



A, B, D, & J. BRENNER RANCH DISTRICT
30998 State Highway 131, Steamboat Springs

This property sits beside the entrance to Pleasant Valley, six miles south of Steamboat Springs, and was originally homesteaded by William E. Harvey in 1899, for whom an irrigation ditch constructed on the property by the United States government is named. Known as 'Bear Bill', Mr. Harvey never married; he was a farmer, rancher, and a bear hunter. His gravestone in the Steamboat Springs Cemetery reads, "died killing 57 bears." In 1899 he built the one-story, front-gabled log cabin and the side-gabled, rock foundation, log barn. The latter is still used to house sheep and goats and to store hay. An extant log straw shed also built by Harvey has a dirt floor and pine board walls. The District consists of a house and eleven other contributing buildings. The two-and-a-half-story, vernacular, wood-framed, gambrel-side, gable-roofed farmhouse, built by William L. Thorne in 1914 of logs felled on the property; has original wood-framed, single-paned windows and is heated by a stoker coal furnace. Three pine trees planted in the front of the house by Paul Brenner in 1945 are at present 45 feet tall. The two-car log and cinderblock, flat-roofed garage was built in 1946 by Paul Brenner. The wood-sided, metal-roofed, block foundation hog shed was built in 1941 and moved in 1950 to its current location. The three granaries of varying sizes were built in 1920, 1940, and 1943. The wooden brooder house, currently used for storage, has a cinderblock foundation, tongue-and-groove flooring, and a metal roof. The wood-sided machine shed was built in 1939 and moved to its current location in 1950. The outhouse, with a four-paned window in the door, was constructed in the early 1900s, moved to various locations throughout the years, and was in use until indoor plumbing was installed in the house in 1944. Tin roofs were put on the house in 1954, the garage in 1970, the cabin in 1955, and the barn in 1976; the other contributing structures remain unaltered from their original construction. The Brenner Ranch District is indicative of the diversity of agricultural and ranching activities necessary in a high country farming location.