NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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		į.	PANDINAL PARK SERVICE
1. Name of Property			MATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH
historic name: Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic Dis	strict		
other name/site number: Roes Creek Auto Camp; Eas	st Glacier Auto Car	mp; Rose Creek Aut	Camp
2. Location			
street & number: $N/A$ vicinity: $500$ city/town: $St.\ Mary$	0' north of Going-t	o-the-Sun Road at Si	not for publication: n/ . Mary Lake; Glacier National Park (GLAC
	acier code: 035	zip code: 59417	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification			
In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the Nat locally Sae continuation sheet for additional comments  Signature of certifying official/Title  National Park Service  State or Federal agency or bureau	tional Register Criteria. I re	•	· ·
In my opinion, the property / meetsdoes not meet the N	National Register criteria.	SEP	2 9 <b>1995</b> .
Signature of commenting or other official		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 Keener F	ntered in the Date of Action

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification				
Ownership of Property: Public-Federal	Number of Resources within Property			
Category of Property: District	Contributing Noncontributing			
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: None	22	2	building(s)	
Name of related multiple property listing: Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing			sites	
			structures	
			objects	
	22	2	Total	
6. Function or Use				-
Historic Functions:	Current Function:			
Commerce/Trade; Recreation and Culture	Same			
7. Description				
Architectural Classification:	Materials:			
Rustic (modified); Swiss (modified)	foundation: COIC	rete		
	walls: horizon	al lapped	siding	
	roof: asphalt s	hingles		
	other: studs-ou	-	tion	

### Narrative Description

### **Summary**

The Rising Sun Auto Camp is located just east of Roes Creek (aka Rose Creek) and just north of the Going-to-the-Sun Road on the park's east side. Modern developments, including a large coffee shop and two motel units, are situated on the flat grassy plain close to the highway. Historic components of the district, including a large general store/motel, two dormitories, a power house, and 19 cabins, are concentrated amidst the scrub pine on a slight slope behind the modern development. These buildings are placed in an irregular pattern along the natural topographical lines of the wooded area and provide only occasional and apparently incidental views of the mountains. The buildings are small and finished with rustic materials. The concentrated location and consistent use of the rustic style and paint tones (brown with yellow trim or light yellow/beige with brown trim) lend coherence to the district. Modern resources are limited to two motel units and a large cafeteria. These resources are located outside the area of historic development and have been excluded from the historic district.

#### General Store/Motel (#810), 1941

The general store/motel is located at the junction of the access roads to the Rising Sun cabins and to the campground and is easily accessed from the Going-to-the-Sun Road. The setting provides a view of St. Mary Lake and assures that the building is visible to passing motorists. The building also marks the "entrance" to the cabin complex. Sparse grasses and scrub pine surround the building to the north, west, and east. A large paved parking lot is located south of the building.

Building #810 was constructed as a general store/lobby/coffee shop and since the beginning of the Rising Sun development has been a cornerstone of the facility. One of the first concession buildings built in Glacier National Park designed to cater to the automobile tourist, this building represents an early attempt at providing a broad range of budget visitor services under the same roof.

County and State

### 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Applicable National Register Criteria: A; C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture; Recreation; Government

Period(s) of Significance: 1941-1945

Significant Dates: N/A

Architect/Builder: Glacier Park Hotel Co., Architects Office, St.

Paul, MN

### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

The Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places at the State level, with significance in architecture and history (criteria A and C; NR areas of significance: Government; Recreation; Architecture). The district is a component of the Economy Accommodations property type, as defined in the Glacier National Park Multiple Resource Listing.

Rising Sun facilities are representative of a major shift in National Park Service policy and concession development made in response to changes in the leisure patterns of the American public. The small-scale "rustic" design and the isolated random placement of the buildings constructed at Rising Sun also exemplifies a shift in NPS policy regarding new building design and placement within a national park primarily established for its natural beauty; the district is thus significant for its association with entertainment/recreation and architecture. The district's period of significance extends from the 1941 construction of cabins, the general store, and the registration building/dormitory to the end of the historic period as defined by the National Register (1945). The district is a component of the Economy Accommodations property type, as defined in the Glacier National Park Multiple Resource Listing.

The search for balance between private profit and pubic service dominates the history of concessions within Glacier National Park. Anticipating public demand and serving public needs was a mandate of the National Park Service and was in the best interest of those private entrepreneurs who risked federal interference, a short travel season, and constant flux in American travel patterns in hopes of realizing a profit. The nature and pace of concession development within Glacier National Park thus provides a stage for the study of the appeal of the American West, changes in travel patterns, and the ongoing debate between development and conservation interests.

As the auto tourist, independently mobile and possessing limited funds, replaced the captive and wealthy clientele that had dominated the first twenty years of Glacier history (1910-1930), the nature of the accommodation/transportation/recreation infrastructure evolved. This evolution was prompted both by an increasingly powerful National Park Service and by the inevitable conclusion of the principal concessioner (the Glacier Park Hotel Company) that their rail network was no longer profitable. Post-1930 development clearly represented the "new" traveling public, more interested in economy and less interested in expensive European-style comfort or western nostalgia -- trademarks of the park's grand hotels.

Beginning in the 1920s, NPS Director Stephen Mather called for development of spartan, inexpensive facilities where tipping, dress codes and lavish furnishings were not required (Mather 1923:63). By the 1930s, tourists to Glacier National Park angrily reiterated these demands:

There should be erected at once at every camp, good substantial permanent buildings of one, two, three, and four rooms for just the "forgotten man" ... There should also be constructed at every camp a building for a restaurant or cafeteria where meals may be obtained at a reasonable price (Whipps, 1932).

