

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION, GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

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

STRUCTURE NAME: Barn      STRUCTURE NUMBER: 369

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: Nyack Ranger Station      QUADRANGLE NAME: Nyack, MT

Zone Easting Northing      QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute  
 UTM A: 12 293265 5368780

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 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 structure is a 1½-story log barn with grooved logs and saddle notching, with beveled log ends around fenestration. The shingled gable roof has log rafters with rough-cut crowns extended beyond the eaves. The structure has six-light casements, an X-braced loft door in the gable end, and two dutch entry doors. The condition of the structure is good, considering the length of its abandonment. The Nyack barn exhibits excellent log craftsmanship and detailing. Local contractor/ builder Austin Weikert employed specially made tools in this Park-designed building. Beveled logs at fenestration, well-matched log diameters, and consistent frame finish work make this barn one of the handsomest in the park. The building is architecturally significant and is a contributing element of the site.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION:      DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1935

The Nyack ranger station was once a substantial administrative/management site consisting of a ranger station/residence, barn, fire cache, fireguard cabin, woodshed, storage shed, and hay shed.<sup>1</sup> Today, the barn is one of two buildings remaining at the site. The removal and/or destruction of most of the buildings at the Nyack ranger station has compromised the integrity of this once important administrative site. Therefore, the Nyack ranger station barn no longer maintains its historic association.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Nyack barn is significant in the architectural history of Glacier National Park. Tightly fitted logs with grooved undersides and other features of excellent log craftsmanship and design make this building eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under criteria c.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

<sup>1</sup>"Buildings, Tracings, and Prints," unbound looseleaf notebook, GNPLA.

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: 375

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: Nyack Ranger Station      QUADRANGLE NAME: Nyack, MT

Zone Easting Northing      QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute  
 UTM A: 12 293265 5368780

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 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 structure is a gable-roofed fire cache with grooved logs, saddle notching, a wood-shingled roof, six-light casements, and a diagonal board door. The condition of the fire cache is good. This fire cache, associated with the Nyack barn, also displays the excellent craftsmanship of local log contractor, Austin Weikert. Abandoned since the 1960s, the fire cache is in fair condition and still features the rough, chopped, and extended rafter tips once prevalent in Park Service-designed buildings. On most examples, the severely decayed tips have been cut square beneath the protective edge of the roof. The building is architecturally significant and is a contributing element of the site.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1928

The Nyack ranger station was once a substantial administrative/management site consisting of a ranger station/residence, barn, fire cache, fireguard cabin, woodshed, storage shed, and hay shed.<sup>1</sup> Today, the fire cache is one of two buildings remaining at the site. The removal and/or destruction of most of the buildings at the Nyack ranger station has compromised the integrity of this once important administrative site. Therefore, the Nyack ranger station fire cache no longer maintains its historic association.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Nyack fire cache is significant in the architectural history of Glacier National Park. Tightly fitted logs with grooved undersides and other features of excellent log craftsmanship and design make this building eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under criteria c.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

<sup>1</sup>"Buildings, Tracings, and Prints," unbound looseleaf notebook, GNPLA.

FORM PREPARED BY:

DATE: June 1984

NAME/TITLE:

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

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 86000359

Date Listed: 02/14/1986

Nyack Ranger Station Historic District Flathead  
Property Name County

MT  
State

Glacier National Park MRA  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Signature of the Keeper

12/6/02  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Resource Classification:

The Resource Classification for the nominated property is: *district*

These revisions were confirmed with the NPS staff.

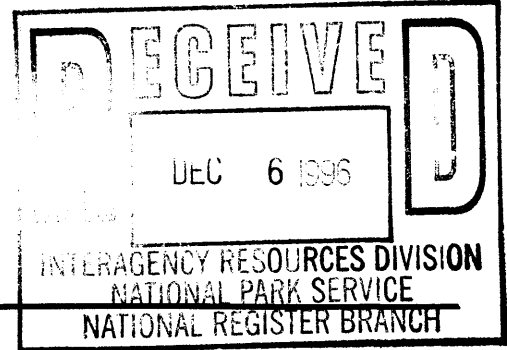
DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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National Park Service

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Nyack Ranger Station Historic District (addendum), Glacier Co., MT.



**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

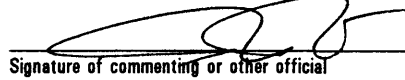
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the 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 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 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	_____	_____
___ other (explain)	_____	_____

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Glacier Co., MT.

