

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Swanson Boathouse

other name/site number: Two Medicine Boathouse

2. Location

street & number: N/A

not for publication: n/a

vicinity: east shore Two Medicine Lake; Glacier National Park (GLAC)

city/town: East Glacier

state: Montana code: MT

county: Glacier code: 35

zip code: 59434

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title

12.5.95
Date

National Park Service

State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

[Signature]
Signature of commenting or other official

SEP 29 1995
Date

Montana State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
see continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
see continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
see continuation sheet
- removed from the National Register
see continuation sheet
- other (explain)

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

Entered in the
National Register

Date of Action

1/19/90

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-Federal (term lease)	Number of Resources within Property		
Category of Property: Building	Contributing	Noncontributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A	1	_____	building(s)
Name of related multiple property listing: Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing	_____	_____	sites
	_____	_____	structures
	_____	_____	objects
	1	_____	Total

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:
Recreation and Culture/boathouse

Current Function:
Same

7. Description

Architectural Classification:
Rustic

Materials:
foundation: concrete pier
walls: exposed-log framing system; 8" vertical planks
roof: composition sheeting
other:

Narrative Description

Boathouse #897 is located along the east shore of Two Medicine Lake, within a concession area once incorporating two boathouses, the Great Northern Chalet complex, and the Park Saddle Horse Company's corral and barn facilities. The second boathouse and the horse facilities are no longer extant and chalet C has been extensively modified in the post-historic period. The chalet dining room is listing in the NRHP as a National Historic Landmark.

This is a one-story log-frame building with a long rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the lake shore. The log framing system is exposed and infilled with eight-inch vertical planks. Composition sheeting covers the front-gable roof. The building is constructed on a series of stone piers.

Log framing members bracket the door and window openings. The rear (east) elevation contains a pedestrian door constructed of 8" vertical planks. The gable end features an exposed log king truss. The north (side) elevation contains a single six-light casement window flanked to either side by a pair of six-light casement windows. The south elevation, from west to east, contains a vertical-board pedestrian door, a pair of casement windows, a single window, and a pair of windows. Large plywood double doors, extending from the beach to the mid-point of the gable end, dominate the front (west) elevation. A metal-rail boat launch extends from the front elevation into the lake. The building is painted brown, with white window frames, and is in good condition.

The interior is unfinished, with vertical plank walls and an exposed-truss ceiling. The boat launch runs down the center of the interior space. The floor beneath the launch is dirt; the area to either side has been built up with concrete to the level of the launch rails and is covered with 4" tongue-and-groove planks. Although subject to routine maintenance, the building has not been significantly altered and retains physical integrity.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Applicable National Register Criteria: A; C

Areas of Significance: Government; Entertainment/Recreation;
Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Period(s) of Significance: 1933-1945

Significant Person(s): N/A

Significant Dates: 1933

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: J. W. "Billy" Swanson of the Swanson Boat
Company

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Swanson Boathouse is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, at the local level, under criteria A and C, for its association with early development of the park's recreation infrastructure and its association with rustic architecture. The boathouse is a component of the World Class Accommodations property type, as defined in the Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing.

Captain J. W. "Billy" Swanson, principle stockholder in the park's boat concession, first ran a launch on Two Medicine Lake in 1920. Swanson sold the Swanson Boat Company and all improvements to Burch and Anderson of the "Glacier Park Boat Company" in 1938.

Park maintenance records indicate that the Swanson Boathouse was constructed in 1936 by Swanson. However, a 1934 map of the Two Medicine area (incorporated within the Glacier Master Plan), shows two boathouses, one of which conforms in size and location to building #897.

Name of Property

County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

Glacier 150-A form (revised), "Boathouse No. 897," in building maintenance files, Glacier National Park

Newell, Alan S.; David Walter, and James R. McDonald. Historic Resources Study, Glacier National Park and Historic Structures Survey. Denver, Colorado: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1980

U.S. Department of the Interior, Branch of Plans and Designs. *Master Plan for Glacier National Park*. Washington, D.C: U.S. Department of the Interior, Branch of Plans and Designs, 1933. Available at the Technical Information Center (TIC), NPS, Denver, CO.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	A 12	324960	5372490

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries encompass only the building and associated launch.