By 1940, under increasing pressure from the NPS and encouraged by the success of the Swiftcurrent Auto Camp, the Glacier Park Hotel Co. began construction of the Roes Creek Auto Camp, later renamed the East Glacier Auto Camp and finally (1950) the Rising Sun Auto Camp. This facility, designed by the Hotel Company and approved by NPS

Rising Sun Auto Camp	Glacier County, Montana
Name of Property	County and State
9. Major Bibliographic References	
Cammerer, Arno and Albert H. Good. Park Structures and Facilities. United S Service, 1935.	tates Department of Interior, National Park
Historical Research Associates. Historic Context and National Register Guideling Park, Montana. Report Prepared for United States Department of the	
Hufstetler, Mark. "Glacier Historic Structures Narrative Histories." Unpublished Library and Archives, West Glacier, MT.	ed manuscript on file at the Glacier National Park
Mather, Stephen. Annual Report of the Director, NPS. United States Departme	ent of Interior, National Park Service, 1923.
United States Department of Interior, National Park Service. News Release 40-7 Library and Archives, West Glacier, MT.	7-27-FTH., Folder 50-9, Glacier National Park
Whipps, C.W., "The Great Northern Wild Animal Preserve," The Kalispell Tim	nes, Kalispell, MT., Oct. 6, 1932.
	nary Location of Additional Data:
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has X S been requested.	State Historic Preservation Office
<del></del>	Other State agency
	Federal agency (NPS, Rocky Mountain Region; Glac. NP)
	Local government
	University
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Other Specify Repository:
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property: 12.12 acres  UTM References: (see continuation sheet Section 10 page 1)	
Verbal Boundary Description	
The boundary of the historic district is shown as the dashed line on the accompanient Historic District, 1994." These boundaries are dictated by topographic lines and	
Boundary Justification	
These boundaries incorporate those buildings and landscape features assisted development. Modern development excluded from the district includes the expanding coffee shop (building 1132), the coffee shop, and the two motel units. These but complex.	inded parking area between #810 and the modern
11. Form Prepared By	-
name/title: Ann Hubber	
organization: Historical Research Associates, Inc. date: 6/1995	
street & number: P.O. Box 7086 telephone: (406) 721-1958	
city or town: Missoula state: MT zip code: 598	07-7086
Property Owner	

street & number: N/A

telephone: (406)888-5441

city or town: West Glacier

state: MT

zip code: 59933

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number

7

Page 1

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co., MT

This is a one-story wood-frame building with a cross-gable roof and a concrete foundation. The central side-gable component originally housed the lobby/soda fountain and now houses a nine-unit motel. The eastern front-gable component -- extending beyond the rear elevation of the central component -- has retained its original use as a general store. The front-gable western component -- also extending beyond the rear elevation of the central component, thus creating a U-shaped floorplan -- originally housed the dining room/kitchen facilities and is now used for employee housing. The post-historic additions of a transformer room (storage room) and of public restrooms to the rear elevation have only slightly modified this footprint. Lapped horizontal wood siding (8" to weather) covers the exterior walls. Brown asphalt shingles cover the wood-framed roof. (Both front gable "wings" are composed of two sections: the rear section is slightly more narrow than the front and is topped with a gable roof initiated approximately 4" below the eave of the front section.)

All gable ends are faced with vertical-board siding and contain louvered wood attic vents. Exposed rafter ends are cut flush with the overhanging eave.

Two small shed-roofed additions have been added to the rear of the building; one is at the north elevation of the west wing, the other is located along the rear elevation of the central portion of the building. The addition to the central component (housing public showers and restrooms) is constructed of the same materials as the original building. The addition to the west wing (constructed as a transformer house, now a storage room) is largely of the same materials with the exception of the west and north walls, which are constructed of concrete block.

The south gable slope of the central component extends to shelter a long front porch terminated at each end by a gable pediment. These gable pediments echo the cross-gables of the principle roof and highlight the location of the two principle entries. Six concrete steps with metal handrails, located at the east and west ends of the elevation, provide access to the porch. Fourteen simple 6" x 6" columns support the porch roof. The porch has a concrete floor and features a wood-framed rail with balusters cut in a decorative design patterned after the "Swiss" style. A wooden ramp for handicapped access (running parallel rather than perpendicular to the porch) was added to the porch in 1987. The ramp's balusters match those found on the porch and greatly reduce the addition's impact on the original design.

Most doors appear to be original and consist of the following varieties: one or two panel with one-light, or vertical tongue and groove with cross bracing and eight-light. Windows are twelve-over-one, double-hung, wood-framed, arranged in a ribbon across the front elevation of the central component. Windows within the front elevation of the front-gabled ends are also double hung yet are arranged in pairs. Symmetrical rows of three-light wood-frame windows, placed just under the eave, line the east (side) and north (rear) elevations of the general store. The public shower addition obscures the entire rear elevation of the original building. Features within the addition include six-over-one wood-frame double-hung windows and separate paneled and glazed doors to the men's and the women's shower rooms. These doors are accessed by concrete stoops with metal rails. The concrete-block addition also obscures the rear elevation of the west wing. Features within this addition are limited to louvered metal vents along the north elevation and a doorway offset within the west elevation. The west elevation of the original west wing contains two paneled and glazed doors, paired with wood-frame screens and accessed by wood steps with metal rails. The doors are flanked to either side by wood-frame double-hung windows. All windows are covered with wood-framed screens. The building is painted dark brown with yellow trim and is in good condition.

