continental Divide, establishing their general occupation center in the Bitterroot Valley (Fahey 1974:25, Malouf 1998:302).

From Prehistoric times, the Nez Perce traveled across the Bitterroot Range using a Native American trail now known as the Lolo Trail, or Northern Nez Perce trail, to access seasonal root crops and to access the Plains farther east for hunting (Walker and Sprague 1998:139). The Nez Perce name for the Lolo Trail, which is located in the vicinity of the Travelers Rest campsite, is khusahnalshkit, which means ‘buffalo trail’ (Space 1970:1).

The Nez Perce were “middlemen” in a vast network of trading established prior to the advent of the Protohistoric Period (Walker and Sprague 1998:139). By the Protohistoric Period, the Nez Perce visited the Bitterroot Valley for trade and resource
acquisition on a regular basis, bringing goods from the Plateau in exchange for items from the Salish and Plains tribes (Turney-High 1937:137). At times they were known to have spent whole seasons camped with the Salish in the Bitterroot Valley (Walker 1998:421).

By the 1700s, or 300 BP, the Salish held a “gateway” position between the Plains tribes and those of the Plateau to the point that the Salish language was known well enough that “one [could] converse from the United States to Willamette” just by knowing Salishan (Mengarini 1848; Fahey 1974:8).

Use of the greater project area, south of Lolo, during prehistoric, protohistoric, and historic times by Native Americans, including the Nez Perce, Salish, Pend d’Oreille, Kootenai, Shoshone, and Blackfoot, among others, was as a major crossroads and occupation and resource gathering area (Incashola, personal communication 2003). US Highway 93, just east of the project area, and US Highway 12, just north of the project area, occupy the approximate routes that at one time were Native American trails. The general project area was criss-crossed with trails utilized to access buffalo herds, seasonal food gathering, and trade, among other things. These trails included the Lolo Trail, or Northern Nez Perce trail, which crossed the Bitterroot Mountains, the south/north Indian road connecting the Southern Nez Perce trail, Bitterroot Valley, Missoula Valley, and the bison herds to the east, and the northeast trail connecting the general project area to the upper Clark Fork (Figures No. M9-M11; Bergantino 1998; Lolo Regional Plan:3-1; Allen 1975:348).

The following evidence of resource gathering at the Travelers Rest site comes from Joseph Whitehouse’s journal entries on September 10, 1805: “considerable of
cotton timber on this creek the choke cherries abound on its bottoms. the natives has lately gathered an ample quantities of them here for food, as they moved up.” And, “We found an immense quantities of these berries, which the Natives had lately gathered for food on their way to the Mesouri,” (Moulton 1983-2001:v11:308-309). More information pertaining to the Prehistoric use of the Travelers Rest area is contained in Chapter VIII, Section A of the NHL report (Hall et al. 2003).
Figure M9 – S/N Indian road used by the expedition enroute to the Travelers Rest area in September 1805.
Figure M10 – Shows the Travelers Rest site area in association with the Lolo Trail.
Figure M11 – Depiction of numerous trails within vicinity of Travelers Rest area.
Subsection A-5: Historic Overview

The Historic period begins with the initial documented contact between Native Americans and Euro-Americans. For western Montana, this occurred with the arrival of the Lewis and Clark expedition. The expedition recorded the first use of the Lolo Trail and Travelers Rest campsite by Euro-Americans. They crossed the Trail twice, in September of 1805 and in June/July of 1806, using the Travelers Rest campsite on both occasions (McLeod 1984:34-36).

The detailed information and associated maps contained in the expedition’s journals, including descriptions of campsites, topographical features, and astronomical observations, are sometimes enough to relocate campsites and the expedition’s exact route. Information contained in the various journals, along with other sources of information, helped re-establish the location and probable route of the Lolo Trail. Bob Bergantino used information from the journals, along with other sources of information, and modern mapping techniques, to locate the most likely location of the Travelers Rest site (McLeod 1984:35, Bergantino 1998:2). More information on Lewis and Clark and the Travelers Rest site can be found in Chapter III, Section A of the NHL report (Hall et al 2003).

The expedition members who kept journals included information on the local botany, zoology, geography, and ethnography of the areas they traveled through 200 years ago. From the journals, it is known that at the time of the expedition, members of the Salish tribe were in the Bitterroot Valley. Both the journals and the Confederated Salish Kootenai tribe recorded the historic meeting that occurred at Ross’s Hole, on the East Fork of the Bitterroot River, south of present-day Stevensville, called *Cutl-kukh-

It is also known that bitterroots grew at the Travelers Rest site. Bitterroots were an important source of food and a major trade item for Native Americans (Moulton 1983-2001:v8:80). An example of the bitterroot plant taken from the Travelers Rest campsite in July of 1806 was sent to the Academy of Natural Science in Philadelphia. Journal entries indicate the expedition followed a Nez Perce guide along an Indian Trail through the Bitterroot Mountains on their way to the coast. Besides the various journal references to evidence of Native American activity along the Lolo Trail, the fact that the expedition used a Native guide who knew and used the Trail and general campsite area, “So we go the road he knows,” (Moulton 1983-2001:v11.309; Space 1970:5), confirms the Trail, and the greater project area, were used by Natives prior to historic times (McLeod 1984:38).

After Lewis and Clark’s expedition traversed the Lolo Trail and returned home, other Euro-Americans made their way into western Montana (Ronan 1890:3). David Thompson, a fur-trapper for the British Northwest Company, traveled through northwestern Montana, northern Idaho, and eastern Washington between 1809 and 1811. He established the ‘Saleesh House’ trading post near present-day Thompson Falls in 1809 and is known to have traveled through the Flathead and Clark Fork Valleys as far south as Missoula, but there is no evidence that he ever explored the Bitterroot Valley or used the Lolo Trail (McLeod 1984:42).

By 1820, a group of Iroquois from Caughnawaga settled among the Salish in the Bitterroot. They apparently arrived with British fur-trappers from the northeast (Malouf
Other evidence that the fur trade was active in western Montana is evidenced by the presence of Jedediah Smith in 1824 and 1825, and Joshua Pilcher in 1828. These early trappers followed major waterways for access to beaver and to contact Natives for trade. There is no evidence that these early trappers used the Lolo Trail or the Lolo Creek drainage area. But John Work, of the Hudson’s Bay Company and his fur-trapping Snake River Brigade, which included women and children, did use the Trail, traveling west over in September and October of 1831 (Lewis and Phillips 1923:82-89).

Although this is the only recorded evidence of fur-trappers using the Trail, it is likely that other parties, either as individuals or small groups, used the Trail and creek drainage area between 1820 and the early 1840s (Josephy 1959:84). Included in this early contact was a small party of Iroquois under Ignace La Mousse, who taught the Salish about the “medicine of the blackrobes” (Flathead Culture Committee 1979:6).

Determined to learn more about this medicine, the Salish sent four delegations to St. Louis to secure Blackrobes for the tribe. In 1831, the first delegation made its journey without success. This first attempt was followed by two more that met the same fate. The fourth attempt in 1839, met with success when Father De Smet accepted the assignment to establish a Mission among the Salish in the Bitterroot Valley (Flathead Culture Committee 1979:6).

St. Mary’s Mission was established in 1841 and Father De Smet, and five assistants, began to work with the Salish, teaching religion along with farming, milling, carpentry, and other skills. Eventually, the Mission closed and the property was sold to Major John Owen (Flathead Culture Committee 1979:6).
In 1850, Major John Owen established his trading post, Fort Owen, at the original St. Mary mission site. In 1852, he moved the Fort approximately one half mile east of the mission site, where it stands today. Owen traveled extensively to get supplies for his Fort; he used the Lolo Trail on at least three separate occasions, in 1852, 1857, and 1863 (Dunbar and Phillips 1927:52). Owen kept journals of his years at the Fort and in his journal entry for August 20, 1867, he indicates a specific activity on the Lolo Creek:

> report in Circulation that the Flatheads [Salish] were holding consultation at the Lo Lo fork to take into Consideration the propriety of ordering the Whites to leave the Country &c. It is all ‘Bosh’ No doubt. The Indians are dissatisfied With the hanging of one of their Young Men by a party of White Men last ‘spring on the Gallatin for Stealing horses (John Owen Papers, Manuscript Collection No. MC 44:box 2, folder 1, Montana Historical Society, Helena).

A different Mission was established at present-day St. Ignatius in 1854 to be centrally located between the Pend d’Oreille and the Salish. A second St. Mary’s Mission was established near present-day Stevensville in 1866 and acted as a central location for many of the Salish that remained in the Bitterroot (Ronan 1890:37-38).

On July 7, 1855, the Chiefs of the Salish, Upper Pend d’Oreille and Kootenai, met with Governor Stevens at the Council Groves site on the Bitterroot River near Missoula and signed “articles of agreement” that became known as the Hellgate Treaty (U. S. Stat: 12: 975, Bigart and Woodcock 1996:9; Peterson and Peers 1993:136).

