

CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE FIELD INVENTORY REPORT
(Attach 4" x 5" Black and White Photograph)

24FH347

REGION RMRO PARK/AREA NAME GLACIER NATIONAL PARK PARK NUMBER 1430

STRUCTURE NAME JOHNNIE WALSH GUEST LODGE STRUCTURE NUMBER I-127

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE NORTH FORK STUDY AREA PARK LOCATION CODE GLAC

NATIONAL REGISTER _____ DATE: _____ MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: (A) (B) (C) (D)

NPS LEGAL INTEREST None. MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT: _____

Check all of the following categories for which NPS has treatment responsibility:

Stabilization() Cyclic Maintenance() Routine Maintenance() Approved Ultimate Treatment()

(ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION USE ONLY)

APPROVED ULTIMATE TREATMENT OR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN, CULTURAL COMPONENT DESIGNATION

Preservation	(PP)	Restoration	(RR)	Reconstruction	(CC)
Adaptive Preservation	(AP)	Adaptive Restoration	(AR)	Adaptive Reconstruction	(AC)
Neglect	(NG)	Remove	(RM)	No Approved Treatment	(NO)

Approval Document _____ () Document Date: / /

Estimated Treatment Costs _____

Stabilization: \$ _____ Date: / /

Approved Treatment: \$ _____ Date: / /

Level of Estimate: (A) (B) (C)
Estimator: (Region) (DSC) (A&E)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Date of Construction: 1922 Date of Alterations: 1963, moved
Architect/Designer: Johnnie Walsh Historical Theme(s): Homesteading
History of Structure: _____

---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

Evaluation of Structure: Historic Theme Contributing X Non-Contributing _____
National Register Criteria: A B CX D (Include integrity statement)

---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

Bibliography: ---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

Representation in Other Surveys: Historical Research Associates, 1982.

If structure has been removed, how? moved to present site Date: 1963

Report prepared by: Patricia L. Bick, Historian Date: 10/01/86

Condition:
Documentation:
Significance:
Internal Impacts:
External Impacts:

LOCATION: Section 9 State MONTANA USE: CURRENT INTERIOR USE (NPS 28 CODE)
 Township 35N County FLATHEAD Original Use HOMESTEAD
 Range 21W Intermediate Uses HOMESTEAD

Dick Walsh, 901 Walsh Road,
 Columbia Falls, MT 59912

PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION (NPS 28 CODE) _____

OWNERSHIP: Present Owner: _____
 Original Owner: Johnnie Walsh
 Intermediate Owner(s): none

DRAWING NO. n/a
 NEGATIVE NO. Roll NF#9, frames 9-19

*****PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION*****

TYPE OF STRUCTURE (NPS 28 CODE): _____

CHIMNEYS:

ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER (STYLE):

SITE (INCLUDE ORIENTATION OF STRUCTURE):

PORCHES:

---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

OVERALL BUILDING PLAN (FOOTPRINT):

WINDOWS:

OVERALL DIMENSIONS:

COMPOSITION (NPS 28 CODE): _____

DOORS:

STORIES:

FOUNDATION:

ADDITIONS:

WALLS: ---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

INTERIOR PLAN:

ROOF:

INTERIOR FINISHES:

SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES (INCLUDING INTERIOR AND SETTING) FOR PARK PLANNING PURPOSES:

---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

Historic Name: JOHNNIE WALSH'S GUEST LODGE

I-127

Location: T35N; R21W; SW 1/4, SW 1/4, SE 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 9.

Acreage: less than 1 acre.

UTM Reference: 11/5408900/697000

Ownership: Dick Walsh, 901 Walsh Road, Columbia Falls, Montana.

Access: Located on Glacier Route 7 approximately 1/4 mile to the south of the River Campground and 2 1/2 miles north of the Polebridge Ranger Station.