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number

7

Page 2

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co., MT

The building serves four primary functions. The east wing is the general store, the central component is a motel (originally the cafeteria/soda shop), the northwest section is employee housing (originally the kitchen/dining room) and the addition to the rear elevation of the central component contains public showers and restrooms.

Only the general-store interior resembles its original appearance. The open floorplan is unchanged. Linoleum covers the floors. Vertical tongue-and-groove dado (trimmed with decorative molding) covers the bottom three-quarters of the wall surface. The fiberboard above the dado is cut and laid horizontally to simulate beadboard. Three-light windows, located between the built-in display units and the ceiling, are trimmed with 4" varnished wood. Acoustic tiles cover the ceiling. The lighting throughout the store consists of banks of fluorescent lights. There is a chimney in the northeast wall that has been covered in the same materials as the surrounding walls, although a small portion of brick remains exposed. The historic walk-in cooler with heavy six-panel wood door and original hardware remains. A storage room divides the general store and an office. The storage room floor is constructed of 2" varnished hardwood. Five- to six-inch wood planks cover the ceiling and three of the four walls; the wall dividing the storage room from the office is covered with plywood. The office is similarly finished, with one exception: the lower two-thirds of the dividing wall is covered with V-groove alternating 6" and 9" vertical boards. Plywood covers the upper-third of the wall. Both rooms contain built-in cabinets and shelves.

The west-end of building #810 was constructed as a coffee shop and converted to a motel in 1965. Two-inch varnished hardwood cover the hall floor and the floor of all but two rooms; the boards run in an east/west direction, except at the south end where they run north/south. Two rooms on the west end have linoleum-tile floors. The walls in the hall are finished with painted sheetrock. One wall of all but one guest room is finished with vertical, varnished tongue and groove pine; the remaining three walls are sheetrocked. The southwest corner guest room has two pine walls. The ceilings throughout the motel portion are surfaced with acoustic tiles. The bathrooms of the individual rooms have linoleum floors and modern fixtures. All lighting fixtures are modern.

The dormitory wing of the building (formerly the kitchen) contains five bedrooms, a linen room, and a shower/restroom (with two showers, two toilet stalls, and 2 sinks). Linoleum-tile covers all floor surfaces. The hall is finished with sheetrock walls and ceiling. Three walls in each of the five bedrooms are finished with painted sheetrock. The forth wall is finished with vertical tongue and groove boards, painted white, that extend three-quarters of the way to the ceiling. Painted sheetrock extends from the tongue-and-groove siding to the painted sheet-rock-with-battens ceilings. Each room contains a washbasin and built-in closets and shelves. The door at the west elevation, separating the dormitory from the storage room, is constructed of vertical boards with cross braces topped with eight lights.

The shed-roofed addition to the north elevation has a cement floor and particle-board walls. The ceiling is unfinished, exposing the wooden framing system. The door at the north elevation is identical to the one that separates the addition from the dormitory.

The public showers, centrally located on the north side of the building, have linoleum floors, sheetrock walls and ceiling, two metal toilet stalls, plywood shower dividers, and modern fixtures.

The general store is associated with 1940s modifications of the rustic and Swiss architectural styles that had dominated park construction during the 1920s and 1930s and with a major shift in concessioner development initiated in response to changes in American travel patterns. Modifications to the exterior have been limited to the construction of two post-historic additions to the rear elevation of the building, minor changes in fenestration, and the addition of a handicapped-access ramp; the building retains sufficient physical integrity to contribute to the district. Alterations to the

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number

1

Page 3

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co., MT

interior have been more dramatic. The original lobby and coffee shop were converted to guest rooms and dormitory facilities in 1965 following construction of the new coffee shop; all interior finishes associated with the hotel and dormitory are modern. Modifications to the general store include the installation of fluorescent lights and acoustic tile. Of the interior spaces, only the general store retains sufficient physical integrity to contribute to the building's significance. Key interior features include the open floor plan, shelving pattern, wall surfaces, and walk-in cooler.

### Women's Dormitory (Registration Office and Shower Facility [historic]) (#811), 1941

Like the remainder of the historic Rising Sun complex, the Women's Dormitory (constructed as a registration office/dormitory/public shower) occupies an unobtrusive wooded site, adjacent to the cabin access road. Although views of St. Mary Lake and of the mountains are available, these views appear incidental or of secondary concern (in contrast to an earlier generation of concession buildings). However, both the General Store and the Women's Dormitory, the key components of the complex during the historic period, were situated so as to be visible to tourists passing on Going-to-the-Sun road.

Following the 1958 addition of shower facilities to the cabins, building #811 was converted from a registration center/public shower facility to domestic use: a central linen room and small electric substation were added to the rear of the building; the building was modified to provide additional employee rooms; public showers were converted to laundry facilities. Today the building serves as a dormitory for Rising Sun employees.

The dormitory is a two-story, wood-frame building with a clipped-gable roof. The building rests on a concrete foundation. Four shed-roof dormers, two per gable slope, add interest to the roofline and light to the interior space. A one-story side-gable component, inset under the primary roof and running along the rear elevation, created the original T-shaped floorplan; this footprint has been slightly modified by the 1958 addition of a one-story front-gable addition to the northwest corner of the rear elevation. The entire building is sided with lapped horizontal wood siding (8" to weather) up to the base of the second floor windows, with vertical-board siding on the second floor and under the gable ends. (The vertical-board siding is not flush, and resembles inverted board-and-batten construction, with the battens applied beneath rather than on top of the boards.) Roof features include louvered wood attic vents in all gable ends, a central brick chimney located high on the north gable slope of the primary component, and enclosed eaves.