Article 11 of the treaty stipulates that a portion of the Bitterroot Valley, lying above (south of) Lolo creek (including the area containing the Travelers Rest investigation site), would be surveyed and if, “in the judgment of the President,” it proved to be better suited for the use of the Salish than the Jocko Reservation, (now called the Flathead Reservation), then the necessary land in that area would be set aside for the Salish as their reservation (Bigart and Woodcock 1996:15).
Article 11 was the compromise clause that allowed the Salish chief to sign the treaty. It was believed by the Salish that they would not be required to live on Pend d'Oreille land at Jocko, that the Bitterroot would remain their home. After the treaty, they returned to the Bitterroot and their usual lives. Many Salish families camped near the second St. Mary's Mission site, but many others camped at various sites around the Valley (Hungry Wolf 1974:12).

For seventeen years following the meeting with Governor Stevens at Council Groves, the Salish continued to live in the Bitterroot Valley. White settlers moved in and built up farms, but no major altercations between the Natives and the settlers ensued. No survey was ever conducted of the land above Lolo Creek. This gave support to the tribes' belief that the Government had given its permission for the Salish to remain permanently in the Valley (Hamilton 1970:197).

During this time, the Salish were still making regular trips over the mountains for buffalo but were also attempting to adjust to changes in their subsistence. They built log cabins in the Bitterroot and raised cattle that they bought from emigrants coming west. They grew grain and raised gardens (Hungry Wolf 1974:12).

Indian Agent Charles Jones held a council with the Salish in the Bitterroot in 1868 to try and persuade the tribe to move to the Jocko. He suggested the tribal members become citizens and take lands under the Homestead Act of 1862 (Flathead Culture Committee 1979:9). In February 1869, a memorial from the Territory of Montana Legislature was received in the House of Representatives. The document requested the removal of the Salish from the Bitterroot Valley.

...That there are at this time about 350 of the Flathead tribe of Indians residing in said valley; that their habits and customs are so different from those of the whites, it is found to be impossible for the two races to live on amicable terms; therefore we, your memorialists, would respectfully memorialize your honorable body that a commissioner be appointed to treat with said Indians for their removal to the reservation provided for them in the Jocko valley (40th Cong., 3rd Sess., H. R. Mis. Doc. No.41).

On November 14, 1871, President Grant issued an Executive Order proclaiming that the area south of Lolo Creek had been surveyed and examined and, in his opinion,
found not to be better suited for the Salish and therefore, "...all Indians residing in said Bitter Root Valley [must] be removed as soon as practicable to the reservation ..." (Exec. Orders 1922:v.II:89).

On May 16, 1872, Congress passed a bill to provide for the removal of the Salish from the Bitterroot. Among the various reasons for this removal was to open the lands unclaimed by Natives to white settlers, but an offer was made that "on the condition they dissolve their tribal relations," the Salish are permitted to "pre-empt without cost one hundred and sixty acres each," (42nd Cong., 2nd Sess., Sen. Report No. 197). Although their removal had been ordered, no direct action was taken and the Salish continued to reside in the Valley for another seventeen years.

March 2, 1889, Congress passed an act that stipulated the patented Salish lands in the Bitterroot were to be reappraised and sold and the value credited to the Natives who had held the patents. After this was accomplished, the remainder of the Salish in the Bitterroot Valley were to be escorted to the Jocko. General H. B. Carrington was appointed to oversee this operation. He had each piece of land appraised and obtained consent of the patentee to sell it. An agreement to move to the Jocko was drawn up and signed by Carrington and Chief Charlo, November 3, 1889, (Hamilton 1970:204; Flathead Culture Committee 1979:12; Peterson and Peers 1993:140).

With the final removal of the Salish from the Bitterroot Valley, the area became increasingly settled by Euro-Americans. Homestead and cash entry records for the general area of the Travelers Rest site indicate a homestead claimant took up residence in the area in 1881, making improvements that included a house, stable, granary, outbuildings, fencing, and ditches. A cash preemption claim was filed in 1884 showing
the claimant purchased a residence, barn, other buildings, and fencing. The stated intended use of the area was for agriculture (Hall et al 2003). The use of the area for agriculture continued for nearly a century.

Informants relevant to the area confirmed the exclusive long-term agricultural use of the greater project area until the fairly recent introduction of subdivisions and the addition of mobile home courts. Most of the agricultural activity consisted of hay growing, stock raising, and grain and potato growing. Almost all of this activity was confined to the benchland area (Hall et al 2003).

The increased activity from settlement of the Bitterroot Valley and removal of the Salish greatly altered the traditional function and impact on the Lolo Trail and the area of the Travelers Rest campsite. The settlement and accompanying agricultural practices also hid a lot of the indications of early occupation by Native Americans in the Valley. In, “Prehistory of the Bitterroot Valley,” (1973) Linda Ward states, “Valley residents, from one end to the other, have themselves, or have known others, who mostly in the past, collected stone tools from various surface sites. But, because the valley was settled by whites quite early, ca. 1860s, former sites have been worked and cultivated so that little trace, if anything but hearsay, remains.”

**Historic Context:** The historic relevance of the Travelers Rest campsite is inextricably linked to its use by the Corp of Discovery during their journey across what would become the western portion of the United States of America. The Corps of Discovery was the first expedition funded by the United States government and, perhaps, it’s most successful. On their journey, the expedition made the first detailed maps of the areas they covered and documented the natural and cultural resources they encountered.
Some of the details of these areas have been altered and some of the resources no longer exist but, the information can still be referenced from the pages of the journals kept by members of this historic endeavor.

This site does not add significant additional information to any other historic or prehistoric context, such as the settlement of the area or the overall body of knowledge about the use of the area by Native Americans, nor does the site contain elements of significance to the tribal entities relevant to the area, according to the Confederated Salish Kootenai Culture Committee representative (Incashola, personal communication 2003). Therefore, the historic context of concern for this report pertains to the use of the site by the Corps of Discovery almost 200 years ago.

The Travelers Rest site, abundant with game, provisioned the expedition for its journey through the Bitterroot Mountains and gave a much appreciated respite on their return. The use of this site during the journey of the Lewis and Clark expedition makes it part of an important period of expansion and development for this nation, region, and state. A more comprehensive coverage of the history of the Travelers Rest site is contained in Chapter VIII, Sections B, C, and D of the NHL report (Hall et al 2003).

SECTION B: SITE COMPONENTS

Subsection B-1: Structures

Currently: A cluster of structures and a wood corral are located overlooking the lip of the benchland area, near the eastern edge of the site (Figure No. A3, 2001). The only house in this cluster is the former residence of the Deschamps family that is
currently used to house the park office. It is a small, one and a half unit deep, one and a half story tall, wood frame construction with a stucco exterior and a moderately pitched front gable asphalt shingle roof with an extended secondary roof to the east. It has a concrete foundation, no basement or attic, and is in good condition. The main story has 1188 square feet of floor space and the half story has 528 square feet.
Figure A3 – Taken in 2001. Depicts clustered structures, creek area, landforms, and development. Note presence of trailer court west of bottomland. These are not present in 1995 aerial photos of area.
There is a secondary shed roof over an enclosed entry addition on the south half of the west side of the house, and a second shed roof covered entrance on the north half of the west side, with narrow double metal posts and a concrete pad. The enclosed entry addition has moderately wide vertical siding, possibly T1-11. The north side of the structure also has a covered partial width porch entrance utilizing the same plain posts, concrete pad, and a shed roof. The south-facing entrance has a small, flat roofed stoop with concrete steps and the same style posts.

The eaves are wide, overhung, and boxed. There is a four vertical paneled bay window below the roof line on the addition’s south side, a 1/1 paired double-hung window set in the upper ½ story and a single fixed picture window on the first story that sports a metal awning with two extended horizontal panels. The east side has two single 1/1 double-hung windows. The west side has two wood and glass entrance doors, both with metal screens. The north side has two single 1/1 double-hung windows and a wood and glass door with a metal screen. The doors and windows have plain wood surrounds. There is fake shutter framing on all but the west and north side doors.

The porches, covered front stoop, front gabled roof, small overall stature, and wide overhung boxed eaves indicate this house has a mix of styles that include the Craftsman and possibly Prairie style but with no dominant format. This determination comes from a study of distinctive styles found in the reference text, “Field Guide to American Houses,” (McAlester 1984). According to Loren Flynn, current manager of the Travelers Rest site, the heart of this house was built early in the 20th century with additions and remodeling having taken place over the years (personal communication 2002). The Missoula County Property Information System (2003) lists the house as
being constructed in 1940 although the rest of the structures are listed as having been constructed between 1920 and 1935. This fits with the period indicated by the mixed style of the home (Figures No. S1-S4).

Figure S1 – Front view (south side) of the main house structure, looking north; main entrance drive in foreground; east edge of property line on right-hand side.

