

STRUCTURE NAME: Belly River Ranger Station

STRUCTURE NUMBER: 188

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The significance of the Belly River ranger station derives from both its architectural and historical uniqueness. Historically, it is one of the oldest continually manned stations and is the sole operating station accessed by trail. Ranger Joe Cosley, a major character in the early history of Glacier National Park, is associated with the Belly River ranger station and area. Architecturally, the station buildings reflect the ongoing evolution typical of many ranger stations. Yet, of the East Side ranger stations, Belly River is the only complex that contains the "classic" configuration of structures (station/residence, barn, woodshed, and fire cache), with few intrusions and with excellent physical integrity. The Belly River ranger station is a significant and contributing element of the proposed Belly River Ranger Station Historic District, which is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criteria a and c.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

¹"Buildings: General," File: 620.0, Part 2, May 1922 to March 1926, Glacier National Park, Kraebel to Director, National Park Service, March 16, 1926, National Park Service, Record Group 79, National Archives, Washington, DC.

²"Chronological File," 1910, 1912, Glacier National Park Historical File, GNPLA.

³List of Classified Structures (Oliveri, 1975), National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO.

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: Trail Quarters STRUCTURE NUMBER: 1069

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: Belly River Ranger Station QUADRANGLE NAME: Gable Mountain, MT/Alberta

Zone Easting Northing QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute
 UTM A: 12 301430 5423250

CLASSIFICATION: NUMBER OF RESOURCES:

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY:	CATEGORY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING	
<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> Public-Local	<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TOTAL

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION:

This structure at the Belly River Ranger Station is a shiplap frame structure measuring approximately 12x17', in fair condition. This small, frame residence is neither a significant architectural component of the site, nor is it an intrusion. Scale, materials, and design make this a compatible, non-intrusive element of the Belly River Ranger Station complex.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: circa 1960

The trail quarters building was constructed about 1960 to house trail maintenance personnel.¹ Research has not yielded any significant historical information concerning persons or events associated with this building.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The structure is not architecturally or historically significant. The building is a non-contributing element in a potentially eligible Historic District.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

¹"Draft Cultural Resources Management Plan, Glacier National Park," p. 124. Glacier National Park, 1983.

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: Fire Cache STRUCTURE NUMBER: 492

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: Belly River Ranger Station QUADRANGLE NAME: Gable Mountain,
MT/Alberta

Zone Easting Northing
UTM A: 12 301430 5423250

QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute

CLASSIFICATION:

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY:

CATEGORY:

NUMBER OF RESOURCES:

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 checked="" 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 fire cache at the Belly River Ranger Station was built on a Park Service contract by Austin Weikert and Jean Sullivan. Located east of the woodshed, the cabin has regular saddle-notched log walls with cement chinking and $\frac{1}{2}$ -sapling interior chinking. The structure is in good condition. The fire cache, which is used to store fire-fighting equipment and other maintenance tools, is a pivotal element of most ranger stations in Glacier. The Belly River fire cache is an excellent example of local log craftsmanship, featuring saddle-notched and grooved logs. Its conversion to a fireguard cabin has not greatly changed the structure's original integrity. The building is architecturally significant and is a contributing element of the proposed Belly River Ranger Station Historic District.

HISTORICAL EVALUATION:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1928

This log fire cache is identical to the Kintla Lake fire cache (also known as a patrol cabin) which was built by local log craftsman Harry Doverspike. This building, constructed in 1928 at a cost of \$450, may also be an example of Doverspike's excellent work.¹ Research has not yielded any significant historical information concerning persons or events associated with this building.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The building is architecturally significant and is a contributing element of the proposed Belly River Ranger Station Historic District.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

¹"Fire Caches and Guard Cabins," File D-34, GNPLA.

FORM PREPARED BY:

DATE: June 1984

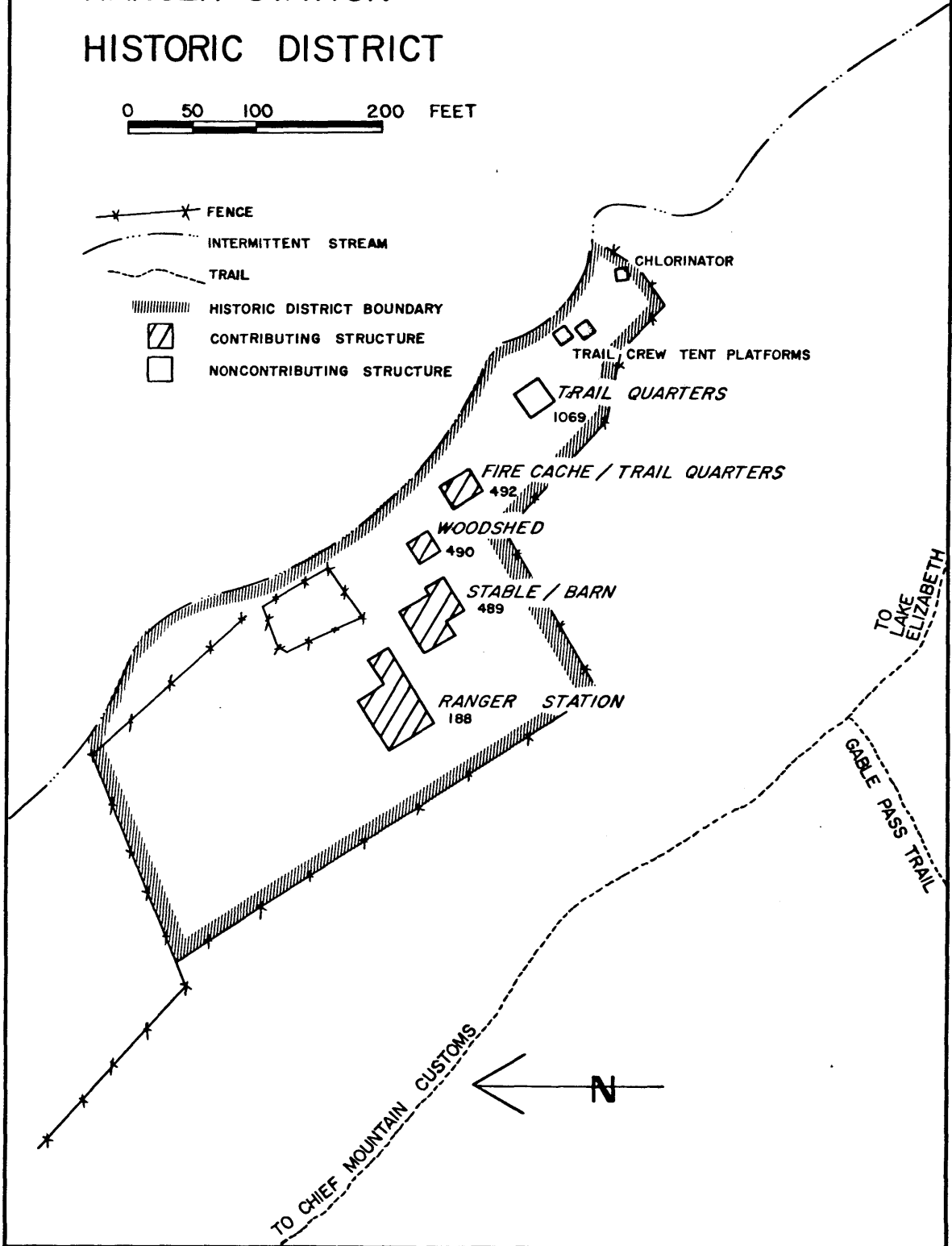
NAME/TITLE:

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

BELLY RIVER RANGER STATION HISTORIC DISTRICT

0 50 100 200 FEET

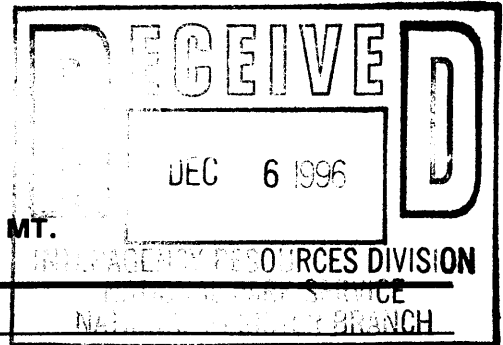
- FENCE
- INTERMITTENT STREAM
- TRAIL
- HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE
- NONCONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Belly River Ranger Station Historic District (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 38 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:	<u>for</u> Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (explain) <u>additional documentation</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>1/19/96</u>

Additional Documentation Accepted

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7, 8 Page 3 Belly River Ranger Station Historic District
(addendum), Glacier County, MT.

Modifications appear to be limited to new flooring, and, possibly, painting of the interior shiplap siding and ceiling boards. The floorplan and dominant design details, including exposed log walls, exposed purlins, paneled doors, and wide molding, remain intact. The building presents an historic appearance.

Barn (#489), 1912

This simple building, constructed as a residence, features the original softwood floors. Hewn logs form the interior walls and the ceiling is open to the roof, exposing the log truss system and roof planks. A partial loft provides additional storage space. Window and door casings are flush with the structural logs (no surrounds).

There have been no known modifications to this building.

Woodshed (#490), 1927

The 10" vertical boards that infill this shed's exposed-log framing system form the interior walls. Interior log posts, providing additional structural support, may postdate construction. The ceiling is open to the roof exposing the dimensional-lumber truss system and roof planks. The floor is dirt.

Fire Cache (#492), 1928

The interior walls of this small one-room cabin are log, chinked with sapling (in contrast to the cement used on the exterior). Unfinished 4" pine planks cover the floor. The ceiling is open to the roof, exposing the log truss system and ceiling boards. Window and door casings are flush with the structural logs (no surrounds). Additional features include wall mounted cupboards and open shelving units, and a modern spring-fed sink unit coleman lanterns, and a gas fired cookstove.

8. Statement of Significance

Without exception, the above interiors possess physical integrity and contribute to the buildings' significance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs Page 4 Belly River Ranger Station Historic District
(addendum), Glacier County, MT.

Photographs

- 1) Photographer: Alan Newell
- 2) Date of Photographs: August 1993
- 3) Location of Negatives: National Park Service, RMR-RC, Denver, CO.

PHOTO NUMBER	STRUCTURE NAME AND NUMBER	LOCATION/DIRECTION OF VIEW
1	Ranger Station (#188)	Interior walls (typical)
2	Ranger Station (#188)	Exterior walls (typical)
3	Ranger Station (#188)	Bedroom
4	Ranger Station (#188)	Kitchen
5	Barn (#489)	Interior
6	Woodshed (#490)	Interior
7	Pit Toilet (#491; outside district boundaries)	View to NW
8	Pit Toilet (#491)	View to S
9	Fire Cache (#492)	Interior
10	Fire Cache (#492)	Interior