The main entry door, offset within the east elevation, is paneled, glazed, and paired with a painted wooden screen door. A large wood-framed, front-gable porch with exposed trusses protects the entry. This porch originally extended to cover a portion of the adjacent roadway. The porch floor is concrete. Windows within the lower level and the within the dormers of the central clipped-gable component are twelve-over-one double hung; these windows line the side and front elevations in a symmetrical pattern. Twelve-light hopper windows line the second story of the central component and are situated in-line with the one-light component of the dormer windows. The east gable end contains two twelve-light hopper windows and the west gable end contains two twelve-light hopper windows flanked to the south by a pair of hopper windows. Windows within the rear side-gabled component are also twelve-light hopper, arranged in pairs. There are no windows in the rear addition. All fenestration is wood-framed and many windows are paired with ill-fitting screens in wood frames.

A five-panel door on the south elevation of the side-gable component provides access to the men's restroom. A particle board screen protects the entry. Additional doors within the rear components include a five-panel door within the west elevation of the side-gable component providing access to the linen room, a six-light three-panel door on the

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number

7

Page 4

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co., MT

north elevation of the gable addition providing access to the laundry room, and an unpaneled, unglazed door immediately east of the six-light door (presumed to provide access to a storage area).

The building is painted dark brown with yellow trim and is in good condition.

The building was converted from a registration building/dormitory/public shower to a dormitory c. 1958; associated changes in finishes, room configurations and the addition of life-safety equipment have cost the interior much of its historic appearance. The original component (east end) houses dormitory rooms and hall bathrooms. The one-story side-gabled west end houses the laundry and line rooms and the addition to the northwest corner of the rear elevation contains the housekeeping office.

The walls and ceilings of the dormitory component are finished with celotex and battens, 4" wooden baseboards, and 3" window and door surrounds. Hardwood planks (1 1/2") line the floors of the eastern hallway, the dormitory rooms, and the stairways. Linoleum covers the upstairs hall and 12" planks cover the stairs at the west end. All interior doors are modern hollowcore. Two two-run stairwells, wood-framed with wooden banisters and historic newel posts, provide access to the second story. With the exception of an antique bell-shaped lighting fixture within the eastern stairwell, all lighting fixtures and bathroom facilities appear to be modern.

The laundry, linen, and housekeeping rooms of the west end all contain cement floors. Three walls and the ceiling of the laundry room are finished with galvanized inetal; the fourth wall is sheetrock. All are painted white. The walls and ceiling of the linen room are also galvanized metal and sheetrock, painted white. Fixed furnishings include built-in shelves. The housekeeping office contains sheetrocked walls and ceiling and built-in shelving units.

The dormitory contributes to the historic district. Exterior modifications have included construction of an addition to the northwest corner of the rear elevation, the 1980 removal of the original port-cochere, and replacement of wood roof shingles. Only the removal of the porte-cochere, advertizing the building's original function as a registration area, significantly affects physical integrity. Despite this alteration, the building retains key components of modified rustic and Swiss architecture (including the mixed siding styles, exposed rafters, clipped-gable, and multi-light windows). Its mass and prominent location -- in contrast to the neighboring cabins -- is also suggestive of the building's historic use as a public space. Interior finishes and floorplan have been altered in the post historic period. Only the wood floors, newel posts, bannisters, and bell-shaped light fixtures contribute to the building's significance.

### Employee Residence (#812), 1941

Building #812, located just next to Roes Creek was originally constructed as a power house, yet was converted to staff quarters in 1960. Consistent with its original utilitarian/maintenance function, the building is isolated from the remainder of the Rising Sun complex, both by distance and by a mature stand of Douglas fir. A small gravel road provides access.

The one-story wood-frame building is covered with 8" lapped, horizontal wood siding and topped with a wood-framed, side-facing gable roof covered with red asphalt shingles. The building rests on a concrete foundation. A small gable-roofed addition of like materials has been added to the south elevation of the building, slightly altering the original four-square floorplan and the uniform roof line. The addition is slightly more narrow than the original component and is only 3/4 story with a side-gable roof of lower height than the original roof yet of equal slope. The original wooden roof vent has been replaced with a metal flue. The two doors on the front elevation are paneled wood without fenestration; the southernmost is two-panel and the northernmost is a five-panel. One wooden-slat entry stoop serves

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number

7

Page

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co., MT

both entries. Windows within the east, north, and west elevations of the original component are wood-framed, six-oversix, double-hung, with wood-framed screens. The south elevation of the bathroom addition contains a wood-framed onelight awning window. The building is painted brown with yellow trim and is in good condition.

The interior was remodeled in 1960 and now contains a bathroom and two sleeping rooms. The floors throughout the building are linoleum tile. The walls and ceiling are fiberboard, finished with battens, textured, and painted. Interior doors are two-panel. Fixed furnishings are limited to built-in shelves constructed of dimensional lumber and located along the north, south and west walls of the interior. There is a sink in each sleeping room. The bathroom contains two showers and two toilets. The lighting fixtures and bathroom fixtures are all modern.

Despite post-historic changes in scale and design, the materials used for the 1960 addition are consistent with those found on the original component and on the remainder of the Rising Sun complex. Building #812 contributes to the historic district. The interior has been remodeled in the modern period and does not contribute to the building's significance.

### Rising Sun Shed (no #), n.d.

This small unnumbered building is located approximately thirty feet north of building #812. The shed is screened by trees on all sides and blends easily into its surroundings.