Figure S2 – View of main house (south side) looking north-northwest; garage portion of the garage/storage structure visible on left; ‘L’ turn in main access road in foreground as is area of current parking (lower left).
Figure S3 – View of main house (southwest corner) looking northeast; storage structure on left-hand side; garden shed in rear of house.

Figure S4 – View of rear (north side) of main house, looking southeast; garden shed on left-hand side; small storage structure right of house, left of garage/storage structure, and above field access road remnant; east ‘bowl’ shape and slope between benchland and bottomland evident.
There is a small storage facility located northwest of the house, within the chain-link fenced yard, that has a moderately pitched, front gable south-facing entrance and an asphalt shingle roof. It is of wood frame construction and has simple drop-lapped, wood siding and a concrete foundation. It has wide exposed eaves, a paneled wood door with one large window, one 3/3-casement window on the east, and one 3/3-casement window on the south. It is listed as having been constructed in 1920, has a floor space of 256 square feet, and is in fair condition. It is currently used for storage (Figures No. S3-S5).

A smaller but similar garden shed structure is located in the north yard within the fenced area. It is also listed as having been constructed in 1920, has a floor space of 160 square feet, and is in poor condition. It is not currently used (Figures No. S3-S4).

Figure S5 – View of front of small storage facility (south side), located off northwest corner of the main house, looking north; garage portion of combined garage/storage structure on left.
There is a garage and storage shed located west of the house, outside the fenced area. This structure is detached from the house but has a shared tin roof for the contemporary garage and the storage facility and has vertical tongue-in-groove wood siding. The storage section of this building is open to the south with three bays. The garage has a cement floor, while the storage section has a dirt floor. The garage has three 2/2 square fixed windows on its back or north side. The storage shed section is listed as having been constructed in 1920, has a floor space of 320 square feet, and is in fair condition. The garage section of this structure was constructed in 1935, has a 1280 square foot floor area, and is in good condition. They both have a wood frame construction. The storage area is used for parking on occasion while the garage area is used as a visitor welcoming station (Figures No. S6-S7).
Figure S6 – Front view (south side) of the garage/storage shed, looking north-northeast with the storage portion prominent; truck blocking garage portion; circular driveway section in foreground and right; field access road remnant on left.

Figure S7 – Front view (south side) of garage/storage shed, looking northwest; garage portion of structure on right with door down; circular driveway evident in foreground; calving shed in background on left.
A calving shed, located west of the garage building, is a weathered, wooden structure. It is of wood plank construction, erected in 1920, with a floor space of 128 square feet, and is in very poor condition. It is not used currently (Figures No. S8-S9).

A system of wooden post and plank corrals is located north of the equipment barn and south of the calving shed. These include three gates giving access to the rest of the benchland area and the bottomland. There is no reference for the date of their original construction. Judging from their condition, they were either constructed or have been repaired and/or renovated relatively recently (Figures No. S9-S10).

Figure S8 – Front of calving shed (southwest side), located on edge of benchland, looking northeast; wood corral feature in foreground and right.
Figure S9 – View of the calving shed and wood corral feature, looking east; garden shed and garage/storage structure in background on right; location of structures follows natural ‘bowl’ shape of slope.

Figure S10 – Continuation of wood corral feature from calving shed to edge of equipment barn (edge in far right center), looking east; field access road remnant in center foreground running to left; neighbor houses in background on right.
Located southwest of house, and south of the garage/storage structure, is an equipment barn. This structure, originally constructed in 1930, has been renovated to include an oversized, overhead garage door, presumably for access for farm equipment. It is of wood frame construction, with wide vertical wood siding and a concrete foundation. It has a moderately pitched tin roof with wide overhung eaves and exposed rafters. There are four 2/2 fixed windows on the north and south sides, a one bay paneled garage door on the north half of the east side and a small casement window on the south half of the east side. There is also a single 1/1 double-hung window on the south half of the west side and a flush wood back door on the north half of the west side. It has a floor space of 1064 square feet and is in fair condition. It is currently used for storage (Figures No. S11-S12).

There is also a pump house located on the property, west of the corral area. It has tin siding (Figure No. S13). A small section of wood post and plank fencing, including an access gate, exists between the calving shed (east of the shed) and the back of the storage section of the garage/storage structure (northwest corner). It is most likely associated with the corral system area and calving shed (Figure No. S8). Other fencing features found in the vicinity of the site are wood, metal posts, and barbwire. These are generally located on the perimeter of the site with some remnants around the hay field area of the benchland (see Figure No. S14). A singlewide mobile home and attached deck, once located southeast of the equipment barn, has been removed (Figure No. A3).
Figure S11 – View of the northeast corner of the equipment barn, looking southwest; NRHP barn in background on right; part of main access circular driveway in foreground.

Figure S12 – View of the southwest corner of the equipment barn, looking northeast; wood corral feature on left; main house on right.
Figure S13 – Rear view (west side) of equipment barn and northwest corner view of pump house in foreground, looking southeast; wood corral feature on left.

Figure S14 – Historic barn, looking south at the barn’s north side; remnant of irrigation ditch hidden in tall grass approximately five feet from old fence towards barn; housing development across Mormon Creek Road in background.
There is a large wood post and plank barn located west of the equipment barn, southwest of the corrals, within the benchland field area, and near the western border of the site. Although it was not part of the archaeological investigation that was conducted at the site, it is significant as a feature relevant to the historic period of agricultural practices and settlement of the Bitterroot Valley (Figure No. S14). Alterations have occurred since original construction as exemplified by the seven boarded-up windows on the north side, visible in Figure No. S14. Not all were boarded. Interior changes in association with these windows include removal or remodel of existing stalls to accommodate increased work and storage space. Similar alterations occurred on the south side as well.

**Historically:** Improvements to the general site area, indicated by homestead and cash entry records that mention a house, stable, granary, and outbuildings in 1881, are not evident. Other than the historic barn, a residence and other buildings, indicated as existing in the general site area, by a cash preemption claim filed in 1884, are, likewise, not evident. The fencing that remains, may have portions, or trajectories, that coincide with the original improvements of the general area, but are not conclusive. Other than the barn already mentioned, no structures constructed prior to 1920 are currently evident within the site (Hall et al 2003).

**Subsection B-2: Constructed Water Features**

**Currently:** There are no functioning water features on the surface of the site, although there are buried water pipes in association with the pump house. There is a remnant of a non-functioning irrigation ditch that was used by the Deschamps family.
until recently (Figure No. S14). This remnant is most likely what is left of an irrigation ditch titled the “Rock-Ostrand-Tucker-Kester Ditch” that existed in the area in 1960, according to the, “Water Resources Survey Missoula County Montana, Part I, History of Land and Water Use on Irrigated Areas,” published by the State Engineer’s Office, Helena, Montana (Figure No. M12).

**Historically:** A remnant of an irrigation ditch is located near the lip of the benchland area, west of the corrals and north of the historic barn. It is not a functioning ditch and is most likely associated with the agricultural practices utilized within the general project area. Homestead and cash entry records for the general site area indicate the construction of ditches in 1881, and this remnant is possibly associated with these early irrigation activities.
Figure M12 – Depiction of Rock-Ostrand-Tucker-Kester irrigation ditch circa 1960; T12N R20W Sect. 34; benchland area of Travelers Rest site.
**Subsection B-3: Circulation**

**Currently:** There is one gravel driveway that is the primary, and currently, only, access to the site. It enters from the south Mormon Creek Road boundary of the site and runs north to an ‘L’ turn that runs west in front of, and south of, the main house structure. It loops around a small grassy ‘island’ that contains a large cottonwood tree and power pole, past the main parking facility, the old garden and house trailer location, the equipment barn, corrals, and garage/storage structure (Figure No. A3; Figure No. M4). There are two remnants of field access roads that are no longer used. One is located along the east property line, from the edge of the benchland, down the slope at an approximate 30 percent grade running north about 60 feet. The second remnant is located along the edge of the benchland, west of the calving shed and northwest from the corrals, running at an approximate 35 percent grade west-northwest and down slope about 100 feet. Additionally, there is a parking area established east of the area that contained the singlewide mobile home.

**Historically:** In the past, the general project area was a crossroads and occupation area for the Nez Perce, Salish, and various other tribes (Incashola, personal communication 2003). It was also part of the general area of the historic Lolo Trail (Figure No. M9; Lolo Regional Plan:3-1). North of the site area, US Highway 12 now occupies the general route of the Trail. The current US Highway 93, just east of the site, follows almost exactly the south/north Native American road used by the Lewis and Clark expedition through the Bitterroot Valley (Figure No. M10, Bergantino 1998). A sketch map, in, “Passage Through the Garden,” by John Logan Allen, obtained from
expedition journal information, shows a multitude of Native American trails in the vicinity of the site (Figure No. M11, Allen 1975:348).

The historical development of the Lolo community grew around the crossroads intersection of two of these main Native American trails: the Lolo Trail, and the south/north Bitterroot Valley trail. This is now the intersection of US Highway 12 and US Highway 93 (Lolo Regional Plan:5E-1).

