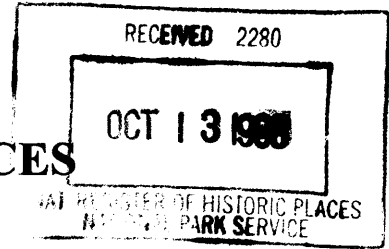


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Walsh, Thomas J., Lodge

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: Upper Lake McDonald


not for publication: na
vicinity: X

city/town: Apgar

state: Montana code: MT county: Flathead code: 029 zip code: 59936

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally.


Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

10-6-98

Montana State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency or bureau

(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

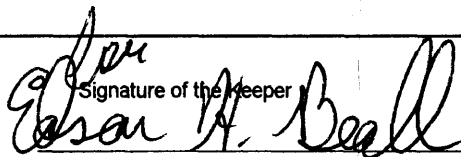
State or Federal agency and bureau

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 of the Keeper



Date of Action

11-12-98

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: private	Number of Resources within Property	
Category of Property: building	Contributing	Noncontributing
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: na	<u>4</u>	<u> </u> building(s)
Name of related multiple property listing:	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> structures
	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
Glacier National Park	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u> TOTAL

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/Camp

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Other: Rustic Craftsman

Materials:

foundation: Concrete
walls: Logs
roof: Asphalt
other: Brick

Narrative Description

The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge is the nucleus of a family camp located at the base of Mount Stanton at the head of Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park. The property is near the Upper Lake McDonald Ranger Station and about one-half mile west of Going-to-the-Sun Highway.

The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge fronts on the upper (north) end of Lake McDonald. The site is lightly timbered and grassy and slopes gently to the lake. The main house is approximately 60 feet from the top of a short flat-stoned beach. A stand of pine trees near the shore shields the cabin from the lake. An engine house and combination woodshed/icehouse are behind the lodge. On a slight elevation farther to the north are two other cabins and a garage constructed in 1947. An eight-foot-high chain link fence, constructed in 1930-32, surrounds three sides of the property. A road, built and maintained by the National Park Service, runs behind the lodge several hundred feet to the north; it provides access to the Lake McDonald Ranger Station, about 500 yards away, to five other groups of family cabins and to the Kelly Homestead which lies approximately 1¾ miles to the west.

Lodge (1910, contributing building)

The Thoms J. Walsh Lodge is a one-and-one-half story log building designed in the Rustic Craftsman style. Ed Cruger, a local carpenter, constructed the building. It is rectangular with a side-gabled roof and prominent front-facing dormer. The wide, full-length front porch is placed beneath the roof of the lodge. A partial width, shed-roofed, screened porch projects from the rear of the Lodge. Concrete piers (date unknown) at each corner support the log walls. At the center of the rear of the Lodge, a wire-struck brick chimney tops a native stone fireplace (date unknown).

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Unpeeled cedar logs make up the walls of the cabin. The logs are hewn on the interior side and laid in a saddle notch with minimal projecting butts. The logs extend below the floor line and into the gables. Closely space log purlins project from the gable ends.

Unadorned log posts support the roof at the front and rear porches. Most first floor windows in the Lodge are double-hung sash divided in a 1/3:2/3 ratio. This ratio matches the design of the porch which is unusually tall; the logs supporting the porch roof are above the second floor level. Second floor windows are divided equally. All side windows have six-over one sash. The cedar shake sided front gable houses a pair of nine-light windows. Opening onto the front porch are three windows. Only one of these retains its original sash configuration; it is divided eight-over-one. The two other window openings are original, but the sash have been replaced with one single sheet of glass. The rear of the lodge has a six-over-one double hung-sash and paired six pane rectangular sash flank the fireplace. The front door has a one-half light window with two horizontal panels below. The back door is a five horizontal panel door.

All interior walls are stained, hewn logs. The partitions are vertically-placed double-beaded board. The central living space is open to the roof. A native stone fireplace is centered in the rear of the living room wall. An open stairway with a log balustrade accesses a balcony overlooking the living room. Three bedrooms are on the second floor.

Wood shed/Ice House (c. 1910, contributing structure)

The woodshed/ice house is a rectangular structure measuring 8-feet by 21 feet. The ice house portion of the structure is constructed of round logs, hewn on the interior side. A single, vertical-board door provides access to the ice house from the gable end. The woodshed half of the building is open, with spaced, doubled two-by-fours supporting the roof. A green, asphalt shingled gable roof covers the structure.

