United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Swanson Boathouse
other name/site number: Two Medicine Boathouse

2. Location

street & number: N/A
not for publication: n/a
vicinity: east shore Two Medicine Lake; Glacier National Park (GLAC)
city/town: East Glacier
state: Montana code: MT county: Glacier code: 35 zip code: 59434

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 80. In my opinion, the property meets __ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant __ nationally __ statewide __ locally. [See continuation sheet for additional comments.]

[Signature of certifying official/Title]
[Date]

National Park Service
State or Federal agency or bureau

[Signature of comment/no 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:

[ ] entered in the National Register
[ ] determined eligible for the National Register
[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register
[ ] removed from the National Register
[ ] other (explain)

[Signature of the Keeper]
[Entered in the National Register]
[Date of Action]

[County]
Swanson Boathouse

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-Federal (term lease)
Category of Property: Building
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A
Name of related multiple property listing: Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: Recreation and Culture/boathouse
Current Function: Same

7. Description

Architectural Classification: Rustic
Materials:
- foundation: concrete pier
- walls: exposed-log framing system; 8” vertical planks
- roof: composition sheeting
- other:

Narrative Description

Boathouse #897 is located along the east shore of Two Medicine Lake, within a concession area once incorporating two boathouses, the Great Northern Chalet complex, and the Park Saddle Horse Company's corral and barn facilities. The second boathouse and the horse facilities are no longer extant and chalet C has been extensively modified in the post-historic period. The chalet dining room is listing in the NRHP as a National Historic Landmark.

This is a one-story log-frame building with a long rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the lake shore. The log framing system is exposed and infilled with eight-inch vertical planks. Composition sheeting covers the front-gable roof. The building is constructed on a series of stone piers.

Log framing members bracket the door and window openings. The rear (east) elevation contains a pedestrian door constructed of 8” vertical planks. The gable end features an exposed log king truss. The north (side) elevation contains a single six-light casement window flanked to either side by a pair of six-light casement windows. The south elevation, from west to east, contains a vertical-board pedestrian door, a pair of casement windows, a single window, and a pair of windows. Large plywood double doors, extending from the beach to the mid-point of the gable end, dominate the front (west) elevation. A metal-rail boat launch extends from the front elevation into the lake. The building is painted brown, with white window frames, and is in good condition.

The interior is unfinished, with vertical plank walls and an exposed-truss ceiling. The boat launch runs down the center of the interior space. The floor beneath the launch is dirt; the area to either side has been built up with concrete to the level of the launch rails and is covered with 4” tongue-and-groove planks. Although subject to routine maintenance, the building has not been significantly altered and retains physical integrity.
The Swanson Boathouse is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, at the local level, under criteria A and C, for its association with early development of the park’s recreation infrastructure and its association with rustic architecture. The boathouse is a component of the World Class Accommodations property type, as defined in the Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing.

Captain J. W. "Billy" Swanson, principle stockholder in the park’s boat concession, first ran a launch on Two Medicine Lake in 1920. Swanson sold the Swanson Boat Company and all improvements to Burch and Anderson of the "Glacier Park Boat Company" in 1938.

Park maintenance records indicate that the Swanson Boathouse was constructed in 1936 by Swanson. However, a 1934 map of the Two Medicine area (incorporated within the Glacier Master Plan), shows two boathouses, one of which conforms in size and location to building #897.
9. Major Bibliographic References

Glacier 150-A form (revised), "Boathouse No. 897," in building maintenance files, Glacier National Park


Previous documentation on file (NPS):
___ 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 # ______

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone  Easting  Northing
A 12  324960  5372490

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries encompass only the building and associated launch.

Boundary Justification

These boundaries exclude neighboring areas of significant modern development. The broad expanse of Two Medicine Lake, extending from the boathouse’s west elevation, provides a substantial "buffer" and protects the property’s integrity of setting and of association.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Ann Hubber/Historian
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: 59807-7086

Property Owner

name/title: National Park Service
street & number: Park Headquarters
telephone: (406)888-5441
city or town: West Glacier
state: MT
zip code: 59936
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Swanson Boathouse, Glacier County, MT.

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<tr>
<th>Section number</th>
<th>Photographs, Additional Documentation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHOTO NUMBER</th>
<th>DIRECTION OF VIEW</th>
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<tr>
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<td>View to Southwest</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>View to Southeast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Interior</td>
</tr>
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Additional Documentation

The following site plan can be found at the Denver Service Center’s Technical Information Center, Denver, Colorado.
Boathouse 165 897
View to SW
Glacier NP, MT, Glacier Co.
Two Medicine Area
Photo #5
Profile #6

Two Medicine Area

Glacier NP, MT, Glaciers

View to SE

Boathouse HS 897

188
Boathouse HS 847

Interior

Glacier NP, MT, Glacier Co.

Two Medicine Area

Photo # 7