Subsection B-4: Biotic Resources

Current Flora: The following information was obtained from the Missoula County Extension Office. Smooth Brome (Bromus inermis) largely dominates the benchland area of the site. There is little noxious weed encroachment, but there are a few Canadian thistle and spotted knapweed plants. Located on the slope between the benchland and the bottomland are scattered Ponderosa pine (pinus ponderosa) and one Douglas fir (Pseudotsuga taxifolia).

Non-native grasses and annual weeds dominate the open bottomland area. Examples include: Smooth Brome, Quackgrass (Agropyron repens), Cheatgrass (Bromus tectorum), and Tumble mustard (Sisyrium altissimum), as well as patches of Canadian thistle, spotted knapweed, and leafy spurge. Also present in this area are few specimens of Chokecherry (Prunus virginiana).

In the bottomland riparian area of Lolo Creek, including the older stream meanders as well as the current channel, Black Cottonwood (Populus trichocarpa) is the dominant tree species. Shrubs present in this area include Chokecherry, Black Hawthorn
(Crataegus douglasii), and Snowberry (Symphoricarpos albus). Wet site plants such as sedges and forbs are also present, primarily along the current Lolo Creek channel.

A garden plot, associated with relatively recent residential activities within the clustered structure area, and located north of the recently removed mobile home, is not currently being utilized.

**Historically:** The benchland, and portions of the bottomland, areas were most likely a grassland habitat. A review by a representative from the Missoula County Extension Office, and references from the Soil Survey Series 1951, No. 4, indicate the following plants would likely have been located in this habitat type:

- Bluebunch wheatgrass – *Agropyron spicatum*
- Sandberg bluegrass – *Poa secunda*
- Idaho fescue – *Festuca idahoensis*
- Basin wildrye – *Elymus cinereus*
- Prairie junegrass – *Koeleria cristata*
- Yarrow – *Achillia millfolium*
- aster – *Aster Chilensis*
- Arrowleaf Balsamroot – *Balsamorhiza sagittata*
- Blanket flower – *Gaillardia aristata*
- Bitterroot – *Lewisia rediviva*
- Blue flax – *Linum lewisii*
- Lupine – *Lupinus sericeus*
- Mock orange – *Philadelphus lewisii*
- Woods rose – *Rosa woodsii*
- Chokecherry – *Prunus virginiana*

Native grasses that were most likely present in the bottomland area historically include:

- Western Wheatgrass (*Agropyron smithii*)
- Slender Wheatgrass (*Agropyron trachycaulm*)

Shrubs and trees in this area would have included:

- Chokecherry (some specimens still present)
- Mock orange
- Black Hawthorn (*Crataegus douglasii*)
- Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*)
The riparian area is more closely aligned with historic vegetation than other portions of the property, probably due to the natural flooding and receding pattern of Lolo Creek and the lack of any significant impact from grazing. Many of the shrubs already listed are present or would have been present in the past, including:

- Black Hawthorn
- Chokecherry
- Snowberry
- Woods Rose

(Alan Knudsen Missoula County Extension Agent, personal communication 2002; Loren Flynn, personal communication 2002).

From the journals kept by the Lewis and Clark expedition, (Moulton 1983-2001 v:9-11), the following flora were noted within the general area of the Travelers Rest investigation site:

- Ponderosa pine – *Pinus ponderosa*
- Douglas fir – *Pseudotsuga taxifolia*
- Black Cottonwood – *Populus trichocarpa*
- Quaking Aspen – *Populus tremuloides*
- Coyote willow – *Salix exigua*
- Bebb willow – *Salix bebbiana*
- Scouler willow – *Salix scoulerianna*
- Yellow willow – *Salix lutea*
- Chokecherry – *Prunus virginiana*
- Serviceberry
- Blue Elderberry – *Sanbucus cerulea*
- Common Elderberry – *Sanbucus Canadensis*
- Whiteberry honeysuckle
- Wild Rose bushes
- White clover – *Trifolium longipes*
- Wild Hyssop
- Mountain Lady’s Slipper – *Cypripedium montanum*
- Western trumpet, or, orange honeysuckle – *Lonicera ciliosa*

Also noted was an abundance of high grasses.
Meriwether Lewis discovered four new plant species from the Travelers Rest camp. These are:

- Wormleaf stonecrop – *Sedum stenopetalum*
- Thinleaf owlclover – *Orthocarpus tenuifolius*
- Small-head or Woolly clover – *Trifolium microcephalum*
- Bitterroot – *Lewisia rediviva*

There are expedition journal entries that specifically state that Native Americans had recently used the Travelers Rest campsite for gathering resources such as chokecherries, serviceberries, and blue elderberries prior to moving up to the Missouri River area. These were quoted earlier in this report (Joseph Whitehouse, September 10, 1805). The bitterroot plant, discovered and sampled by Lewis at the Travelers Rest site, was a food and trade item of Native Americans, and was also most likely harvested from the general site area (Moulton 1983-2001:v11:308-309).

The vegetation of this general area falls within the Northern Rocky Mountain Vegetation type, with variations due to altitude, aspect, and precipitation. The type and density of vegetation in the past affected the use of the Lolo Trail, and its general area, including the Travelers Rest site, just as it does today. Because of the lack of adequate big game habitat along the Trail, the expedition attempted to lay in an adequate meat supply while at the Travelers Rest site (Moulton 1983-2001:v5:197). The lack of game habitat, including fodder for horses, was probably due to a dense “climax” forest vegetation distribution. Between 1805 and 1910, the forest vegetation level is not known. It is known that this condition altered after the fires of 1910, 1919, 1929, and 1934, burning off the dense deadfall and overlying mature timber and regenerating a variety of grasses, shrubs, and brush, ideal for big game. Modern logging and slash burning have
continued to sustain an advantageous big game habitat in this area. There is evidence that prior to European arrival, Native Americans knew of the affects of fire on game habitat and used it periodically to develop better hunting grounds (Mehringer, et al 1977:345-368; Devoto 1953:406; McLeod 1984:9; Walker 1998:46).

**Current Fauna:** Of the large game animals present in western Montana, several utilize the general area of the Travelers Rest site. Elk winter on the south-facing grass and timberlands above Lolo Creek. Whitetail deer use the riparian corridor and lower elevations along the creek, and Mule deer and moose populations exist in the upper range of the creek. Black bears, pine marten, fisher, flying squirrels, spotted skunk, hoary marmots, and mountain lions, are other mammal species known in the general area. A re-established gray wolf population in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness area may utilize the creek corridor for migration. Radio-collared wolves have been tracked near Lolo Pass at the headwaters of Lolo Creek (Lolo Regional Plan 2002:4C-4-5).

In various states, including Montana, the gray wolf was federally listed as an ‘endangered’ species in 1967. A recategorization proposal was submitted in 2000 to change the gray wolf’s listing designation from endangered to ‘threatened’ in various states, including Montana (US Fish and Wildlife Service website: http://ecos.fws.gov/servlet/Species, 3/14/2003).

Significant resident and migratory bird populations exist along the riparian corridor. Waterfowl and upland birds use the corridor as a flyway, stopping to feed enroute to summer and winter areas. Examples include, osprey, prairie falcon, cooper’s hawk, long-eared owls, bald and golden eagles, as well as various ducks, geese, and common bird species (Lolo Regional Plan 2002:4C-4-5).
Lolo Creek is considered a native fishery and high value recruitment fishery to the Bitterroot River. The creek and its tributaries contain populations of brown trout, rainbow trout, westslope cutthroat trout, bull trout, brook trout, mountain whitefish, sucker, northern pike minnows, dace, and sculpin (Lolo Regional Plan 2002:4C-4-5).

The bull trout and the bald eagle are other species federally listed as ‘threatened.’ The west slope cutthroat trout has ‘special status’ with the Bureau of Land Management, a classification of ‘sensitive’ with the United States Forest Service, and is currently being considered for federal listing (Lolo Regional Plan 2002:4C-4-5, Appendix 4C-1-2).

Historically: Past references to the local fauna of the general project area come from journal entries made by the Lewis and Clark expedition. During the expedition’s time at the Travelers Rest site prior to crossing the Bitterroot Range, William Clark made an entry on Tuesday, September 10, 1805, that stated,

...as the guide report that no game is to be found on our rout for a long ways, ads an addition to the cause of our delay to precure Some meat, dispatched all our hunters in different directions, to hunt the Deer which is the only large game to be found, (Moulton 1983-2001:v5:197).

