

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION, GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

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

STRUCTURE NAME: Kintla Lake Ranger Station      STRUCTURE NUMBER: 615

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: SE $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 29, T37N R21W      QUADRANGLE NAME: Kintla Lake, MT  
 south shore of Kintla Lake, approx. 250 yards east of Kintla Lake Campground  
 Zone Easting Northing      QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute  
 UTM A: 11 694790 5423370

CLASSIFICATION:		NUMBER OF RESOURCES:		
OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY:	CATEGORY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING	
<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>      </u>	Buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> Public-Local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Sites
<input type="checkbox"/> Public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Structures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Objects
<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed/private & public	<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<u>1</u>	<u>      </u>	TOTAL

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION:

The Kintla Lake Ranger Station originally functioned as a residence (builder unknown). The wood-shingled gable roof has pole rafters and eave brackets, and the axis is perpendicular to the lakeshore. The log walls appear to be square notched and square hewn, but may be dovetail notching that was hand-hewn with a broad axe. The structure rests on a concrete block foundation, has a wood front porch platform, four-light casements, and a solid door. The condition of the structure is good. There have been some modifications to the structure, including the addition of eave brackets and the concrete foundation. Square-hewn, square-notched logs indicate that the Kintla Lake Ranger Station did not originate as a Park Service building. The building design is not architecturally significant, but it is representative of a type of functional log construction that was common during the early settlement and development of the North Fork of the Flathead River. Its present use as a seasonal ranger station and inevitable repairs are sympathetic to its original use and appearance.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1900

Mineral and oil exploration occupied an important position in pre-Park history. Although most activity occurred along the eastern slopes of the Divide, some areas in the North Fork appeared to hold significant amounts of crude oil. The Butte Oil Company, preparing for a test well, dispatched a road crew to clear a wagon road from Apgar to the south shore of Kintla Lake. During the autumn of 1902, men hauled drilling equipment to the foot of the lake. Then, when ice covered its surface, the machinery was skidded across the ice to the well site.<sup>1</sup> Some machinery parts remain at the abandoned well, located on the north shore not far west of the patrol cabin at the head of the lake. The present ranger station building was constructed by the Butte Oil Company as part of the project. Although the venture failed, the company's "Flathead River Road" established an avenue into the North Fork area. When valley lands opened to homesteading in 1906, the road provided access to venturesome settlers. By chance, the Butte Oil Company's exploration site also proved a useful base location for Park monitoring of the upper North Fork area. After the log building was abandoned, Glacier Park established the Kintla Lake ranger station at the site. In later years, a fire cache/patrol cabin and boathouse were built east of the old cabin, along the shore of Kintla Lake.<sup>2</sup>

STRUCTURE NAME: Kintla Lake Ranger Station

STRUCTURE NUMBER: 615

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Architecturally, the log ranger station is representative of the type of square-hewn log construction characteristic of the isolated northwestern valleys of Montana. It is possibly the oldest operational building in the Park. The cabin also represents events crucial to the opening of the upper valleys of the North Fork to exploration and settlement. As a ranger station, joined by the nearby fire cache and boathouse, the building represents the change from private use and ownership to Park Service utilization as an administrative/management site. The Kintla Lake ranger station is architecturally and historically significant and contributes to the proposed Kintla Lake Ranger Station Historic District.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

<sup>1</sup>Historical Research Associates, "Historic Resources Study, Glacier National Park, and Historic Structures Survey," pp. 29-33, prepared for National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, Colorado, 1979.

<sup>2</sup>"List of Classified Structures" (Oliveri and Williams 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: Lower Kintla Lake Fire Cache      STRUCTURE NUMBER: 547

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: South shore of Kintla Lake,      QUADRANGLE NAME: Kintla Peak, MT  
 approximately 200 m east of Kintla Lake Ranger Station & Boathouse  
 Zone Easting Northing      QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute  
 UTM A: 11 694790 5423370

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 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 Lower Kintla Lake fire cache is a one-story, grooved log structure with saddle notching and irregularly cut, slightly battered crowns. The gable roof with pole rafters and purlins is shingled and parallel to the shoreline. There are small, six-light casements in the gable end, and a solid wood door with roof extended slightly above supported on pole brackets. The structure rests on a rubblestone foundation. The Kintla Lake fire cache was constructed by local contractor Harry E. Doverspike for a bid cost of \$500 in November 1934. The log building, constructed to Park Service specifications, is identical to the original fire caches at Logging Creek, Polebridge, and Lake McDonald Ranger Stations. It is an excellent example of rustic log architecture in Glacier and of local craftsmanship. The building is architecturally significant and is a contributing element of the site.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1935

The need for firefighting equipment in the Kintla Lake area resulted in allotment of Public Works Project funds for construction of the fire cache at the ranger station. The Park Service provided contractor Harry Doverspike with all materials except logs, rock, sand, and gravel.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Kintla Lake fire cache is historically and architecturally significant and is a contributing structure to the Kintla Lake Historic District.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