This one-story wood-frame building rests on a wooden sill foundation. The exterior walls are clad with plywood, horizontal wood planking, and metal sheeting. The front-facing gable roof is covered with rolled asphalt sheeting. The only feature to the building is a vertical tongue-and-groove door centered in the east elevation.

The interior of the building is unfinished: the floor is dirt; the interior walls and ceiling are unfinished exposing the framing system and exterior siding and roof sheeting.

No historic information has been found on this small unnumbered shed. (It was likely constructed between 1941 and 1955 as a storage facility for the neighboring power house (#812).) Although not a contributing component, the building is small in scale, isolated and unobtrusive and does not disrupt the architectural cohesion of the Rising Sun Historic District.

#### Cabins (#813-#831), 1941

The nineteen cabins are located in three clusters (814-819; 820-821; 822-831) demarcated by both topographical features and by the three-loops of the narrow paved access road. Cabin #813, located south of the cabin complex in an open area visible from the Going-to-the-Sun Road, "advertises" the other, less prominently located, units. All nineteen cabins are one-story rectangular buildings constructed of plywood panels with exposed exterior wood framing ("studs-out" construction) and rest on concrete-pier foundations. Brown asphalt shingles cover the wood-frame side-gable roofs. Purlin ends are exposed. There are louvered attic vents in each gable end. The original brick-faced metal chimneys have been removed; a metal flue now protrudes from low in each rear gable slope. A single five-panel door, paired with a wood-frame screen door and two-step concrete stoops, provides access to each unit (two doors per cabins, located near the center of the front elevations). The brass hardware on the doors appears to be original. Inverted-V shaped rain/snow guards are centered on the roof above each door. Cabins originally constructed with a toilet but no shower (Nos. 818, 821-831) are identifiable by their slightly smaller size and by door and window placement within the front facades: the two entry doors are centered within the elevation. Each is flanked to the outside by a wood-frame, six-over-one double-

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number

7

Page (

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co., MT

hung window. Those cabins constructed with a shower contain two four-light hopper windows between the entries and a double-hung window to the "outside" of the entry. All cabins contain a pair of four-light hopper windows, centered in the rear elevation and flanked to either side by a double-hung window. Features within the side elevations are limited to a six-light fixed-sash window. The buildings are painted yellow with brown trim and are in good condition.

The interiors are virtually unaltered. Each cabin contains two private sleeping rooms, each with a separate entry and a private bath. Due in part to the cabins' small size, the multi-light windows with 3" varnished-wood surrounds are a dominant design feature. As during the historic period, interior walls are surfaced with varnished plywood with vertical battens at the boards juncture. The ceilings are also plywood, painted white, with vertical and horizontal battens. There are also battens in the wall corners and at the juncture of the walls and ceilings. Indoor/outdoor carpeting (both patterned and solid) covers the bedroom floors. The electrical system is exposed and the switches that activate the lights are in very narrow metal boxes and appear to be historic. Electrical outlets, in metal boxes with wooden surrounds, are surface mounted. Each sleeping room contains a sink (some of 1940s vintage), located on the wall near the entrance to the bathroom. The bell-shaped light fixtures mounted above many of the sinks also appear to be original. Most bathrooms have painted 4" tongue-and-groove floors (some have linoleum floors) and walls and ceilings of plywood with battens. Each bathroom contains a fiberglass shower stall, and modern toilets and medicine cabinets. Interior doors are five-panel wood.

The cabins formed the core of the original Rising Sun Auto Camp and still provide many of the area's lodging facilities. Exterior alterations appear to be limited to the replacement of the original cedar shingles with asphalt shingles and to removal of the original chimneys. With the exception of slight modifications to interior furnishings (removal of the wood-burning stoves, small tables, and the addition of free-standing shower units), the interiors remain virtually unmodified and contribute to the buildings' significance. Important interior features include the varnished-wood door and window surrounds, the multi-light windows, the varnished-plywood wall and ceiling treatment, and the occasional historic-era sink and light fixtures. The cabins, together with the guest cabins at Swiftcurrent Auto Camp, reflect the continued NPS pressure on the park's prime concessioner to provide low-cost accommodations for the automobile traveler.

#### Rising Sun Boatman's Cabin (no. #), n.d.

This unnumbered building is located at the north end of the cabin complex, within the fir and scrub pine. It is accessed by the upper loop road that also serves cabins #820-#830.

The boatman's cabin is a one-story wood-frame building sided with board-and-batten. It rests on a partial cinder-block foundation and has an irregular floorplan. The wood-framed cross-gable roof is covered with corrugated metal. Windows within the front elevation are one-over-one, double hung in wood frames. The remainder are two-light sliding sash in aluminum frames. The main entry door, located within the south elevation is wood with a single light. There are rough wood entry stoops and an unpainted wood deck adjoining a shed-roofed addition. The building is painted white and is in fair condition.

This building was constructed in 1957 and contains no historic interior materials.

This building is not yet 50 years old, does not meet criteria consideration G, and is a noncontributing component of the Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District. The building has been extensively modified since construction; it is

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number

7

Page 7

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co., MT

unlikely that it retains sufficient physical integrity to be determined a contributing component of the historic district once it is fifty years old.