The guide was a member of the Nez Perce tribe and was indicating that game would not be as available along the trail through the mountains. In Meriwether Lewis’s entry for Monday, June 30, 1806, when the expedition returned to the Travelers Rest site, he wrote, “Deer are very abundant in the neighbourhood of travellers rest of both species, also some bighorns and Elk” (Moulton 1983-2001:v8:66). The two deer species referred to are Mule deer and Whitetail deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*). The bighorns statement refers to bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis*). Other local fauna detailed in the journals for this area include:

- Beaver
- Richardson’s Red squirrel – *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus richardsoni*
Prairie Dog
Woodpeckers — either the redheaded (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) or the pileated (*Dryocopus pileatus*)
Lewis's Woodpecker — *Melanerpes lewis*
Mourning Dove — *Zenaida macroura*
Common or Northern Flicker — *Colaptes auratus*
Horned Lark — *Eremophila alpestris*
Sharptailed grouse — *Tympanuchus phasianellus*
American robin — *Turdus migratorius*
Upland Sandpiper — *Bartramia longicauda*
Either the Rusty blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) or Brewer's blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*)
Common raven — *Corvus corax*
Western kingbird — *Tyrannus tyrannus*

Other fauna noted in the journal entries during the period of time spent within the vicinity of the Travelers Rest camp were geese, ducks, cranes, and pheasants (Moulton 1993-1997).

**Subsection B-5: Topography**

The topography of the site and surrounding area includes surface characteristics that influenced the use of the site. The ease of access and higher, flatter location and shape of the benchland area of the site made it ideal for agricultural practices and structure location. The lower level, tougher access, and irregularly undulating surface of the bottomland limited its practical use to pasture for horses (Figure No. M13 and No. M4; National Geographic USGS Program 2000; McCann 2003).
Figure No. M13 — Depicts the topography of the greater site area.
The east and west ‘bowl’ shapes located along the slope between the benchland and bottomland areas may have been used as corral areas during the encampment of the Lewis and Clark expedition at the site. Journal entries from the expedition describe foot and horse races being run, most likely along the benchland area, during the expeditions return visit to the site June 30-July 3 1806. On July 2 1806, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark write: Lewis: “in the evening the Indians run their horses and we had several foot races between the natives and our party with various success,” (Moulton 1983-2001:v8:79). Clark: “The Indians and Some of our men amuse themselves in running races on foot as well as with their horses,” (Moulton 1983-2001:v8:80).

Journal entries also indicate the general location of mountains in the greater site area and mention the steepness of the trail that took them over the Bitterroot Range (Moulton 1983-2001:v5:198, v8:66,68,79, v9:221, v10:139). On September 10, 1805, while at the Travelers Rest campsite, Joseph Whitehouse wrote: “As our Road now lay over a Mountain to our left hand, Our Officers conclude to stay here this day,” (Moulton 1983-2001:v11:309). Another entry by Whitehouse for the same day states: “the Snow on the mountain about 1 mile to the S. W. of us does not melt but very little,” (Moulton 1983-2001:v11:310).

Within the site boundaries, the benchland is relatively unchanged topographically since the expedition’s presence, with the only alterations involving erosion along the lip of the slope and grading from agricultural practices and development. The topography of the bottomland, within the site itself, has seen some variation in overall composition due to possible flooding and periodic shifts in the location, bearing, and load of Lolo Creek but this variation has not been significant. Significant change to the topography of the
adjacent private property, which is part of the greater project area, occurred during the 1960s. During this time, the current Hendricks property, located east of the site, had been used as a gravel pit, and bulldozed for an intended but never constructed hotel (Eckerle 2001; Hall et al. 2003).

Subsection B-6: Natural Systems/Features

The topography of the general project area including the closeness and grade of mountains and foothills, and the shape and location of the benchland, bottomland, and slope, influenced the local climatic elements of temperature, precipitation, and wind for the general site area. This in turn, influenced the natural vegetation system, soil development and deposition, and the course, intensity, and periodic flooding episodes of Lolo Creek. The climate, vegetation, and soil development of the area has already been discussed (Figure No. M6). The current flood plain of Lolo Creek is fairly narrow, affecting a portion of the bottomland area of the site (Figure No. M14; Lolo Regional Plan 2002:Maps:4B-1).
Figure M14 – Depicts the floodplain of both Lolo Creek and Bitterroot River.
The creek itself has been recorded from 1805 to the present with variations in general location and course. Several depictions of the creek, and the general area, indicate the precise location and direction of the creek has altered overtime (Figures No. M7 and M8; Bergantino 1998:6). Meander scars from previous channels of the creek can be seen in Figures A1-A3, as well as the current channel, and the 1806 channel area, which is delineated by a fragmented tree line south of the existing channel (Hall et al. 2003).

Subsection B-7: Land Use

Post-Encampment Use: Currently, the Travelers Rest NHL investigation site area also contains the recently developed Travelers Rest State Park, which is beginning to see an increase in use by the general public. This impact will continue to increase with the upcoming Lewis and Clark expeditions' bicentennial. The organization, form, and shape of the site, with two distinct landforms, and existing access and structures on the benchland, has, and will likely continue, to influence the manner in which this landscape is used.

Land use for this site has been influenced by not only the existing conditions and shape of this site but by the traditional practices of the culture using it at any particular time. These practices, in historic times, divided the site into specific use areas while establishing them as a cohesive whole.

From 1881 to the 1960s, the site was used as a residence and farm, with the benchland area bearing the brunt of the plowing associated with this use and the bottomland used primarily for pasture (Loren Flynn, personal communication, 2002; Hall
et al. 2003). The agricultural practices used at the site were influenced, over time, by existing technologies, the availability of resources, and the cultural background of the owners. The same is true for the design and clustered format of the structures on the site.

**Encampment Use:** The military aspect of the expedition would have required the Corp of Discovery to follow military protocol, even to the extent of their camp layout. The protocol for establishing an area of use within the presence of Native Americans developed from experience for nearly three decades prior to the expedition’s journey. Since the expedition was a military endeavor, it is highly probable that the recommendations outlined in Baron von Steuben’s military manual were used for the expedition’s camp formation.

The Baron was a German mercenary who worked with the American colonies during the War of Independence. The young American republic used his military protocols until 1812 (Hall et al. 2003). The manual, “Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States,” written in 1794, included a chapter (XVI) specific to setting up camps. The format had detailed instructions for distances and locations between cooking fires, latrines, waste disposal areas, and the tents for the enlisted men and officers.

Protocol required any alterations from military format to be noted by a field commander. Nowhere in the journals is there a reference to altering from protocol. Therefore, it can be assumed that a military camp format, as described in von Steuben’s manual, is consistent with the expedition’s camp format. Additional information specific to Baron von Steuben and his military camp format can be accessed in Chapter VII, Section A and B of the NHL report (Hall et al 2003).
This camp format would have prioritized utilizing the bottomland area with its access to Lolo Creek for its primary cook fire and the benchland area for its protective visual perspective. It has also been proposed that the ‘bowl’ shapes of the slope would have made natural corral areas for the expedition’s horses and the benchland is most likely the area in which foot and horse races were run between expedition members and their Native American guides.

**Pre-Encampment Use:** In prehistoric times, the site was used as a seasonal resource gathering camp and as part of multiple Native American travel corridors (Moulton 1983-2001:v11:308-309; Incashola personal communication 2003, Bergantino 1998:3-4; Figure No. 11; Allen1975:348). As the riparian area within the bottomland area still constitutes the primary area of native vegetative food resources, and is indicated to have done so at the time of the expedition, (Joseph Whitehouse quotes September 10, 1805), it is assumed this area of the site was utilized in this manner during prehistoric times as well. What resources were gathered and in what format would have been dictated by season and cultural traditions.

**Subsection B-8: Archaeological Site**

The archaeological investigation conducted at the Travelers Rest site is a culmination of a process to locate the actual campsite used by the Corps of Discovery in September 1805 and July 1806. The site includes features and artifacts that pertain to the expedition’s encampment. The investigation included the use of an electromagnetic data collector (EM31), a magnetometer, and analysis of surface, insitu, and excavated soil samples with a mercury vaporizer data collector. The boundaries of the investigation...
area are shown in Figure No. M4 (McCann 2003). Additional information on the archaeological investigation of the site can be found in Chapters IX, X, and XII of the NHL report (Hall et al 2003).

Within the area investigated, the findings include the location of the latrine, identified by the presence of mercury at a stratigraphically significant consistency, meaning, significantly below the surface at a consistent depth. The mercury is within a trench anomaly located by the EM31 and runs north/south, which is contrary to the creek meander scars. Mercury is significant because it’s known that members of the expedition were consuming Dr. Rush’s pills. These pills were 60 percent mercury. Mercury would not have dissipated into surrounding soil components within the 200-year time frame of the site's historic context due to its insoluble characteristics, nor would it have migrated far from its source of use because of its relative weight. What movement there would have been, for mercury left at the time of the expedition in the specific locality of the trench feature, would have followed a stratigraphically consistent level (Hall et al 2003).

