

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUN 28 1979  
DATE ENTERED AUG 17 1979

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Cabin Creek Historic District

AND/OR COMMON  
Cabin Creek or Hubner

**2 LOCATION** W of Easton

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ — NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_  
VICINITY OF Easton, 4th, Mike McCormack

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE  
Washington 53 Kittitas 037

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Robert E. and Gerald L. Monahan, as beneficiaries under the estates of  
Victor C. and Alice M. Monahan

STREET & NUMBER  
17428 7th Place SW

CITY, TOWN Seattle, \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF Washington STATE 98166

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kittitas County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Ellensburg, Washington 98926 STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Washington State Inventory of Historic Places

DATE September, 1978  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS The Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN Olympia, Washington 98504 STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The former sawmill village or "camp" known as Cabin Creek sits at 2,400 feet elevation in a mountain valley on the eastern slopes of the Cascade Mountains in Central Washington. The valley is the channel for the watercourse from which the camp takes its name. Cabin Creek, the stream, originates near the crest of the Cascades in the vicinity of Stampede Pass. It flows 10 miles or so before reaching the narrow plain which is the site of the village. Half a mile downstream, the creek flows into the Yakima River which continues hundreds of miles before entering the Columbia.

The village of picturesque sawmill, weathered cabins, school house and company store, among other structures, sits between the creek and steeply rising Cabin Mountain, whose heavily timbered, craggy crests reach approximately 4,500 feet above sea level. The feature that determined the Village's location 63 years ago, however, is man-made: the main transcontinental line of the Northern Pacific Railway (now the Burlington Northern), which marks the north boundary of the 52½ acre camp site. The railroad, in its role of opening a continent to exploitation, provided a route to market for the millions of board feet of lumber produced at Cabin Creek beginning in 1916 and thus dictated where a "camp" was to be born.

As might be expected in a company town, the sawmill was central. The houses of the workers sprang up all around it. Twenty four of these remain--all but a few virtually unaltered as to exterior appearance. It is these primarily that give Cabin Creek its flavor of a rural workers' community from the early part of the century.

The houses and the numerous outbuildings, including woodsheds and the "outhouses" that preceded indoor plumbing, were built of unpainted lumber produced in the mill. All are one story, and it is possible in the crude, added-on construction of some of them to read a history of the worker's family that occupied it. Typically, a cabin would begin as one room quickly built by a bachelor mill hand with lumber furnished free. Later the worker would take a bride. A separate kitchen would be added. Then children would begin to come, and bedrooms were tacked to the original structure--some with lean-to roofs. In some of the cabins, a perhaps final touch was the addition of a tiny parlor -- an alcove off the living room for rocker, settee and, perhaps, a handcranked phonograph. The parlors, a "frill" in houses otherwise designed only with an eye to pure, simple function, are relics of social history. In these spaces, obviously, the most important noncommercial business of the community was transacted amid kerosene lamps and antimacassars. (This business did not necessarily take precedence, however: Oldtimers say that about 10 minutes before quitting time in the mill each day, front doors would fly open all over camp as women scurried out onto the boardwalks to return to their own cabins to prepare supper. The men insisted on having their meals on the table just as soon as they had washed up.) Now the unpainted lumber is silvered and gray, but to outward appearances the houses are much as they were when the mill whistle marked wake-up, lunch and quitting time and the smoke of woodstoves drifted over the tarpaper roofs.

While parlor and kitchen were central in the lives of the women of Cabin Creek, the center of the community itself was the combination mill office and company store. In the office part, new mill hands were hired, saw salesmen came to call, mail for the whole camp was sent and delivered and payrolls were prepared. In the store part of the building (which was divided precisely in two under the ridge line) shoppers found groceries on shelves along three walls. Out back is the pre-refrigeration era butcher shop -- a shed with screens instead of window glass and a closet-like enclosure thickly insulated with sawdust packed in wall spaces. This

