RECREATIONAL CAMPS ON LAKE McDONALD
Glacier National Park, Montana

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

and National Register of Historic Places Registration Forms

Jessie Ravage for Glacier National Park

February 2006

Note: Most of the recreational camps and cabins included in this report are privately owned. Please respect the property and privacy of the owners. Do not trespass.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

_X_ New Submission ___ Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald

B. Associated Historic Contexts

Homesteads around Lake McDonald, 1891-1917
Patterns of recreational camp development around Lake McDonald, 1892-1970
Rustic camp architecture around Lake McDonald, 1892-1956
Mid-century modern camp architecture around Lake McDonald, 1945-1970

C. Form Prepared by

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D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official Date

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

E. Statement of Historic Contexts

> ". . . nothing else seems to matter excepting the things one is doing up there [at Lake McDonald]. The happenings of the world seem far away and of little consequence. One of the very young grandchildren felt this when he said, "Why, Mother, I did that yesterday," and his mother said, "No, Tommy, you did that last year." All the intervening time and events had vanished from his mind.
>
> "This is the fascination of the place that brings us back year after year.
>
> —Lulu Wheeler, *History of Apgar*, 22.

Introduction

Recreational camp properties developed around Lake McDonald on six homesteads claimed in the period 1891 to 1895 and patented between 1905 and 1917. These homesteads were established following construction of the Great Northern Railway on its push from Minneapolis to Seattle. Almost as soon as the railway passed through Belton, near the confluence of the Middle and North forks of the Flathead River, wilderness recreationists, conservationists, and geologists discovered and publicized the region's plentiful and largely untapped hunting and fishing, its unblemished wild beauty, and its potential for the study of glaciers. Responding to conservation interests, the region was designated a forest reserve, later national forest, in 1897. Homesteaders quickly capitalized on a host of visitors wishing for guides and accommodation. Cabin resorts, a small hotel, corrals, guiding, provision of pelts and heads, boat livery, sale of lakefront lots for family camps, all contributed increasingly to their livelihoods during the period leading up to the area's designation as a national park in 1910.

Glacier National Park's enabling legislation guaranteed all valid existing land claims within the new park, and homesteaders around Lake McDonald expanded services to a growing influx of summer visitors. Road development plans in the mid-1910s enhanced property values and tourism opportunities, even as, in 1917, Congress passed an act to exchange private lands "for the purpose of eliminating private holdings" within the park. This set in motion a permanent, if fluctuating, tension between the park and inholders, or private land owners, within the park boundary. These factors also established a lasting relationship between the development of privately owned recreational camps and tourist services: land could provide a commercial location or it could be treated as a commodity. By the early 1920s, over half of the lake frontage encompassed by patented homesteads had been sold in small parcels to individual owners building family camps. Enclaves of families coming from the same locale developed at different places around the lake.

Anticipating enhanced commercial opportunities promised by the completion of the Trans-Mountain (now the Going-to-the-Sun Road) and Roosevelt (U.S. Highway 2) highways, inholders opened more cabin resorts and other services designed for auto travelers. The National Park Service, charged with the preservation of park's natural scenic beauty, moved aggressively in 1928 and 1929 to extinguish such private holdings at Apgar and along the east shore near the head of Lake McDonald through land purchases. The Half Moon Fire of 1929 disheartened many inholders, making it easier for the government to acquire shoreline property, but commercial development and dividing of private holdings for private recreational camps continued into the early 1960s. Throughout that period and down to the present, the government continues to acquire recreational camp properties around Lake McDonald, although at a diminished pace. Surviving camp properties illustrate a variety of interrelated patterns of development and rustic architectural design intended to evoke a sense of wilderness retreat and simplicity.

Summary Statement of Historic Contexts

Homestead Era 1891-1910

Although the Lake McDonald region of Glacier National Park was well-known to Native American peoples and an eastward travel corridor to the winter bison hunt, it remained largely unexplored by Americans of European descent before the early 1890s. Located west of the Continental Divide and accessible only through strenuous and lengthy exertion from even sparsely populated places, it was among the last largely unexplored areas encompassed by United States boundaries at the time James J. Hill's Great Northern Railway pushed through Marias Pass in 1891. First its tote road, built to move building materials and supplies for work crews in advance of construction, and then the railroad itself, opened the region to relatively easy access. The wide Flathead Valley and the broad sweep of the plains of eastern Washington, with their lush agricultural promise, drew most homesteaders past the railway stop at Belton, roughly three miles from the foot of Lake McDonald, but a few staked their claims around the lake and up the North Fork of the Flathead River.

Six of the several homestead claims around Lake McDonald before 1896 eventually received patents. They preceded the official survey of the townships encompassing them, and all of the claims slightly exceeded the 160 acres allowed by the Homestead Act of 1862. The earliest claimant was Frank C. Geduhn (1859-1935), who was originally sent to locate a water claim at Lake McDonald by Frank Miles of the Butte and Montana Corn Company in February 1891.[1] Geduhn, a German immigrant who had worked at a variety of jobs across the upper Midwest, was instantly captivated by the beauty of the lake and its deep cedar forest. He recorded the water claim and immediately loaded a sleigh and returned to the foot of Lake McDonald, where he staked his homestead claim. John "Scotty" Findlay followed in the spring, and Geduhn escorted John Elsner to a claim at the head of the lake that summer.

Partners Milo Apgar and Charles Howes followed the Great Northern's tote road from Great Falls in June 1891. Both of these men had their origins in upstate New York. Born in Peruville, Tompkins County, New York, Milo B. Apgar (1844-1896) was the ninth child of Samuel R. Apgar. Milo married Diane Jeanette Dimon, and the couple moved west to Minnesota, after the Civil War, following the predominant pattern of western migration from central New York State of the period.[2] They raised three children—Esli Mortimer (1864-1932), Phoebe (b.1867), and Harvey Dimon (b.20 October 1869, Excelsior, Minnesota) in Minnesota before moving west to Montana.[3]

Charles Howes (b.1856) was a little younger than Apgar. The two men apparently met in Great Falls, where Howes lived for seven years. Bea Macomber, Denis Comeau's daughter, believed that Howes and Milo B. Apgar ran a store together in Great Falls.[4] Howes was born in Steuben County, New York, and moved west, first to Wisconsin.[5] He married a woman, at least partially American Indian and variously called Maggie, Margaret, and Mamie, there. Before crossing the Continental Divide in Montana, he lived in the Yellowstone Valley for two

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[1] Frank Geduhn to L.O. Vaught, 10 December 1926. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 5, Folder 3. (GNPA)

[2] Lynn Conley, Apgar Family Association, e-mail to Lon Johnson, 30 November 2005. Central New York State was part of what became a corridor of westward movement begun by New England outmigrants in the post-Revolutionary era. Places along the way were western New York State in the 1820s, Ohio in the 1830s, the I-states in the 1840s, and the Upper Midwest in the Civil War era and later.

[3] Lynn Conley, Apgar Family Association. e-mail to Lon Johnson, 30 November 2005. Mike Apgar provided H.D.'s birth date in the *History of Apgar,* on p.4.

[4] Beatrice Macomber, Historical Interview, 19 February 1982. (GNPA) The Comeaus homesteaded land at the head of the lake in 1898.

[5] Notes on Howes. L.O. Vaught Papers. Box 1, Folder 16. (GNPA)

years.[6] L.O. Vaught painted an unflattering picture of Howes, saying, he was "densely ignorant, evidently had had a hard life, was uncouth, suspicious, entirely lacking the social amenities." He added, "His word was not quite dependable, his statements were to be taken with two grains of salt," but acknowledged that, "He was a crack shot, an expert boatman in white water, knew where the trout were and how to catch them, was fully able to take care of himself in the wilds."[7] Of this disparate, and possibly somewhat rough, group, Findlay and Geduhn became fast friends, and the latter took it very hard when Findlay drowned late in 1892 while crossing McDonald Creek. In an effort to outrun his grief, Geduhn relinquished his claim west of the outlet to Apgar and took up the claim John Elsner abandoned at the head of the lake.[8] This left Howes and Apgar flanking the outlet, and placed Geduhn at the head of the lake west of the inlet.

The homesteaders were joined in 1893 by Acadian Denis Comeau, who staked a claim along the eastern shore at the head of the lake.[9] Like the others, Comeau worked his way west. When he met his future wife, the widow Lydia Wing Cruger, in 1898, he was working winters as a sawyer in one of the Columbia Falls, Montana, mills and guiding in the mountains in the summer. Cruger, too, had crossed the country, starting in New York State and living in Michigan and Ohio before coming to Montana. In Columbia Falls, she ran the Valley House boarding house to support her and her three adolescent children—Edward, Ida, and Ruth—when she and Comeau married in July 1899.[10]

Frank Kelly (b.1855), the next homesteader to stake a claim at Lake McDonald, was born in Dubuque, Iowa, of Irish parents. He worked primarily as a carpenter in the Upper Midwest and also as a raftman on the upper Mississippi. At nineteen, he moved to Minnesota. In 1883, he came west to Livingston, Montana, with the Northern Pacific Railroad. He also worked in California and in Astoria, Oregon. He came to the Belton area to run a portable sawmill for the Great Northern Railway and staked his claim on the west shore of the lake, about two miles from the north end, in March 1894.[11] In 1897, he married Emmeline Haworth, the widow of the Great Northern Railway's section foreman at Belton and a relation of Jessie Cunningham Apgar. Their wedding picture was taken in Spokane, Washington, farther west on the Great Northern line. Mrs. Kelly had a three-year-old son, Vernon "Vern", from her previous marriage, and Kelly adopted him at least so far as giving him his last name.[12]

George E. Snyder (b.1870, Menominee, Wisconsin), was among the last entrymen on Lake McDonald. He first visited the region in the fall of 1894. He staked his homestead claim the following spring on the point projecting from the east shore of the lake about a mile and a half south of the inlet and adjoining the south line of Comeau's claim.[13] Other homesteaders around the lake viewed him as a little lazy and possibly shiftless. One called him a remittance man, a term for an easterner sent west with an income, either to give him a new start or to

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[6] L.O. Vaught, *History of Glacier* (unpublished manuscript, n.d.): 408. (GNPA)
[7] L.O. Vaught. *History of Glacier,* 408. (GNPA)
[8] L.O. Vaught, p.409; and Geduhn to Vaught, 20 December 1933. Vaught Papers, Box 5, Folder 3. (GNPA)
[9] L.O. Vaught, *History of Glacier*, 439. (GNPA)
[10] Thelma Powell. Interview by author, 24 July 2005. Lydia Comeau provided her wedding date in a letter to L.O. Vaught dated 5 August 1916. Vaught Papers, Box 2, File 9.
[11] L.O. Vaught, *History of Glacier*, 439. (GNPA)
[12] Historical interview with Gonhild "Bud" Henderson, 25 August 1977. (GNPA). Frank Kellenbeck, Frank Kelly's great-grandson, has the wedding photograph.
[13] L.O. Vaught typescript synopsis of letters 1919-1937, affidavit, and notes from a conversation in 1926 or 1927. L.O. Vaught papers, Box 1, Folder 16. (GNPA)

get him out of trouble.[14]

In 1895, Geduhn was joined at the head of the lake when Frank McPartland and Joe Kipp located a homestead where the Lake McDonald Ranger Station is now. These men, with about a half a dozen others, cut the trail up McDonald Creek to Granite Park and Flattop to access mineral claims.[15] During the mid-1890s, many mineral claims were staked in the area now encompassed by the park and many men, and at least one woman, attempted mining, with generally little success. Similarly, Frank Kelly and Frank Geduhn teamed up with other Flathead County residents for the Evangeline mine claim in the Bowman Creek area, but sold their shares to Denis Comeau on the 18th of December 1901. Presumably the name alluded to Comeau's Acadian heritage.[16] Most, however, soon abandoned their claims, like McPhartland and Kipp, and moved on.

Even as homesteaders staked claims, Lake McDonald "began to come into the limelight," drawing hunters and fisherman, conservationists, and geologists to its largely untouched landscape. Charles Hallock, the owner and publisher of *Forest and Stream* when it began circulation in 1873, was a member of a large hunting and fishing party visiting Lake McDonald in the autumn of 1892. He urged the publication of several articles in 1893 about the lake and also forays to discover glaciers tucked into the mountains surrounding it. This gave the region national exposure in the country's leading periodical about the outdoors, which chronicled adventures of both exploration and exploitation of American nature's bounty. [17] By this period, George Bird Grinnell was *Forest and Stream*'s chief editor and publisher. He became one the region's best known preservation advocates. The trickle of recreational visitors in 1892 strengthened into a gentle, but steady flow, its way eased by the Great Northern Railway's route passing within three miles of the foot of Lake McDonald. Under the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, the area was set aside in 1897 as one of the earliest forest reserves, the precursors of today's national forests.

Visitors to Lake McDonald were part of a long and evolving tradition of the American wilderness vacation, a tradition with its origins in the northeastern United States in the early nineteenth century. Before municipal sanitation, wealthy Americans left their urban homes for cooler, less populated regions during the fetid summer months to escape malaria and, later, cholera. In rural villages, wild uplands, and along seashores, they established social calendars revolving around varied outdoor pursuits. Dramatic scenery drew some, while others preferred more quietly picturesque locales or places associated with American writers. The idea of holiday-making grew out of the concurrent European customs of the Grand Tour advocated for the education of young men and the medical notion of visiting mineral springs to regain or revitalize one's health.

While in Europe the titled class established the habit, in America such holidays developed among the very wealthy—mainly urban merchants and businesspeople—and expanded to the upper middle class in the antebellum era. Vacationing presupposed disposable income and the notion that the increasing complexities of life in the industrial age demanded a respite. As the nation's borders pushed westward, so did its people and their developing culture. Artists like Albert Bierstadt and Thomas Moran and photographers like William H. Jackson produced a growing body of images of western scenery that engendered an American cultural identity based in its sublime

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[14] Historical interview with Bea Macomber and Ace Powell, Jr., 4 June 1976. (GNPA: West Glacier, Montana).

[15] Geduhn, Nine-page statement, item 27. Vaught Papers, Box 5, Folder 3.