Engine House (date unknown, non-contributing structure)

The construction date of the Engine House is unknown, but it was built to house an electric generator before the availability of commercial electricity in 1947-48. However, the building appears to have been largely rebuilt at a later date. The gable-roofed structure is built into the hill slope behind the lodge. The roof appears older than the rest of the building. It projects forward to protect the front door. The walls of the building are concrete block; a manufactured-log veneer has been attached to the front. A plywood ventilator projects from the peak of the roof.

Parks' House (1947, contributing building)

The Parks' House is typical of the ranch-style houses built by American's after World War II. It also is similar to designs which began to appear in the National Parks shortly before World War II, signaling the end of the Rustic Style. The rectangular, gable roofed house measures 53 feet by 25 feet (the western portion of the house is an addition of unknown date). It rests on a concrete foundation, which because of the slope, raises the first floor of the house high above the ground. A gable-roofed, screened porch projects from the facade and is accessed by a long, open wooden stairway. The only concessions to the house's environment are the green asphalt roof shingles and the wood wall shingles. The rafter tails are exposed. Windows in the front (lake side) of the house are large picture windows. Other windows are primarily sliding units. Two half-light slab doors on the back of the house are protected by small gable roofs supported by wall brackets.

Guest Cabin (1947, contributing building)

The Guest Cabin is similar in design to the Parks' House. The cabin is 18 feet square. It has a green asphalt shingled roof with exposed rafter tails. The walls are wood shingles, and the foundation is concrete. A gable-roofed porch supported by wall brackets protects the concrete entrance stoop. A large picture window faces the lake; sliding unit windows are located on the east and north sides.

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Garage (1947, contributing building)

The Garage is at the north end of the property, behind the Parks' House. It is a gable-roofed building measuring 23 feet by 14 feet six inches. The materials and design are similar to the Parks' House. The roof, with exposed rafter tails, is covered with green asphalt shingles. A single, wood paneled overhead garage door is located in the east gable end. Each of the other sides had a twelve-light window. The walls are clad with wood shingles and the building rests on a concrete foundation.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, B, and C

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE;
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION;
EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT;
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Period(s) of Significance: 1910-1948

Significant Person(s): Thomas Jefferson Walsh

Significant Dates: 1910; 1947

Cultural Affiliation: European-American

Architect/Builder: Unknown/Eddie Cruger

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing established the significance of "Summer Homes" under Criterion A for their association with pre-park settlement and development. The subdivision of early homesteads around Lake McDonald resulting in small, private cabin sites for summer residents was an important early pattern. Walsh purchased his cabin site from Frank Geduhn, a homesteader at the head of the Lake, and thus the lodge is associated with this pattern of development.

Under the Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing, the Walsh Lodge also is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The building is representative of vernacular, rustic-designed architecture developed outside the purview of the National Park Service's Landscape Division. The MPD found summer homes eligible for listing under Criterion C if they retain those architectural features that display rustic architectural design developed outside the NPS's purview and they retain the scenic vistas and access routes that determined a resource's historic siting. The Walsh Lodge meets these registration requirements.

The Walsh Lodge also is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B for its association with Thomas J. Walsh. Montana first sent Thomas J. Walsh to the U.S. Senate in 1912. He rose to national prominence during the early 1920s for exposing the "Teapot Dome Scandal." Walsh used his background in constitutional law to fight against corruption and monopoly. Franklin Roosevelt chose Walsh as his Attorney General in 1933, but he died before taking the post.

Historical Background

Settlers began filing homesteads on the shore of Lake McDonald in the early 1890s. These settlers soon discovered that the growing public interest in the natural wonders of the area provided a more profitable business opportunity than trying to raise crops in the short growing season. George Snyder opened a small wood-frame hotel on the lake in 1895, and other homesteaders, including Frank Geduhn at the head of the Lake, rented out cabins and provided other tourist services. A growing demand for private cabin sites resulted in a number of homesteads being subdivided.

Thomas Walsh first vacationed in the Lake McDonald area in 1899, returning in 1900 with his family. That year, they rented a cabin from Frank Geduhn. The Walsh's began annual trips to the lake, and in 1909 purchased a small cabin site from Geduhn. The annual summer trip to the Lake required three modes of travel. First, the family boarded a train in Helena. At Belton, the family transferred to a horse-drawn stage for Apgar, and then made the final leg of their journey by boat up the Lake.