Other features identified include a large centrally located hearth feature that also demonstrated a stratigraphically significant consistency of relevant artifacts and fire-cracked rock and charcoal. Charcoal from the central hearth feature was analyzed by Stafford Research Laboratories, Inc., Boulder, Colorado, (2003) and resulted in a radiocarbon date of 130 RC years +/- 35. This is significant because radiocarbon dates for material as recent as 300 years ago are extremely difficult to determine and this date is within the time frame for the expedition, considering the relative margin of error (Taylor 1997:69). Two other smaller hearth features were also located and the University of Arizona’s AMS Facility is analyzing charcoal samples from these. Overall, the latrine
feature, in association with the hearth features, corresponds to the camp formation pattern dictated by military protocol at the time of the expedition (Hall et al 2003).

Artifacts consistent with those of the expedition include worked lead and lead balls. The lead is being analyzed to determine its trace elements. One specific lead ball shows striations and a flattened end consistent with having been shot. Judging by its current weight, it appears to have been larger than fifty caliber (Hall et al 2003).

In addition, a blue glass bead, located within the central hearth feature, is consistent with those carried by the expedition for trade with Natives met during their journey. The specific size and configuration of the bead has been analyzed by Professor Tom Foor of the University of Montana Anthropology Department and by Western Cultural, the archaeological firm investigating the site, and has been confirmed as being identical to those of the time period and type used by the Corps of Discovery (Hall et al 2003).

The locations of the hearth features and the latrine are all within the bottomland area of the site but the benchland area was also investigated. This area is highly impacted by the presence of relatively recent metallic and electronic elements that masked much of the data collected by the magnetometer. Because of this masking of potential areas of significance and because the overall design of the investigation attempted to reduce ground-disturbing activity, areas of archaeological significance could easily have been missed. In addition, the benchland area has borne the brunt of the site’s agricultural and building activities and the archaeological record of that area may have been disturbed. This does not mean that areas of significance do not exist. This should be kept in mind for future investigations and/or analysis of the site. The full significance of the site is still
being analyzed but it has the potential to add important information to the general understanding of the layout and use of the expedition’s campsites.

Subsection B-9: Spatial Organization and Viewshed

The ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create the space within and around the site are linked with the features that define and create the site’s range of vision, or viewshed (Page et al. 1998:53). The planes and features of the site and greater project area, including the shape of the landforms, the vegetation, slope, structures, surrounding developed and undeveloped hillsides, mountains, and drainages, all play a role in defining the site’s organization and viewshed. The impact of the viewshed and spatial organization on the site underscores how the greater project area is significant to the site itself.

The view from the site, and the way the site itself and the surrounding area is arranged, conveys the environment in which the site currently exists. The essence of that environment, with the same mountains, hills, and drainages, is similar to but not exactly the same as the one the expedition members found themselves in 200 years ago.

Development within the greater site area is significant to the current and future cultural value of the Travelers Rest camp because of its impact on the viewshed and spatial organization of the site. The Lolo Regional Plan developed in 2002 contains relevant information on the current level of development and proposed future levels of development for the greater project area. These details give a broader understanding of the environment in which the Travelers Rest site is located. The Plan can be accessed at the Missoula County Office of Planning and Grants, Missoula, Montana.
The Lolo Regional Plan quotes the, "Inventory of Conservation Resources," (1992), definition of open space as: "those areas which contribute to scenic panoramas that can be enjoyed from a park, nature preserve, public road, water body, trail, historic structure or land area, or which provides a visual buffer around important open space features. These lands may have open space functions beyond scenic value, such as floodplain or drainage retention, wildlife habitat, and recreation," (Lolo Regional Plan 2002:5F-1).

In addition, the, "Inventory of Conservation Resources," (1992), identifies lands along the Bitterroot River and river valley and along Lolo Creek and its major tributaries as having open space value, (Figure No. M15; Lolo Regional Plan 2002:5F-1).

Figure No. M15 (Lolo Regional Plan 2002) has a detailed illustration of the general area and a comprehensive index indicating number of dwelling units per acre, open and resource areas, and flood risk and floodway areas. It also indicates the location of the Travelers Rest State Park as well as a topographic illustration of the Lolo community. The general site area is contained within the Lolo Regional Plan’s designation of the Lolo Community Development area. The existing residential density of this area is illustrated in Figure No. M16 (Lolo Regional Plan 2002:Appendix 5C-1).

South of the Travelers Rest site, two dwelling units per acre are currently designated. West of the benchland, one dwelling unit per acre is indicated, while west of the bottomland, one dwelling per five acres is depicted. The area east of the site is designated as “general commercial.” In the area north of the site, and south of US Highway 12, is the Lolo Creek floodway and flood risk area, with a narrow “open and resource” designation around the floodway. A designation of one dwelling per five acres
lies just north of the open and resource area and a four dwelling units per acre designation
fills the rest of the area within the flood risk zone. To the north of US Highway 12, 
outside the flood risk area, six dwellings per acre are designated (Figure No. M15).

The designations contained within the Lolo Regional Plan are to “guide and be
given consideration by” the Board of County Commissioners for such things as review of
subdivisions plats. This plan is limited to lands that are not exempt to review (Lolo
Regional Plan 2002:ii).

The best way to illustrate the viewshed and spatial organization of the site is with
digital and aerial photographs and maps. The spatial organization of the site proper is
illustrated in Figure No. A3. A greater perspective of outlying development and open
space is illustrated in Figure No. A4. Development and open space is designated in
Figure No. M15 (Lolo Regional Plan 2002, loose map:filename:PCOMLOLO.PLT). A
recently proposed and accepted development plan is illustrated in Figure No. M17
(Macchling 2002).
Figure M15 – Concentration/types of development for greater site area; areas described as open and resource; association of site with these designations.
Figure M16 – Population density within the area of Lolo, Lolo Creek, and the Travelers Rest State Park.
Figure M17 – Recently proposed and accepted area of development on hillside north of site.
The real essence of the site’s view and spatial arrangement is best conveyed by personal experience but the next best avenue is through digital photography. The following illustration of the Travelers Rest viewshed and spatial organization has been included within the text of this report so that the elements being described can be readily identified within the associated photograph. The following paragraph is a brief synopsis of what is being illustrated and includes reference to three aerial photographs and one topographic depiction of the greater site area. Aerial photo Figure No. A3 is included earlier in this report. Aerial photo Figures No. A4 and A5, as well as the topographic map Figure No. M18, will be displayed following the digital photos.

The view from the bottomland is illustrated in Figures No. V1-V4, from the benchland in Figures No. V5-V10, and from the west, south, and north, towards the site, in Figures No. V11-V14. On the east, the Sapphire Range and lower hillsides are at a significant distance from the site (Figure No. M18, National Geographic USGS Program 2000), and the vegetation along the east boundary blocks any potential view towards the site from that direction (Figure No. V1; Figures No. A3-A5; 2001; MT NRIS 1995). These views illustrate the ground, vertical, and overhead elements while also defining the range of vision and organization of the site.
The bottomland view towards the east, (Figure No. V1), shows the line of trees along the eastern boundary and the otherwise open field area between the slope and the creek. Approximately fifteen feet from the eastern boundary, about in the center of the photo, the archaeological investigation located the Lewis and Clark expedition’s latrine (Hall et al. 2003).

Figure V1 – View looking east from survey stake No. 206 in bottomland.
The bottomland view towards the west, (Figure No. V2) shows the western boundary of the site and the recent trailer court development bordering the site. It also shows the hills and mountains of the Bitterroot Range that rise in that direction. It was in this direction, that the expedition traveled when they left the Travelers Rest camp on September 11, 1805, and the direction from which they returned on June 30, 1806. The ridge right of center rises above Sleeman Creek.

Figure V2 – View looking west from survey stake No. 206 in bottomland.
The view to the southeast from the bottomland, (Figure No. V3) shows the eastern edge field access road below and to the left of the pine in the center of the photo. It shows the distant mountains of the Sapphire Range, the open field area below the slope, the eastern 'bowl' shape of the slope, and the clustered arrangement of the current structures along the lip of the benchland.

Figure V3 – View looking southeast from survey stake No. 206 in bottomland.
From the same area, towards the southwest, (Figure No. V4), the view shows the western segment of the slope, the clustered structures on neighboring property, and the hills and mountains rising to Lolo Peak, the highest mountain in the Bitterroot Range. It may be these mountains mentioned in expedition journal entries for September 9, 1805. "the Snow on the mountain about 1 mile to the S. W of us does not melt but verry little," (Moulton 1983-2001:v11:310).

Figure V4 – View looking southwest from survey stake No. 206 in bottomland.
Figure No. V5 is from the benchland area and looks towards the north-northwest. In this view, a portion of the open bottomland area can be seen, including the 1806 creek channel in the center, and it looks towards the current creek channel hidden by the tree line in the background. The photo also shows the area, right of the small leaning trees and left of the last cottonwood, on the south bank of the old channel, where the large hearth feature was located. Above the treeline, this view shows the hills and mountains across Lolo Creek and US Highway 12 and the area of proposed development (Figure No M17).