[16] *Book of Deeds 67/115*. Flathead County County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Kalispell, Montana. Others included Mattie Comeau (relationship to Denis unknown), William W. Kiley, John Greenwood, D.A. Bryant, and Mark Myers. The claim included land in Sections 8 and 9 of Township 35 West, Range 20 North.

[17] Geduhn, Nine-page statement, item 8. *Forest and Stream* began publication in 1873 under Hallock's direction. From 1880 to 1911, George Bird Grinnell was its senior editor and publisher.

landscape. American wilderness adventures, popularized in the 1860s and 1870s by the Adirondack journeys of George Washington Sears and the western travel logs of writers like John Muir and John Wesley Powell, became firmly lodged in the nation's imagination during the third quarter of the century. Americans turned to wilderness seeking "an intense personal experience, an escape to liminal space where the self could be temporarily reimagined, an opportunity for physical, mental, and spiritual reinvigoration, a glimpse of the 'good life.'"[18] Camping holidays seized the nation's imagination in the 1880s and 1890s as people escaped to platform tents and cabins reminiscent of the nation's long settlement period. Some of the nation's urbane businessmen, went hunting and fishing in the remote places. Writing for *Forest and Stream* in the 1880s, William Wicks noted, "We migrate to the woods, hunt and fish from choice; we go for change, recuperation, pleasure, health. We aim to treasure upper energies in order to better sustain the tension of civilization."[19] New York State's northern reaches, Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and Minnesota's lakes were among the many possibilities.

Lake McDonald's visitors, too, sought amenities, and the region's homesteaders quickly realized that these well-shod explorers and visitors would happily pay for accommodation, guides, and transportation. This gave rise to a small tourism business. In 1894, F.I. Whitney, the general passenger agent of the Great Northern Railway, began sending tourists to cabin resorts at both Apgar's at the foot of the lake and Geduhn's at its head.[20] These early cabins were small buildings constructed of notched logs daubed with clay and roofed with cedar shakes. Stoves provided heat. Simple sash and paneled doors were probably bought at mills in Columbia Falls. They were economically built to provide basic shelter in warm weather for people who spent more time outdoors than in while on holiday. In the tradition of the resort hotel established at many other wilderness destinations, George E. Snyder erected the Glacier House, a frame, two-story hotel with about twelve rooms, on his homestead and established steamboat service to it from the foot of the lake in 1895. Denis Comeau ran pack strings from his homestead cabins and corral[21], along with his stepson Edward "Eddie" J. Cruger, for several exploring parties and also for fishing and hunting parties climbing into the mountains. Geduhn also guided.

Milo Apgar's youngest son, Harvey Dimon, or "H.D.," joined his parents on their homestead west of the outlet late in 1895.[22] After Milo's death the following year, H.D. began expanding tourist services at the foot of Lake McDonald, the place that would come to bear his surname. As the shortest distance between the lake and the railway, Apgar was the only convenient point of access to the rest of lake and all of the mountains and glaciers beyond on the west side of the divide. Rail passengers debarked at Belton and crossed the Middle Fork of the Flathead River by ferry. A stage met them on the far bank and carried them the three miles to Apgar. Some stayed

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[18] Marguerite S. Schaffer. *See America First. Tourism and National Identity, 1880-1940*. (Washington, D.C. and London: Smithsonian Institution Press, 2001): 3.

[19] William S. Wicks, *Log Cabins and Cottages. How to Build and Furnish Them* (New York: Forest and Stream, 1920): 8. The first edition came out in the 1880s; 1920's edition appears to be identical. Gibbs Smith of Layton, Utah, published a facsimile edition in 1999.

[20] L.O. Vaught, *History of Glacier*, 417. L.O. Vaught of Jacksonville, Illinois, began visiting the Lake McDonald area in 1894. In the early years, he and a party of friends set up a camp near Sprague Creek, which became known as "Jacksonville." Later, he spent summers at Kelly Camp, but throughout the years he corresponded with some regularity with Frank Geduhn. Vaught began assembling a history of the area's development, some of which he compiled a manuscript, which has never been edited or published.

[21] Photograph 9861 (GNPA), shows Comeau with his wife Lydia and several horses packed for a climb into the mountains with the homestead buildings in the background.

[22] Kelly Apgar, Telephone interview with author, November 2005. Kelly Apgar is a lineal descendant of Milo Apgar, who has done considerable research on the Lake McDonald Apgars. She believes that H.D.'s mother asked him to come because she knew that Milo's health was failing.

there, while others boarded the steamer "F.I. Whitney" to the head of the lake, either to Snyder's hostelry or to Geduhn's cabin resort. Until 1922, both the hotel and Geduhn's could be reached only by boat. When homesteader Frank Kelly returned to Lake McDonald for good in the winter of 1905-06, he built his gasoline launch "Emmeline" at Apgar and set her afloat for the 1906 season. With no boiler to generate heat and cinders, she provided a more pleasant voyage than the old steamer had. She ran each summer until the mid-1930s, carrying goods and people long after roads connected the clusters of camps sited around the lake. Boarding her at the beginning of a summer holiday must have emphasized the sense of leaving behind one's everyday life for wilderness and potential adventure. Debarking at Apgar at the end of the summer must have felt like the first step in returning home to work or school.

Development at the foot of the lake was steady. Since Milo Apgar's claim lay west of the creek and was separated from the rough wagon road between Belton and Lake McDonald by the watercourse, it lacked commercial advantage. H.D. Apgar asked Charles Howes for permission to build four cabins on the latter's claim just east of the outlet. Howes agreed, with the understanding that the cabins would become his as soon as the creek was spanned by a bridge. [23] In 1897, explorer Lyman Sperry drew a map for F.I. Whitney showing both Apgar's and Geduhn's cabin resorts, at the foot and head of the lake respectively.[24] When Eddie Cruger came to the lake in May 1898, H.D. and Esli, the Apgars' eldest son, were living there with their mother. They had built two of the four rental cabins and were building another.[25]

H.D. married Jessie Cunningham, daughter of Columbia Falls area homesteaders Jay and Atalanta Haworth Cunningham in 1899. H.D. and Jessie resided on the east bank of the creek, where they raised three children—Helen Bessie (b.1902), Jeanette (b.1914), and Harvey Milo Dimon (1917-1974), known as "Dimie."[26] When Helen was born in 1902, her parents lived in a three-room cabin. About 1910, they moved into a large new cedar log cabin. Its 24' x 24' living room had a fireplace that took four-foot long logs. There was also a dining room and kitchen on the first floor and three bedrooms above. By this time, the Apgars had "quite a large resort," consisting of the log guest cabins and a "great big log cabin," where they served meals family style.[27]

Eddie Cruger remembered that in 1898, Geduhn had two cabins and was building another.[28] Genevieve Walsh Gudger described Geduhn's cabin camp as a "going concern", when her father Thomas J. Walsh first visited the lake in 1899. She stated that the larger cabins nearer the inlet were built later than the smaller ones at the west end of the camp.[29] By the early 1900s, in addition to the earlier sportsmen, families also visited Geduhn's, and his new buildings, including a small log hotel with a dining room where meals were served and a main room with a large stone fireplace[30] provided services for his diversifying clientele. Unlike the simple guest cabins, this building, with its common areas designed in the hotel tradition, was meant as a place to spend time, especially around its

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[23] Ace Powell, Jr., Historical Interview, 15 June 1976, stated that this was Milo's agreement. Apgar descendant, Mike, stated that H.D. established the cabin resort.

[24] Vaught, *History of Glacier*, 444.

[25] Eddie Cruger, *History of Apgar*, [n.p., n.d.]: 36-37.

[26] Helen [Apgar] Haworth, Historical Interview, stated that her parents always lived east of the outlet. Lynn Conley. e-mail, 30 November 2005, provided birthdates for their children from the Apgar family genealogical website.

[27] Edward Neitzling, Historical Interview, 12 October 1976. (GNPA)

[28] Edward J. Cruger, *History of Apgar*, 36.

[29] Genevieve Walsh Gudger, *History of Apgar*, 26-27.

[30] Jess LaDow, Interview with author, 22 July 2005. LaDow described this cabin, which his family called the Big Cabin. His mother, Mary LaDow demolished the building in 1946 and replaced it with a smaller frame building.

stone hearth. Stone hearths and chimneys were more costly to build than stoves were to buy, and the former, with their inherent message of social domesticity, generally distinguished private family cabins and hotels from simple guest cabins.

In the fall of 1904, the Lake McDonald region was surveyed, and in the spring of 1905 six of Lake McDonald's homesteaders made final proof.[31] Soon after, some of them started selling small lots to visitors on which to build cabins for summer use. Before 1910, Geduhn sold four lakefront lots. These included .56 acres to Helena lawyer Thomas J. Walsh, 3.53 acres to Kalispell businessman W.C. Whipps, 1.43 acres to Kalispell banker James Conlon, and 6.23 acres to Charles Sandford. Sandford, a Lake McDonald resident who worked as a carpenter with Eddie Cruger building the Whippses' cabin,[32] may have envisioned a cabin resort as this was an uncommonly large lot for a family camp. Before 1910, however, he had sold his lot to Colonel Nolan, Walsh's former legal partner and United States Attorney for the Montana District.[33] All of them built summer cabins shortly thereafter, ranging from the Georgian Revival log cabin, "Wissahickon," of W.C. Whipps to the Craftsman-influenced log Walsh Lodge.

The Comeaus also began selling lots. At the north end of their property, John J. Robinson of Columbia Falls bought a 75 x 100-foot lot in 1905, where he apparently built a log cabin soon after.[34] When the Comeaus divorced two or three years later, Denis Comeau sold the northern third of the property to Olive Lewis and deeded the remainder to his ex-wife Lydia. She sold a 100 x 100-foot lot to Dora Crump in 1908 to raise money to pay for her son Eddie Cruger's hospitalization.[35] Crump later hired Cruger, a noted carpenter, to build her frontal gable cedar log cabin with its broad lakeside porch and stone chimney on its north wall.

George Snyder considered selling lake front lots from his homestead,[36] but instead sold his entire property, including his Glacier House hotel, to John and Olive Lewis in 1908. To diversify their new purchase's services, they immediately began building a row of log housekeeping cabins along the bluff northeast of the hotel designed with families in mind. They also sold a 300 x 300-foot lot to F.P. Thorne in 1907,[37] where he built the first private cabin on the bluff northeast of the new cabins. At the foot of the lake, Charles Howes sold three lakefront parcels at the east end of his property to individuals for summer cabins before 1915.[38] And, H.D. Apgar allowed artist Charles M. Russell to build a log cabin on his land west of the outlet in 1908.[39]

1910-1928: Early Park Years

At the urging of a variety of individuals ranging from local promoters like Lake McDonald camp owner,

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[31]Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 5 August 1916. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 2, Folder 9. Comeau provided location dates for all six homesteaders and homestead numbers for some of them.

[32] William O. Whipps, *History of Apgar*, 24-25.

[33] Burton K. Wheeler, *History of Apgar*, 45.

[34] Fannie Hollingsworth called this the "deserted cabin" in her journal in 1922. Marion Wheeler Scott recollects calling it the "haunted cabin" in the 1930s. Taped interview with Marion Wheeler Scott by author, 2006. (GNPA)

[35] Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 25 March 1929. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 2, Folder 9. (GNPA). The transfer was recorded in the plat book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North, in1910, but the deed could have been earlier.

[36] Snyder to Vaught, 19 February 1906. Vaught Papers, Box 11, Folder 18.

[37] *Book of Deeds 99/615*. (Flathead County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Kalispell, Montana).

[38] *Plat Book for Section 23, Township 32 West, Range 19 North.* (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana),

[39] "Charlie Russell," *History of Apgar*, 5.

W.C. Whipps, to the editor of the leading outdoors periodical *Forest and Stream*, George Bird Grinnell, the U.S. Congress set aside Glacier National Park in May 1910. Within its enabling legislation, two clauses had far-reaching implications for recreational camp properties on Lake McDonald. First, while the act denied future land claims, it stated, "That nothing herein contained shall affect any valid existing claim, location, or entry under the land laws of the United States or the rights of any such claimant, locator, or entryman to the full use and enjoyment of his land."[40] Each homesteader's claim was examined, and five of the six staked on Lake McDonald were validated in their entirety. Frank Kelly's patent was challenged, but in 1917, an act of Congress allowed him to retain 55 acres of his original claim.[41] This allowed these owners, and those to whom they had already sold lots, including local promoter W.C. Whipps and the upcoming Montana politician Thomas J. Walsh,[42] to retain their property with all the rights of property guaranteed under law.

> A second provision allowed the Secretary of the Interior, who controlled the park, to:
> execute leases to parcels of ground not exceeding ten acres in extent at any one place to any one person or company, for not to exceed twenty years, when such ground is necessary for the erection of buildings for the accommodation of visitors, and to parcels of ground not exceeding one acre in extent and for not to exceed twenty years to persons who have heretofore erected or whom he may hereafter authorize to erect summer homes or cottages.[43]

This clause allowed the government to lease property for hotels, as it did to the Great Northern Railway on the east side of the divide, and also to continue to lease small plots of federal land to private individuals. L.O. Vaught, who assembled considerable documentation of the park's early history, apparently leased land for a tenting ground near Sprague Creek, which people called "Jacksonville" for his hometown in Illinois.[44] Thomas Walsh's wife described them as "a party of schoolteachers" in an article she wrote for *Rocky Mountain Magazine*.[45] Just west of the Lake McDonald Ranger Station, Burton K. Wheeler acquired a lease on the land surrounding the former Eaton Cabin[46] in 1916. Before the Lake McDonald Ranger Station was established, a group of people from Havre, Montana, including the Devlins, the Hollands, the Garruths, and the Misses Swank of Great Falls, camped there.[47] The Swank sisters later became Mrs. Greenlee and Mrs. Presnell, and they held a life lease on a cabin at the southeast corner of the ranger station property which did not expire until 1964.[48] Leasing apparently decreased rapidly for all

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[40] Hillory A. Tolson, *Laws Relating to National Park Service, the National Parks and Monuments* (Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1933): 138.

[41] Kelly had not resided on the claim consistently until after 1906. His improvements may not have met the standard desired by the government.

[42] Walsh had already run twice for national office by 1910. In 1912, he was elected as one of Montana's senators.

[43] Tolson, 138-139.