Boundary Justification

These boundaries exclude neighboring areas of significant modern development. The broad expanse of Two Medicine Lake, extending from the boathouse's west elevation, provides a substantial "buffer" and protects the property's integrity of setting and of association.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Ann Hubber/Historian
 organization: Historical Research Associates, Inc. date: 6/1995
 street & number: P.O. Box 7086 telephone: (406) 721-1958
 city or town: Missoula state: MT zip code: 59807-7086

Property Owner

name/title: National Park Service
 street & number: Park Headquarters telephone: (406)888-5441
 city or town: West Glacier state: MT zip code: 59936

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs, Additional Documentation Page 1 Swanson Boathouse, Glacier
County, MT.

Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

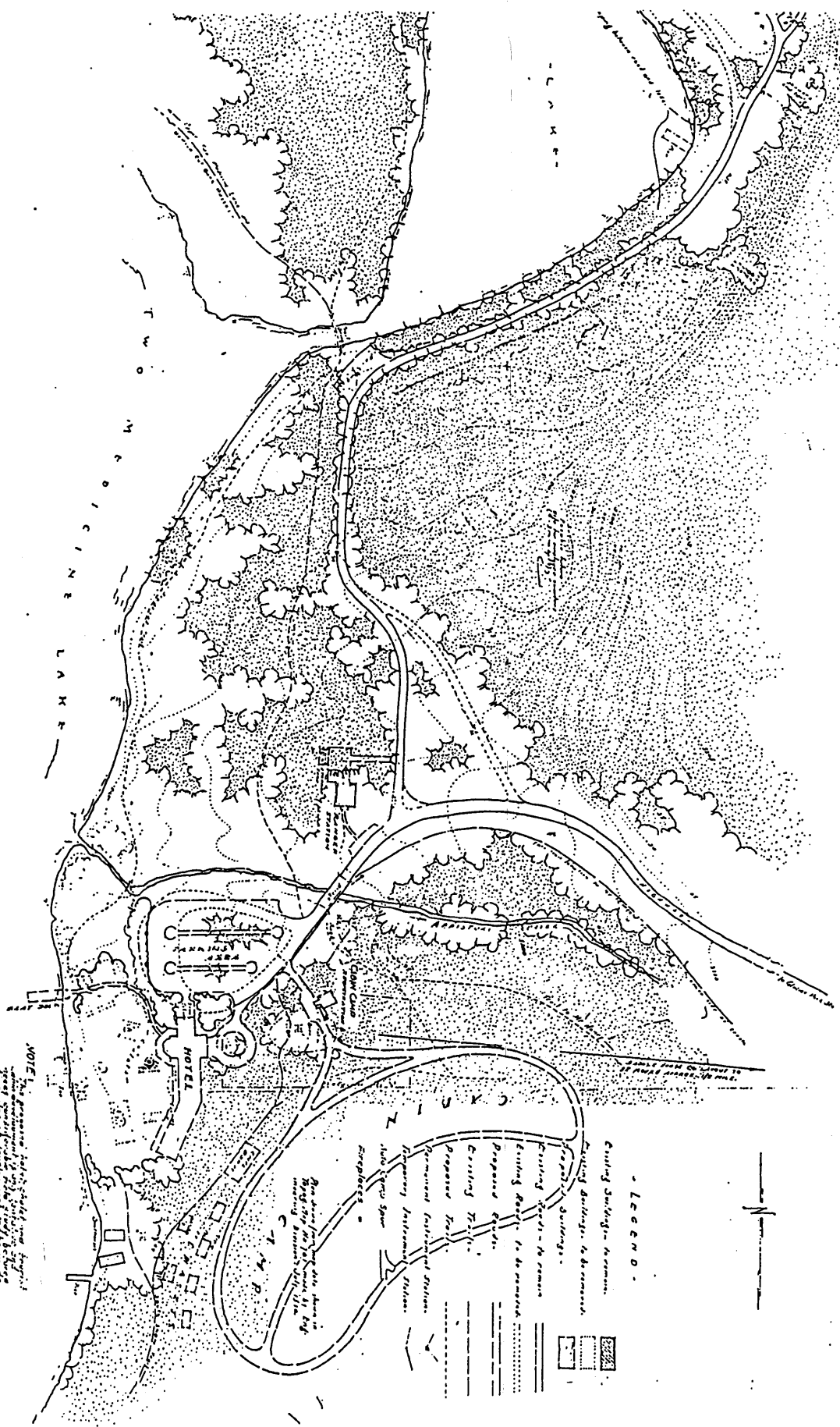
- 1) Photographer: Nancy Niedernhofer
- 2) Date of Photographs: September 1993
- 3) Location of Negatives: National Park Service, RMR-RC, Denver, CO

