

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION, GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

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

STRUCTURE NAME: Upper Kintla Lake Patrol Cabin STRUCTURE NUMBER: 613

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: Head of Kintla Lake QUADRANGLE NAME: Kintla Peak, MT
 Zone Easting Northing QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute
 UTM A: 11 701500 5428370

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 Upper Kintla Lake patrol cabin is a one-story, rectangular log cabin with saddle notching, sapling chinking, and square-cut crowns. Some of the logs have been replaced recently, and some crowns are restored with latex and sawdust. The structure rests on a raised concrete alignment foundation, with wire mesh between the ground/foundation and sill logs. The wood-shingled gable roof extends to a porch, with the beam on two posts. There are vertical posts beneath five of seven log purlins. A nail-gridded, animal-proof entry door faces the lake, and the rear and side windows are covered with metal mesh and metal bars. The structure is in good to excellent condition, considering its age. The Upper Kintla Lake patrol cabin was constructed in 1931 following National Park Service plan G913. It is in good condition and has very good integrity. It is a significant example of an early backcountry rustic building in Glacier National Park.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1931

An urgently needed patrol cabin in the northern Boundary Mountain reaches in Glacier prompted the construction of the Upper Kintla Lake snowshoe cabin. All supplies were transported by boat to the site.¹ 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 Upper Kintla Lake patrol cabin is significant because it illustrates an important aspect in the development and administration of Glacier National Park.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Upper Kintla Lake patrol cabin is a significant resource both architecturally and historically. Therefore, it meets the eligibility requirements for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criteria a and c.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

¹"Final Construction Report, Snowshoe Cabin, Upper end of Lower Kintla Lake," File D-34, Building Construction Reports, GNPLA.

FORM PREPARED BY:

DATE: June 1984

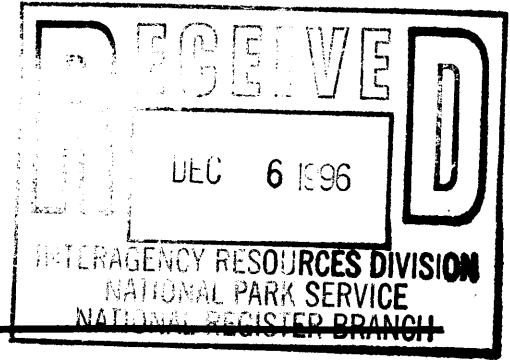
NAME/TITLE:

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Upper Kintla Lake Patrol Cabin (addendum), Flathead 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 60. 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 ___ 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	<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>	<u>1/19/96</u>

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Building Interior

The Upper Kintla Lake Patrol Cabin 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

Summary

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.

Upper Kintla Lake Patrol Cabin (#613), 1931

A heavy door, constructed of three 8"-12" planks secured with horizontal braces, provides access to this simple one-room cabin where 7" planks, painted grey, cover the floor. The trap door to the concrete-lined cellar

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Flathead Co., MT.

is located just off-center, near the wood box. The ceiling is open to the roof exposing the log purlins and roof planks. Full logs, chinked with sapling, form the interior walls. Furnishing include a standard wall-mounted cupboard with hinged table top/door and a tall standing cupboard constructed of shiplap planks and holding folded up mattresses (a variation on the standard rodent-proof bedding boxes). A set of metal bunkbeds is located just to the right of the door and a folding bed rests against the east wall near floor space shared with the hinged table top. Coleman lanterns hang from the ceiling and a woodstove provides both heat and a cooking surface.

8. Statement of Significance

The interior is unmodified and contributes to the building's significance.

Photographs

- 1) Photographer: Jason Wilmot
- 2) Date of Photographs: June 1993
- 3) Location of Negatives: National Park Service, RMR-RC, Denver, CO.

PHOTO NUMBER	STRUCTURE NAME AND NUMBER	LOCATION/DIRECTION OF VIEW
1	Upper Kintla Lake Patrol Cabin (#613)	Interior-door detail
2	Upper Kintla Lake Patrol Cabin (#613)	Interior-unusual bedding-storage cupboard