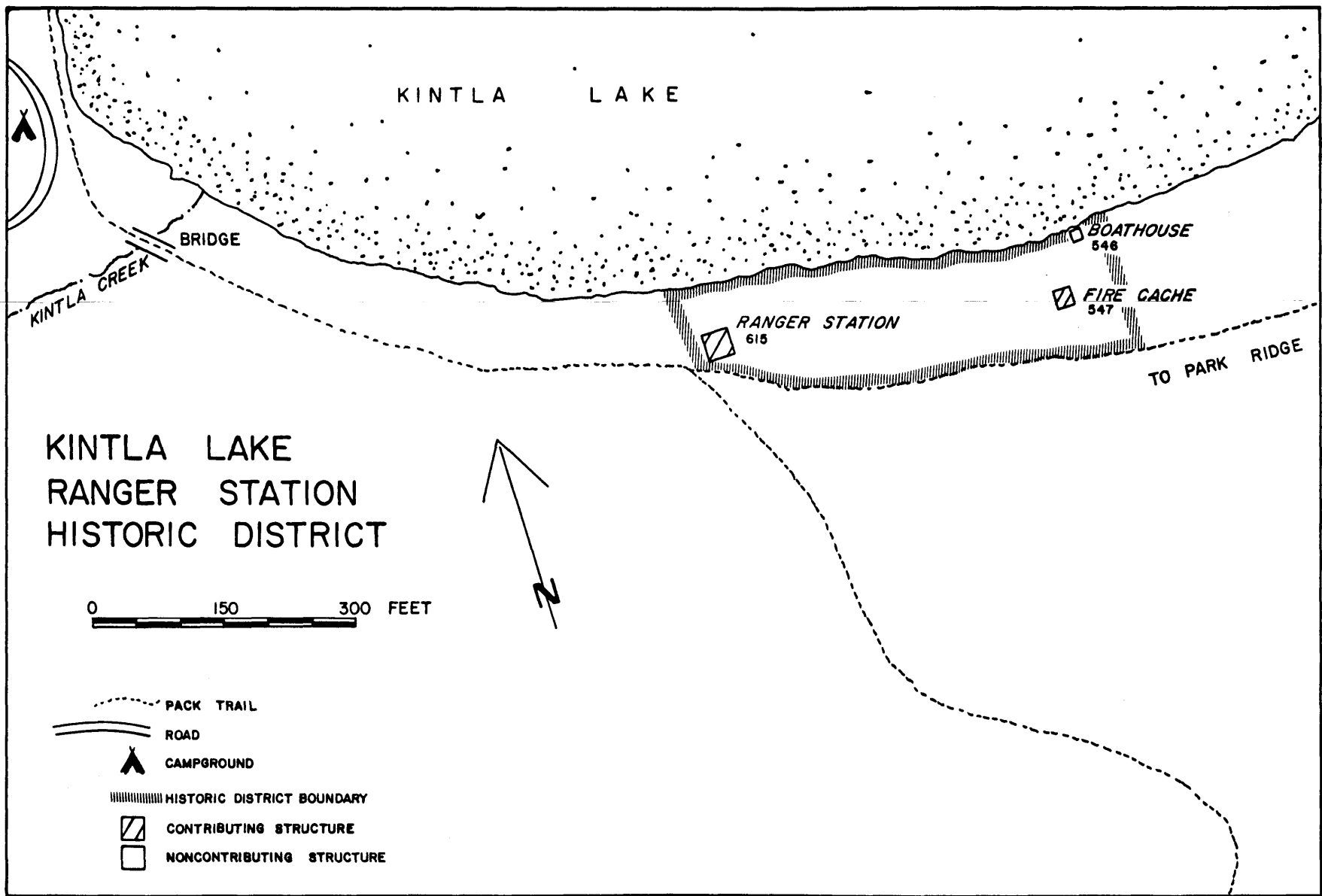
E.T. Scoyen to the Director, NPS, January 17, 1935, "Glacier: Buildings, General," File: 620, Part 3, May 1934 to March 1940, Glacier National Park, National Park Service, Record Group 79, National Archives, Washington, DC.

FORM PREPARED BY:

DATE: June 1984

NAME/TITLE:

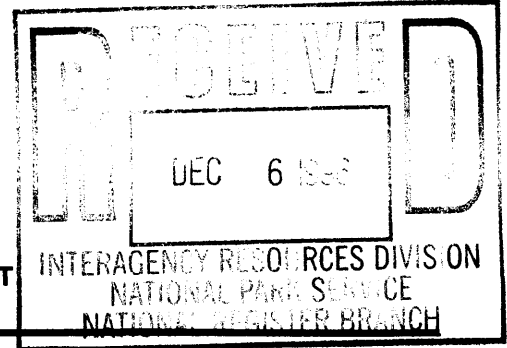
ORGANIZATION: Historical Research Associates, P.O. Box 7086, Missoula, MT 59807-7086



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Kintla Lake Ranger Station Historic District (addendum), Flathead Co., 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:

- 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) additional documentation

for Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

*[Signature]*

1/19/96

Additional Documentation Accepted

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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(addendum), Flathead Co., MT.