Evaluation of Significance and Architectural Integrity:

The Johnnie Walsh Guest Lodge, built in 1922, is a fine example of replacement residential construction on the North Fork and meets Criterion C for listing in the National Register. Brought down to the park road from its original location on the east bench of Big Prairie in 1963, the architecturally significant Walsh Guest Lodge is eligible for listing in the National Register as an exception to the criteria exempting moved buildings from Register listing because it is one of only two surviving replacement residences on the east side of the North Fork. Nine of the original 35 homesteaders are known to have constructed quality second homes to replace their initial homestead cabins. Only one of these buildings, constructed in 1922 by Jean Sullivan, was of frame construction. Historical photographs exist for seven of these replacement dwellings. The Johnnie Walsh Guest Lodge exhibits the large scale, massing, refined detailing, and quality of craftsmanship common to the type and is worthy of preservation. Although removed from the historic homestead complex where the Guest Lodge was used as the Walshs' residence, large enough to accommodate numerous friends, in its new setting at the opposite side of Big Prairie, the building remains as an integral component of the historical landscape and evokes an appropriate sense of time and place.

The Walsh Guest Lodge was constructed by Johnnie Walsh with the assistance of his neighbors, Charles Schoenberger and Ed, Emil and Axel Peterson. Walsh began the building with the intention of opening a guest lodge, but the stepped-up patrols by park rangers to curb poaching on park lands during the 1920s may have dampened his enthusiasm for the project. Johnnie and Harriet Walsh lived on the first floor and the upper floor of the lodge was never finished on the interior.

Physical Description: The site consists of the moved guest lodge and log privy as well as a modern privy. The boundary for the property includes lots 19 and 20 of the Walsh Homestead Tracts, approximately 260 by 150 feet (plat on file at the Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana). The buildings are located on the original homestead land, a portion of which was subdivided into building lots in 1947.

1. LOG RESIDENCE (Constructed 1922). Contributing.

This 33- by 30-foot, two-story log building is the largest extant

residence on the east side of the North Fork. The steeply pitched, metal covered, gabled roof is lifted with two long shed roof dormers on the north and south sides. The gable end is of frame construction sheathed with horizontal wood siding. Most of the structural framing materials, including the roof rafters, were cut and planed by Johnnie Walsh using horses to pull the logs through a planing device he fabricated. The rough sawn roof sheathing is covered with concrete, having been first used for the basement forms. In its present location, the building rests on a low concrete block foundation. The log walls are of large dimension, round on the exterior and hewn on the interior, with lap notch corner timbering. The original moss chinking was held in place by long thin poles attached to the log rounds. Quarter-sawn pole with moss chinking is evident on the interior, but the exterior has been rechinked with cement, although the pole work is still in place. The windows are 6-over-6, double-hung sash set in pairs on the first floor and singly on the second. The house has front and rear entrances with overdoor stoops.

The building in its original location was oriented toward the south, facing Big Prairie. During the move, it was turned 90 degrees and is now oriented toward the east, again facing the center of Big Prairie. The interior is divided into two bedrooms, a kitchen and a large living room (20 by 30 feet) on the first floor and the upper floor remains unfinished. Alterations to the structure include the addition of a screen breakfast room and deck on the east end in 1980.

2. LOG PRIVY (constructed 1922). Contributing.

The 16- by 10-foot log privy, designed to accommodate toilet facilities and showers for both men and women, was also never finished on the interior and remains unpartitioned. The small dimension logs are joined with lap notching. The gable roof with log purlins is covered with metal and overhangs approximately 4 feet. The structure is currently used for a workshop and storage.

