

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION, GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

REGION: Rocky Mountain PARK/AREA NAME: Glacier National Park PARK NUMBER: 1430

STRUCTURE NAME: Slide Lake (Otatso Creek) Patrol Cabin STRUCTURE NUMBER: 640

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: North side of Otatso Creek, QUADRANGLE NAME: Chief Mountain,
 approximately 1/3 mile west of Glacier National Park boundary MT
 Zone Easting Northing QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute
 UTM A: 12 309565 5420490

CLASSIFICATION:		NUMBER OF RESOURCES:	
OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY:	CATEGORY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING
<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<u>1</u>	Buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> Public-Local	<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sites
<input type="checkbox"/> Public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/>	Structures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Objects
<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed/private & public	<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<u>1</u>	TOTAL

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION:

The Slide Lake patrol cabin, also known as the Otatso Creek cabin, is a one-story, rectangular frame cabin with a wood-shingled gable roof, and medium-gauge clapboard walls. The gable overdoor is on square posts and has diagonal bracing in its gable end. Windows are on both sides of the entry, centered on the side walls, and are boarded over. Details include vertical corner board trim, exposed rafter ends, and bracketed eaves. The structure is in good condition. The Slide Lake patrol cabin features qualities of design and materials unique in Glacier. The decorative gable end of the overdoor, symmetrical fenestration, and bracketed eaves are found on no other backcountry cabins. Perhaps the late construction date and its proximity to the Many Glacier area influenced the definite "alpine" style of this frame cabin. The Slide Lake patrol cabin maintains good integrity and is a significant example of early backcountry rustic architecture in Glacier.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1936

This cabin is one of many similar structures built in Glacier National Park during the 1920s and 1930s to facilitate the supervision of lands within the park boundaries. The park's rugged topography and the often rapidly changing weather conditions made it imperative that these cabins be built at strategic points to protect rangers charged with park surveillance. The cabins were usually located 8 to 12 miles from a permanent ranger station. Thus, a park ranger could spend a number of days on patrol duty without returning to the station for supplies or shelter. The Slide Lake patrol cabin is significant because it illustrates an important aspect in the development and administration of Glacier National Park.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Slide Lake patrol cabin is a significant resource both architecturally and historically. Although it is less than 50 years old, the cabin was an integral part of the system of backcountry cabins that enabled park rangers to remain in the field to fulfill administrative functions, rather than returning nightly to the ranger station. Thus, during a period when federal expenditures for national parks were inadequate, park rangers were able to maximize the benefits of the time they spent in the field. Therefore, it meets the eligibility requirements for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criteria a and c.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

FORM PREPARED BY:

DATE: June 1984

NAME/TITLE:

ORGANIZATION: Historical Research Associates, P.O. Box 7086, Missoula, MT 59807-7086

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION, GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

REGION: Rocky Mountain PARK/AREA NAME: Glacier National Park PARK NUMBER: 1430

STRUCTURE NAME: Slide Lake Woodshed STRUCTURE NUMBER: 641

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: North side of Otatso Creek, QUADRANGLE NAME: Chief Mountain,
adjacent to Slide Lake Patrol Cabin (#640) MT

Zone Easting Northing QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute
UTM A: 12 309565 5420490

CLASSIFICATION: NUMBER OF RESOURCES:

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY:	CATEGORY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING	
<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> Public-Local	<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sites
<input type="checkbox"/> Public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Structures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Objects
<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed/private & public	<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TOTAL

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION:

The Slide Lake woodshed is a small, rectangular, gable-roofed building with unshingled, exposed 1x10" roof boards. The structure has vertical board-and-batten walls and a solid wooden door centered beneath the gable end. The Slide Lake woodshed features design and materials that are compatible with the Slide Lake patrol cabin. The building contributes to the architectural significance of the site.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1936