In 1910, Walsh contracted with Eddie Cruger to build a lodge. Walsh's daughter, Genevieve Walsh Gudger, remembered Cruger "literally handpicked every log which went into the house." Cruger's mother and stepfather provided horses and guides to the summer tourists. He endeared himself to the young Genevieve Walsh on some of these trips, teaching her outdoor survival skills and botany. Besides the Walsh Lodge, Crueger built many buildings in the Park. John Lewis employed Cruger from 1905 through 1917 building cabins at his hotel (now Lake McDonald Lodge). He later went to work as a carpenter for the National Park Service, retiring in 1951.

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Thomas Jefferson Walsh

Thomas Jefferson Walsh received a public-school education in Wisconsin, taught there, and earned a law degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1884. He moved to Helena in 1890 and engaged in mining litigation; his reputation solidified as a Constitutional lawyer. Walsh's brooding appearance and carefully researched, but humorless speeches, did not make for a popular politician. Nevertheless, the man's deep loyalty and integrity earned him an unshakable following. After two early defeats, he was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1912.

Politically, a Democrat, Walsh championed such progressive issues as woman's suffrage, child-labor protection, workmen's compensation, and civil rights. On international affairs, he followed Woodrow Wilson's lead in advocating the League of Nations, the Treaty of Versailles, and the World Court. In the 1930s, he became a non-aggressionist. A constant in his life was his fear of the growing power of private corporations in public affairs.

Thomas J. Walsh's senatorial career (1912-33) pivots around his masterful job in breaking the 1923-24 "Teapot Dome Scandal." His role in uncovering the scandal catapulted him into national fame. Walsh's pursuit wrong doing won a conviction against Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall. In any discussion of Walsh's legislative accomplishments, the scandal is the focus. His work on this project falls within his greater interest in fighting monopoly and corruption; it is the same umbrella that covers his early legislative work (based in his Montana-Progressive heritage) to regulate railroads and other public-service utilities.

As a legal specialist in the U.S. Senate, Walsh knew few peers. The most effective legislation that he created involved public-land policy: Forest Reserves; the creation of the National Park Service (1916); laws to regulate use of the National Forests for timber harvest, grazing, and recreation. When private companies misused the public domain, Walsh could combine his anti-trust bent with his expertise on public lands, and the opponents did not have a prayer of escaping some regulation.

Walsh appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine (May 4, 1925) and his name regularly surfaced in speculation regarding open Supreme Court seats. Walsh served as a delegate to every Democratic National Convention from 1908 to 1932, and he was chosen permanent chairman of the Convention in 1924 and again in 1932. Walsh entertained Presidential aspirations in 1928. Franklin Roosevelt selected Walsh as his attorney general in 1933, but the statesman died several days before taking office.

Franklin Roosevelt, just inaugurated as President, attended the state funeral held in the U.S. Senate chambers. The national press commented liberally on Walsh's death, by all accounts agreeing that the loss was a national catastrophe. The *Detroit Daily* called his death "a serious misfortune to the nation." The *Baltimore Daily Sun* lamented the loss of a man with such courage as "little short of a public calamity," and the *San Francisco Chronicle* proclaimed "the Montana senator . . . eminently fitted for the post President Roosevelt invited him to occupy." Walsh's body lay in state in the Montana Capitol, where more than 10,000 people passed in honor. On that occasion, Senator Burton K. Wheeler eulogized Walsh as "the most distinguished citizen Montana has ever developed."

Architectural Significance

The Walsh Lodge meets the Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing's registration requirements for summer homes. It is an example of the vernacular, Rustic Style summer homes built in Glacier National Park until 1945. The design of the Walsh Lodge more accurately falls within the Rustic Craftsman Style promoted by Gustav Stickley. In his 1909 book, *Craftsman Homes*, Stickley advocated the bungalow for rural settings because of its broad, low lines and lack of ornamentation. These characteristics permitted it to "sink into and blend with any landscape." The use of local materials, like the cedar logs at the Walsh Lodge, further added to "a beauty of fitness." The logs with the bark still on them could be accomplished only with cedar. Other species of trees were susceptible to rot beneath the bark and a haven to wood-boring insects.