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kept the hanging meat cool in the summer and protected it from freezing in winter. (Other such "sawdust houses" or root cellars also still are standing in Cabin Creek, several of them in use.) Across the way from the office/store stands the schoolhouse, and next to it the school teacher's cottage. The school house and cottage were the only buildings to get a coat of paint--probably a mark of regard for education among worker fathers and mothers who wished they had had more of it. Among other signs of special care in its construction, the schoolhouse also is the only house or public structure built with insulation against the cold of winter which sometimes sees snow pile up eight feet, and drift over the tops of houses. The interior of the schoolhouse includes a cloakroom/foyer (boys' coats on one side, girls' on the other) and the single classroom with a slightly raised stage, set off by arches on each side, at one end. (Here, no doubt, many a child stood--quaking or cocky, according to nature--to declaim the epic poetry in fashion at the time.) The other principal structure of central Cabin Creek was the cookhouse and dining hall where the bachelor loggers and mill workers ate. Unfortunately, it was crushed under a huge snowfall about 1946. Most of the dining-hall clientele came from four barracks-like bunkhouses nearby. One of these survives, although it has been stripped of its rows of two-tier bunks and converted into a cabin. The former workers' houses now are used as vacation residences by friends and relatives of the Monahan family.

The public area of office/store, schoolhouse and cookhouse opened off the sawmill, which in the early days took in several acres and was built massively, with lumber-drying and other sheds raised above ground level on decks constructed of huge timbers. This mill was destroyed by fire in 1944, however, a smaller mill was assembled at the site and it continued to operate during the summers until 1974. Except for a few items of equipment that have been sold, this mill remains. Once such little mills dotted the landscape in the lumbering areas of the state. Now there are fewer each year.

The Cabin Creek mill has the same weathered, unpainted aspect as the cabins. The main building, housing the log carriage, saw station, edger and trim saws, opens onto a green-chain deck where workers sorted the rough lumber. Nearby is a towering stiff leg, powered by a massive, rusty engine and gears, which lifted lumber off the green chain to set it out for piling in the mill yard. Another such old-time timber stiff leg dominates the opposite end of the mill area, where it was used to dump truckloads of logs into the mill pond. The mill is virtually a museum of now-antiquated machinery and equipment assembled by its operator, the late George Jones, a pioneer logger and lumberman who brought many of the items with him from his earlier mills in the Enumclaw and Carnation areas of Washington State. (Mr. Jones leased the mill site from V.C. Monahan until 1971 when Mr. Monahan and his sons took over the mill.)

The "new" mill used the sawdust burner of the old. The burner, capped by a huge, rusty screen and fed by a conveyor in a sagging wooden chute, attests to a time when the byproducts of lumbering were rarely more than just waste to be burned.

Besides the burner, relics of the old mill which escaped the fire include a masonry kiln for

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drying lumber and a 1916 Climax logging locomotive which has been restored to condition to run up and down the camp's quartermile of track. Back when it was new, and for many years after, it went out from Cabin Creek along the Yakima River and elsewhere to haul back to the mill the huge Douglas Fir, cedar and hemlock logs harvested by the Cabin Creek logging crews. In those days, "timber" grew in the valley land where track could be laid; the trees growing on the steep side slopes were "non-merchantable" (a word not much heard anymore). Signs of the old logging railroad grades remain in the valleys, where the second generation of trees now are being logged. The big stumps remain, too.

One other structure should be mentioned, although it originated at another place. It is a log cabin, two stories, and built about 100 years ago on the old Herr homestead in the Lauderdale area of Kittitas County. It came with property that V.C. Monahan bought there in 1962, and in order to guarantee its preservation he had it taken apart, log by log, and reassembled in precisely the same order at Cabin Creek. The cabin is unusual because of its size and its careful construction. The logs were hewn so expertly they appear to have been sawn. Each log is grooved, top and bottom, to take strips of wood that seal what otherwise would be spaces between the logs. The logs themselves are of tamarack, or western larch, with only a minimum of restoration (including a new floor and base logs). The cabin is as sturdy and sound as the day it was built.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1916

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Frank C. Westcott

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Cabin Creek Historic District is a collection of modest cabins and other buildings which, though not individually distinctive, together form a cohesive entity that faithfully conveys the appearance and feeling of a sawmilling community of the early twentieth century. Sawmills today are radically different, having changed in response to both technological and economic developments. Cabin Creek evokes the memory of times when virgin timber was abundant, small mills were economically viable, and small company towns dotted the landscape. Its significance is enhanced by the fact that it is very well preserved and totally free of intrusive modern structures.