### **District Integrity**

The Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District retains a remarkable degree of integrity. Modern development threatening integrity of setting and of association is limited to the motel units and the coffee shop constructed on the district boundaries. This intrusion is mitigated by the scrub pine, fir, and topographic features that shield the historic resources from the modern buildings. More importantly, these resources do not intrude upon the area of historic development and do not alter historic resource's proximity or orientations to each other. Of the noncontributing resources within the district boundaries, the shed is small, unobtrusive and does not affect the scale, spatial relations, or architectural cohesion of the district. Only the modern boathouse, constructed in an incompatible style from incompatible materials, acts as an intrusive element. All nineteen original cabins remain in place, essentially unmodified, and linked by the original narrow paved access road (which conforms to original site plans). The primary support buildings (#810 and #811) also remain in place and easily distinguishable from the small cabins by their greater size and greater attention to architectural detail. The district thus retains sufficient integrity to further our understanding of changes made in American recreation infrastructure in response to changes in American travel patterns and to the increased mobility of the middle class. The district also reflects an important change in the NPS's changing philosophy toward the tenor and tone of development in national parks. This new philosophy is most evident in the modest scale and mass of the resources and in their location away from the lakeshore and prominent vistas.

#### Summary of Contributing and Noncontributing Buildings

### Eligible (contributing) Buildings:

Cafe/Store/Motel #810 Cabin/Office/Dorm #811 Employee Residence #812 Cabin #813-#831

#### Ineligible (noncontributing) Buildings

Boatman's Cabin (no #)
Shed (no #)

NPS FORM 10-800-a

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number

R

Page 8

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co., MT

landscape architects, consisted of a camp store and coffee shop (with gas pumps); dormitory/registration area; power house; and 19 small cabins. Each cabin, "instead of being grouped with others in a plaza ... occupi[ed] a selected site among the gnarled, windswept Douglas firs" (USDI NPS c.1941).

This isolated placement, generally dictated by topographic lines and natural vegetation and in stark contrast to conspicuous and vista-determined placement of the early hotels, was also the result of NPS demands on concessioners. In 1930, the NPS published a primer on architectural and landscape philosophy:

Although a park structure exists solely for the use of the public, it is not required that it be seen from some distance. In its most satisfying expression, the park structure is designed with a view to subordination to its environment and it is located so that it may profit from any natural screening that may exist.... Since the concession [building] must be located at the 'crossroads' of the park, and must proclaim itself to the public, it cannot be exactly the shy violet among park buildings. It must announce its commercial traffic unmistakably but with subtlety (Cammerer 1935:4,5,95).

At Rising Sun, 18 of the cabins played "shy violet." A representative cabin (#813), the coffee shop/general store, and the reservation area were clearly visible to tourists passing on the Going-to-the-Sun Road. The public buildings were patterned after the Swiss design of architecture that had become the Glacier Park Hotel Company's trademark. This style, however, was scaled down and modified to accommodate the smaller building mass and more limited construction budgets. The cabins utilized "studs-out" construction, a popular 1930s and 1940s style displaying some of the virtues of rustic design and yet less expensive and labor intensive to construct than log and stone buildings.

Although the original 19 cabins were thought to be only the first phase of Rising Sun development (planners visualized dozens of cabins in an arc spreading to the north and east) additional cabins were never constructed. By the 1950s, a national park system designed for 12 million visitors a year was anticipating 80 million. Tourist infrastructure changed accordingly. Space-efficient motels replaced the cabin camps that only 20 years earlier had replaced the vaulted ceilings, "wasted" lobbies, and endless hallways of the railroad hotels. The increased traffic also resulted in construction of expanded dining facilities and increased staff housing. The coffee shop/lobby (#1132) and two motel units (#776, #783) at Rising Sun date to this period of development. These modern facilities are located outside the district boundaries.

The facility was officially known throughout the 1940s as the Roes Creek or East Glacier Auto camp. The auto camp was officially named "Rising Sun" in 1950.

### **Building-specific development**

The General Store/Coffee Shop (#810) was intended for several types of travelers: passers-by on the Going-to-the-Sun Road, patrons of the nearby NPS campground, and those staying overnight at the area's guest cabins. It was therefore strategically placed near the main road in a central location easily accessible by both campground and cabin patrons. A small general store served campers and picnickers, while the coffee shop catered largely to the cabin users. These rooms were connected by a large central lobby complete with fireplace and soda fountain. This planned grouping of activities under a single roof was uncommon during the 1930s; the idea had evolved locally during the 1930s operation of the new cabin camp at Swiftcurrent Auto Camp.

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number

8, 10

Page 9 (Addendum)

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co., MT

Building #810's location on Going-to-the-Sun Road made it a popular stopping place, and the coffee shop portion of the building suffered from perennial overcrowding. The construction of motel units #767 and #783 in 1956 exacerbated the congestion. At least two plans were made to expand the building in the later 1950s, although work apparently never started. A small, cement-block transformer room was added to the building in 1958.

The overcrowding problem was finally solved in 1965 with the construction of a new coffee shop/lobby building nearby. The lobby and coffee shop areas were remodeled to provide nine additional motel units, while the former kitchen was partitioned into five employee dormitory rooms.

Women's Dormitory (#811): Support facilities for the Rising Sun Auto Camp did not include the large lobby/registration areas found at the hotels and many of the cabins were constructed without private baths. The cabin area at Rising Sun thus required a simple registration area, as well as public showers for those staying in the cabins. These two functions, combined with employee dormitory space, were integrated in a single substantial building placed at the entrance to the cabin complex.

Although building #811 was of frame rather than log construction, its mass and roofline are reminiscent of the chalet dining halls constructed at Two Medicine, St. Mary, and Going-to-the-Sun nearly thirty years earlier.

