NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 10-90)  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM  
This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property
   historic name Coal Creek Patrol Cabin
   other names/site number Coal Creek Snowshoe Cabin; Building Inventory #625

2. Location
   street & number U.S. Highway 2 not for publication N/A
   city or town Glacier National Park, West Glacier vicinity X
   state Montana code 30 county Flathead code 029
   zip code 59936

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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.)

Superintendent

Ass't Director, National Center for Cult. Res. Stewardship & Partnership Pr

National Park Service, Glacier National Park

State or Federal agency and bureau
In my opinion, the property \( \checkmark \) meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date 4-19-99

Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is

\( \checkmark \) entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.

\( \_ \) determined eligible for the National Register

\( \_ \) determined not eligible for the National Register

\( \_ \) removed from the National Register

\( \_ \) other (explain): ______________

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

\( \_ \) private

\( \_ \) public-local

\( \_ \) public-State

\( \checkmark \) public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

\( \checkmark \) building(s)

\( \_ \) district

\( \_ \) site

\( \_ \) structure

\( \_ \) object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

1 buildings

____ sites

____ structures

____ objects

1 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register None

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Glacier National Park Multiple Resource Submission
6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: GOVERNMENT: National Park Sub: ADMINISTRATIVE

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: GOVERNMENT: National Park Sub: ADMINISTRATIVE

7. Description

 Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

NPS Rustic Architecture

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
roof Wood Shingle
walls Log
other

Narrative Description

The Coal Creek Cabin is an example of some three dozen backcountry patrol cabins erected throughout Glacier National Park's wilderness in the 1920's and 1930's. It is a single-level structure constructed of saddle-notched logs with pole chinking. A log-framed gable roof extends to shelter a large log-framed front porch. The roof surface was originally covered with logs; This was replaced with shingles and later by metal. There are two wood-framed windows, both shuttered, as well as an entry door located built of vertical wood members braced diagonally. The interior contains a single room with a board floor, unfinished walls and no ceiling; There is a small cellar food cache.

Rehabilitation efforts in the fall of 1998 have replaced the metal roof with a cedar shingle surface, and have replaced deteriorated log ends and purlin ends.
USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
Coal Creek Snowshoe Cabin
Glacier County, MT
Glacier National Park Multiple Resource Submission (Page 4)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

____ A  Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
____ B  Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
____ C  Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
____ D  Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

N/A

____ A  owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
____ B  removed from its original location.
____ C  a birthplace or a grave.
____ D  a cemetery.
____ E  a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
____ F  a commemorative property.

____ G  less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

GOVERNMENT


Period of Significance  1925-1948

Significant Dates  1925

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  N/A

Cultural Affiliation  N/A
Narrative Statement of Significance

The Coal Creek Snowshoe Cabin is an example of some three dozen backcountry patrol cabins erected throughout the Park's wilderness largely during the 1920's. The structure typifies the design of such cabins; its log walls and framing combine with its thought-out rustic design to make the Coal Creek Cabin highly appropriate for its natural setting. The structure possesses good structural integrity. It was constructed as an overnight stopping place for rangers on backcountry patrol, winter and summer; it has retained a similar pattern of historic use for over seventy years, reflecting National Park Service resource protection philosophies and activities throughout most of the Twentieth Century.

There is little documentary evidence concerning the construction of the Coal Creek Cabin. Park records indicate that the cabin was erected in 1925, probably under private contract, in conjunction with several other cabins. The building received immediate, regular use as an overnight stopping spot in backcountry patrols conducted by rangers from both the Nyack and Paola Ranger Stations.

In its early years the cabin displayed a striking architectural feature unique within the park: an outer roof surface of peeled logs, laid in continuous vertical rows and topped with a notched log running the length of the ridge. The added weight was supported by a series of double purlins, one log placed atop the other. This configuration was an apparent attempt to protect the cabin from deadfalls. The Coal Creek Cabin had received a more "standard" shingle roof by the 1940's, to be replaced by metal in the 1960's, and a current rehabilitation effort is replacing the metal roof with a cedar shingle surface. Other than the roof, the cabin retains good historic integrity of appearance and fabric.

Use of the cabin has declined over the years reflecting the lessened NPS administrative presence in the Middle Fork area. The Paola Ranger Station was abandoned in 1932, and the Nyack station has been closed as well. The cabin is still an overnight stop in backcountry patrols in the area however, and is used to house trail crew members when they are working in the area. It continues to serve a role in the park's management of this area.
Coal Creek Snowshoe Cabin
Glacier County, MT
Glacier National Park Multiple Resource Submission

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Individual Building Data File: Patrol Cabins." Glacier National Park Records Collection 1910-1984: Box 150, folder 2; Glacier National Park Archives.

"Ranger Station Logbooks: Paola Ranger Station, 1928-1932." Glacier National Park Archives.

**Additional references are noted in the Multiple Resource submission.**

Previous documentation on file (NPS) N/A

___preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

___ previously listed in the National Register

___ previously determined eligible by the National Register

___ designated a National Historic Landmark

___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # ________

___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # ________

Primary Location of Additional Data

___ State Historic Preservation Office

___ Other State agency

X Federal agency

___ Local government

___ University

___ Other

Name of repository: Glacier National Park Archives

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is a square measuring 100 feet by 100 feet, centered on the building.

Boundary Justification

The resource consists of a single, isolated structure; the boundary is drawn to include the structure and its immediate site.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Bruce Fladmark/Cultural Resources Manager
organization: National Park Service
date: August 17, 1998
Street & number: Glacier National Park
telephone: 406 888 7943
city or town: West Glacier
state: MT
Zip code: 59936
STANTON LAKE QUADRANGLE
MONTANA—FLATHEAD CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Coal Creek
Cabin

CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 20-FOOT CONTOURS
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

SCALE 1:24000

UTM GRID AND 1964 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET
Coal Creek Cabin
Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT
Leroy Dudley, Photographer
July, 1998
Glacier National Park Historic Photograph File
Viewing North-Northwest; exterior view of South and East Walls
Coal Creek Cabin
Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT
Leroy Dudley, Photographer
July, 1998
Glacier National Park Historic Photograph File
Viewing Southeast - showing North and West Walls
Coal Creek Cabin
Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT
Leroy Dudley Photographer
July, 1998
Glacier National Park Historical Photograph File
Viewing Southeast; Interior view of Southeast corner
Coal Creek Cabin
Glacier National Park, West Glacier, MT
Leroy Dudley, Photographer
July, 1998
Glacier National Park Historic Photograph File
Viewing North- from doorway