It is rare that such a fragile entity has survived largely intact. The reason for its survival is the innovative approach of the Monahan family, which has allowed virtually free use of the buildings in exchange for preservation-oriented maintenance.

## SIGNIFICANCE

By all accounts, the dominant figure in Cabin Creek's early period was Frank C. Westcott. Mr. Westcott, native of New York State, left home as a boy to work as a teamster. Typically, soon he owned his own team. At some point he joined the westward migration, became a lumberman and in July, 1916, he and his partners received the deed by which the Northwestern Improvement Company conveyed the major part of the future Cabin Creek mill site to the Cabin Creek Lumber Co. The N.W.I., as it was known, was the development subsidiary of the Northern Pacific Railway, to which Congress had ceded a wilderness empire in land grants to encourage the N.P.'s building of a transcontinental line some 30 years earlier.

Now, by Deed No. 43706, County of New York, State of New York, the railroad was conveying a mill and town site in exchange for \$554. It was good business: the sawmill would produce lumber to be hauled by the railroad. The railroad would haul groceries and hardware to the sawmill camp, and carry the loggers and millhands and their families to and from such points as Tacoma, Ellensburg and Yakima. Perhaps because memories of such good business die hard, the railroad until the late 1950's still would stop its crack passenger trains to take on or drop off a single Cabin Creek passenger. The N.P. called its Cabin Creek station Hubner.

Mr. Westcott and his co-owners, A.M. Wright, C.P. Jordan and C.J. Walker, evidently took in stride the necessity of building and running a town in order to have a sawmill. They were actively involved in the mill and thus shared in the life of the community. (Their houses were virtually the same as the others and may not have been as elaborate as some--except that the Westcott house was right next to the office and store and had the only fireplace.) In the same natural way, it seems, Frank Westcott was accepted as the ramrod,

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 52.5

QUADRANGLE NAME "Easton"

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62 500

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,0 63,38,3,0 5,23,34,3,0

B 1,0 63,38,3,0 5,23,28,5,0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 1,0 63,41,8,0 5,23,34,5,0

D 1,0 63,42,0,0 5,23,28,5,0

E         

F         

G         

H         

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Robert E. Monahan with additional comments by J.H. Vandermeer (Historian)

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation March 30, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

111 West 21st Avenue (206)753-9685

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Olympia, Washington 98504

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE X

LOCAL   

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Jeanne M. Welch 6/22/79

TITLE

DATE

FDR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Cheryl Shull  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 8-17-79

ATTEST: W. Ray Jones  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE Aug 16, 1979

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the managing partner, and it is he who is most often spoken of when old timers reminisce. The former residents who still gather for annual reunion picnics speak of him as a man of character, drive and purpose, who made it a point to find jobs for the sons of mill workers who wanted them. A mill accident cost him an arm, but none of his forcefulness, at least behind the wheel. He was locally notorious for his rapid one-armed driving to and from Easton over a twisting dirt road in his Packard automobile. At least one such trip ended against a tree.

Former residents look back on mellow times. There was a ballfield and baseball team, with classically striped uniforms; a cookhouse with scrubbed white-pine floors that dispensed huge, hearty meals to residents and drop-ins; pleasant, extra work piling lumber in the summer dusk; after-work freight-hopping excursions to the huckleberry slopes at Stampede Pass; fur trapping and pinnocle parties for those who stayed when snow shut down the mill, with sleigh rides to Easton and back for their school children.

Office records that survive reflect World War I and postwar prosperity. New hands were constantly being hired, big orders were coming from suppliers and big shipments of lumber were going out east and west. The mill's daily cut was close to 100,000 board feet.

The mill continued to operate through the depression years of the 1930's, but by the early 1940's all the partners except Mr. Walker had died and there no longer was a ready supply of big timber to feed its large capacity. Mr. Walker and the widows Annie Westcott and Jean Stewart Jordan shut down the mill and the community began to dissolve. They looked for a buyer for the land and idle machinery. The mill buildings and houses were superfluous.

