

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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PATROL CABINS, MOUNT MCKINLEY NATIONAL PARK

Name: Lower Toklat River Ranger Cabin, No. 18

Location: 30 miles cross-country downstream (north) on Toklat River from park road, NW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 10, T. 13S., R. 14W., Fairbanks Meridian

UTM References: 05/635240/7078050 Quadrangle: Mt. McKinley (D-1), AK

Acreage and Boundary Description: Less than 1 acre Scale: 1:63,360

Nominated property includes the patrol cabin, dog houses and cache ruins and is 50 yards in a circular radius measured from the center of the cabin.

Description: Peeled, round logs with saddle notching; sawn and battered log ends; moss and oakum chinking; exterior unpainted; medium pitch gable roof sheathed with abutting poles, overlain with sod and corrugated steel; gable extends beyond main facade to form porch supported by peeled poles; tie beam and radiating support posts in porch gable end; rectangular; measures approximately 12' x 14' (inside); 1 story; sill log foundation; multi-light windows; removable wood window and door shutters. Alterations: minor repairs (1959); new floor and bottom two rounds of logs replaced (1980). Site: 12 log dog houses (arranged in three rows, four in each) approximately 50' west of cabin; cache ruins 20' west of dog house ensemble; modern A-frame open-sided outhouse.

History and Significance

Architect: Unknown (probably none)

Construction Date: 1931

Builder: National Park Service

The Lower Toklat River Ranger Cabin was one of four boundary cabins completed in 1931. Superintendent Harry Liek recognized and reported the need for north boundary cabins in 1929. In March that year, he selected the site for the Lower Toklat Cabin. Construction began in mid-summer 1931. Throughout August and into September, contracted carpenters (possibly "two old Swedes") worked on the cabin; on September 20th, they completed its construction. Two years later, Ranger John Rumohr erected a food cache at the cabin. In October 1936, Ranger Grant Pearson built new dog houses at the Lower Toklat Cabin. With the initiation of airplane patrols in the winter of 1939-40, the cabin fell into disuse; however, it remained in good condition.

During its 55-year history, the Lower Toklat River Ranger Cabin has experienced minimal exterior alterations. The cabin site retains 12 log dog houses and the cache ruins. The cabin site visually represents the winter activities of the ranger force that patrolled the park for illegal trappers and hunters throughout the 1920's and 1930's.

Photo Nos. 18-1 to 18-13