The woodshed is an important accessory to the Slide Lake patrol cabin. However, research has not yielded any additional significant historical information.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Slide Lake woodshed is an important feature of the Slide Lake patrol cabin site. It is historically associated with the cabin and therefore, because of that association, meets criteria c for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. Although it is less than 50 years old, the cabin and woodshed were an integral part of the system of backcountry cabins that enabled park rangers to remain in the field to fulfill administrative functions, rather than returning nightly to the ranger station. Thus, during a period when federal expenditures for national parks were inadequate, park rangers were able to maximize the benefits of the time they spent in the field. The woodshed served an essential function in the park prior to the use of other heating sources.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

FORM PREPARED BY:

DATE: June 1984

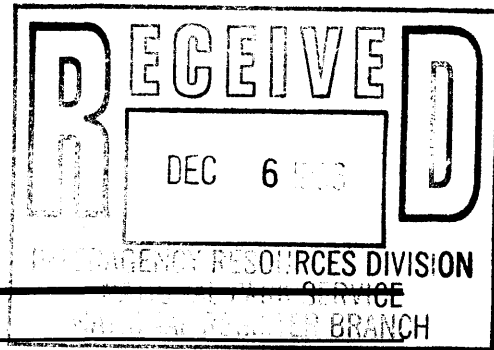
NAME/TITLE:

ORGANIZATION: Historical Research Associates, P.O. Box 7086, Missoula, MT 59807-7086

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Slide Lake Patrol Cabin and Woodshed (addendum), Glacier County, MT.



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 80. 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 1 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:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
___ 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	_____	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (explain) Additional Documentation Accepted	<i>[Signature]</i>	<u>1/19/96</u>

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National Park Service

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Glacier County, MT.

Building Interior

The following building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Additional documentation is provided below for the purpose of describing and evaluating the interior for integrity and significance.

7. Narrative Description

Beginning in the 1920s, patrol or "snowshoe" cabins were constructed from a standardized plan, modified to fit each site's unique terrain and the available building materials. Glacier National Park's cabins were of "substantially the same design" as those used in Yellowstone National Park. The Yellowstone cabins were, in turn, close replicas of USFS patrol cabins that mimicked the design of trappers' cabins. The patrol cabins were constructed one-day's travel (8-12 miles) apart, providing shelter for rangers patrolling the park's vast backcountry.

Due to their remote locations, the cabins were generally constructed of locally harvested log; interior walls were unfinished yet often chinked with saplings. The Slide Lake Cabin, only one and one half miles from a road along the sparsely timbered east flank of the Rocky Mountain Front, and the Fielding Cabin, one quarter mile from the Burlington Northern railroad tracks, are the only cabins of frame construction. Softwood shiplap planks of varied width (some as narrow as three inches, some as wide as twelve inches, most four to six inches) covered the floors. A trap door constructed of floor planks provided access to the requisite bear/rodent/frost-proof cellar, finished with poured concrete/mesh and stocked with a minimum supply of rations. Ceilings were open truss, exposing log purlins and heavy roof boards. Windows and doors were fitted wood frame, set within the log wall without surrounds; in part due to the small size of the units, the small multi-light windows were a significant design element. Doors were generally vertical-plank with cross-braces, constructed on site and secured with iron hinges, latches, and bolts. The easily accessed Fielding Patrol Cabin was fitted with a paneled door.

Furnishings were also standard, the result of similar use and space limitations. The door of the large frame wall-mounted cupboard was bottom hinged and fitted with two folding legs; when opened it provided a table. Metal hooks or shelves, strategically located, provided support for oil lamps. Bunk beds — the upper often of a "suspended fold-up design" — maximized the limited space. A single stove provided heat as well as a cooking surface.

Slide Lake Patrol Cabin and Woodshed (#640 and #641), 1936

This cabin was inaccessible at the time of survey. However, Many Glacier District rangers report that the cabin was completely reconstructed in the 1980s, with plywood walls and ceilings, in an effort to thwart a particularly aggressive pack rat population.

8. Statement of Significance

The cabin interior retains too little physical integrity to contribute to the building's significance. The woodshed interior has not been evaluated.

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put in interior walls/paneling, and exterior walls also sided. creating a pack rat habitate. Reroofed cabin almost uninhabitable. Mark Verburg or Ken Sebrowsky 732-4474.