Employee Residence (#812): The Rising Sun area, as with most facilities in Glacier National Park, did not receive commercial electric service until the 1950s. Concession facilities depended on on-site generating plants for power needs, and the Rising Sun development was no exception. Building #812, originally the power house, was built to house two Caterpillar gasoline-powered electric generators as well as a large hot water heater. In conformity with emerging NPS policy that all maintenance and utility buildings be constructed outside the sight line of tourist traffic, the building was physically isolated from the remainder of the complex.

Commercial power became available at Rising Sun in the 1950s. In 1960, the power house was converted into a men's dormitory and a small bathroom addition was constructed on the south elevation. The building still serves as a residence for concession employees; its use, small size, and traditional interior disarray have earned it the sobriquet "Rat Haven."

Cabins (#813-831): Of the cabin designs submitted by the Glacier Park Hotel Co. to the NPS, two were selected for construction. Cabin Plan #4 specified a 15' x 24' building, providing two lodging units with private toilets, while Cabin Plan #9 called for a 14' x 30' structure containing two lodging units with private toilet and shower. A total of nineteen cabins were constructed at Roes Creek, beginning in the summer of 1940 and continuing through the spring of 1941; twelve of the buildings used Plan #4, while the remaining seven cabins utilized Plan #9.

### 10. Geographical Data

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	A 12	314655	5396680
	B 12	314785	5396740
	C 12	314775	5396625
	D 12	314700	5396500
	E 12	314715	5396390
	F 12	314605	5396315
	G 12	314625	5396550

### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number

**Photographs** 

Page 10 Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co.,

The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

1) Property: Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District

2) Location: St. Mary, Glacier National Park, Glacier County, Montana

3)

Photographer: Ann Hubber & Nancy Niedernhofer

4) Date of

Photograph:

September 1993, except photographs #1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 20, 22, 25, 47, & 48 which date to

September 1992

5) Location of

Negatives:

National Park Service, RMR-RC, Denver, CO.

Note: All photographs with an asterisk (\*) are of buildings located immediately outside the historic district.

Photo #	Historic Building #	Direction of View
1	Overview of Cabin Complex	View to SW
2	Overview of Cabin Complex	View to SSW
3*	Motel (#767)	View to SE
4*	Motel (#767)	View to NE
5*	Motel (#783)	View to SE
6*	Motel (#783)	View to S
7*	Motel (#783)	Interior - Room
8*	Motel (#783)	Interior - Room
9*	Motel (#783)	Interior - Bathroom
10	Cafe/Store/Motel (#810)	View to NW
11	Cafe/Store/Motel (#810)	View to SW
12	Cafe/Store/Motel (#810)	View to SE
13	Cafe/Store/Motel (#810)	View to NE
14	Cafe/Store/Motel (#810)	Interior - General Store
15	Cafe/Store/Motel (#810)	Interior - Motel Room
16	Cafe/Store/Motel (#810)	Interior - Motel Bathroom
17	Cabin/Office/Dorm (#811)	View to NW

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number

**Photographs** 

Page 11

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co.,

M

Photo #	Historic Building #	Direction of View
18	Cabin/Office/Dorm (#811)	View to NE
19	Cabin/Office/Dorm (#811)	View to East
20	Cabin/Office/Dorm (#811)	Interior - Dorm Room
21	Cabin/Office/Dorm (#811)	Interior - Stairwell
22	Cabin/Office/Dorm (#811)	Interior - Bathroom
23	Employee Residence (#812)	View to SW
24	Employee Residence (#812)	View to NW
25	Employee Residence (#812)	Interior - Room
26	Cabin (#813)	View to SW
27	Cabin (#813)	View to NE
28	Cabin (#814)	View to NW
29	Cabin (#814)	View to SW
30	Cabin (#815)	View to SW
31	Cabin (#815)	View to NE
32	Cabin (#816)	View to NW
33	Cabin (#816)	View to SE
34	Cabin (#817)	View to SW
35	Cabin (#817)	View to NE
36	Cabin (#818)	View to SE
37	Cabin (#818)	View to SW
38	Cabin (#819)	View to NW
39	Cabin (#819)	View to SE
40	Cabin (#820)	View to NE
41	Cabin (#820)	View to SW
42	Cabin (#821)	View to NE
43	Cabin (#821)	View to SE
44	Cabin (#822)	View to SE

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number

**Photographs** 

Page 12

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co.,

MT

Photo #	Historic Building #	Direction of View
45	Cabin (#822)	View to NW
46	Cabin (#822)	Interior - Southeastern Room
47	Cabin (#822)	Interior - Southeastern Room
48	Cabin (#822)	Interior - Southeastern Bathroom
49	Cabin (#823)	View to NE
50	Cabin (#823)	View to SW
51	Cabin (#824)	View to SW
52	Cabin (#824)	View to NE
53	Cabin (#825)	View to NW
54	Cabin (#825)	View to N
55	Cabin (#826)	View to SW
56	Cabin (#826)	View to NE
57	Cabin (#827)	View to NW
58	Cabin (#827)	View to SE
59	Cabin (#828)	View to SW
60	Cabin (#828)	View to NE
61	Cabin (#829)	View to W
62	Cabin (#829)	View to E
63	Cabin (#830)	View to SE
64	Cabin (#830)	View to NW
65	Cabin (#831)	View to SW
66	Cabin (#831)	View to NE
67*	Coffee Shop (#1132)	View to SE
68*	Coffee Shop (#1132)	View to SW
69	Boatman's Residence	View to NE
70	Boatman's Residence	View to SW
71	Boatman's Shed	View to NE