Until then, Vic and Alice Monahan of Tacoma never had heard of Cabin Creek, but they would have been at home there. Mr. Monahan was born in 1903 on a homestead in Western Montana. Alice Johnson was born in 1905 on a farm in North Dakota. When they courted in 1926 in Sandpoint, Idaho, she was an assistant bookkeeper for a lumber company and he was a laborer in a pole yard. Cast in the same forceful, "get the job done" mold as Frank Westcott, Vic Monahan soon was running a pole yard in Milwaukie, Oregon. Then, in 1936, he moved his family to Tacoma to take over the moribund Cascade Pole Co. He revived it and "made'er pay" through dismal Depression years. By 1944, he was looking around for additional ventures. The Cascade Machinery Co. of Seattle got him together with the Cabin Creek owners and in March of 1944 he made a deal with \$55,000 of borrowed money.

Most of those involved probably saw it as an opportunity to buy used machinery in bulk and sell it off in individual pieces to make a profit, leaving the buildings to fall into ruin or even demolishing them. Besides, there was a war on and the energy of America was focused on that. Why not just sell whatever could be sold and walk away from the rest?

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Vic and Alice Monahan, however, were unusual people, possessed of natural taste and style. They responded to Cabin Creek. After all, it was a place where important work had been done and they understood and respected work: huge amounts of lumber had been sawn to build all manner of things for a growing country. And the isolated little village had a manner and mood of living much like Vic and Alice had experienced in earlier years elsewhere.

While Alice Monahan began tidying up the abandoned Charles Dunbar cabin for occupancy, Vic Monahan took a closer look at what he had bought--and perceived an opportunity to "make 'er pay" beyond just selling off used machinery. He could line up timber supplies for a smaller mill, he decided. He knew he had a market for everything he could cut; the war economy would gobble it up. Driving back and forth over Snoqualmie Pass with a "C" gas-rationing sticker on his windshield, Vic Monahan in a few months had a smaller version of the mill running again. It was a time of high excitement for the charismatic young entrepreneur who had entered the world of commerce at the age of 8 or so, with a job sweeping out a pool hall. The mill was turning out 25,000-30,000 board feet a day. The lumber was going on N.P. rail cars, rough and green, for shipment to purchasers who were paying the fabulous price of \$100 per thousand. Vic Monahan was going to make it big and have a lot of fun, too--the trout streams and hunting in the area were frosting on the cake.

The Cle Elum Miner-Echo of Friday, July 14, 1944, tells what happened:

"Only a smokestack standing in a mass of ruins remains today of the Cabin Creek sawmill that for 30 years has furnished seasonal employment to the heads of two score or more families who made their homes in the lumber town of Cabin Creek.

"Aided by a brisk wind, the blaze that ignited in the diesel engine room of the mill at 8 a.m. Tuesday, turned the entire mill, docks, drying sheds, light plant and dry kiln, into a blazing inferno within a few minutes, our Easton-Cle Elum reporter, Ruby Grandstaff, writes ....

"Victor C. Monahan, who purchased the mill only three months ago, announced yesterday definite plans to rebuild immediately. He estimated the loss at \$45,000. Insurance coverage was \$20,000."

Upbeat as he was, Vic Monahan decided at some point to turn away from further direct involvement in the sawmill business. He installed another operator on the site in a tiny mill that turned out railroad ties. Then, in 1945, he made an agreement whereby George Jones of Carnation would lease the site for a larger mill. Mr. Jones, proud of having been "the second truck logger in the State of Washington," installed and operated the mill until 1971 when he was about 80, always in bib overalls and nearly always with a handrolled cigaret drooping from his mouth. (Mr. Jones had a reputation for being dour, but he was sprightly indeed when he played old-time lively tunes on his fiddle.)