[44] No document directly states this information about Vaught. He lived in Jacksonville, Illinois. His correspondence with several Lake McDonald residents reveal that he organized the camping party near Sprague Creek in the early years. Later, he rented cabins from various owners.

[45] Mrs. T.J. Walsh, "Picturesque Lake McDonald," *Rocky Mountain Magazine* I (February 1901): 325.

[46] Built by dude rancher, Howard Eaton, this hunting cabin was abandoned after the park was set aside as hunting was disallowed on federal land within the park. Eaton, however, visited Lake McDonald often, and was friends with both artist Charlie Russell and hotel owner John E. Lewis.

[47] Gudger, *History of Apgar*, 26-29. Edward J. Cruger, a noted cabin builder on Lake McDonald built this cabin in the winter of 1909-1910. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

[48] *Plat Book for Section 11, Township 33 West, Range 18 North* (Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana)

but a few, and the rates had risen considerably by 1919, when Frank Kelly noted that "what had been five dollars per season was now fifty."[49]

The setting aside of the park in 1910 also enhanced the value of privately owned land as no further entries were allowed. The new park drew more tourists each year, further increasing land values as demand grew. Ensuring one's choice of seasonal residence through ownership appealed to some people who had summered in the region during the 1900s and early 1910s. With most of the region's wilderness protected by federal law, one required no more than a parcel large enough for a cabin with a view. Homesteaders found a steady market for small lake side parcels among these visitors, and the shoreline within the homesteads hosted a growing number of Rustic Style log cabins built by individual families.

Visitors to Lake McDonald in the newly established park who did not own land there had several choices of accommodations. They might stay at the Lewises' new hotel, built in 1913-14, or in the log housekeeping cabins. A little more remote, Geduhn's cabin resort provided housekeeping cabins or beds in his small log hotel with meals provided. Or, they might choose to lease a tent platform site, either from the park or from a private owner, like Lydia Comeau, who referred to the southern half of her property as "the camping ground."[50] A family photograph taken from the beach shows a group of young women holding a banner with "Camp Bohemia" written on it above the gate to the Comeau homestead cabins.[51] H.D. and Jessie Apgar also ran a prosperous cabin resort on the east side of the outlet in Apgar. The Pratts, visitors in 1918 or 1919, recollected that "Mrs. Apgar had five comfortable little log cabins facing the lake."[52]

Glacier National Park used the Apgar buildings as a temporary headquarters for the 1911 season after spending the 1910 season in platform tents. Cora Hutchings, wife of park superintendent Major Logan's clerk, noted, "The very first cabin [one nearest road] was used for the office building; Major Logan and his family occupied the second cabin; Mr. Hutchings and I were in the third one. We had a chief clerk [Herbert McCabe] occupying one of the cabins. We used the largest one as a community mess hall; we all ate there." [53] During the 1910 wildland fire, the militia used the Apgar resort as a mess hall and set up tents among the cabins.[54]

When a bridge was built across McDonald Creek, Howes and Apgar waged a lawsuit over the land where Apgar had established his resort. Modern tax maps show a "compromise division line" dated 1912 running from a cedar tree on the shoreline south along the east side of the road to Belton. Apgar received the land west of the line; Howes received the land east of it.[55] The settlement allowed H.D. Apgar's entrepreneurial aspirations space to expand. As the hub in Lake McDonald's transportation system, the area around the boat landing soon supported businesses serving both tourists and the growing number of winter residents who worked in the park, in the tourist business, and in nearby logging camps. In addition to the resort cabins, the Apgars opened a store located on the

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[49] Frank Kelly to L.O. Vaught, 29 January 1919. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 3, Folder 11. (GNPA)

[50] Comeau to Vaught, 22 January 1929. Vaught Papers.

[51] Photograph 9863. (GNPA).

[52] Colonel and Mrs. Raymond S. Pratt, *History of Apgar* [n.p., n.d.]; 33.

[53] Cora P. Hutchings. Historical Interview, 4 October 1962: 3. Bracketed information is from page 26 of a second interview with Hutchings. (GNPA)

[54] Helen [Apgar] Haworth, Historical Interview, 20 February 1977. (GNPA)

[55] The court records for the suit are missing from the Flathead Clerk of the Court office. Deeds were used to establish the meaning of the settlement line. The land records show the line drawn just east of the present day road to Apgar marked by a cedar tree on the shore. The parcel west of the line was numbered 2E on the tax map and acquired by H.D. Apgar in 1912. All parcels in this area were later divided from this initial parcel.

lake shore. This building was connected with the long dock and built on piers.[56] At its far end of the pier, there was a large warehouse built over the water. The Apgars also built a post office and ice cream parlor.[57] These were probably the "old log house" and the sandwich and fountain shop east of the dock remembered by Eddie Brewster.[58]

By default, the area became called Apgar even though Charles Howes owned the lion's share of the land east of the outlet and he pursued several tourist service livelihoods. In addition to occasional cabin rental, he ran a store, built privies to accommodate tourists, worked as a ranger, and possibly skippered the steamer "F.I. Whitney," before she was retired.[59] Howes's largest role, however, lay in realty. He began selling land in a small way when Charles Foot bought a lake front lot at the east end in 1909. After the 1912 settlement of the Apgar land dispute, Howes sold two lakefront parcels east of the dock—one to Orville Denney, a boat entrepreneur,[60] and the other to the Kalispell Mercantile.[61] He sold additional lake front lots to David Ross in 1913 and Roderick Houston in 1915.[62]

Howes watched as his neighbors, the Apgars, platted and filed a formal subdivision of 52 lake front lots encompassing about a half-mile of shoreline west of the outlet in 1914.[63] Artist Charles M. Russell, who was already a regular visitor had begun developing his Bull Head Lodge [National Register, 1984] property on Lots A and B at the center of the subdivision before, probably in 1908.[64] The Russells added four more lots, two north and two south, of their first lots. North and south of them, the Apgars' Glacier Park Cottage Sites lots sold well. Russell probably introduced the largest buyer, his Great Falls neighbor and a president of General Mills Corporation, James W. Sherwood, to Apgar. Sherwood filed the deed for all 26 lots north of Russell in 1920.[65] He built a log boathouse and Sherwood Lodge, designed by Long Beach, California, architect, W. Horace Austin, at the north end of his holdings. Sherwood sold Lots 15 through 21 to Vera Thelen, wife of Great Falls lawyer Jonathan Thelen, and Lots 22 through 26 to Anna O. Coulter, wife of ear-nose-and-throat specialist C.F. Coulter, also of Great Falls, in January 1923.[66] South of the Russell's Bullhead Lodge, the last of H.D. Apgar's lots sold by October 1922, a few months after his death on the 17th of June.[67] Even though his daughters Jeanette and Helen were not yet grown up, each owned a single lot. Most of the other lots changed hands in groups of two of more. Ensenice Caroline Gruber, wife of Great Northern Railway vice president J.M. Gruber, assembled six contiguous lots by

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[56] Gonhild "Bud" Henderson, Historical Interview, 25 August 1977. (GNPA)
[57] Ace Powell, Jr. Historical Interview, 16 September 1976. (GNPA)
[58] Edward Brewster, Historical Interview, 2 June 1975. (GNPA)
[59] Bea Macomber and Ace Powell, Jr., Historical Interview, 16 September 1976. (GNPA)
[60] Vern Kelly to L.O. Vaught, Synopsis. Vaught Papers , Box 1, Folder 11.
[61] *Subdivision Book "H", Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites*. Plat Room, Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana.
[62] *Plat Book for Section 23, Township 32 West, Range 19 North*.
[63] *Subdivision Book "A," Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Subdivision.*
[64] "Charlie Russell," *History of Apgar*, 5. The National Register nomination reverses the building dates for these two structures. The Russells may have had the studio first and stayed at Apgar or the Snyder Hotel early on.
[65] Dora Crump purchased 1 and 2 in November 1914, and sold them to Nannie Baker in May 1919. Harriet Fox Lundy bought Lot 3 in September 1916 and sold to Maud Baker in August 1918. Sherwood's deed was filed the same day for these three lots as the other 23.
[66] Subdivision Book "A." The Coulters built a cabin, which they were still using in 1951, when the second part of the *History of Apgar* was compiled. Anna Coulter contributed an article.
[67] H.D. Apgar's death date provided by Lynn Conley, President, Apgar Family Association. According to Lynn Conley of the Apgar Family Association, Jessie Apgar married Roy Haworth, a gas engineer 16 years her junior, in 1924. Given his last name, he may have been a cousin. She lived until the 8th of April, 1939.

1926, where they established a new camp after their first one at Rocky Point burned in that year's wildland fire. The only other family known to have built on these lots in the pre-World War II era is the Bellefleurs,[68] who held Lot 19 near the outlet.

Howes could have compared Apgar's success with two of John Lewis's ventures near the head of the lake. During the summer of 1916, Lewis sold for $500 apiece five 50 x 300-foot shoreline lots paralleling the one he sold to F.P. Thorne. Several of Thorne's friends from Kansas bought these, creating a small Kansas enclave near the new Glacier Hotel.[69] R.E. McDonnell, a Kansas City engineer, also bought one of these lots. These people all built side-gabled log cabins with open porches on the lake side and cobblestone chimneys on their side walls. Looking back in the 1950s, one Lake McDonald resident noted, "Log cabins, preferably of cedar, of which there was an abundance in the nearby forests, was [*sic*.] considered the only suitable type of construction for a summer residence. It had to be 'rustic' even though it lacked modern conveniences now thought essential."[70]

Later the same year, Lewis platted and filed a 42.5-acre subdivision, the Glacier Park Villa Sites. This was a long, narrow, rectangular plat of 25 x 70-foot lots surveyed into four rows of eight blocks. The plat abutted the shoreline at its west end with three irregular blocks of varying numbers of lots and ran inland for half a mile. Before filing the subdivision, Lewis incorporated the Glacier Park Land Company with H.D. Apgar at the foot of the lake and E.E. Day—listed as dealing in real estate, loans, and insurance in Kalispell in 1915.[71] Lewis used the land company as an intermediate step in all transfers in the subdivision, but by 1919, he had transferred only 46 of the 783 lots to the land company for sale to individuals. The Villas' lack of shore line lots and potential for crowded conditions probably discouraged likely buyers. Lots near the lake sold best, although roughly thirty of the 744 identical interior lots also sold.[72]

By October 1920, when Howes and his wife filed a four-block, 37-lot subdivision—Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites—his half mile of lake frontage had, of course, risen in value. The lots commanded a view of both the lake and the mountainous interior of the park, they were easily reached from Belton, and located near Apgar's shops and dock. Theodore Herlihy of Belton purchased five contiguous lots in Block 2, as well as a large lot south of the road in 1921. He incorporated the Transmountain Hotel Co with Walter H. Griffin of Kalispell and Maude Baker, also of Belton, as directors for three months. Surely the name was a nod to the Transmountain Highway (now Going-to-the-Sun Road) then under construction that would eventually connect the park's east and west sides via Logan Pass. Initial stockholders included the three directors and also Ouida Herlihy of Belton, M.J. Riker of San Francisco, and Howes himself.[73] Sidney and Douglas Gold became directors shortly thereafter. Peter "Gus" Aubert came to Lake McDonald as the Golds' partner in 1921 and helped build what the Pratts described as a "beautiful little hotel."[74] In 1924 Aubert bought Lot 2 in Block 3, where he built a cabin. Two years later, he also bought Lot 1 in Block 4.[75] By then, he had left the hotel partnership and was working as a caretaker for James W.

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[68] Margaret Lindsay, *History of Apgar*, 15. Lindsay notes that the Bellefleurs built the Greeley Cabin. *Subdivision Book "A."* corroborates the ownership.

[69] The Lewises replaced Snyders' frame Glacier House with a large new hotel in the Swiss Chalet style designed by the Spokane firm of Kirtland, Cutter, and Malmgren, in the winter of 1913-1914.

[70] Horace Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, 47.

[71] *Polk Directory*, Kalispell, Montana, 1915. (Montana Historical Society, Helena, Montana)

[72] Deeds show that these sold for $300 apiece.

[73] *Articles of Incorporation*, Transmountain Hotel Co., 10 September 1921. (Office of Secretary of State, Helena, Montana)

[74] Peter "Gus" Aubert, *History of Apgar*, 9; and Col. and Mrs. Pratt, *History of Apgar*, 33.

[75] *Subdivision Book "H."*

Sherwood.[76]

Most of Howes's sites sold to individual families, several of whom built cabins.[77] During the 1910s, he also sold lots on an individual basis to local entrepreneurs like John Weightman, who ran livery stables in Belton and Kalispell; the Sibleys; and the Powells. These families were among the growing number of winter residents at Apgar, who depended on the shops and school (built 1922) there. Several of them supplemented their income as carpenters and built many of the summer cabins around Lake McDonald.

Of these builders, Eddie Cruger is the best known and possibly the most prolific. The son of Lydia Cruger Comeau, he was also Denis Comeau's stepson. Cruger first came to Glacier in 1898[78] as a wrangler working with his stepfather, but by the end of the first decade of the twentieth century, he was building cabins for people who had bought house lots from the homesteaders. He built the Walsh family's cabin in 1909-1910. He constructed several cabins in the group northeast of the Lodge in the 1910s, as well as Dora Crump's cabin, now the main cabin at Greve's Tourist Cabins. Cruger could work to plans. He was on the crew of four, which also included Mart Sibley and Peter "Gus" Aubert, who built Sherwood Lodge from plans drawn by architect W. Horace Austin. Sibley and Asa Powell, Sr., were known for their stone chimneys, many of which survive on private family cabins around the lake. Less is known of Jean Sullivan and Gus Aubert as builders.

