

HAER
WYO,
23-OSAG.V,
1-6-

Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp, Garage/Storage
Clay Spur Siding on the Burlington Northern
Railroad
4 miles northwest of Osage
Weston County
Wyoming

HAER No. WY-23-G

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Location: Clay Spur Siding on the Burlington Northern Railroad,
4 miles northwest of Osage in Weston County, Wyoming

Dates of Construction: ca. 1958

Present Owner: N. L. Baroid
Alzada Star Route
Belle Fourche, South Dakota

Present Use: Abandoned; site to be razed

Significance: The Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp is associated
with the early 20th century bentonite mining industry
in Wyoming and the United States. The Clay Spur
Bentonite District was the center of the pioneer
Wyoming bentonite industry and remained the premier
Wyoming producing district until reserves began to
dwindle in the 1950s. The plant embodies the
distinctive engineering technology of the bentonite
industry. The camp also reflects early twentieth
century company town architecture with simple
buildings and floor plans that could be quickly and
cheaply constructed and adapted to many different uses.

There is an L-shaped wood frame garage and storage area
with a lean-to roof. The roof and exterior walls are
covered with corrugated metal sheeting. The building
rests on a concrete foundation and has a concrete
floor. The main portion is a garage and has a wooden
overhead garage door in the east elevation. The north
wing, 12 feet by 16 feet, contains a storage area with
numbered wooden bins.; This building appears to have
been added to the complex after 1957.

Historian: Robert Rosenberg
Historical Consultant

July 1989

NOTE: For more information, see Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp,
HAER No. WY-23.