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### Building Interiors

The following buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places as contributing components of the Kintla Lake Ranger Station Historic District. Additional documentation is provided below for the purpose of describing and evaluating the building interiors for integrity and significance.

#### 7. Narrative Description

##### **Kintla Lake Ranger Station (#615), 1900**

Like the Bowman Lake Ranger Station, the Kintla station is inhabited seasonally by volunteer "camp hosts" who monitor the adjacent campground and provide information to area visitors. Constructed in 1900, the building is a rare example within Glacier National Park of a building constructed by other than the Department of the Interior/National Park Service. Its vernacular design and interior features offer a point of contrast by which to evaluate the distinctive formalized-rustic characteristics of NPS-constructed patrol cabins and ranger stations.

On the exterior, contrast is provided by the square-hewn, square-notched logs uncharacteristic of NPS buildings. The interior varies from standard NPS cabins in the floorspace (smaller than ranger stations, larger than patrol cabins), the large floorboards (7" rather than the standard 4"), and in the 5" window and door surrounds and 4" baseboards allowed by the hewn-log construction. NPS-influence is evident in the grey paint on the floorboards, and the fixed furnishings similar to those found in most of the park's backcountry cabins.

A one-light/three-panel door, the sole entry, provides direct access to the informal living room/bed room (there is no interior partition). This space contains a bed, shelving units, and a closet built-in to the southeast corner. Two free-standing, floor-level, cupboard units, with linoleum countertops and the unpaneled doors/stainless-steel handles ubiquitous in the park, are located along the west wall of the informal kitchen space; a similar unit is slightly offset along the north wall and holds the modern stainless-steel sink. A Monarch cookstove, paired with sheetmetal floor and wall shields, flanks the sink to the right (east). A full-height cupboard, constructed of vertical 3" tongue-and-groove, has been built into the northwest corner and an NPS-standard wall-mounted storage cupboard with a bottom-hinged door (doubling as a drop-down table top) is located in the northeast corner. A wood box, new gas range, and refrigerator line the east wall of the kitchen. The cabin was recently fitted with gas lines: the gas range and refrigerator date to this addition as do the gas lamps over the sink (see photo #8) and the lamp over the center table.

##### **Boathouse (#546), 1935**

This simple one-room utilitarian building features the long narrow floorplan typical of boathouses, in which design clearly follows function. As during the historic period, the floor is gravel and dirt, and the walls and ceiling are unfinished, exposing the 2" x 4" framing system. Large boards have been laid over the back

United States Department of the Interior  
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rafters, providing storage space. A steel track underlaid with hewn logs extends from the lake, through the boathouse, and through the back wall, to a winch. According to the Kintla Lake camp host, the winch was installed in 1947. A simple plank dock parallels the track for much of its length.

### Fire Cache (#547), 1934

This building, constructed by North Fork resident and master craftsman Harry Doverspike, is virtually identical to those constructed at Logging Creek, Polebridge (no longer extant), and at Upper Lake McDonald Ranger Station (modified). These buildings provided storage space for fire tools and overflow housing for fire crews. Six-inch fir planks (rather than the 4" found at Logging Creek), painted grey, cover the floor. Peeled logs form the interior walls. The ceiling is open to the roof, exposing the simple wood-frame truss system. Multi-light windows, located near the eave line due to the low ceiling, form a dominant design element in the small space. The window pulls are original. Fixed furnishings include a Schrader wood stove and associated sheet-metal heat screen in the southwest corner, an NPS-standard cupboard with drop-down table top along the west wall, and hanging bed frames in the northeast corner and centered within the south wall. Utensils hang on large nails in the log walls. The sole entry, constructed of 5" diagonal tongue-and-groove secured with horizontal and diagonal interior braces, is centered within the north elevation. The door latch appears to be historic.

### Pit Toilets (#614; #616; #656), 1931; 1930; 1934<sup>1</sup>

All three outhouses were located. Despite the construction dates included in building files, none appear to be historic.

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<sup>1</sup> These prosaic resources were not evaluated in the 1984 nomination/multiple property submission. HRA was asked to photograph these buildings and to place them on the site maps (see photographs and attached site map). The outhouses have not been evaluated.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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### 8. Statement of Significance

The interiors of all three contributing components of the Kintla Lake Ranger Station Historic District retain physical integrity and contribute to the buildings' 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	BUILDING NAME AND NUMBER	LOCATION/DIRECTION OF VIEW
1	Boathouse (#546)	View to the South
2	Boathouse (#546)	Interior
3	Fire Cache (#547)	Interior
4	Fire Cache (#547)	Interior
5	Fire Cache (#547)	Interior
6	Head of the Lake Pit Toilet (#614)	View to the Northwest
7	Head of the Lake Pit Toilet (#614)	View to the West
8	Ranger Station (#615)	Interior
9	Ranger Station (#615)	Interior
10	Kintla Lake Pit Toilet (#616)	View to the Northwest
11	Kintla Lake Pit Toilet (#616)	View to the Southeast
12	Campground Pit Toilet (#656)	View to the Southeast
13	Campground Pit Toilet (#656)	View to the Southwest