How often Lake McDonald log cabin builders used drawings or owners hired architects is unknown. One family, the Creasers, had a 1908 edition of William S. Wicks's *Log Cabins: How to Build and Furnish Them* in their Lake McDonald cabin. Surely, the design of many of the cabins clearly reflects an awareness of the forms and proportions of the Craftsman style popular in the early decades of the twentieth century. Log cabin construction techniques, however, were part of a vernacular building tradition generally executed using a practical understanding of woodworking and proportions. Many Lake McDonald log cabins dating to the first half of the twentieth century and earlier may well have been built without formal plans, but not without an informed eye. Architect-designed Sherwood Lodge is one of only two cabins for which drawings are known to survive. The other is the Colonel F. Mears Cabin,[79] designed in 1926 and demolished in the 1950s. As a group, owners of early twentieth century family camps and visitors alike sought simplicity. The cabin designs drew inspiration from modest examples. Even though most of their owners and visitors were well-to-do and could have afforded a degree of ostentation or convenience, their cabins resembled log interpretations of the bungalows popular in developing towns and around cities at the time. Most summer people used privies, lake water provided bath water, cook stoves burned firewood, and many cabins used kerosene lamps for light well into the 1930s. The camps' comparative rustic simplicity and sense of withdrawal suggested an unencumbered life to their owners, almost a romanticized form of homesteading. Not meant as a permanent escape, these camps, like so many built in wilderness areas across the nation during this period, gave to their owners a period of time, often a summer, to regenerate nerves frayed by their working lives, mainly in urban areas.

By the early 1920s, subdivisions with rustic cabins characterized much of the lakefront at the foot of the lake. Cabins on small lots also clustered around the hotel near the head of the lake. By 1922, the new Transmountain Highway had passed the head of the lake, and in 1923, an unpaved road cut through the former Geduhn homestead

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[76] Aubert, *History*, 9.

[77] *Subdivision Book "H."*

[78] Edward Cruger, *History of Apgar*, 36-38.

[79] These drawings are filed in the Cultural Resources Office, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, Montana. Mears worked for the Great Northern Railway.

to the Lake McDonald Ranger Station. Road construction almost certainly played a role in the way private land developed throughout the first decades of the century. Lydia Comeau occasionally sold lots in the 1910s, but it was not until the road passed through her land that she and Eddie Cruger laid out several 50-foot wide lots running between it and the shoreline. They sold lots to Colonel Mears, Martha Whitestone, Margaret Kennedy, and Wilfrid Bose.[80] Some of these owners built cabins. Frank Geduhn regularly noted that remoteness plagued his resort's economic viability.[81] In 1912, he fretted:

> I have been weighing myself against conditions and decided not to borrow the money just now and make improvements but jogg along another year and then decide.
>
> Lewis is doing the business, a very big business this year, there never was much so far but plenty of it this year and Lewis standing in with Grt. Northern got more than his share, my place had only those who knew me or were sent here by such, I met lately the big men of the R.R. Co. and infer things will be a little more favorable for me in the future. Of course I could sell but it don't seem right to sell for 25 which was offered 30,000 two years ago, I can take 25,000 tomorrow.[82]

Frustration over finances combined with his courtship of Clarabelle Sherrard, who did not like the hotel business,[83] made selling very appealing. During the 1912 season, B.E. LaDow, a Kansas gas prospector visited Geduhn's at the end of a failed exploration attempt. He was smitten with Lake McDonald. In 1913, he and James Conlon, who had already bought land from Geduhn, and another Kansan, C.F. Lutes bought all but five acres of what Geduhn still owned of his claim. Conlon managed the cabin rental, the LaDows visited every summer, Lutes apparently never came at all, and Geduhn, finally rid of the hotel, brought his new bride to his claim cabin overlooking the lake. Geduhn soon added a two-story cabin, where they lived in the winter. In a limited way, he continued in tourist business, as they rented the big cabin out in the summer.

Southwest of Geduhn, Kelly spent the first half of the 1910s proving his claim's validity after it was challenged by the federal government and providing boat service connecting Apgar with the Lewises' Glacier Hotel, Geduhn's old resort, and the family camps around the head of the lake. When he sold the boat business in the early 1920s, he kept the "Emmeline." While a road reached the Wheeler Camp and Lake McDonald Ranger Station, it would be another decade before it pushed through to the Kelly homestead. Not only did the "Emmeline" provide the Kellys with a way in and out; she allowed Frank Kelly to bring tourists to the tourist cabin camp he began building about the same time. By 1925, he had built seven log tourist cabins,[84] which he and his wife Emmeline managed with help from their son Verne and his wife Helen. Kelly's Camp, as it came to be called, offered a complete vacation package with lodging, meals, laundry service, and transportation provided by a single family. By the early 1930s, the camp had grown to ten or eleven guest cabins, rented by the week, month, or season. All but Cabin 00 were frontal gable cabins with open porches set below extended gable roofs. A decorative lattice of unpeeled narrow logs graced each gable end on the lake side and, on some of the cabins, the back porch, too. Kelly's drew its water from a creek on the north end of the property. It generated its own power using a turbine placed near the creek's mouth and bought with income from selling 11 acres of his property to Fannie

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[80] *Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*,

[81] Geduhn to L.O. Vaught, during the first decade of the twentieth century. L. O. Vaught Papers. Box 5, Folder 3. (GNPA)

[82] Geduhn to Vaught, 12 October 1912. Vaught Papers, Box 5, Folder 3. John Lewis had offered $25,000, presumably to eliminate competition for his hotel on the point.

[83] Geduhn to Vaught, 13 March 1913.

[84] Horace Chadbourne, *Historyof Apgar*, 48.

Hollingsworth.[85] By 1930, Hollingsworth held the title to the southern half of Kelly's property. At Chad's Point, as it came to be called, she built a cabin called "Hollybourne," a combination of her surname and that of her son-in-law, Horace Chadbourne, in the autumn of 1926.[86] The Chadbournes lived year round at Hollybourne during the late 1920s and 1930s.

The Geduhns, the Kellys, the Chadbournes, the caretaker at the old Geduhn resort, and the ranger posted at the Lake McDonald Ranger Station, and people wintering over at Lydia Comeau's cabin formed an informal, but regular, social round during the winter. The Kellys laid on a Saint Patrick's Day party; the Geduhns celebrated Frank's late winter birthday.[87] The summer social round at the Glacier Hotel, however, seemed to take on some aspects of the winter social round of places far from Lake McDonald in a pattern noted and lamented in other summer resorts the country over. At Lewis's new Glacier Hotel, opened in 1914, artist Charles M. Russell, dude rancher Howard Eaton, and Lewis himself held a sort of court where numerous visitors and summer residents listened to their stories and admired Russell's western art.[88] Lydia Comeau remarked how she did not care for the change in atmosphere, saying, ". . . it is not like it used to be and so much dress and style spoil anything for me. I care very little for 'Fuss and Feathers.'"[89] At the foot of the lake, Douglas and Sidney Gold's Transmountain Hotel Company opened a smaller, more rustic hotel with a large dance pavilion in the early 1920s. Thus, while days might be filled with fishing expeditions, trekking, and horseback riding, evenings included well-cooked meals and dancing afterwards, not only for the hotel guests, but for others in the area.

1929-1933: Park Policy and the Half Moon Fire of 1929

With the founding in 1916 of the National Park Service to manage the country's growing number of parks and the appointment of Stephen Mather as its first director, new and expanded park policy emanated from Washington, D.C. It was asserted that private land ownership within the parks jeopardized their good management in the nation's best interest. Over the ensuing decades, Congress passed a number of bills designed to reduce the number of private property holders within national parks. As part of this initiative, a law passed in 1917 allowed the government to extend the opportunity to inholders to harvest "dead, decadent, or matured timber" on designated parcels in exchange for property within park boundaries.[90] While this offer appealed to some in the lumber business, inholders around Lake McDonald were mainly seasonal camp owners and local business people making their living mainly in the tourism industry. Neither group had much interest in being bought out in exchange for timber so they did not take advantage of the offer. By 1927, however, as the new road destined to traverse Logan Pass entered its final stages, the park service wanted to "extinguish the private holdings at the south end of Lake McDonald for the reason that the completion of the road at federal expense would enhance the value of the private property." Further, "[it] presents a very unattractive appearance at the present time as a result of the number of cheap types of cottages that have been built, and this condition will only be aggravated unless the remaining

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[85] Frank Kellenbeck, Interview by author, 19 July 2005.

[86] The progress of this cabin's construction, built by Chadbourne, Asa Powell, Sr., and Mart Sibley of Apgar, is recorded in Hollingsworth's journal for 1922-1926. The journal remains in family hands. Hollybourne burned to the ground in the 1970s.

[87] Ray Newberry, ranger at Lake McDonald from 5 May 1932 to 30 May 1935 recorded more than just day-to-day management of his section. The log books are in the Glacier National Park Archives.

[88] Margaret Lindsay, *History of Apgar*, 15.

[89] Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 3 February 1918. Vaught Papers, Box 2, Folder 9.

[90] Tolson, 148.

unimproved property can be secured by the Government and removed from sale as small building lots."[91]

To encourage owners to sell, in 1928 the federal government set aside $50,000 to be matched dollar for dollar from private funds to purchase inholdings in national parks. This money could only be used to pay 50% of a property's value: the other half must come through private funding. Known as 50% purchases, none of this appropriation was spent in Glacier. The destruction wrought by the Half Moon Fire of 1929, however, opened the door wide for government acquisition. R.E. McDonnell wrote to Secretary of the Interior, Ray Lyman Wilson, "The feeling of all the permanent residents and those who visit the Park seasonally, is that the Government employees are elated over the burning of privately owned cabins and it is commonly charged that the thousands of acres of beautiful timber were sacrificed in order to get rid of the few privately owned cabins."[92] Only the tenacity of a few hardy residents and the pump provided by logging company owner George Slack saved some of the buildings, including a few lakefront cabins. Frank Geduhn described the damage at Apgar.

> Well, we had a little fire, just what you may notice, the beautiful forest from Coram to Foot of Lake McDonald is destroyed—Belton and headquarters were saved, Sibleys, between headwaters and Apgar were burned out, at Apgar the Oil Station, Store, three buildings east of store and old Apgar Bldgs west of store to creek were saved, there as you go along road east everything burned till you come to Howes, then all is saved on left hand along lakeshore to Houstons incl. then again burned—the dance bungalow of Golds right of road was saved.
>
> Howes has a pump which saved his and Houstons for latter of which he don't get any credit and this is another, but a good story—the Bldgs around store were saved owing to the heroic drive thro burning forest with a pump by Geo. Slack.[93]

Lydia Comeau noted that the fire took "everything at the Epworth League," the Methodist camp at the east end of Apgar.[94] Among those between Howes and Houston, Gus Aubert saved his cabin. The ancient cedar forest, which so charmed early visitors, was a stand of charred poles and snags, and everyone mourned its loss.

The government viewed the near *tabula rasa* created by the fire as an opportunity to further its policy on private lands, and Congress budgeted $198,000 to buy out as many Apgar inholders as possible.[95] To speed the buying process, these purchases could be made at 100% of the property's value with the intention of making up the 50% difference later.[96] By mid-January 1930 Park Engineer Charles Randels and carpenter Edward Cruger had estimated values for those buildings surviving the fire and others built immediately afterward to replace ones lost at Apgar. Twenty-seven inholders owned a variety of buildings, both log and frame, including summer cabins, year round cabins and houses, small resorts, three stores, an ice cream parlor, and the first service station in the park, opened by the Greenwalts in 1924.[97]

Purchasing agent F.J. Solinsky, Jr., was dispatched from San Francisco in June 1930 to negotiate purchases, most especially along the lakeshore. By the 8th of July, Solinsky compiled a list of those owners with whom he

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[91] Stephen Mather to Senator Thomas J. Walsh, 11 June 1927. *Land Acquisition. Exchanges (Gen.) Including State and School Lands, 1925-1951.* File No.610-01(L1425) (USDOI-NPS (Glacier National Park)). (GNPA)
[92] Patricia Bick, *Homesteading on the North Fork in Glacier National Park* (Glacier National Park, October 1986): 45, footnote.
[93] Frank Geduhn to L.O. Vaught, 5 September 1929. Vaught papers, Box 5, Folder 3. (GNPA)
[94] Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 1 September 1929. Vaught papers, Box 2, Folder 9. (GNPA)
[95] Superintendent of Glacier N.P., J.R. Eakin to Director of the Park Service, 13 December 1929. File No. 610-01. (GNPA)
[96] Mather to Eakin, received 27 December 1929. File No. 610-01. (GNPA)
[97] Mrs. D.L. (Bernice) Greenwalt, *History of Apgar*, 8.

negotiated contracts for outright sale to the government. Some owners would only consider a life lease for their properties, but the park service agreed that in Apgar, nothing but full and immediate transfer would do.[98] As July turned to August, Solinsky met with increasing difficulty carrying out his mission. Everyone in Apgar discussed the latest offers, and several held out for better prices as values escalated. In a letter dated the 15th of September, the Acting Director of the Department of the Interior listed those owners who had sold to the government for a total expenditure of $197,550.[99] By 1931, the government owned 18 shore line lots, including the Gold Brothers' multi-lot cabin resort and hotel site; the Epworth League camp; and several lots whose owners had lost summer cabins or tent platforms in the fire. Both the Belton and the Kalispell mercantiles sold out. Rather than rebuild in the desolated landscape, Charlie Howes sold his remaining holdings for $18,000, and moved to Kalispell.[100] Solinsky was unsuccessful in making contracts for sixteen lakefront parcels.[101] In February 1932, Superintendent Scoyen enumerated to the Director of the National Park Service the results of the auction of many of the buildings on the newly acquired lots. The park retained some buildings pending future use, but most left the park.[102] The Apgar waterfront was more than half cleared of cabins and businesses, but scorched beyond recognition.

At the same time as the government wished to eliminate the small tourist businesses at Apgar, it also wanted to purchase the Lewises' Glacier Hotel. The Glacier Hotel Company, part of the Great Northern Railway and the concessioner running hotels on the east side of the park, had encountered difficulties in dealing with Lewis on tours organized on the west side.[103] The park feared that the property would become too costly to buy if Lewis still owned it when the Trans-Mountain Highway was done. By 1929, the park service and the railway had reached a verbal agreement whereby the railway would pay 50% of the sale in exchange for a new 20-year contract to operate all its properties park-wide.[104] This would provide the National Park Service with a hotel it owned on the west side and the railway with a commercial opportunity. In early 1929, a representative of the Great Northern Railway offered Lewis $275,000 for his Lake McDonald holdings, including the hotel. Lewis flatly refused.