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number

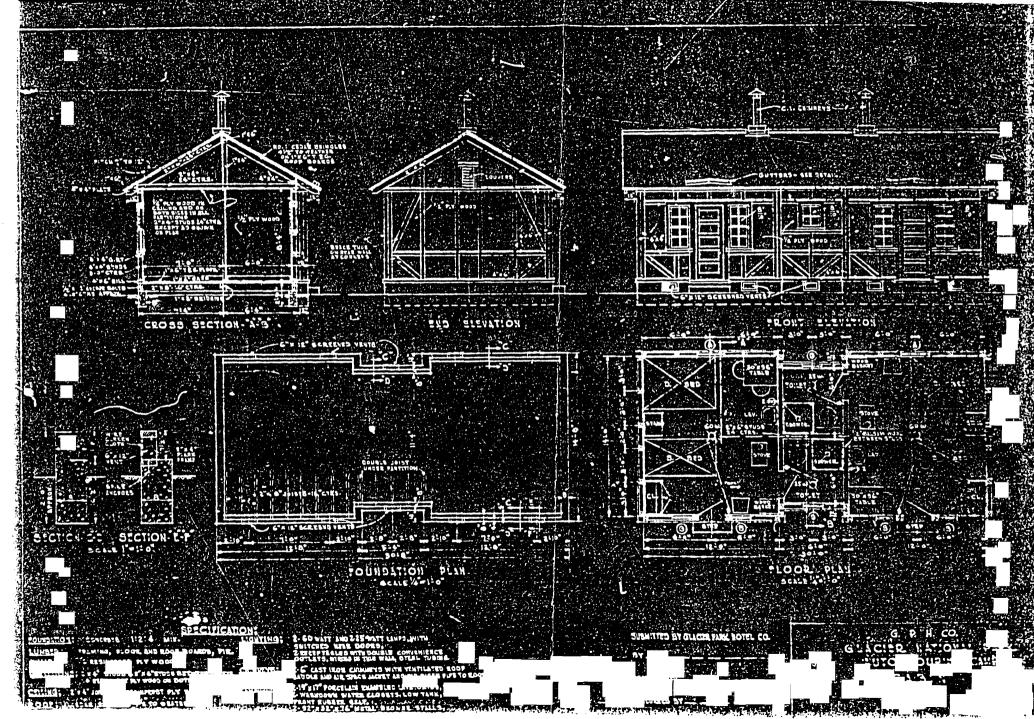
**Photographs** 

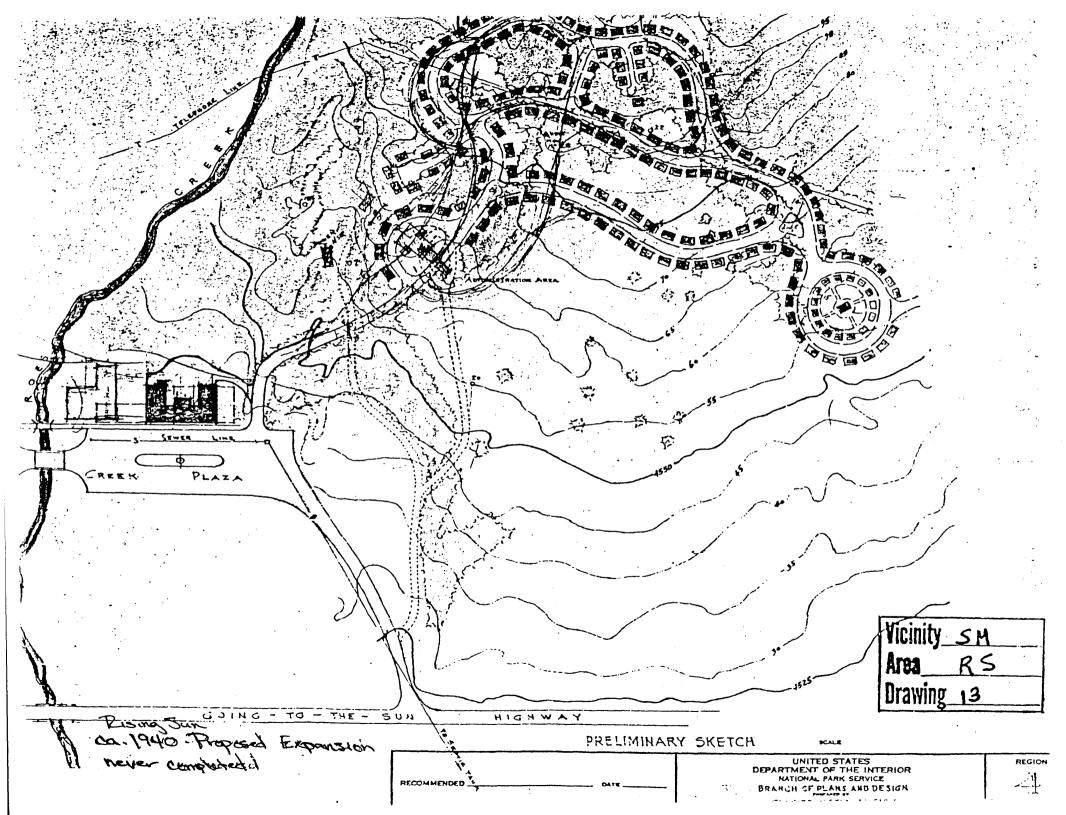
Page 13

Rising Sun Auto Camp Historic District, Glacier Co.,

MT

Photo #	Historic Building #	Direction of View
72	Boatman's Shed	View to SW
73	Unnumbered Shed	View to SW
74	Unnumbered Shed	View to NE





Rising Bun   Poes Creek Campaground Carchater	s Cabin	
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Roma Sun (Rosa Creek) 1939 Plan # 5463