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Craftsman designers used porches and dormers as honest ways to add design interest to simply designed houses. The unusually wide depth of the Walsh Lodge porch suggests its planned use for outdoor living and dining activities; its location beneath the main roof of the house gives it the look of an extension of the enclosed rooms. Rustic-style furniture, hammocks, and carpets would have provided comfortable "open-air life."

Craftsman ideals extend to the interior of the Lodge. Exposure of the structural system ornaments the two-story living room. The closely spaced purlins supporting the roof, the hewn log walls, the river rock fireplace, and the open stairway and balustrade railings add warmth and interest and eliminate the need for dust collecting furniture and knickknacks. The Walsh Lodge was designed to free the owners to enjoy their stay at the Lake without time-consuming housekeeping chores.

The 1947 cabins and garage also are significant architecturally as examples of post-Rustic Style design. Beginning just before World War II, a new generation of architects in the National Park Service's Landscape Division initiated a movement away from the "affected" Rustic Style, and introduced more modern design concepts of efficiency and functionalism. The later buildings at the Walsh Lodge are similar in design to those that came out of the Landscape Division in the early 1940s for Kings Canyon National Park. These designs "symbolized the end of the rustic architecture movement in the national parks."

Other Properties

The National Register requires that properties associated with an important person be compared with other properties associated with that person. One other house owned and occupied by Thomas J. Walsh is known to exist.

343 Clark Street, Helena, Montana - This grand Queen Anne style house is within the boundaries of the Helena Historic District. The house, constructed at the height of Thomas J. Walsh's career in Montana, is best representative of that period of his life.

The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge is significant for its representation of Walsh's western view of public land laws. Walsh fought "big government" as strongly as he opposed corporate monopolies. While he denounced corporate plunder of the public lands as a "national vice," he opposed charging the "little man" grazing fees in the national forests. He recognized the national interest of conserving natural resources, but exhorted state approval for public land withdrawals. He promoted hydroelectric dam construction, even within the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park, while ensuring corporate leases were periodically renewable, thus providing opportunity for public ownership. The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge, constructed the same year Glacier National Park was created, is a potent symbol of this particular brand of western thought.

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation sheet

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: 1.03 acres

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	A 12	289600	5391120

Legal Location (Township, Range & Section(s)): Section 11, T33N, R18W, MPM

Verbal Boundary Description

Two parcels of land within Glacier National Park being Glacier National Park Parcel Number 06104 containing .17 acres and Glacier National Park Parcel Number 06105 containing .86 acres, for a total of 1.03 acres.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn, based on legally recorded boundary lines, to include the land surrounding the building that has been historically associated with the building and conveys the property's historic setting.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Dave Walter and Lon Johnson	date: July 1998
organization: Montana Historical Society	telephone: 406-444-7742
street & number: 225 North Roberts	state: MT zip code: 59620
city or town: Helena	

Property Owner

name/title: Dana P. Wright and Glen C. MacArthur	c/o Mrs. James N. Parks
street & number: 5552 Caminito Herminia	telephone: 619-483-2884
city or town: La Jolla	state: CA zip code: 92037

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- Pupils of Apgar School, comp. "History of Apgar." no publisher, ca. 1950.
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Photographs

Photographer and
Negatives:

Dave Walter
922 Choteau
Helena, Montana

Date:

September 1997

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Photograph No. 1 | Lake McDonald from Lodge. View to south. |
| Photograph No. 2 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. Front (south) elevation. View to north. |
| Photograph No. 3 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. Front (south) elevation. View to east-northeast. |
| Photograph No. 4 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. West elevation. View to north-northwest. |
| Photograph No. 5 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. East elevation. View to south-southwest. |
| Photograph No. 6 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. Rear elevation. View to southwest. |
| Photograph No. 7 | Woodshed/Icehouse. View to northwest. |
| Photograph No. 8 | Engine House. View to northeast. |
| Photograph No. 9 | Parks' House. Partial South Elevation. View to northwest. |
| Photograph No. 10 | Parks' House. Partial South Elevation. View to northwest. |
| Photograph No. 11 | Guest Cabin. View to northeast. |
| Photograph No. 12 | Garage. View to west. |

SITE PLAN
WALSH, THOMAS J., LOD.
FLATHEAD COUNTY
MONTANA