In the aftermath of the Half Moon fire, park superintendent J.R. Eakin, suggested that the Lewises might be more receptive to selling. Adding to the pressure, Congress withheld the 1930 appropriation to continue building the Trans-Mountain Highway pending the purchase of private land with commercial potential near the route.[105] Finally, the Great Northern planned to reopen its Belton Chalets that year and threatened to eliminate several tours using the Lewises' hotel.[106] The Lewises succumbed and signed a Contract for Deed on the 1st of March 1930 between them and the Dakota and Great Northern Townsites Company, a subsidiary of the Great Northern

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[98] This discussion was carried on over several letters between Superintendent Eakin and the Acting Director of the Park Service, A.E. Demary, during the summer of 1930. File no. 610-01. (GNPA)

[99] A.E. Demary, 15 September 1930. Glacier Park Land Records, Box 1, Folder 32. (GNPA)

[100] Typescript synopsis of Howes to Vaught letters, 9 December 1933. L.O. Vaught Papers. (GNPA)

[101] Lots not for sale included Lot 9 in Block 1; Lots 7, 8, 11, 12, and 13 in Block 2; Lots 1, 2, 5, and 6 in Block 3; and Lots 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8 in Block 4. The others are all noted as passing to the U.S.A. in 1930 or 1931 in Subdivision Book "H" in the Plat Room at Flathead County Courthouse in Kalispell, Montana.

[102] E.T. Scoyen, Superintendent, and R.R. Vincent, Assistant Superintendent, to Director of Park Service, 1 Feburary 1932. File 610-01. (GNPA)

[103] Correspondence in Box 76, Folder 9, GNPA, between W.P. Kenney of the Great Northern Railway and Horace Albright, Director of the National Park Service.

[104] *Ibid.*

[105] Eakin to Kenney, 2 January 1930. (Box 76, Folder 9, GNPA)

[106] This was an ongoing discussion in January 1930. (Box 76, Folder 9, GNPA)

Railway established in 1906 to found towns along the line.[107] It paid $275,000 for all land and improvements.[108] On the 10th of June, James Maher of the Great Northern Railway told Superintendent Eakin that they had deposited $137,500 in escrow at the First National Bank of Kalispell to await the government's match.[109] Obtaining the government funding and discussions about personal property delayed the transfer to the federal government until June 1932. Excepting 46 lots previously sold in the Glacier Park Villa Sites subdivision and the short row of cabins on the bluff northeast of the hotel, the park controlled all but 1000 feet of lake front once encompassed by the Snyder homestead.

For a short time in early 1929, out of frustration with Lewis's intractability, the Great Northern and the park negotiated to buy Lydia Comeau's property, thinking to build a hotel there. She wrote L.O. Vaught asking what to do, noting she had about 35 acres left and describing in detail what parcels had been carved out over the past two decades.[110] She asked for $21,000, and the Great Northern had immediately offered to put up half to meet the 50% requirement for government purchases in national parks.[111] By June, the railway changed its mind, deciding that it preferred to buy an established hotel property rather than building new.[112]

Comeau, however, remained preoccupied by the subject, possibly due to the buzz over government appropriations for buyouts in Apgar. Even though all funds for 100% purchases were expended, appropriation for 50% purchases continued into the early 1930s. In March 1931, Comeau wrote, "the gov't has been paying $20.- a foot lake front and 235 an acre back land across the road. I have 1860 ft front and 20 acres any way across the road. Of course I want to get as much as I can out of it. But 22,000 or 25. would be pretty nice don't you think."[113] A month later, Eddie Cruger reported to his mother that the government planned to buy out all land available on the east side. Comeau noted that in addition to her own land, two parcels of former Comeau land—Dr. Robinson's parcel and Martha Whitestone's narrow lot at the south end of the homestead—were for sale.[114] In 1932, however, she sold instead to Olga Rue, whose husband worked for the Great Northern Railway.[115] Four additional owners—Bose, Greve, Mears, and Kennedy—retained their cabins and lots. When, in 1937, Lydia Comeau at last transferred all but the 300 feet of shoreline fronting her cabins to the government, she was the only surviving homesteader on Lake McDonald. Frank and Emmeline Kelly died one day apart of a virulent pneumonia in January 1935. Frank Geduhn passed away a week later in California. Charles Howes, residing in Kalispell, passed away shortly before. Milo Apgar had died long ago in 1895; his son H.D. had gone in 1922. George Snyder had long ago left the area.

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[107] The townsite company was a subsidiary of the Great Northern Railway incorporated in 1906 in St. Paul, Minnesota, to establish towns along the railway's route. In 1908, it filed papers to allow it to appoint an agent and do business also in Montana. For much of its existence in Montana, from 1908 until its withdrawal in March 1944, it recorded a deficit in Montana. Papers related to the Dakota and Great Northern Townsite Co. (Office of the Secretary of State, Helena, Montana)

[108] Box 211, Folder 11, GNPA.

[109] James T. Maher to J.R. Eakin, 10 June 1930. (Box 211, Folder 11, GNPA).

[110] Lydia Comea to L.O. Vaught, 25 March 1929. Vaught Papers.

[111] J.R. Eakin, Supertintendent of Glacier National Park, to the Director of the National Park Service, 31 May 1929. (Box 76, Folder 9, GNPA).

[112] Ralph Budd to J.R. Eakin, 3 June 1929. (Box 76, Folder 9, GNPA)

[113] Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 21 March 1931. Vaught Papers.

[114] Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 24 April 1931. Vaught Papers.

[115] Interview with Thelma Powell, 24 July 2005.

1933-1956: Depression, the War Years, and Recovery

The Going-to-the-Sun Road opened to great fanfare at Logan Pass in July 1933. The Roosevelt Highway (U.S. Highway 2) paralleling the railway and the park's southern border across Marias Pass opened a year earlier. Before this, the only way to cross the Continental Divide in northern Montana was by rail. Auto tourists put their cars on the train for transfer from one side to the other. Roads developed slowly in Glacier, so that while auto tourism was popular by the early 1910s in many parts of America, even at other national parks and scenic attractions, it lagged here. Auto tourists generally had less time and money to spend than those traveling by train, and stopped at most for a few nights in any one place. They sought camping grounds, housekeeping cabins, or guest cabins with quick, inexpensive meals. And for many, the vacation's appeal lay as much in movement itself. While the nineteenth-century cabin resorts at Apgar and Geduhn's[116] had established clienteles developed over the past quarter century and more, Lake McDonald's entrepreneurial newcomers looked to the growing market of modern day "gypsies."

Kelly's Camp was among the first of a new group of tourist camps designed to meet increasing demand. Frank Kelly began building guest cabins on the west shore by the mid-1920s. By the early 1930s, the Kellys had several established regulars in addition to one-time visitors. They enhanced their business when in 1932-1933, with neighbor Horace Chadbourne, they began the heavy labor to extend to Kelly's the road connecting the Wheeler Camp and the Lake McDonald Ranger Station to the Going-to-the-Sun Road. The culvert over Kelly's Creek was laid in July, and the government graded it in August.[117] After Frank Kelly's death in 1935, Verne Kelly stopped the "Emmeline's" regular run in favor of the road.

On the old Comeau homestead on the east shore, Greve's Tourist Cabins opened for business in the mid-1930s. Ruth Anderson began assembling a two-acre property adjacent to the homestead cabins in 1931.[118] She married "Dutch" Greve soon after, and together, they added eight tourist cabins, a bath house, a wood shed, a generator house, and two outhouses around Dora Crump's original log cabin. Except for a log cabin built using squared logs dovetailed at the corners, the Greves built simple frame cabins using plain, inexpensive materials with wood stoves for cooking and heat in the economical tradition of earlier guest cabins. Built over the course of the early 1930s, their building materials varied somewhat, probably depending upon availability. All share simple masonry piered foundations, stock millwork doors and sash, diminutive stove chimneys, and lakeside screened porches. Later enclosure of parts of the porches provided showers fed by exterior pipes. Located so close to the main road, transients easily found the Greve cabins. As time passed, however, the Greve's Tourist Cabins developed its own group of return visitors like the older resorts. So did Bose's Inwood Cabins south of Greve's, which opened a little later.

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[116] In 1930, the three-man trust shared out the old Geduhn property among LaDow, Lutes, and Conlon's widow, Mary. She sold her share to the government in 1937. Lutes and LaDow split the cabins between them, and Lutes hired James Hindle of Fort Benton to manage summer rentals. This arrangement continued into the 1940s. (Jess LaDow, interview with author, 22 July 2005).

[117] Senator Walsh, who owned a camp at the head of the lake, successfully brought to Congress a bill to construct the road from the Going-to-the-Sun Highway as far as the Wheeler Camp in 1921. Frank Geduhn noted that it was done by June 1922. In 1933, Frank Geduhn noted that the road had been extended down to Kelly's Camp and Hollybourne by Horace Chadbourne and Verne Kelly, who cut the timber and blew out the stumps. The government graded the road. Ray Newberry, who kept the logbook kept at the Lake McDonald Ranger Station during this period recorded the road's progress from November 1932 until it was graded by the government in August 1933. Logbook is in the GNPA.

[118] *Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North.*

While the 100% purchases, as they came to be called, cleared many buildings from the lake shore at Apgar in the early 1930s, the influx of ready cash prompted the type of development the government had hoped to squelch. The premium paid on lakefront parcels in an effort to clear all houses from the shore line allowed some Apgar residents, like the Greenwalts, Sibleys, Swetnams, and Powells, to buy inland parcels from Howes and the Apgars to rebuild houses and develop new businesses during the Great Depression.[119] Jessie Apgar Haworth's holdings west of the Apgar Loop Road had the greatest commercial potential. She offered to sell her 5.5-acre parcel of 18 lots south of the old bridge road to the government's agent "on the same basis as . . .she sold adjoining properties to the Belton Mercantile Company and Greenwalt [for] approximately $57,000."[120] Haworth also owned the six-acre tract north of the road with an additional 23 lots of varying sizes as well as the Apgar resort of six guest cabins, the main log cabin, and a frame cabin with associated outbuildings. Solinsky could afford to purchase neither for the government, and they were bought mainly by Apgar residents. Haworth's tracts west of the road are where all of Apgar's surviving inholder businesses are located today, including Eddie Brewster's store, now Eddie's Café, which opened in 1948.[121] Apgar residents built new houses and businesses in the 1930s and 1940s, so that by 1957, Apgar had "many new homes" and "modern accommodations for tourists."[122] At least three owners built new frame tourist cabins and motels on interior parcels. While the park service considered many of these businesses undesirable, Lake McDonald's inholders furnished accommodations sought by park visitors that the park, in the cash-strapped Depression-era economy, could neither build nor manage.

In contrast, little building occurred at the family-owned camps around the lake during the Depression. And, these properties, located mainly at the head of the lake, at Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites, and northeast of the hotel running up to the developing Greve's Cabins property, were largely insulated from the increasing auto traffic and consequent commercial activity going on around them. At the head of the lake and near the hotel, changes in ownership rather than building predominated. In 1929, with James Conlon's health failing, the three-man trust owning the old Geduhn homestead subdivided the property into three parts.[123] Conlon's widow, Mary, sold her portion as well as the lot where they had built their summer house earlier to the government on a 50% purchase in 1939. This purchase was among many investigated by the National Park Service in 1939, when the National Park Service's purchasing agents were found to have overvalued property to encourage owners to sell.[124] H. Earl Clack, a successful oil business man from Havre, bought the six-acre Nolan property in 1933. Another Havre business family, the Broadwaters, bought one of R..E. McDonnell's three new cabins built from salvage logs in 1935. Constructed after the Half Moon Fire, these three cabins were among the last log cabins built by an inholder on Lake McDonald. McDonnell's new cabins, built by Eddie Cruger, closely resembled the other one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled, shake-roofed cabins in the row along the bluff, demonstrating the continued desirability of a simple rustic retreat even among the well-to-do. Generally, though, after the fire, frame construction quickly superseded the traditional material.

W.C. Whipps's children sold "Wissahickon" to Anna Aronow in 1935.[125] Boris and Anna Aronow lived in

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[119] Horace Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, 50.
[120] Solinsky to Director of the Park Service, 10 November 1930. *Land Acquisitions, 1925-1951*. File No.610-01. (GNPA)
[121] "The Brewsters," *History of Apgar*, 5.
[122] Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, 47.
[123] Jess LaDow, Interview by author, 22 and 24 July 2005. *Abstract of Title of Jesse A. LaDow*, 1940.
[124] This investigation was carried out in1939 and the report published in 1940.
[125] *Plat Book for Section 11, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*.

Shelby, where they were involved in the oil business.[126] In 1939, Jack Hoag purchased the "big house" and associated cabins from Clarabelle Geduhn.[127]

Although gas rationing during World War II dealt harshly with tourist businesses on Lake McDonald, all of the resorts survived lean times. Wartime shortages may have affected owners of family camps less, as many made their way there throughout the war years. For Jess LaDow, the only summer he has not spent on Lake McDonald was one spent in the service.[128] Members of the families have strong and happy memories of summers spent at the head of Lake McDonald during the 1930s, 1940s, and early 1950s. A well-worn footpath running from the Wheelers' camp west of the ranger station to the LaDows' at the inlet connected the camps. Among them, there were more than twenty youngsters, born between the years 1915 and about 1930, and they were together constantly, fishing, hiking, swimming, and socializing. The older ones also visited the old Lewis hotel, now renamed Lake McDonald Hotel and operated by the Great Northern Railway, for social events like dances, lectures, meals, and concerts.[129] As this generation married and began having children in the late 1940s, they brought their families to the camps at the head of Lake McDonald. This precipitated building new cabins, renovating or replacing old ones, and even realignment of boundaries and ownership for some properties during the ensuing decades. At Kelly's Camp, several Indiana families became regular visitors from the late 1930s through the 1950s, in addition to the Hatalsans from California, who were related to the Chadbournes. In the 1950s and 1960s, there could be as many as 40 children around Kelly's Camp, drawn from the Kelly's cabins, tent platforms at Hollybourne, the National Park Service's Sprague Creek campground, and Boses' Inwood motel and cabins across the lake and north of the Lake McDonald Lodge.[130] At the foot of the lake, where there were fewer family-owned seasonal camps by this period, another social set included the Sherwoods, Grubers, and Athearns.