PHOTO NUMBER	DIRECTION OF VIEW
1	View to Southwest
2	View to Southeast
3	Interior

Additional Documentation

The following site plan can be found at the Denver Service Center's Technical Information Center, Denver, Colorado.

1942



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION PLAN TWO MEDICINE AREA

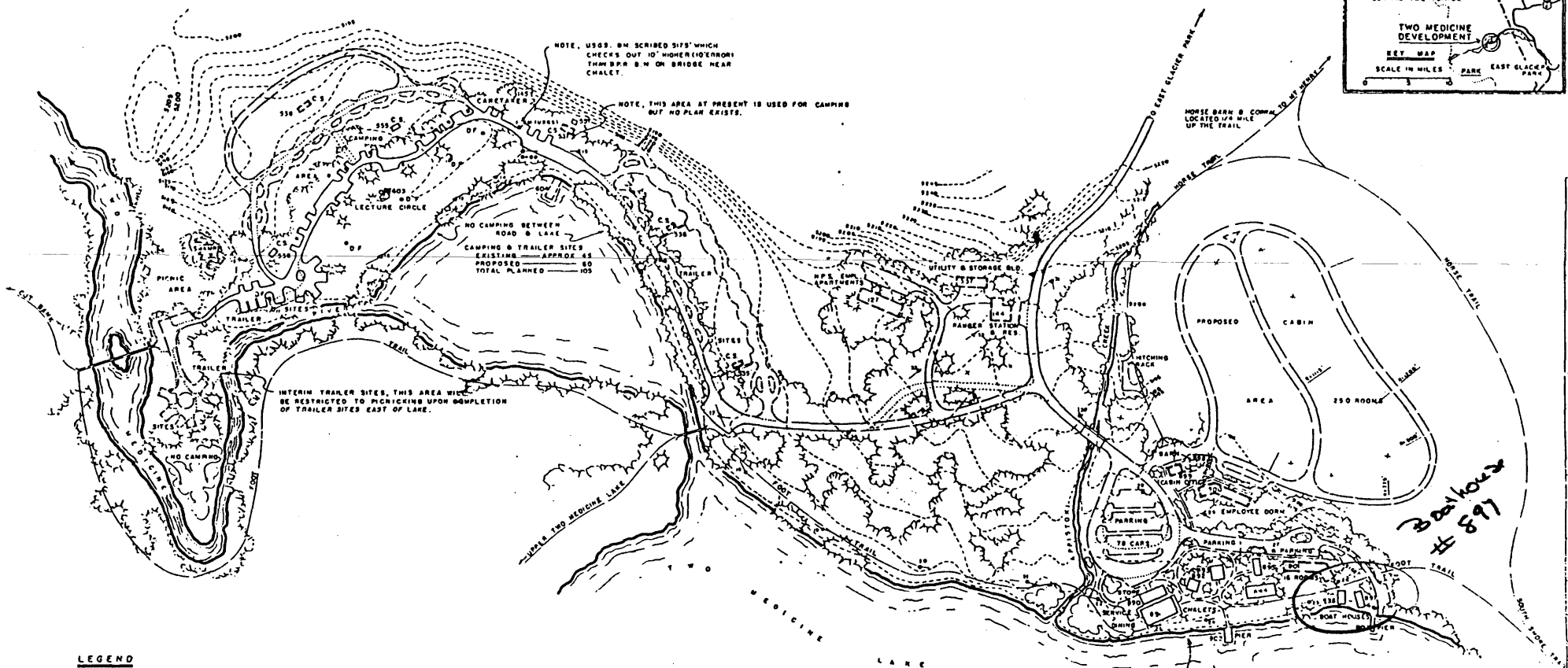
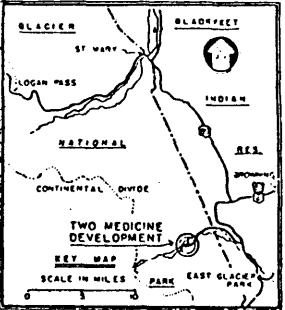
PART OF THE NATIONAL PARK FOR
 GLACIER NATIONAL PARK
 DRAWN BY BRENDO DE PLAINS AND DESIGN
 FROM N.P.S. DATA AS OF JAN 1,
 1942

