

RAYNOLD'S PASS REST AREA, COMPOSITE BENCH 1
Milepost 15.8, tangent to U.S. Highway 287, approximately 19 feet
southeast of restroom
Cameron vicinity
Madison County
Montana

HAER MT-148-F
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
INTERMOUNTAIN REGIONAL OFFICE
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
12795 West Alameda Parkway
Denver, CO 80228

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
RAYNOLD'S PASS REST AREA, COMPOSITE BENCH 1 HAER No. MT-148-F

I. INTRODUCTION

Location: Raynold's Pass Rest Area, Composite Bench 1
Milepost 15.8, tangent to U.S. Highway 287
approximately 19 feet southeast of restroom
Cameron vicinity
Madison County
Montana

Quad: Squaw Creek, Montana (1988)

UTM: 12/453158/4972256

Date of Construction: circa 2000

Present Owner: Montana Department of Transportation
Helena, Montana

Present Use: Composite bench

Significance: The Raynold's Pass Rest Area is significant for its association with the Montana Department of Transportation's (MDT) development of roadside rest areas during the 1960s. The department developed a standard design for rest areas, including landscaping, and this site is representative of that standard design. The MDT located many rest areas at scenic areas in Montana to encourage users to stop and spend time at them. The Raynold's Pass Rest Area is representative of the type of rest area established along the state's two-lane highways. While many of the features located at the site are not historic, they still reflect the MDT's philosophy for this type of facility in the late twentieth century.

Historian: Jon Axline, Montana Department of Transportation
July 2014

HISTORY

The provision for wooden benches adjacent to the parking lot was devised by landscape designer William Schweyen sometime after his employment by the MDT in October 1962. This composite bench, however, replaced an earlier wooden bench that was either destroyed and or had worn out.¹

DESCRIPTION

Composite Bench 1 is non-historic and faces southwest toward the parking lot; it is located about seven feet from the parking lot and 19 feet southeast of the restroom building (MT-148-B). The bench is 7' long and 12" wide; it is 18.5" in height. It is supported by metal posts with the benches consisting of composition material commonly called Tyvek, which is often used for domestic decking.

¹ Roadside Rest Areas to be Accelerated," *The Center Line*, vol. 5, no. 9 (October 1962), 7-8.