Apgar was primarily a year round home for most property owners well into the 1950s. Their houses and businesses mostly occupied inland lots on both the east and west sides of the outlet and were connected by a wooden bridge. Tourist accommodation was Apgar's economic mainstay. By the post-war period, offerings included the Cooper-Powell Cabins on the south side of the old bridge road near the creek[131] and the Greenwalt cabins and motel east of the Belton Road and south of the lake road. Just over the old bridge on the west side, there was the Nyberg cabin resort with five or six cabins built in the late 1930s.[132] Behind the Nyberg cabins, "Blondie" Sunell built a frame motel in the late 1940s. Sunell was one of several Apgar residents who worked construction on the Hungry Horse Dam in the winters.[133] Curtis M. Blair, who came to the area in the winter of 1915-1916 at the behest of friends and park employees Ray and Gordon Price, bought several parcels flanking the old bridge road beginning in the early 1930s. He built a house and five cabins,[134] which stood on the east side of the road, beginning near the access road to the former Gruber camp near the outlet and running along the road almost to the sharp bend turning north to follow the shore. Most of the Blair cabins were small, brown-stained log cabins with white trim, but there were also some frame ones, too. While generally built for summer use, men

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[126] Marion Wheeler Scott (b.1925), Interview by author, 22 July 2005.
[127] *Plat Book for Section 1, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*.
[128] Jess LaDow, Interview by author, 22 and 24 July 2005.
[129] Interviews by author of Marian Wheeler Scott, Elinor Gudger Parks, Jess LaDow. July 2005.
[130] Susan Medlicott and Bill Price. Interview by author, 22 June 2005.
[131] James Grist, e-mail to author, 19 December 2005.
[132] *Plat Book for Section 23, Township 32 West, Range 19 North,* and James Grist to author via e-mail, 19 December 2005.
[133] *Plat Book for Section 23, Township 32 West, Range 19 North*, and James Grist to author via e-mail, 19 December 2005.
[134] [Mr. Blair], *History of Apgar*, 12.

working on the Hungry Horse Dam in the 1940s and 1950s rented some of them year round.[135] In 1947, Blair and his wife Clara filed a subdivision for 12 lots along the west side of the old bridge road.[136] Several of these were bought by people who had rented Blair's cabins and came mainly from towns along the Great Northern Railway's High Line.[137] After the Blairs sold the property in 1956, the park used the cabins for some time as seasonal housing. The park also acquired the Nyberg cabins and the Sunell motel. All were demolished in the 1960s.[138]

In addition to seasonal houses on the west side of the outlet, some park employees built permanent houses in the 1940s. H.D. Apgar's son Dimon "Dimie" and his wife, Dot, sold Dwight Grist, a seasonal park ranger, and his wife, Margaret, six acres with a partially built house along Apgar Creek in 1947. The Grists completed the one-and-a-half-story frame house with clipped gables and a cobblestone foundation, making it a year round residence. By the early 1950s, Dwight Grist became a permanent park employee. Soon after he died in a car accident on Route 2 in 1959, the park acquired all the surrounding land, except where the house and garages stand, as part of the plan to build the Camas Road and move the bridge over the creek further south.[139] On the same side of the road going toward Apgar village, two additional park employee families, John and Harriet Walsh and Roy and Dorothy Price, built houses.[140] These were transferred to the park in 1960 and 1956 respectively. The post-war park policy of disallowing employees to own property in the park helped eliminate year round dwellings in Apgar in this period; hardly anyone else could live so remotely because there were few jobs. The Grist House is a singular survival. Moving the bridge over the creek further south in the mid-1960s bypassed the cabin resorts and the Sunell motel on the west side of the outlet and sealed their fates.[141]

Of the Apgar family buildings, five log cabins that once stood along the lake front are now incorporated into the tourist cabin group associated with the Apgar Village Lodge. The cabins now have masonry foundations, the logs are peeled and stained, and the joints are daubed with cement, but retain the buildings retain sash and doors dating to their construction at the turn of the twentieth century. The property is part of a larger parcel bounded on the east by the road to Apgar landing and on the south by the old North Fork Road, which was owned by H.D. and Jessie Apgar. After H.D.'s death in 1922, she married Roy Haworth. Misfortune pursued her son, "Dimie" Apgar, who married Dorothy Mae Doucette in 1936. He was badly injured flying a small plane at Apgar in 1944 and never fully recovered. Their daughter, Susan, died as a toddler of injuries sustained when a pile of lumber collapsed on her in 1947. The Apgars moved away in the late 1940s or early 1950s and began selling their property to pay family expenses. The government demolished the big cabin where H.D. and Jessie raised their family in the mid-1950s. On the lakeshore in front of the Apgar cabins, Bill and Jeanette Apgar Mackin opened the two-story, frame Village Inn motel in 1956.[142]

The density and use of inholder recreational properties on Lake McDonald retained much of the configuration it had achieved by the late 1930s through the mid-1950s. In Glacier, the park administration was

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[135] *Plat Book for Section 23, Township 32 West, Range 19 North* and *Plat Book for Section 14, Township 32 West, Range 19 North*, and James Grist, e-mail to author, 19 December 2005.

[136] *Subdivision Book "B," Blair's Cottage Sites Subdivision.*

[137] Judy Sargent, Interview by author, 22 June 2005. Mrs. Sargent has been coming to Lake McDonald since about 1949. Her father, Fenton Burgess, and another man, Clarence Hawkes, owned the property she now owns. It is across Grist Road from the subdivision.

[138] James Grist, e-mail to author, 19 December 2005.

[139] James Grist, e-mail to author, 16 November 2005.

[140] James Grist, e-mail to author, 19 December 2005.

[141] James Grist, e-mail to author, 16 November 2005.

[142] Mike Apgar, "The Apgars of Apgar (Montana)." Unpublished manuscript. Provided to author, December 2005.

developing its own amenities for the automobile visitor and working with concessioners to develop accommodations ranging from car camp grounds to housekeeping cabins. As the generations shifted in the late 1950s and early 1960s, many inholder businesses around Lake McDonald ceased operations. Among inholders, the government continued to acquire property, diminishing the number of private property owners, most especially among family camp owners and the small businesses and year round dwellings in Apgar. Six seasonal lakefront cabins remain east of the village, each built on one of Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites.[143] The earliest and easternmost of these is Gus Aubert's log cabin, which he preserved from the Half Moon Fire of 1929. On the next lot west is the former Mars Camp, a Rustic-style frame camp typical of those built soon after the fire. The main cabins at the Bunday, Bottomly, and Schoknecht camps were all replaced in the 1960s and 1970s with simple Mid-Century Modern cabins using plate glass, milled lumber, and wood laminates brought from outside the park. The westernmost camp, the Salansky camp, is somewhat earlier with its milled log siding. Except for the Aubert Cabin, these illustrate the development phase following the Half Moon Fire, when new buildings were constructed using materials brought in from outside the park. Once the park administration had cleared the burned cedar forest, timber operations resulting in building logs all but ceased within the park. This eliminated the most popular building material of the pre-1930 period.

At Kelly's, the oldest surviving tourist cabin camp, Verne Kelly died of leukemia in 1958. His widow Helen and their daughters Jean Kellenbeck Burk and Joan Berry ran Kelly's Camp with little change for a few more years. In 1962, Helen Kelly began to sell open lots carved out between existing buildings.[144] The new owners built relatively small buildings set back among the trees, sited in the earlier tradition. Two years later, the family began selling individual cabins to people who were longtime members of the Kelly's Camp "family."[145] By the end of 1969, the ten rental cabins and the Kellys' own Big House were all individually owned, some by Kelly descendants. Because they were sold to regular visitors, however, the camp still operates as a community where people have known each for many, many years.

The most pronounced architectural changes in the post-World War II period occurred along the west shore north of Apgar. In the Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites subdivision, multi-lot properties were broken into their component lots and new owners holding one or two lots mingled with the descendants of James W. Sherwood and Marcus Gruber. (Charlie Russell died in 1926 without children.) While owners at Blair's Cottage Sites platted just across the creek from Apgar used builders plans based in the Colonial Revival style popularized between the wars, the more *avant-garde* buying the larger lakefront lots looked to designs influenced by the International Style. Some of these cabins were a radical departure from earlier Lake McDonald buildings. During 1950s and 1960s, these newcomers built new cabins with new forms using new materials. These eight cabins have in common frame construction, rectilinear forms, and simple detailing. Most have strongly horizontal designs emphasized by open decks, ribbons of windows, and flat or low-pitched roofs. They combine post-war building materials like textured plywood or board-and-batten siding; large, plate glass sash and casement windows; laminated wood trusses; and poured concrete foundations. These were often visually prominent from the lake. As a group, they illustrate the marked change in recreational cabin design among the era's tastemakers. By the early 1980s, there were ten recreational camps, eight with post-war main cabins, including two built by Gruber heirs in the 1980s to replace the

[143] The Bunday Camp is now owned by the government, and Robert Grisley retains a life estate.
[144] *Plat Book for Section 15, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*
[145] Bill and Sue Medlicott Price, Interview with author, 22 June 2005.

old cabin and a cabin built by Dr. A.A. Dodge to replace an earlier one on his property.[146]

Their designs retained important components of the cabin: the porch providing an intermediate space between interior space and the outdoors, the stone chimney for the central hearth of the main living space, and simple lines. But the porch became a prominent open deck projecting beyond the trees and reducing the sense of retreat of older cabin sitings. Wide, low-slung, perfectly squared chimneys of quarried stone replaced the rough-laid cobblestone chimneys built by local men. Flat roofs and broad expanses of glass on the lakeside completed the horizontal orientation of these cabins' designs.

The innovation at Apgar's Glacier Park Villa Sites contrasts with the kinds of changes made to family camps near the hotel and at the head of the lake. Here, where ownership passed from one generation to the next within families with second, third, and even fourth generation ownership on Lake McDonald, architectural innovation was minimal. New guest cabins as well as alterations and additions have generally been simple, single-story, frame construction with gable roofs and regular fenestration plans, often more utilitarian than stylish. A few allude to the Swiss chalet style, a holdover from the earlier period. In all cases where the older cabins survive, they hold center stage.[147] Several of these properties like the Wheeler Camp, the LaDow Geduhn's Resort Camp, and the cabins northeast of the hotel are surrounded by open lawn shaded by occasional mature trees, a landscape tendency still popular in the first half of the twentieth century. Practically, the open area allowed light into the cabins in a time before electric lights were used in many of these buildings. More important, however, it was an aesthetic rooted in the naturalistic park designs of the romantic period of the nineteenth century. The lawn was a small buffer, a middle landscape between the domesticity of the cabin, however rustic, and wilderness of the surrounding forest.

[146] James Grist, e-mail to author, 21 January 2006.
[147] At the Geduhn Resort (LaDow) property, only two of the original nine guest cabins still stand. The others were lost to foundation rot.

Rustic camp architecture around Lake McDonald, 1892-1956

A log cabin alluded to homesteading and rustic simplicity. Until the early 1930s, logs were easily cut around Lake McDonald. Western red cedar was the preferred choice, although western larch (tamarack), spruce, and even the occasional cottonwood log were used to raise the notched log walls of early log buildings in the area. While the cabins built for the early cabin resorts by Frank Geduhn and H.D. Apgar used the same construction techniques as those they built when they staked their claims, even the smallest of the recreational camp cabins were more spacious and owed something of their forms, proportions, and decorative features to the rustic version of the popular Craftsman style.

Recreational cabins on Lake McDonald, like those on other lakes, put their handsomest face, or front, to the water, as the lake was their reason for existence. Builders used both side-gabled and frontal gable forms. While many cabins had rectangular plans, others had T-plans or L-plans with cross-gabled roofs. In some cases, the wings were lower than the main block. The bulk of the cabins built around Lake McDonald had log foundations, most using vertical piers or "butts." A smaller proportion had stone foundations, and a few rested directly on the earth. For cabins set on sloping ground, builders constructed banked foundations or piers of graduating height, with the back sill at grade and the front wall and porch raised and reached by a flight of steps. Hand-split cedar shakes from nearby trees were the preferred roofing material and generally supported by log purlins which projected beyond the cabin walls to support deep eaves.

All recreational log cabins had front porches spanning part, or all, of the main block; some had back porches too. The front porch provided a sheltered intermediate living space set between the dark cabin interior and the outdoors with a view of the lake. On frontal gable block cabins, the roofline was simply extended over the porch deck. Many builders placed decorative motifs—lattices or sunbursts—composed of unpeeled logs—in the open gable end above the porch. On side-gabled buildings, the front porch might have its own shed roof, pitched differently from the main roof, or the porch might be recessed beneath the plane of the main roof like many bungalow houses of the early twentieth century. Back porches were more utilitarian: there might be a dry sink, benches for taking off boots, shelves for storage. These generally opened into the kitchen, set at the back of the cabin or in a wing.

The front, or lakeside, portion of these cabins included a large, open space used as the main living area. Most individually owned family cabins incorporated native stone chimneys placed on an exterior wall with a large hearth opening onto this main common space. In rental cabins built in resorts like Geduhn's and Kelly's, less costly stoves with metal stovepipes prevailed. Stairs climbed to an open sleeping loft in the upper half story. Under the loft, there might be one or two enclosed bed chambers.

Builders adzed most of the round profile on the interior sides of the logs of most cabins built in the pre-1930 period and then tacked narrow cedar strips over the spaces. This created a smooth, wood interior surface. On the outside, builders daubed the spaces between logs with local mud to seal the building. Interior walls were usually lightly framed, often clad in beadboard or planks. Family cabins were often furnished with American Indian rugs, rustic twig furniture, and the mounted heads of local animals like grizzly bears, mountain goats, and elk. Rental cabins tended to be furnished with easily replaced items bought from the mercantile, like iron beds and factory tables and chairs. With several mills in nearby Columbia Falls, most builders used stock multi-light sash and casements for windows. Some also used stock paneled doors, occasionally sheathing them in tree bark to enhance the rustic character of the building. Some builders constructed unusually wide, heavy doors and used custom

hardware designed to look rough and heavy to match the overall aesthetic.