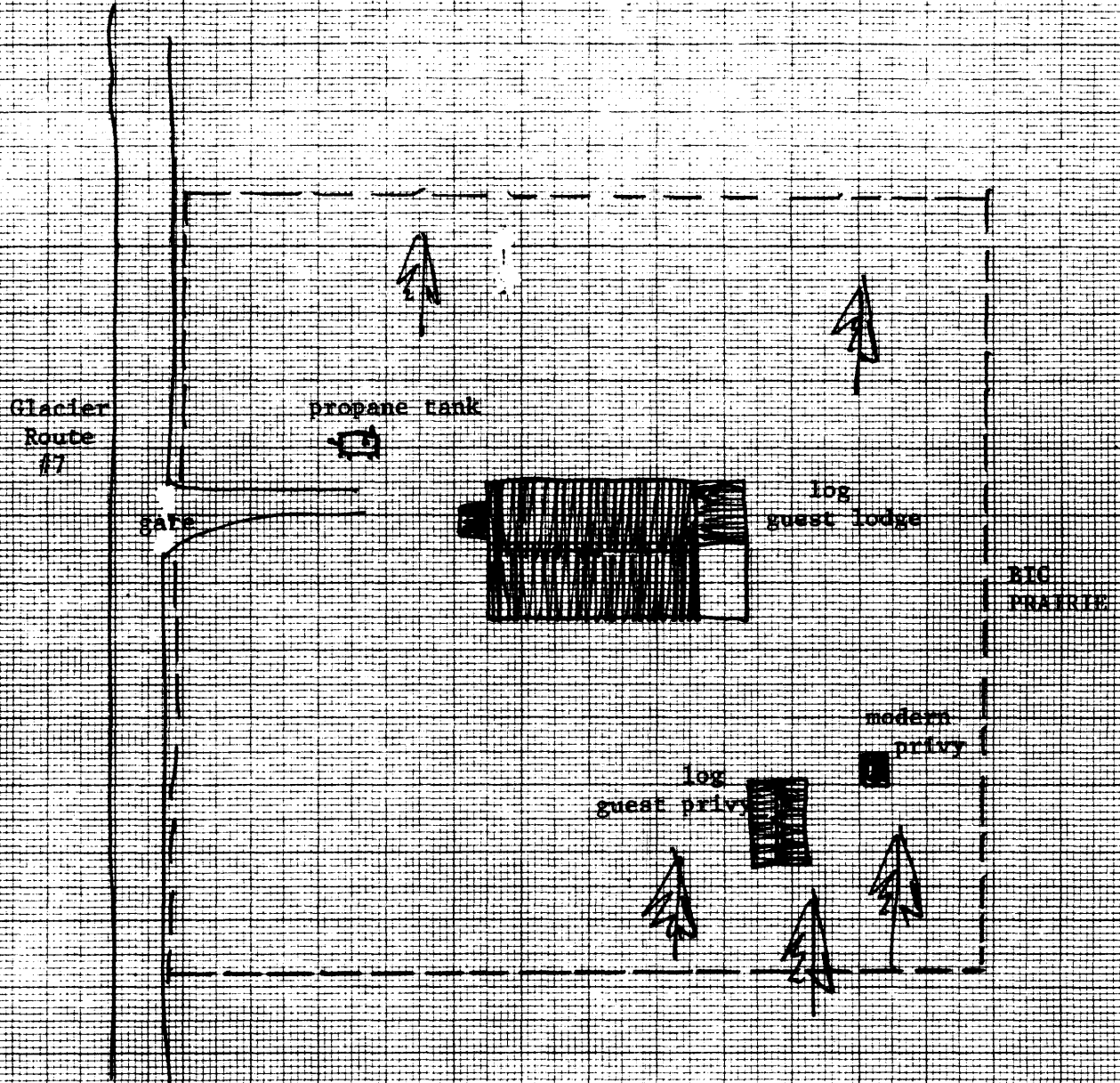
3. FRAME PRIVY (constructed ca. 1970). Non-contributing.

This small frame privy is of vertical one inch thick construction with a shed roof.

Form Prepared by: Patricia L. Bick, Historian, October 1986.

WALSH GUEST LODGE

less than one acre
Polebridge Quad



site boundaries

north

NOT TO SCALE

LOWER BIG PRAIRIE AREA