Figure V5 – View looking north-northwest from survey stake No. 204 on benchland overlooking bottomland; main hearth feature in central bare ground area.
The view towards the northeast, (Figure No. V6), looks across the middle of the benchland edge. In the foreground, the remnant of a field access road that runs downslope to the bottomland is shown. A lone ponderosa pine is located in the middle of the slope’s bank just above the area where the Deschamps family buried two horses. A continuous line of cottonwood trees and brush delineates the current creek area. Within this vegetative cover, a cluster of private property structures can be seen on the north bank of Lolo Creek. Above the trees, mountains of the Sapphire Range are visible.

Figure V6 – View looking northeast from survey stake No. 204 on benchland overlooking bottomland; current creek channel in background along tree line.
The view from the benchland towards the east, (Figure No. V7), shows some of the open field area, the site’s clustered structures, with the wood corral in the foreground. Also visible are a portion of fence remnant, the neighbor’s house and shed in the background, the trees in the yard of the main house structure to the right of the photo, and, above all this, to the left and right, are the mountains of the Sapphire Range.
Figure No. V8 shows the view to the southeast from the benchland. The pump house and equipment barn are on the left. Some of the development across Mormon Creek Road is also shown. The Sapphire Range can be seen in the distance. This view looks towards the direction from which the expedition came as they made their way to the Travelers Rest site on September 9, 1805.

Figure V8 – View looking southeast from survey stake No. 204 on benchland; fencing remnant and open hayfield area in foreground.
The benchland view to the southwest, (Figure No. V9), shows structures on adjacent private property. In the foreground on the right, the ‘bowl’ shape of the slope is evident. Above this area, the hillsides and mountains rise to Lolo Peak, similar to the view in V4.

Figure V9 - View looking southwest from survey stake No. 204 on benchland.
The view to the south-southwest from the benchland, (Figure No. V10), shows the historic barn, the pump house, some fencing, wood corral, and development across Mormon Creek Road. The open field area, shown in this view and the previous two views, (Figures No. V8 and V9), is most likely part of the area mentioned in the expedition journals as being used for foot and horse races during the expedition’s second stay at the site in July 1806.

Figure V10 – View looking south-southwest.
Figure No. V11 looks east towards the Travelers Rest site from where Mormon Creek Road climbs along the low ridge west of the site area. The bottomland, slope, and benchland lip area are visible in the very center of the photo, east of the three trailer houses. The undeveloped hills rising to the Sapphire Range are prominent in the background.

Figure V11 – View looking east from Mormon Creek Road towards site.
Figure No. V12 looks north-northeast from a housing development above Mormon Creek Road. This shows the development that surrounds the site with developed and undeveloped areas north of the site. The open area with the historic barn is visible to the left of the white equipment barn in the center of the photo.
Figure No. V13 is a closer version of the view in Figure No. V12. The site's main access driveway runs along the fence line to the right of the white equipment barn.

Figure V13 – View looking north-northeast from hill south of site; site in center of photo.
The view towards the southeast, (Figure No. V14) was taken from the developed area on the hill north of the site visible in V12. The area of the creek is evident from the treeline. The benchland area with the large historic barn is partially visible in the center of the photo behind treetops. One possible access being considered for the site will be from US Highway 12 with a footbridge across the creek in the area behind and to the left of the farm in the foreground. The vista looking down the Bitterroot Valley shows the developed and undeveloped areas and general topography in this direction.
Figure A4 – Taken in 1995. Visually depicts topography and development of the greater site area. The site is located in approx. center of the ‘pink’ square.
Figure A5 - Taken in 1995. Depicts creek and bottomland, clustered structure arrangement and development to the west of the benchland area.
Figure No. M18 – The Sapphire Mountain Range and foothills are depicted showing their relative association with the greater site area.
Figures No. M19 and M5, (USGS Program; Bergantino 1998), indicate the location, and association with the site, of the toe of the ridge, south of Sleeman Creek, where Clark took a distance and bearing reading on September 11, 1805, as the expedition left the Travelers Rest camp and started their ascent of the Lolo Trail. This area, as well as the rest of the viewshed and spatial organization of the site, illustrates how the greater project area is relevant to the actual site.
Figure No. M19 – Topographic map depicting association of the toe of the ridge south of Sleeman Creek and the Travelers Rest site.
Subsection C-1: Treatment Record

Loren Flynn, current manager of the Travelers Rest State Park, has provided all of the following information concerning treatment plans for the Travelers Rest site. Plans for the structures currently located on the Travelers Rest site include using the main house structure as the administrative offices for the Travelers’ Rest Preservation and Heritage Association and the small storage structure on the northwest corner of the house as storage for interpretive materials. The garage section of the combined garage/storage structure is currently used for a visitor greeting area and plans are underway to upgrade this facility to make it more attractive and convenient for visitors. Long-term plans for the storage section of the garage will depend on its structural soundness and ability to be renovated. The relatively recently renovated equipment barn, southwest of the house, will be used as equipment and grounds storage for the state park.

There are no plans to use the garden shed building located north of the house at this time and the calving shed is slated for removal by spring of 2003. The singlewide mobile home and attached deck located at the southeast corner of the equipment barn was removed in 2002. Because the large historic barn, located southwest of the main house structure, is currently not a part of the Travelers Rest State Park, it is not being considered for treatment plans at this time.

A parking area established in 2002, will be topped with gravel and parking spaces delineated for the 2003 visitor season. The parking area may also be expanded into the
old garden area and a vault toilet will be installed in spring 2003. A likely location would be either the old garden area or adjacent to the equipment barn.

Trail construction will begin in 2003. The initial trail will lead from the parking area, through the corral area and along the upper bench. There will be a spur trail to an overlook on the bench. The main trail will continue down the slope, roughly following the track of the existing vehicle track established during agricultural operations on the property. Once the trail reaches the lower terrace and the heart of the Travelers’ Rest campsite, it will loop around or near the perimeter of the property. The park manager and the landscape architect employed by TRPHA met with Dan Hall of Western Cultural to identify archaeologically sensitive areas, which will be avoided during trail construction. The method of trail construction is not yet finalized, but will be undertaken in such a manner that it will minimize or omit disruption of the archaeological record. Eventually, this trail will cross Lolo Creek via a footbridge, most likely located near the northwest corner of the property.

Vegetation screening will be used at various locations throughout the property. This is important in order to provide a quality aesthetic experience for park visitors and privacy for neighboring residents. Planting of vegetation will be done in consultation with archaeologists. Plans are also underway to undertake native vegetation restoration projects on the property. The pilot project will likely take place in the pasture located south of the house and north of Mormon Creek Road (Loren Flynn, personal communication, 2002).
Subsection C-2: Analysis and Evaluation

To determine the significance of a landscape, the site history and existing conditions, obtained through research, are related to the historic context associated with the landscape. This is done by associating the history and existing conditions to one or more of the Criteria of Evaluation, excerpted from the National Park Service's (NPS), "National Register Bulletin 15," (1995). These four criteria are: A) Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; B) Association with the lives of persons significant in our past; C) Embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and/or D) Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Individual landscape characteristics and associated features are defined in the context of the landscape as a whole. Seven aspects of integrity, (also excerpted from the, "National Register Bulletin 15," ) are used to address the cohesiveness and characteristics of the landscape. These are: 1) Location, the place where the cultural landscape was constructed or the landscape where the historic event occurred; 2) Design, the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a cultural landscape; 3) Setting, the physical environment of the cultural landscape; 4) Materials, the physical elements that were combined or deposited during the particular period(s) of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form the cultural landscape; 5) Workmanship, the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history of prehistory; 6) Feeling, a cultural landscape's
expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time; and 6) Association, the direct link between the important event or person and a cultural landscape (Page et al. 1998:71-72).

Historic integrity is assessed to determine if the landscape characteristics and associated features and spatial qualities that shaped the landscape during the historic period are present in much the same way as they were historically. Integrity is determined by the extent to which the general characteristics of the historic period are still evident and the degree to which incompatible elements obscuring that characteristic can be reversed or mitigated (Page et al. 1998:71-72).

In some landscapes, change itself is a significant factor and needs to be considered in assessing integrity. It is important to consider how changes affect the landscape as a whole. The presence of some characteristics can be more critical to integrity than others. In a basically rural landscape setting such as the Travelers Rest site, the spatial organization, viewshed, and patterns of land use are often more important in assessing integrity than individual features such as structures (Page et al. 1998:72). The level to which non-contributing elements may impact the historic integrity of the site will be discussed at the end of this subsection.

Structures: None of the structures, including the wood corral feature and historic barn, are relevant to the historic context of the site. The detail included under the “Site Components” section of this report is for a thorough recording of existing resources and for future referencing.

Constructed Water Features: The small segment of irrigation remnant is not relevant to the historic context of the site and is therefore non-contributing to this report’s
determination of the site’s historic integrity.