Sheet 1 of 1
 Part 1 of 2

HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

DRAWING NO. 53A-107K

3018



NOTE, USGS. ON SCRIBED SITE WHICH CHECKS OUT 10' HIGHER (10' ERROR) THAN B.P.M. ON BRIDGE NEAR CHALET.

NOTE, THIS AREA AT PRESENT IS USED FOR CAMPING BUT NO PLAN EXISTS.

NO CAMPING BETWEEN ROAD & LAKE
 EXISTING & TRAILER SITES APPROX. AS
 PROPOSED ——— 80
 TOTAL PLANNED ——— 100

INTERIM TRAILER SITES, THIS AREA WILL BE RESTRICTED TO PICKNICKING UPON COMPLETION OF TRAILER SITES EAST OF LAKE.

THIS DEVELOPMENT INDICATES MINIMUM ADDITION FOR CONCESSIONERS PRESENT OPERATION SHALL BE ON CHALET SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN FUTURE PLANNING.

100 50 0 500
 1 INCH = 150 FEET

LEGEND

- | | EXISTING | PROPOSED | DELICATE |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| BUILDINGS | [Solid rectangle] | [Dashed rectangle] | [Dotted rectangle] |
| ROADS | [Double line] | [Single line] | [Dotted line] |
| TRAILS | [Solid line] | [Dashed line] | [Dotted line] |
| RAILS | [Line with cross-ticks] | [Line with cross-ticks] | [Line with cross-ticks] |
| FOOT BRIDGE | [Line with cross-ticks] | [Line with cross-ticks] | [Line with cross-ticks] |
| TEMPORARY INSTRUMENT POINT | [Circle with cross] | [Circle with cross] | [Circle with cross] |
| BE-WA-MENT | [Circle with cross] | [Circle with cross] | [Circle with cross] |
| FIREPLACE | [Circle with cross] | [Circle with cross] | [Circle with cross] |
| DRINKING FOUNTAIN | [Circle with cross] | [Circle with cross] | [Circle with cross] |

UNIT DATA NP-GLA 30181, NP-GLA 30182
 CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FT.

SUPERINTENDENT	DATE
CHIEF, DEPT. AND OFFICE BY DR. DEL. & G. W. H. T.	
REGIONAL DIRECTOR	
CHIEF, DIVISION OF DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION	
APPROVED	SUBMITTED

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL BRANCH
 WESTERN OFFICE, DIVISION OF DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