Additions and changes made in the post-World War II period brought plumbing and increased privacy to pre-1930 log cabins. Plumbing often employed rudimentary exterior pipes that were drained in winter. Many owners partitioned the sleeping loft into bedrooms and added dormer windows to let light into the new rooms. In an effort to improve the cabin's protection from harsh weather, the earlier sliding and double-hung sash and multi-light casements were sometimes replaced with single-light casements with insulated glass. Several owners have extended the front porch beyond the roof's projection, adding open decks, and often glazing the original porch to create more interior space.

In addition to the main cabin, all camps had ancillary buildings. Every camp had at least one privy. The earliest ones appear to have been built using notched logs, just like their associated cabins. Most early camps also had stables for wagon horses and sometimes also pack horses. By the 1930s, many camps also had garages. Root cellars were dug into the earth and faced with a log wall breached by a heavy door, to protect food from spoilage or theft by bears. By the 1920s, a growing number of cabin resorts and private camps used generators to provide light in the evenings. Small, squarish buildings, these were usually built on poured concrete foundations protecting against sparking and explosion. With the strong orientation to the lake, many camps had boathouses and docks. Wood sheds protected firewood from the damp. Even when plumbing was introduced to many camps, laundry and bathing were placed in buildings separate from the main cabin, sometimes reusing an earlier structure. As second generations matured and had families, some private camps added guest cabins to their properties.

In most cases, private individuals had stopped building with logs by the early 1940s. The Half Moon Fire devastated the cedar forest at the foot of the lake, which had provided building materials to homestead owners there since the 1890s. Those rebuilding houses and businesses in the 1930s turned to frame construction using materials brought into the park, although some cabins during that decade using logs salvaged from older buildings.

In the post-war era, nearly all new private building used frame construction. Like their pre-war predecessors, these were modest buildings, usually a story-and-a-half tall and constructed using relatively inexpensive materials. Their designs used traditional gable-roofed forms interpreted for the builders' market. Deep-eaved roofs with exposed rafter tails and plain board trim around windows and doors were often the only details. Builders, rather than architects, probably designed and built these. They favored easily available materials, sometimes trying new post-war materials for walls and roofs, like asphalt and pressed board shingles. Among those whose families had long histories in Glacier, milled log siding was favored, probably because it more closely resembled the older log cabins. People continued to use factory sash and doors. The cabins built at Blair's Cottage Sites west of Apgar, having no lake view, dispensed with the open lake side porch.

Mid-century Modern Camp Architecture around Lake McDonald, 1945-1970

Rustic Style cabin designs gave way to Mid-century Modern ones in the post-war period, particularly among new land owners around Lake McDonald, but also among a few of the families long established on its shores. New owners clustered at Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites, where the large, multi-lot properties were divided into their component lots. At the Head of the Lake, Jess LaDow replaced one of the remaining Geduhn resort cabins with a Mid-Century Modern cabin. Similarly, owners of some Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites lots replaced older buildings with cabins designed in the new idiom. These new cabins used the same aesthetic guiding urban and suburban domestic architecture of the time, which grew out of ideas proposed by architects like Frank Lloyd Wright in the pre-war era. Some of these owners appear to have worked with architects to design

these cabins so radically different from earlier ones. Others probably used plans published as this aesthetic grew more popular during the 1960s and 1970s. As a group, these cabins illustrate the marked change in recreational cabin design among the era's tastemakers.

The new cabin designs generally had a strong horizontal emphasis. Most are single-story buildings or composed of single-story blocks. Non-traditional forms, including flat roofs and compartmentalized plans of cascading blocks, combined with newly available materials, like plate glass windows, laminated roof trusses, textured plywood siding, and poured concrete piers. Others had frontal gables entirely glazed in plate glass oriented to the lake. Open decks replaced the earlier roofed porches, moving the new cabins' intermediate spaces beyond the protection of the cabin walls. Several of these new cabins were sited to project into the shared viewshed of the lake rather than to recede into the wooded shoreline. For some, convenience was also important. Up-to-date appliances and indoor plumbing were standard. Jess LaDow remarked that he decided to replace his cabin with a "house." While retaining the setting and feeling of the earlier cabins, the Mid-Century Modern cabins brought post-War utility and convenience to the wilderness.

F. Associated Property Types

Recreational camp development around Lake McDonald began in the early 1890s with cabin resorts opened at both ends of the lake. Resorts were owned and developed by an individual or family to provide accommodation for visitors. In contrast, by the early 1900s, individual families began buying lake front lots from the homesteaders around the shore line, where they built private camps for their own use. Both property types, unlike the hotels developed by the Great Northern Railway on the east side of the park or even Lewis's Glacier Hotel near the head of Lake McDonald, were invariably modest and self-reliant, as there was no electricity, running water, and even roads to them. Depending upon location within the park, many were built using logs cut locally and stones drawn from the surrounding streams.

At different locations around the lake, the survival rate of both types of properties varies due to historical and environmental events and the execution of park policy. At Apgar, where the largest number of resorts was once concentrated, the smallest proportion of such properties exists today. Away from the Going-to-the-Sun Road, at the head of the lake and on the west side, the survival rate is high. Moreover, many of the latter camps are still owned by the families who first developed them. Of the remainder, most are owned by descendants of people who bought these properties before World War II. Thus, continuity of ownership and remoteness from the road system developed by the park administration play determining roles in the survival of these camps, whether designed as resorts or individual family properties.

Cabin Resorts

Resorts were the earliest recreational camps on Lake McDonald. All were built over a few years by local residents to capitalize on the demand for accommodation by the increasing number of tourists to the area. Possibly as early as 1892, homesteader Frank Geduhn offered rustic cabin accommodation at the head of the lake. He was followed by the Apgar family, also homesteaders, who built about five rustic cabins east of the McDonald Creek at the foot of the lake. Both properties included individual log cabins and, by about 1900, also provided meals in a larger lodge or dining cabin. Privies, root cellars, wash houses, and later, generators, provided basic amenities. Two other homesteader families, the Howeses and the Comeaus, also accommodated early visitors, although in less developed settings with only a cabin or two or platform tents. These early resorts attracted mainly long term visitors. It took time and money that few could afford at the period except the well-to-do.

As vacationing became part of more and more Americans' lives, auto tourism and the short term stay grew more common, others entered the market in the 1920s and 1930s. Over the years, these later cabin resorts began attracting their own became long-term return visitors, much like the people at the older resorts. These later tourist cabin camps included at least two additional families in the Apgar area—the Powells and the Greenwalts. The Greves and the Boses located north of the Lake McDonald Lodge on the Going-to-the-Sun Road. Homesteaders Frank and Emmeline Kelly built cabins almost directly across the lake from the Lodge.

Like the Apgars and Geduhn before him, Frank Kelly constructed rustic log cabins. The others built frame tourist cabins. Both Kelly's Camp and Greve's Tourist Cabins illustrate the pattern of the period, with individual cabins—about eight or ten plainly built and furnished units—designed for family use. Each had a small kitchen, a main room, and sleeping quarters. At Kelly's, the Big House served as a common recreational space, much like a lodge in a more luxurious setting. The Greves' main cabin, built earlier than the rest of that site, may have served the same purpose.

Remote from the amenities offered by the twentieth century, the cabin resorts used nineteenth century

technologies not requiring connection with a larger distribution system. Guests used privies and communal wash houses until well into the 1950s, when individual cabins were plumbed for toilets and showers. Generators provided electricity for lighting, but cookstoves and heating stoves were stoked with wood. In tourist cabins, less costly stoves and pipes rather than custom built cobblestone fireplaces prevailed. At Kelly's Camp, there is still no power except that provided by generators and the turbine set in Kelly's Creek.

On Lake McDonald, Greve's Tourist Cabins and Kelly's Camp provide a very complete sense of how such resorts looked during the period of significance, although the former has lain unused for twenty years and the latter has been divided into small parcels based on the cabin locations. At Geduhn's two of the nine cabins survive and the locations of two additional ones, including the hotel, are marked by replacements. All retain aspects of massing, density, workmanship, and materials that clearly identify their origins as cabins resorts dating to the period.

Cabin resorts will usually meet the registration requirements if they retain an overall sense of the plan, or setting, of the resort and if the buildings dating to the period of the resort's activity generally retain integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship. In some cases, surviving resort sites are now used as family camps, and alterations made to accommodate individual family use should be considered as part of the historical development of the property. In such cases, changes to the integrity of design of individual buildings and the overall setting of the site are better considered as integral to the history of the property and as contributing to an overall understanding of how cabin resorts evolved into family properties in the post-World War II era. These changes have, after all, preserved these properties through their continued use.

Single Family Camps

As homesteaders gained title to their claims in the years following the land survey in the fall of 1904, they found eager buyers of small lake front lots among the growing number of summer visitors to Lake McDonald. These visitors came from a variety of places, including Montana, Kansas, and North Dakota. All sought a simple, easy-to-care-for retreat with a minimum of fuss or ostentation. Most built modest log cabins in the tradition of the homesteaders' cabin resorts. All family cabins built before the Half Moon Fire of 1929 appear to have been built of logs, while after that, logs were less commonly used until the supply of salvage apparently ran out. Even the most modest of the family cabins were larger and more stylish than their resort counterparts. Most families built large stone fireplaces in the main room, and prominent external cobblestone chimneys usually distinguish these from cabins built for resorts. Lake side porches were often more articulated, with elaborate rustic railings or stone kneewalls, steps, and flagged porch floors. Individual family camps dating to the pre-World War II period often include an array of outbuildings including privies, generator houses, boat houses, wash houses, stables and garages, and additional guest cabins, all designed to facilitate long term stays with limited access to amenities or luxuries beyond the lake's shores.

Among the early family cabins are Charlie Russell's Bullhead Lodge and James W. Sherwood's Sherwood Lodge at the foot of the lake. Also dating to the 1905 to 1920 period are the Thomas J. Walsh Lodge and W.C. Whipps's "Wissahickon" at the north end of the lake. On the east shore, other individuals, including F.P. Thorne and Robert McDonnell, built cabins during this era. McDonnell added three more log cabins, built from salvaged logs, in this area in 1935. By then, however, few private owners had access to logs, and so most new cabins were frame buildings.

After World War II, building tastes shifted considerably and several new property owners around Lake McDonald chose to build radically different cabins from their predecessors. Most of these Mid-Century Modern-style cabins occupied lots hitherto not built upon. Their stylistic inspiration came from the International Style and

the work of American architects like Frank Lloyd Wright, the Eameses, and Robert Eichler. They took advantage of new building technologies, including poured concrete, wood laminates, and plate glass to create wholly different cabins. These emphasized horizontal lines with flat, or low-pitched, roofs, open decks, and rows of plate glass windows spanning the lakeside façade. Even their low, broad chimneys were as horizontal as a necessarily vertical element could be. Unlike earlier cabins, several projected beyond the treeline into the lake's viewshed. In addition, some earlier camp owners replaced a few decaying cabins with such buildings, although these are generally less elaborate articulations of the new style. At the north end of the lake, Jess LaDow replaced Cabin 2 at Geduhn's, as did three owners in the Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites subdivision at the foot of the lake. These family cabins retained some of the essentials of their pre-war counterparts, like a lakeside porch, now an open deck, and a stone hearth with a prominent exterior stone chimney. Unlike earlier cabins, however, they were furnished with many modern conveniences like indoor plumbing, electric lights, laundry machines, and up-to-date kitchens. Owners of these cabins did not plan on "roughing it."

Single family camps will usually meet the registration requirements if they retain an overall sense of the plan, or setting, as well as a generally high integrity of individual buildings' location, design, materials, and workmanship. As many of the buildings encompassed by these camp properties are more traditional in plan and construction than high style examples, stylistic detailing is of less importance than integrity of workmanship, materials, location, setting, and feeling. For properties with history of use extending back to the first half of the twentieth century, individual families have altered buildings for their continued use. Such changes should be considered as integral to the history of the property and as contributing to an overall understanding of how such properties have evolved in the post-World War II era. These changes have, after all, preserved these properties through their continued use. For camps developed in the post-World War II era, these will only meet the registration requirements if they are unusually strong and well-designed examples showing the shift to the Mid-Century Modern style popular in the 1950s and 1960s. Later camps not meeting this requirement should be reviewed for eligibility after they pass their fiftieth anniversaries.

G. Geographical Data

The geographical area encompasses the land lying between shoreline of Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park and the Going-to-the-Sun Road, the Apgar Loop Road, Grist Road, and Kelly's Camp Road. Lake McDonald its environs are located in Flathead County, Montana.

H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

The multiple property listing of recreational camps around Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana, is based on a survey and research carried out in 2005 by Jessie Ravage. The survey reviewed 65 individual properties with recreational buildings and associated structures, most of which were identified in a 1980 Historic Structures Survey conducted by James R. McDonald. These properties were identified using tax maps and later located on USGS quads. Further research about individual properties and clusters of properties was carried out using archival materials in the Glacier National Park Archives, in Flathead County Court Records, and in various other repositories in Montana and Kansas. In addition, about 20 property owners and lessees of Lake McDonald recreational camps were interviewed during the summer of 2005.

Four contexts were identified. These are: Homesteads around Lake McDonald, 1891-1917; Patterns of Recreational Camp Development around Lake McDonald, 1892-1970; Rustic camp architecture around Lake McDonald, 1892-1956; and Mid-century Modern Camp Architecture around Lake McDonald, 1945-1970. These

contexts overlay one another chronologically, and most properties reviewed conform to more than one of the contexts in a layered history of related events and development.

The registration requirements take into account the layered nature of the recreational camp properties' development as well the properties' comparative rarity as surviving recreational camps within a national park. During the fall of 2005 and the winter of 2005-2006, National Register nominations were drafted for nine historic districts and two individual properties. Inventory forms for 21 properties found to not meet the registration requirements were also prepared.

Because of funding constraints and management objectives, this document does not provide an in-depth analysis of all resources connected with this context, particularly cultural landscape features and historic archeological sites. These will need to be documented and evaluated in future research. For the same reasons, the focus of the context also was limited to a local level of significance. Future research, placing these Recreation Camps in a broader context, may permit expanding the level of significance.