**Circulation:** Evidence of the original multiple Native American trails through the area either no longer exists or have been highly impacted by development as indicated by US Highway 93 and US Highway 12, both of which generally follow what were originally Native American trails. Portions of the Lolo Trail have been identified within the larger area context of the site (McLeod 1984; Bergantino 1998:3-4). The current Mormon Creek Road, main access driveway, and new parking area are not relevant to the historic context of the site nor are the remnants of field access roads. The remnants are no longer used and will not be maintained as roads, thereby reducing and/or eliminating the negative impact of their existence other than the slight alteration to the bank of the slope where each was originally constructed.

**Biotic Resources:** The integrity of the historic flora of the benchland has been adversely impacted by the agricultural practices used in that area. The primary flora, Smooth Brome, is not native to the area. Even so, the open field area of this part of the site could be returned to native grasses identified by the Missoula County Extension representative. The historic integrity of the bottomland flora has been adversely impacted by grazing. Again, the open field area of this landform could have native vegetation reintroduced. The riparian section of the bottomland retains a significant portion of its historic context flora. This area should be protected and managed to maintain this aspect of its integrity.

The historic presence of specific fauna in the area has not been as impacted as the flora. Whitetail and mule deer are still known to frequent the site and elk are known to
utilize the greater site area as a wintering range and travel corridor. The area is also used by a variety of common birds, raptors, and waterfowl.

**Topography:** The topography of the site has not significantly changed within the two hundred years since the Lewis and Clark expedition camped at the site. The two landforms within the site, the benchland and the bottomland, as well as the slope connecting the two, have not been significantly altered. The determination of historic integrity for the topography of the site is linked to the historic integrity of the spatial organization and viewshed. Therefore, further discussion of that determination will be included within the subcategory of this section entitled, “Spatial Organization and Viewshed.”

**Natural Systems/Features:** The nature of such natural systems as rivers and creeks is one of continual flux. In as much as the Lolo Creek has changed in the course of two hundred years, much of its historic aspects of setting, feeling, and association have been retained. The physical setting defined by the creek’s general location, surrounding topography, and vegetation, remain unchanged, as do the feelings conveyed by the stream’s size and clarity. The descriptions of the creek area, contained in the journals, as a place of rest and replenishment, draw a direct link to the site as it exists today, as a quiet avenue for the passage of the same large game animals, and the presence of the same varieties of berries, brush, and trees, that inhabited the area at the time of the expedition.

**Land Use:** The use of the site for agricultural purposes primarily impacted the benchland area. The natural shape, location, and geological development of the bottomland precluded its use in this fashion. The findings of the archaeological
investigation indicate the expedition’s use of the site was primarily within the bottomland area. The main features located by the investigation appear to fit the military camp formation put forth by Von Steuben. This pattern of use creates a direct link between the historic event of the use of the land by the expedition and the general lay of the land as it exists today. The full relevance of these indications are still being determined.

Spatial Organization and Viewshed: According to the National Park Service’s, “Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports,” (1998:72), by Robert R. Page, et al., the aspect of integrity called “design” is defined as, “the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a cultural landscape.” Therefore, the spatial organization of the greater site area can be assessed under the aspect of “design”.

The integrity of the location, setting, design, and feeling of the camp, situated within clear sight of the hills and mountains of the Bitterroot Range, has in large part been retained although it has been impacted by development within the area. This impact can be mitigated in part by utilization of native vegetative screening.

The various planes that create, define, and organize the space around and within the site also delineate the viewshed. Historically these planes included the topography around the camp, the shape of the landforms within the camp, and the native vegetation. Although these elements have been impacted by the growing development around the area, and the use of different portions of the site for agriculture, grazing, and a residence, they retain a combined essence of form and space that expresses a historic sense of aesthetic beauty and wilderness. The descriptions of the mountains, grades, landforms, and vegetation of the area contained in the expedition journals help to draw a direct link between the present landscape and the historic expedition encampment.

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Archaeological Site: The archaeological component of the site contains features and materials that indicate a direct association between the current landscape and the use of the area by the Lewis and Clark expedition. These include the central hearth feature, the smaller hearth features, and the latrine trench area, as well as the lead and trade bead deposited during this historic event. By no means has all the archaeological information to be gained from the area been obtained. The integrity of the expedition’s camp formation may be disrupted or other elements of the use of the area by the expedition may be disturbed, such as possible butchering areas and additional hearths. Because of this, any ground disturbing activity should be monitored by professional archaeologists and/or mitigation be implemented prior to such activity.

Impact of Non-Contributing Components: The clustered structures contained within the benchland area create a relatively small negative impact on the historic integrity of the site. This is due to the fact that, in the overall landscape, the archaeological investigation indicates the structures do not constitute a major disruption to the main area of historic use, and, because the visual impact they do impart can be reduced. The small segment of irrigation ditch has little to no impact on the site as it is also located on the benchland and is visually irrelevant. The relatively recent circulation contained within the site is likewise located on the benchland and also has reduced visual impact due to its construction at ground level.

Statement of Significance: The significance of the cultural landscape of this site has multiple components. It is significant under criteria A because of its association with the Lewis and Clark expedition whose journey had broad historical significance to the development of the United States. It is also significant and under criteria D because it
has the potential to add important physical information on the layout and use of the expeditions camps, an area of information that is lacking.

The site is unique in that it is a rural setting that was used on two occasions by the Corps of Discovery on its journey to the Pacific. That use left little to show of the presence of the expedition. What was left was preserved because of the unique landforms of the site that precluded disruption of the archaeological record laid down at the time of the historic event. Various unique elements of topography, access, and geology helped in this preservation.

The layout and use of the site, for its own sake, and in conjunction with the Native American presence in the area, can add historical reference for other Lewis and Clark sites. Beyond that, the journey itself, and the people involved, have been researched and written about for almost 200 years, and there are gaps in that information. Anything that might add to the general body of knowledge on this subject would be of historic relevance.

The cultural landscape information contained in this report is unique in its function as a supporting document for a National Historic Landmark designation form, specific to a rural Lewis and Clark expedition campsite. As such, it can contribute to the overall information pertaining to the expedition and to the cultural landscape format of other such sites.

But beyond that, the site is significant because of the retention of the basic feeling of aesthetic beauty and form contained within its overall composition. The “plains” area used for foot and horse races may be reduced but the open fields of the benchland can still convey the essence of that landscape. The creek channel that existed at the time of
the expedition may now be dry but the banks on which the members camped still exist. And the mountains and hills, landforms, slope, and riparian vegetation still embody the overall “design” that existed two hundred years ago. It may be a small window, but it’s a window nonetheless, and it’s important to protect such views for the present, and the future.

**Condition Assessment:** The relative condition of a cultural landscape is assessed as good, fair, poor, or unknown, according to the, “Resource Management Plan Guidelines,” (NPS 1994). An assessment of Good indicates the landscape shows no major disturbances, its historical values are well preserved, and no immediate corrective action is required. An assessment of Fair indicates the landscape has minor disturbances and that some degree of corrective action is needed within 3 to 5 years. An assessment of Poor indicates the landscape shows evidence of major disturbance and immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical values. An assessment of unknown indicates that not enough information is available to make an evaluation (Page et al. 1998:67).

The relative condition of the Travelers Rest landscape must be assessed as between Fair and Poor. This is because there are major disruptive activities within the greater physiographic location of the site that negatively impact the spatial organization and viewshed but this impact can be reduced over time.

**Subsection C-3: Recommendations**

The information gathered for this report indicates there is a historic significance to the cultural landscape of the Travelers Rest site but negative visual impacts are an
element that needs to be addressed. Mitigation of these negative impacts would greatly improve the setting, design, and feeling of the site.

Because the primary impact on the cultural landscape of the site that can be reduced and/or eliminated, is the impact to the viewshed, it is recommended that native vegetation be employed as screens and buffers. This would pertain specifically to the views to the west, along the site boundary, to reduce the negative visual impact of the trailer court and housing development, and on the north side of the structures clustered along the edge of the eastern ‘bowl’ shape of the slope, to buffer their visual impact on the bottomland. The use of low brush and trees such as wild rose, chokecherry, serviceberry, willows, black cottonwood, quaking aspen, or ponderosa pine could be employed in this fashion.

The current variety of vegetation in the open field areas of both the landforms is altered from what was most likely in the area 200 years ago. The reintroduction of native plants with a planned growth and disbursement pattern to mimic unaltered plains and bottomland ecologies would add to the overall effect of the site. Plans to develop footpaths and kiosks in the bottomland area should include as little obtrusive visual impact as possible on the view from the lip of the benchland towards the creek. The benchland area should also be maintained as “open” as possible.

The archaeological component of the site contains elements and features that indicate a direct link to the use of the area by the Lewis and Clark expedition. By no means has all the archaeological information to be gained from the area been obtained. The integrity of the expedition’s camp formation may be disrupted or other elements of the use of the area by the expedition may be disturbed, such as possible butchering areas
and additional hearths. Because of this, it is recommended that professional archaeologists should monitor any ground disturbing activity and/or mitigation be implemented prior to any such activity.
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