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### Building Interiors

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

#### 7. Narrative Description

##### **Barn (#369), 1935**

Like the Cut Bank, Upper Lake McDonald, Walton, and St. Mary Utility Area barns, this building was constructed from standard drawing NP-GLA 3077: "Log Barn for Ranger Stations." The barn retains its original floor plan, with the large lower level room divided into two stalls and a feed/tack room and the entire upper level devoted to hay storage. Door styles vary from barn to barn, suggesting that construction crews modified the plans to fit their skills and the materials at hand.

The 6' exterior Dutch doors, located in both the west and south elevations, are constructed of 6" planks, secured on the interior with two sets of "X" braces. The long exposed hinges and latch hardware are believed to be original. Windows and doors are not finished with surrounds; the exposed wood frames are flush with the log walls. The floor of the central room is gravel and dirt. The walls are tightly notched log with no chinking (the base of each log is grooved to fit the log underneath). Eight-inch planks, spaced 1" - 2" apart, form the stall partition. Feed troughs, centered along the exterior wall of each stall, are also constructed of 8" planks. A small elevated wood oat box is located at either end of each trough and a hay drop (see below) is centered above each trough.

A tall (7') door constructed of vertical 5" tongue-and-groove secured with an exterior (6") frame, leads from the central room to the tack/feed room. This door retains the historic hinges, latch and handle. The interior walls and ceiling are constructed of horizontal 5" tongue-and-groove (or shiplap) planks secured to log corner posts. The floor is concrete, cracked. A saddle bench runs the length of the west wall and a heavy shelf is located under a six-light window within the west wall.

A single layer of 7" shiplap planks, secured to 13 exposed log purlins, forms the dropped ceiling of the central space. The hayloft is accessed by an interior ladder, constructed of "2x4s" and extending through a 2' x 2' crawlspace. (Only three of the ladder rungs remain.) Two-inch x seven-inch planks (the lower-level dropped ceiling) form the floor and 8" shiplap covers the walls. Hay drops are strategically located in the loft floor, directly above each ground floor feed trough. The ceiling is unfinished, exposing the log rafters and dimensional lumber tie beams of the roof structural system. The hayloft door is constructed of vertical tongue and groove planks, secured with an interior frame and X-brace. Side-hinged 6' hay doors, centered within the east and west gable ends, are constructed of horizontal 7" shiplap planks sandwiched over a central frame.

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The barn is abandoned and is deteriorating rapidly. Doors were unlocked and open when survey crews arrived, window panes are broken or missing, and the south-elevation Dutch door is falling off its hinges. The feed trough between the barn and fire cache is overgrown and deteriorating, as is a fence of hand-hewn saplings that extends east from the southeast corner of the barn.

### Fire Cache (#375), 1928

This building was constructed as a storage shed for fire tools and "temporary quarters" for fire crews. The building is now abandoned. The original 6" fir floors identified on a 1954 maintenance report have been removed; the floor is now dirt, although rotten remnants of squared-off timbers are visible along the railroad-tie foundation. Saddle-notched logs form the interior walls. The ceiling is open to the roof, exposing the simple truss system: a single log purlin and no rafters. The single door is centered within the east wall. This door is constructed of a double layer of three 11" planks, laid diagonally on the exterior and vertically on the interior. The interior boards are secured with two horizontal cross braces. Abandoned furnishings include a small rectangular table in the southeast corner, a bedframe with mattress along the west wall, a corner shelving unit (see photo #3) in the northeast corner, and a crude barrel stove along the north wall. A 3" x 5" card found on the floor admonishes "do not drive nails in the cupboard"; no cupboard remains. Two six-light windows have fallen from their openings and now lie in the northwest and southwest interior corners.

### 8. Statement of Significance

Although in poor condition, the interior finishes and floorplans are essentially unmodified and contribute to the buildings' significance. Continued neglect, however, constitutes an extreme threat to physical integrity and limits restoration options.

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### Photographs

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

PHOTO NUMBER	BUILDING NAME AND NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
1	Barn (#369)	Detail of dutch door and ladder to loft. Note abandoned door (original placement unknown).
2	Barn (#369)	Detail of feed trough and oat box
3	Fire Cache (#375)	Detail of truss system and corner shelving unit
4	Fire Cache (#375)	Detail of stove
5	Fire Cache (#375)	Interior of door