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With Mr. Jones installed to generate a little cash and help maintain the spring-fed, wooden-pipe water system, roads and other facilities, Vic and Alice Monahan considered the future of their ghost town. It was quite a lot to consider: The Westcott house was the only one destroyed in the fire, and the remaining houses and numerous woodsheds, garages and outhouses, had not been built for real permanence. Perhaps it was because there always had been a feeling that the mill would last only as long as the big timber held out. That had been the pattern, after all, from the time that Paul Bunyan-style lumbering began in Maine and skipped to the Northwest by way of Michigan. Some of the houses already were dilapidated and more were getting that way rapidly. Without a large crew, it was almost an impossible job to shovel scores of tarpaper roofs to keep them from collapsing under up to eight feet of snow.

But Vic and Alice Monahan had a lot of friends. Beginning with Larry and Lillian Bidwell of Tacoma, they parceled out the cabins informally. The friends could use them and make them over inside if they wished. They would keep them from collapsing under the snow. They would not paint them or otherwise do anything to make their outside appearance inconsistent with the mood and flavor of Cabin Creek. In retrospect, the latter stipulation was remarkable considering the time when it was made, when old mill and mining towns such as Cabin Creek were not all that unusual, and when the nostalgia wave was just a ripple. Probably more than any other one thing, it "saved" the place. One pastel A-frame set among the old workers' cabins would gravely injure Cabin Creek. Two would probably destroy it.

While Frank Westcott and his partners built Cabin Creek, Vic and Alice Monahan and their friends preserved it and shaped the second part of its life. They created a ghost-town weekend community with a still-accumulating oral history of its own built around such things as hilarious Fourth of July "parades", festivities in the old school house (handsomely refurbished in 1978 by Mrs. Vale O'Keefe and Mr. Harry Pittis), and rides on Vic Monahan's "Cabin Creek & Carefree Railroad." The latter were particularly unforgettable, as kids and grownups piled aboard an old N.P. caboose hooked behind a 1916 Climax logging locomotive piloted by Vic Monahan in full, flamboyant engineer's regalia. Alice Monahan's marvelous taste and style found expression in her turn-of-the-century decoration of the old Dunbar cabin, which she maintained free of electricity.

Now Vic and Alice Monahan both are deceased, the Jones mill is shut down and the old buildings sag a little more each year. More than ever Cabin Creek needs a climate of friendly, sensitive interest and recognition as a special place, worth saving, as it enters a new phase of existence in an environment where nearly everything else has greatly changed.

In the old days, when Cabin Creek began as an isolated, lamp-lit lumber camp, it must have seemed to some that the fabulous abundance of virgin timber all around overwhelmed the technology and energy available to exploit it. But it turned out to be an unequal contest, of course. The stands of old growth are disappearing, and logging roads criss-cross even the steep slopes whose trees were spurned not so long ago. Cabin Creek remains, however, from days when the country was new and the contest did not seem all so certain.

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A Railfan's Guide to Washington State. Tacoma Chapter, National Railway Historical Society  
Tacoma, Washington 1972.

Cle Elum, Washington Miner-Echo. Story of mill fire appeared July 14, 1944. Stories on  
social activities in the community appeared on a regular basis.

Oral history interviews with Ansel Taylor and Frank Kordes  
(Transcripts at Ellensburg Public Library.)

Interviews conducted by Robert Monahan with numerous former residents of Cabin Creek.

Office records of Cabin Creek Lumber Company preserved at Cabin Creek, Washington

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PAGE 1

Legal description from report by Safeco Title Insurance Company, Ellensburg, Washington, as of March 26, 1979

Parcel 1:

