

National Park Service Project Completion Report Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)

Project Title: Oak Creek Historic District National Register Nomination Form

Project Code (such as UMT-72 and/or the "P" number): CSURM-291, P14AC00616.

Type of Project (Research, Technical Assistance or Education): Research

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: Colorado State University

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Start Date of Project: May 2014

End Date of Project: December 31, 2015

Funding Amount: \$20,000

Project Summary, including descriptions of products, work accomplished and/or major results. If the information is restricted (e.g. location of endangered species or cultural resources), indicate the title and location of the final report. Also add web sites where project-related information may be found.

The Oak Creek Historic District of Zion NP consists of 22 historic structures, of which 17 are included in this project.

The use history of these structures, including maintenance, alterations, modifications, and uses, for these structures was minimally documented, lacking detail regarding the history of construction and use of these structures, and is scattered among many locations. Also, within the district many associated landscape features surround these structures and they were undocumented. For this project these important landscape features were inventoried, documented, and assessed for significance. And finally, a National Register Amendment was prepared that includes a well-defined history of use and maintenance episodes, and a description and inventory of the contributing landscape features.

See the NR of Historic Places Registration Form attached to this completion report for the relevant information.

The NR of Historic Place registration form concludes: *The landscape features of Oak Creek Historic District are eligible for the National Register under Criterion A at the local level of significance for their association with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC was active in the district from 1933-1942, the period of significance for the features under Criterion A. The district is also eligible under Criterion C at the local level of significance because it is emblematic of the “NPS Rustic/Naturalistic Design” standard that dominated the Park System from its founding in 1916 until World War II. Oak Creek Historic District’s period of significance under “NPS Rustic/Naturalistic Design” is 1932-1942. The district contains historically significant landscape features built by the CCC using this design style during Zion National Park’s Establishment Period. These features include culverts, curbing, circulation systems, designed outdoor spaces, and other landscape features. This amendment adds the landscape features to the established district listed in the “Multiple Resources for Zion National Park” National Register nomination from 1987 that included contributing buildings for their association with “NPS Rustic Design.”*

Other RM-CESU agencies or research partners who participated in this project: None