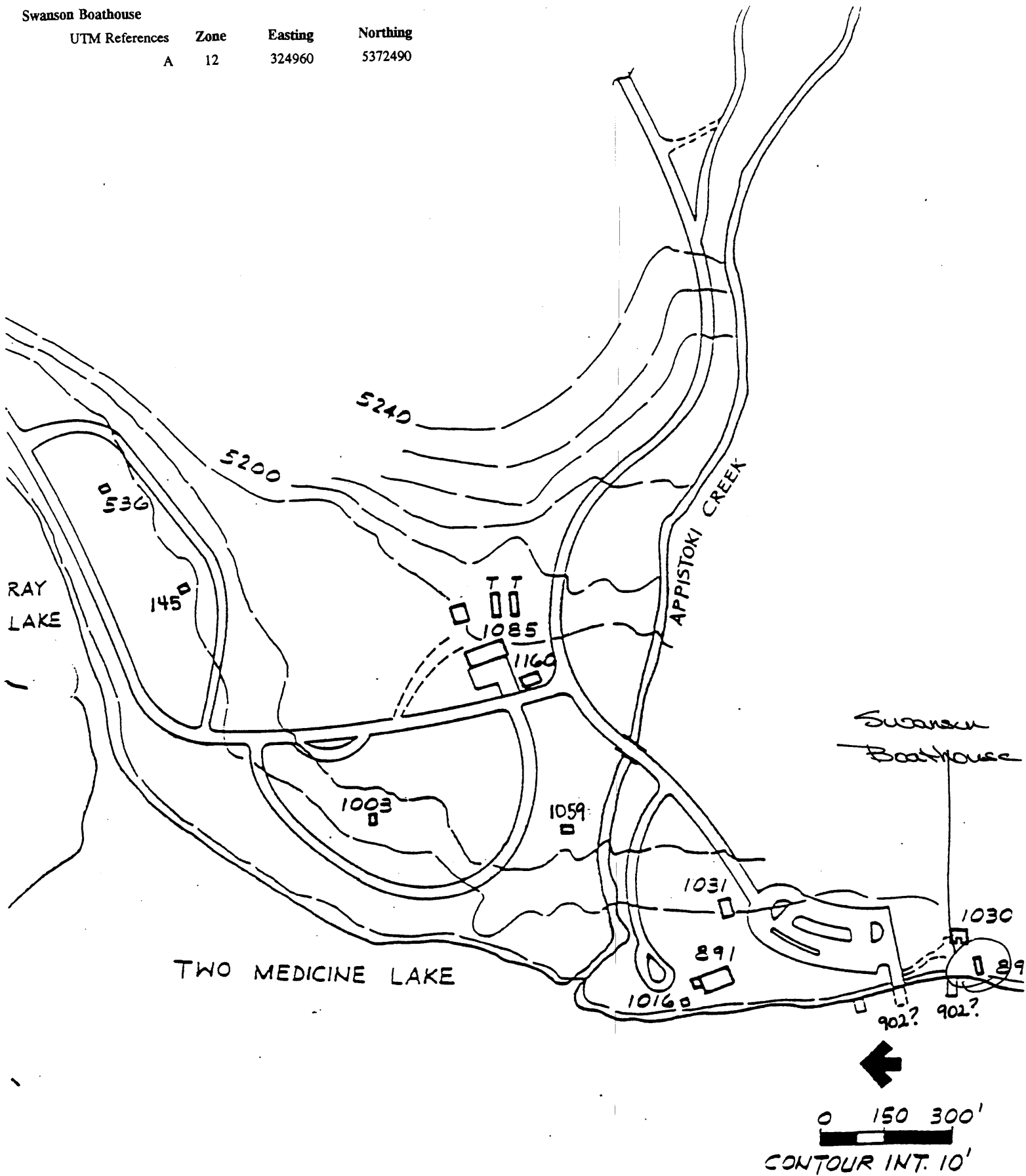
TWO MEDICINE
 PART OF THE MASTER PLAN
 GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