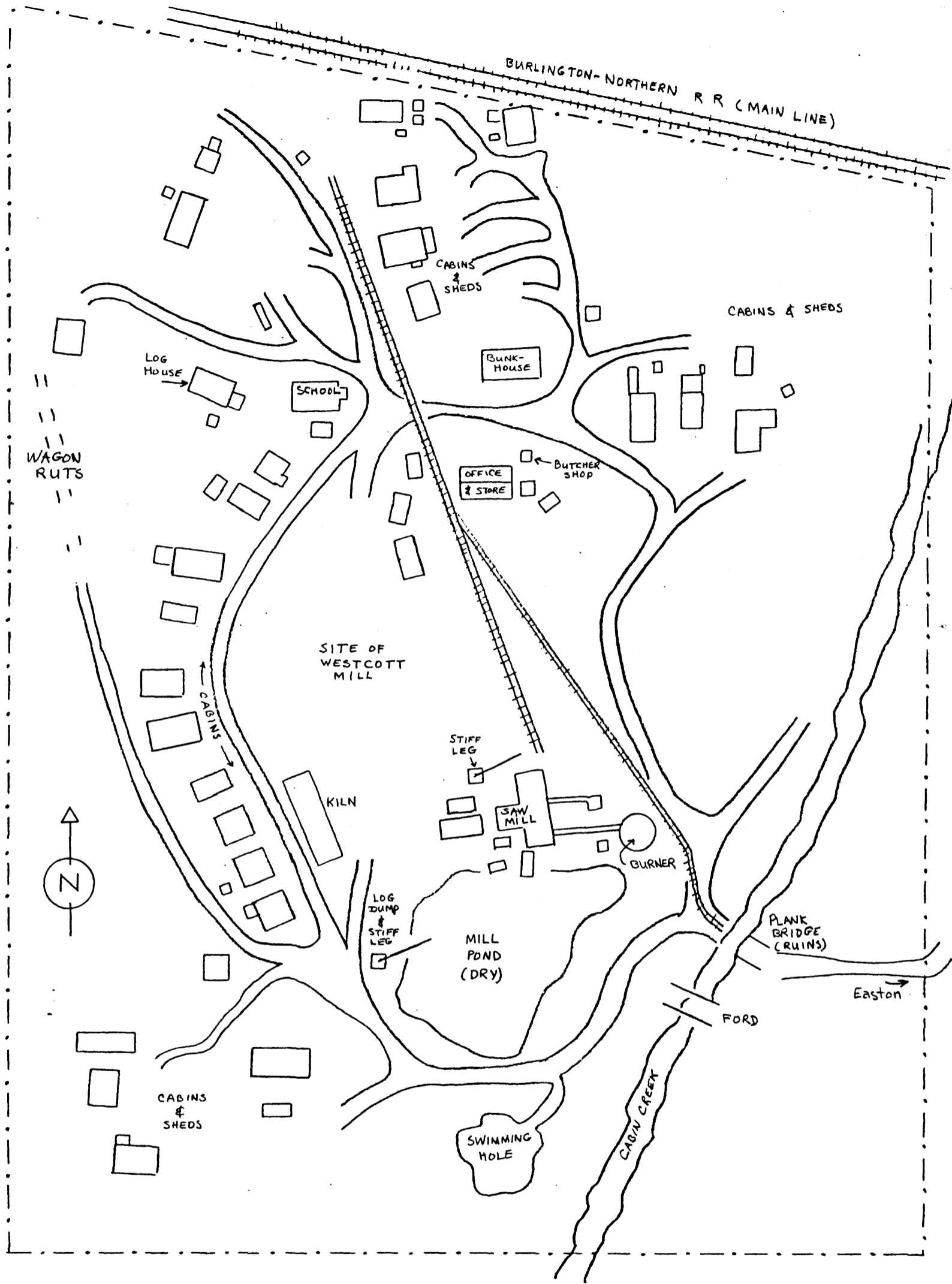
The north half of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter and that portion of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter lying south of the south right of way boundary of the Burlington Northern, Inc., railway boundary, all in Section 9, Township 20 North, Range 13 East, W.M.

Excepting therefrom a 50-foot strip from the Cascade Lumber Company logging road as reserved by deed dated July 24, 1916, recorded July 24, 1916, under Auditor's file No. 43706. (We are unable to determine the exact location of the 50-foot strip by the legal description contained therein).

Parcel 2:

The south half of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 9, Township 20 North, Range 13 East, W.M.

All in the County of Kittitas, State of Washington.



**CABIN CREEK HISTORIC DISTRICT**

**Official Map for Nomination  
of District to the National  
Register of Historic Places**

**April 1979**

**Washington State Office of Archaeology  
and Historic Preservation**

**District boundary - - - - -**

**Scale: 1 inch = 100 feet**

**All structures are assessed  
as having primary significance  
to the historic character of  
the district. There are no  
intrusions.**