NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION, GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

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

STRUCTURE NAME: Upper Logging Lake Snowshoe Cabin STRUCTURE NUMBER: 592

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: Near head of Logging Lake QUADRANGLE NAME: Vulture Peak, MT
Zone Easting Northing QUADRANGLE SCALE: 7.5-minute
UTM A: 11 718735 5406695

CLASSIFICATION:

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: CATEGORY: CONTRIBUTING NONCONTRIBUTING
--- Private x Building(s) 1 --- Buildings
--- Public-Local --- District --- Sites
--- Public-State --- Site --- Structures
_x Public-Federal --- Structure --- Objects
--- Mixed/private & public --- Object 1 --- TOTAL

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION:
The Upper Logging Lake snowshoe cabin is a one-story, lap-notched log building with sapling chinking and square-cut crowns, resting on a rock alignment foundation. The metal-clad gable roof extends to form a porch on posts with a tie beam and vertical supports beneath purlin ends. The cabin has three four-light windows. A cinderblock chimney was installed about 1965. The structure is in good condition. The cabin is a typical log snowshoe cabin with a gable roof extension that creates a front porch area. This basic, variable design evolved from the early snowshoe cabins in Yellowstone National Park. Most backcountry patrol and snowshoe cabins constructed in the 1920s were built by local carpenters at a cost of between $350 and $500. The Upper Logging snowshoe cabin has lost some integrity from the addition of a cinderblock chimney and center post beneath the porch tie beam. However, it remains a significant example of early, backcountry, rustic architecture in Glacier.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION:
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1925
This cabin is one of many similar structures built in Glacier National Park during the 1920s and 1930s to facilitate the supervision of lands within the park boundaries. The park's rugged topography and the often rapidly changing weather conditions made it imperative that these cabins be built at strategic points to protect rangers charged with park surveillance. The cabins were usually located 8 to 12 miles from a permanent ranger station. Thus, a park ranger could spend a number of days on patrol duty without returning to the station for supplies or shelter. The Upper Logging snowshoe cabin is significant because it illustrates an important aspect in the development and administration of Glacier National Park.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
Although the Upper Logging Lake snowshoe cabin has been altered by the addition of a cinderblock chimney, it retains the majority of its original integrity. The cabin is a significant resource both architecturally and historically. Therefore, it meets the eligibility requirements for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criteria a and c.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCE:

FORM PREPARED BY: NAME/TITLE: ORGANIZATION: Historical Research Associates, P.O. Box 7086, Missoula, MT 59807-7086
DATE: June 1984
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Upper Logging Lake Snowshoe Cabin (addendum), Flathead County, MT.

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 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

Date

National Park Service
State or Federal agency or bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

☐ 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)

Additional Documentation Accepted

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

1/19/96

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau
Building Interior

The Upper Logging Lake Patrol Cabin is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Additional documentation is provided below for the purpose of describing and evaluating the interior for integrity and significance.

7. Narrative Description

Summary

Beginning in the 1920s, patrol or "snowshoe" cabins were constructed from a standardized plan, modified to fit each site's unique terrain and the available building materials. Glacier National Park's cabins were of "substantially the same design" as those used in Yellowstone National Park. The Yellowstone cabins were, in turn, close replicas of USFS patrol cabins that mimicked the design of trappers' cabins. The patrol cabins were constructed one-day's travel (8-12 miles) apart, providing shelter for rangers patrolling the park's vast backcountry.

Due to their remote locations, the cabins were generally constructed of locally harvested log; interior walls were unfinished yet often chinked with saplings. The Slide Lake Cabin, only one and one half miles from a road along the sparsely timbered east flank of the Rocky Mountain Front, and the Fielding Cabin, one quarter mile from the Burlington Northern railroad tracks, are the only cabins of frame construction. Softwood shiplap planks of varied width (some as narrow as three inches, some as wide as twelve inches, most four to six inches) covered the floors. A trap door constructed of floor planks provided access to the requisite bear/rodent/frost-proof cellar, finished with poured concrete/mesh and stocked with a minimum supply of rations. Ceilings were open truss, exposing log purlins and heavy roof boards. Windows and doors were fitted wood frame, set within the log wall without surrounds; in part due to the small size of the units, the small multi-light windows were a significant design element. Doors were generally vertical-plank with cross-braces, constructed on site and secured with iron hinges, latches, and bolts. The easily accessed Fielding Patrol Cabin was fitted with a paneled door.

Furnishings were also standard, the result of similar use and space limitations. The door of the large frame wall-mounted cupboard was bottom hinged and fitted with two folding legs; when opened it provided a table. Metal hooks or shelves, strategically located, provided support for oil lamps. Bunk beds — the upper often of a "suspended fold-up design" — maximized the limited space. A single stove provided heat as well as a cooking surface.

Upper Logging Lake Snowshoe Cabin (#592), 1925

Heavy 10" x 3" planks secured with bolted 10" horizontal braces, form the front entry. Hardware appears to be historic and includes large metal hinges (approx. 28" x 5", as per Lower Logging Creek Patrol Cabin), a metal latch, and large bent spike nails pounded into the door surround and turned over the door to keep it closed. Five-inch shiplap planks, painted grey, cover the floor. The trap door, constructed of 5" planks and
opened with a recessed metal ring, opens to reveal a concrete-lined pit. Whole logs, chinked with a variety of material -- including milled-lumber, fiber, and quarter log chinking. The ceiling is open to the roof, exposing the purlins and 7" roof boards.

Furnishings are standard backcountry issue: food cupboard with hinged table/door, two wooden chairs (one slat back, one windsor back), a modern rodent-proof bedding storage box (constructed of plywood rather than the more standard shiplap), and ceiling hooks for Coleman lanterns. Suspended beds are located along the north and south walls: two hang suspended by cables secured to two heavy metal hooks set in the nearest purlin; three are bolted to the wall and supported by fold-down legs. A wood burning stove and a small cookstove are set out from the southwest corner, away from walls, and are vented through the same ceiling pipe.

8. Statement of Significance

The interior retains physical integrity and contributes to the building's significance.

Photographs

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

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Signature of certifying official/Title

National Park Service

State or Federal agency or bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

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NAME: Upper Logging Snowshoe Cabin (592)
LOCATION: Glacier National Park, MT
PHOTOGRAPHER: Glacier National Park
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: 1981
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: Rocky Mountain Regional Office, National Park Service, Denver, CO
PHOTO NUMBER: 1
Logging Lake Snowshoe Cabin
Head of Lake

Interior

Teton Logging Lake Snowshoe Cabin
Flathead Co., MT, Glacier NP

Figure 1
Logging Lake Snowshoe Cabin - Head of Lake
HS 542 593
Interior
Lower Logging Lake Snowshoe Cabin
Flathead Co., MT, Glacier NP
Figure 2
Logging Lake Snowshoe Cabin (Upper)
Head of Lake
Its 5 ft greater
Interior
Lower Logging Lake Snowshoe Cabin
Flathead Co., MT, Glacier NP
Figure 3