REDUCED SIZE REPRODUCTION

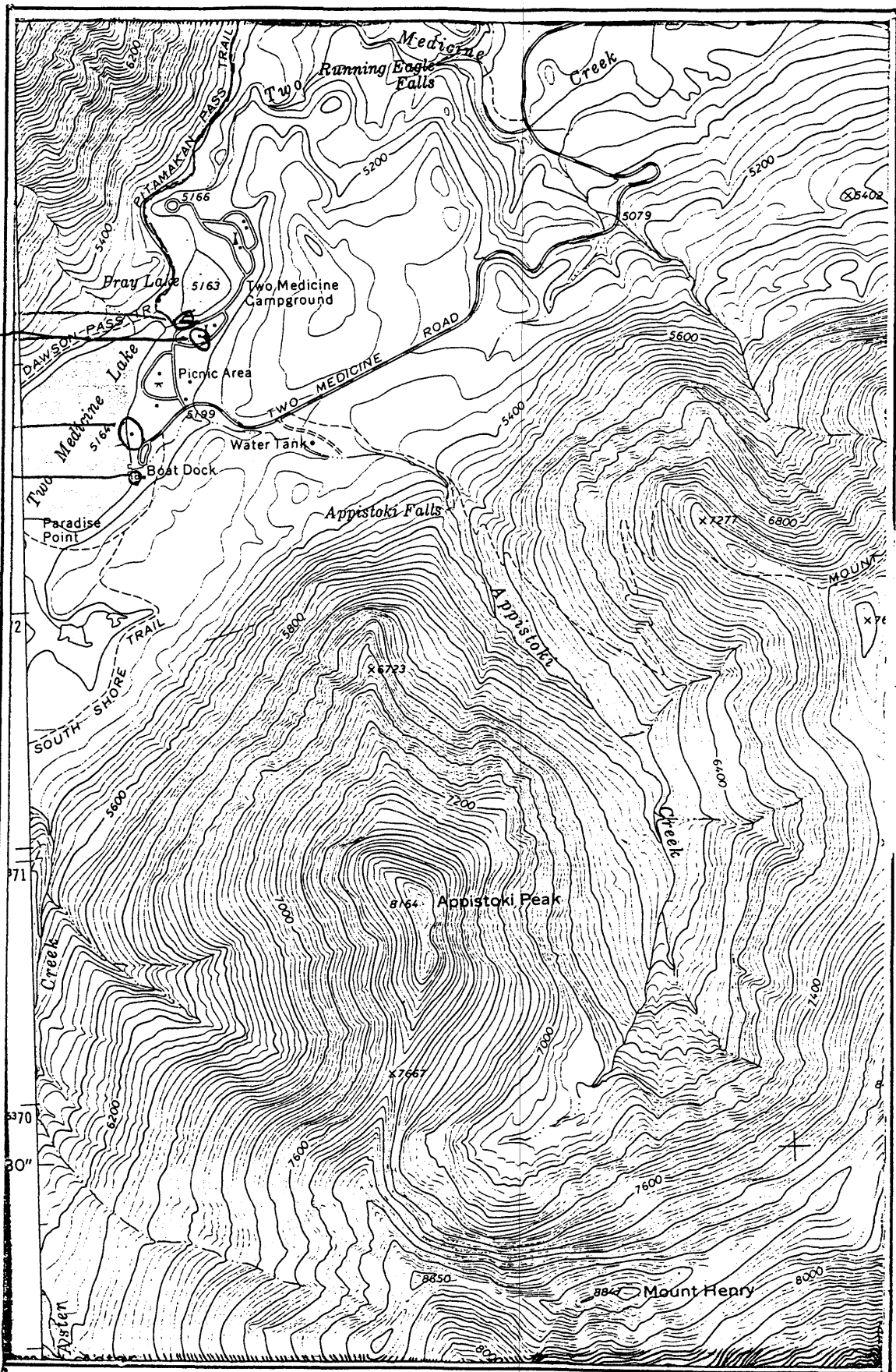
1933 Drawing
 No 3018

Swanson Boathouse

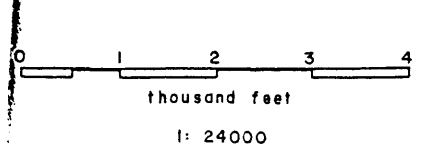
UTM References	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	12	324960	5372490



HRA map 1994 based on
Cultural Resources Management Plan
Two Medicine
1984
Glacier National Park
National Park Service—U.S. Dept. Interior



Swansea
Boathouse



USGS 7.5' Quad *Squaw Mountain*
 Sec. T R
 County *Custer*