United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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PATROL CABINS, MOUNT MCKINLEY NATIONAL PARK

Name: (Lower) Windy Creek Ranger Cabin, No. 15

Location: 500 yards east of Mile 324 on the Alaska Railroad, NE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 2, T. 17S., R. 7W., Fairbanks Meridian

UTM References: 06/408920/7038470

Quadrangle: Healy (B-4), AK

Acreage and Boundary Description: Less than 1 acre

Scale: 1:63,360

Nominated property includes the patrol cabin, dog houses, dumpsite and cache inside a 50 yard circular radius measured from the center of the cabin.

Description: Peeled, log walls with saddle corner notching; log ends sawn and battered on all but main facade; oakum and concrete (lower walls) chinking; exterior unpainted; medium pitch gable roof sheathed with shiplap and corrugated steel; gable extends beyond main facade to form porch supported by peeled posts, tie beam and king and queen posts in porch gable end; rectangular; measures approximately 12' x 22' (inside); 1 story; concrete foundation; multi-light windows; removable wood window and door shutters; 2-room interior. Alterations: none known. Site: Log cache (on the ground) with V corner notches 70' north of cabin; 7 log dog houses in semicircle 50' north and west of cabin; outhouse 70' north of cabin; dumpsite 25' north of outhouse.

History and Significance:

Architect: National Park Service

Builder: National Park Service

Construction Date: 1932

The Lower Windy Creek Ranger Cabin is one of three, two-room, landscape architect-designed patrol cabins built in the park. (One of these cabins is no longer standing.) Built according the National Park Service plans (McK 3003) prepared in February 1932 by the Landscape Division, construction of the Windy Creek Cabin began on July 19, 1932. Work progressed through August, and by September 26 that year the cabin was completed. Two contracted carpenters accomplished the cabin construction. At the same time, or shortly after, a complex of dog houses, a substantial log cache, and a log outhouse were erected near the cabin. Like the other park boundary cabins, Windy Creek Cabin served as a base for rangers patrolling the park boundaries in the 1930 s. Remote from vehicular access, exterior alterations to the cabin have been minimal over the years.

In 1985, this cabin, along with its full complement of standing ancillary structures, represents the early history of wildlife conservation in Alaska's first national park.

Photo Nos. 15-1 to 15-14