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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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Historic District

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: East side of Grist Rd; W shore of Lake McDonald, Glacier National Park

not for publication: n/a

city/town: West Glacier **vicinity: X**

state: Montana **code:** MT **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 _ 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

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
_____ 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)		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private; Public-federal

Category of Property: District

Number of contributing resources previously listed In the National Register: 2

Name of related multiple property listing:
Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970

Number of Resources		
Contributing	**Non-contributing**	
7	4	**building(s)**
		site(s)
		structure(s)
		objects(s)
7	4	**TOTAL**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: Camp

Current Function:

DOMESTIC: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: Mid-Century Modern Style
OTHER: Rustic Style

MATERIALS:
Foundation: concrete
Walls: log, frame
Roof: metal, asphalt shingles, pebble
Other: stone, brick

Narrative Description:

The Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Historic District is located on the west side of Lake McDonald slightly north of the lake's outlet, McDonald Creek, in Glacier National Park. The district encompasses 30 lots of the Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites subdivision, taking in slightly more than a third of a mile of shoreline. All but two of the lots have 50 feet of lake frontage, but the lots vary in depth from about 300 feet to 500 feet, and some owners have added land at the back of the lots extending their property up the unpaved road paralleling the lakeshore and ending at the north end of the district.

The district's landscape is largely wooded with a variety of native conifers, including small pockets of old growth western red cedar trees that escaped both the builder's axe and three wildland fires over the past century. Along the entire shore in this area, the land slopes upward roughly 20 feet from the pebble beach edging the lake to a shallow terrace where people built recreational cabins hidden among the first ranks of trees fringing the water. The land then slopes upward another 50 feet at the north end of the district to a second shallow terrace where the unpaved access road runs along the backs of the lots. In this part of the district, steep drives hairpin into the camps. Running south through the district, this second slope diminishes to almost nothing. The road veers away from the lakeshore, and the drives leading to these camps wind gently through the woods to reach the water and camp buildings along the shore.

See continuation pages for Section 7

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): Criterion G
Significant Person(s):
Cultural Affiliation: European-American

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation; Architecture
Period(s) of Significance: ca.1908-1970
Significant Dates: ca.1953, 1962
Architect/Builder: unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C as a representative example of recreational camp development on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. Three of the properties in the district are considered eligible under Criterion G as properties less than 50 years old with unusual significance. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Document (MPD) for "Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1895-1970" provides the historic context for the development of such wilderness recreational properties. The six camps included in this district were developed on building lots platted and filed in 1914 by H.D. and Jessie Apgar as Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites. The first formal subdivision on Lake McDonald, these lots sold in blocks to wealthy people at a time when few others could afford a vacation home. After World War II, some of these properties were divided into their component lots and sold to other people, while other owners sold to the government, and the cabins were demolished. The majority of cabins on these properties illustrate the shift in the 1950s away from traditionally designed rustic style cabins to the Mid-century Modern style. New post-war property owners built cabins using large expanses of glass, laminated wood beams, flat or low-pitched roofs, and outdoor decks. Some of the Mid-Century designs within the district are less than 50-years old, but they share both historical and architectural characteristics with the properties older than 50 years. Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Historic District represents a continuation of the development patterns that have spanned private property ownership and includes the only grouping of this style of cabins built on Lake McDonald.

Summary History of Development

Milo B. Apgar (1844-1896) claimed the homestead encompassing this district soon after his arrival at Lake McDonald in June 1891. Located west of the McDonald Creek outlet at the foot of the lake, the 140.3-acre homestead lay in Sections 14 and 23 in Township 32 West, Range 19 North. The ninth child of Samuel R. Apgar, Milo was born in Peruville, Tompkins County, New York. He married Diane Jeanette Dimon. The couple moved west to Minnesota, probably in the post-Civil War era, following the predominant pattern of western migration from central New York State of the period.[1] They raised three children—Esli Mortimer (1864-1932), Phoebe (b.1867), and Harvey Dimon (b.20 October 1869 in Excelsior, Minnesota; d.1922) in Minnesota before moving farther west to Great Falls, Montana.[2] According to family history, "H.D." or "Dimie" joined his parents at Lake McDonald in 1895, and Milo died in 1896 before he received a patent for his claim.

See continuation pages for Section 8

[1] Lynn Conley, Apgar Family Assocaiation, e-mail to author, 30 November 2005. Central New York State was part of what became a corridor of westward movement begun by New England outmigrants in the post-Revolutionary era. General stages along the way were western New York State in the 1820s, Ohio in the 1830s, the I-states in the 1840s, and the upper Midwestern states in the post-Civil War era.

[2] Lynn Conley, Apgar Family Association, e-mail to author, 30 November 2005. Mike Apgar provided H.D.'s birth date in the *History of Apgar* on p.4.

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation pages

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 # _____**

Primary Location of Additional Data:

___ **State Historic Preservation Office**
___ **Other State agency**
_x_ **Federal agency:** Glacier National Park Archives
___ **Local government**
___ **University**
___ **Other – National Archives, Denver**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 7.5-7.75 acres

UTM References:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
(NAD27)	12	278896	5379770

Verbal Boundary Description

Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Historic District encompasses Lots 9 through 26 in Block 1 and Lots 1 through 4 in Block 2 of Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Subdivision platted between Grist Road and Lake McDonald on the west side of the lake. The subdivision is located in Section 14, Township 32 North, Range 19 West.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the portion of Milo B. Apgar's homestead platted as Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites by his son H.D. Apgar that was primarily developed in the post-World War II era mostly by newcomers to Lake McDonald. These people built second homes, or seasonal cabins, on previously undeveloped lots using Mid-Century Modern designs. The boundary also encompasses the previously listed Bullhead Lodge.

11. Form Prepared By

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Property Owners

See continuation pages

Additional Documentation

See continuation pages, photographs, and maps

The district encompasses six recreational family camps built by inholders during the period ca1908 to 1975. The main cabins at these properties have in common frame construction, strongly rectilinear forms, and simple detailing. Some are single-story buildings retaining the traditional placement of earlier cabins set back among the trees rather than projecting beyond the forest into the lake's viewshed, while others do. Flat roofs predominate, as do building materials popular in the post-war period like textured plywood siding; large, single-light casements and fixed sash; poured concrete foundations; and laminated wood trusses. Most have prominent, strongly rectilinear masonry chimneys. Several capitalize on their sloping sites and use plans that step down the bank, with the lower portion of the building projecting beyond the upper part. The following descriptions start at the north end of the district with the Athearn Cabin and work their way south to the Alderson Cabin.

The **Athearn Cabin** property occupies Lots 9 and 10 in Block 1 of the subdivision. It is reached by a drive descending from the access road paralleling the lake. The cabin breaks through the trees along the shore, and so is highly visible from the water.

Main cabin (ca.1970, contributing; Architect: Lennon, Kalispell; Builder: Leonard Knudsen, Columbia Falls[3]): The main cabin is composed of two one-story, rectangular plan, frame blocks set side by side on a banked, poured concrete basement. The south wing, or block, has a low-pitched shed roof supported on laminated wood trusses tilting slightly to the south, while the smaller north wing has a flat roof, also with trusses. A large, exterior chimney laid up cut stone runs up the south wall of the south wing. Large, single-light, fixed windows and sliding doors span the entire lake side on both the main floor and full-height basement set below the open deck. The deck, built using dimensional lumber, extends from the main floor over the beach. Windows on the non-lake side are period single-light casements.

The **Henderson Cabin** property occupies Lots 13 and 14 in Block 1 of the subdivision. This cabin is set amid mature cedar woods at the end of a long, steep drive. Steps cut into the bank below the parking area at the bottom of the drive descend to a plank walkway leading to the cabin's deck, which wraps the south and lake sides of the building. The main cabin is set back in the trees fringing the beach, providing it with a curtained view of the lake, but it is difficult to see it in detail from the water.

Main cabin (ca.1952, contributing): The frame main cabin is composed of a single-story, gable-roofed main block with a cross-gabled, frame main block projecting from the lake side to create an L-plan footprint. The cabin rests on a banked poured concrete foundation, and the lake side deck is supported along its front edge by tall dimensional lumber piers. The cabin has large, single-light windows in a regular plan. It is simply finished with rough board-and-batten siding and pressed metal roof.

The **Moberly House** property occupies Lots 27 and 28 of Block 1 of the subdivision. It is reached by a steep hairpinned drive angling down from the road through the conifer woods behind the property. The property includes not only the main house, but also two older buildings dating to Charles and Nancy Russell's ownership. These include a board-and-batten sided, steeply gabled frame stable at the top of the drive and a single-story log guest cabin on the slope above the main house. The driveway continues on its southern trajectory toward Russell's Bullhead Lodge and the Storm House, while a spur turns east and drops to a parking terrace with a retaining wall and lined by a rustic log railing sited above the main house. Plank steps descend to the house's upper level. A narrow stream coursed into the lake just north side of the house. This is crossed by a narrow bridge with a rustic railing.

[3] Information provided by Helen Athearn, Interview with author, 21 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.

Main cabin (1962, contributing; Architect: Brinkman and Lennon, Kalispell; Builder: Erickson, Kalispell[4]): The main cabin is composed of a two-story, rectangular plan frame block on a poured concrete foundation built into the steep bank. This block's lower level, the main level of the house, is extended beyond the edge of the woods into the lake's viewshed on heavy poured concrete piers standing on the pebble beach above high water line. Inside, this lower, or east, block of the house is a single story common room with an open plan kitchen toward the back, or west side. A prominent, low slung, cut stone chimney rises above the south wall of this room. Large plate glass windows span the front to provide sweeping views of the lake and mountains beyond. Otherwise the fenestration plan uses regularly spaced, single-light windows. The unpaneled wooden period door entering the upper level has small, vertically oriented lights. The rear, or west, block is furnished with both interior and exterior stairs (on the north side). The bedrooms are located in this part of the house. The flat roof, surfaced with asphalt and pebbles, is supported by laminated wood trusses. The house has board-and-batten siding. The interior retains a period kitchen, and much, if not all, of its original decorative scheme.

Stable (ca.1910, contributing): The stable is a frontal gable, frame building with a steeply pitched roof, board-and-batten siding, paired battened doors in the gable end wall, and a cedar shake roof. The wood pier foundation is badly deteriorated, and the building lists to one side.

Guest cabin (ca.1925, remodeled 1961, contributing): The guest cabin is a single-story, log cabin with later changes and additions, including a poured concrete foundation and walls raised about a foot and a half above the original log walls. The L-plan building has a cross-gabled roof and a small open porch with log railing set in the southeast corner of the footprint. The cabin has vertical log cornerposts rather than visible notched joints at the corners, and the spaces between the logs have been redaubed with concrete. It is roofed with asphalt shingles. It retains a regular, but altered, fenestration plan, but the openings are boarded up.

The **Bull Head Lodge and Studio** is located on Lots A and B of the subdivision. The property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. The two log buildings are set amongst mature fir and western larch trees and are oriented towards the lake.

Bull Head Lodge (ca.1908, contributing): The lodge is comprised of a one-story rectangular log building with several additions to the rear. The roof is covered with wood shingles. A small gabled roof protects the front door. The building rests on a stone and log pier foundation. The wall logs are V-notched and daubed with mortar. Six light casement windows are set in pairs and triplets. Interior walls are hewn and the fireplace includes etchings in smooth concrete by Russell and his friend Philip R. Goodwin.

Bull Head Lodge Studio (ca. 1916, contributing): The studio is a frontal gable, log building with a moderately pitched roof covered with metal. The gable end extends to create a covered front porch which is approached by native stone steps set between stone walls. The space between the porch floor and the ground is in-filled with rough stacked stones. The wall logs are v-notched and quartered poles are used for chinking. They rest on a foundation of stacked stones and log piers. The chimney centered on the back wall is encased in logs.

The **Storm House** property is located on Lot 1 of Block 2 of the subdivision. The main house stands directly on the lake, with its deck piers on or near the high water line. It is reached by a long, steep, hairpinned drive shared with the Moberly House and Bullhead Lodge to the north and the Rice Cabin property adjoining it on

[4] Information provided by Robert C. Lundgren, Interview with author, 28 July 2006, taped for GNPA.

the south. A rustic car port (date unknown, non-contributing) constructed of unpeeled poles stands at the foot of the drive.

Main cabin (1953, contributing): The house is composed of two blocks resting on poured concrete piers: a one-and-a-half-story, gable-roofed, rectangular plan block with a shed-roofed dormer spanning much of the west (or back) roof face and a two-story, gable-roofed wing (added 1972) abutting the first block's north wall. The entire lake side of the cabin is spanned by a wide, open deck supported by a row of four large, battered, cobblestone piers. Sliding glass doors and large plate glass windows span much of this façade while the rest of the irregular fenestration plans uses single-light casement windows and fixed single-light "picture" windows. The south block has an exterior brick chimney centered on the south gable end. The back entrance retains a period wood door with small upper lights. The entire building has stained vertical board siding and an asphalt shingle roof with exposed rafter ends.

The **Rice Cabin** property occupies Lot 2 in Block 2 of the subdivision and is flanked by two cabins, the Storm House and the Alderson Cabin, both dating to the post-war period. This cabin is set among mixed conifers and is the last property reached by the drive also used by Moberly House, Bullhead Lodge, and the Storm House. On the bank behind the main cabin stand a woodshed (ca. 1975, non-contributing) and a frame garage (ca.1975, non-contributing).

Main cabin (ca.1975, non-contributing): The two-story, frame main cabin is composed of two large frontal gable, frame blocks with their ridge lines aligned east to west. The roof on the one nearer the lake projects into a "beak" that overhangs the prominent open deck. The upper story of the cabin is entered at grade from the back of the cabin. Exterior stairs descend on the north side of the building to the lower level, which on the lake side is a full-height basement with plate glass windows and sliding glass doors opening onto a prominent open deck spanning the entire lake side of the cabin. The banked foundation is poured concrete. The cabin has an irregular fenestration plan composed of a variety of single-light fixed sash and paired casements. Projecting from the cabin's southeast corner, a wall with openings cut in it projects at an angle over the deck. The cabin is sided with vertical boards, and the roof sheathed in metal.

The **Alderson Cabin** occupies Lots 3 and 4 of Block 2 in the subdivision. It is reached by a very long driveway shared with the Evenson and Johnson properties further south. The cabin is set back from the shore, with a view of the lake curtained by mature western cedars.

Main cabin (ca.1960, contributing): This single-story, frame cabin has a rectangular plan cabin with its long wall oriented to the lake. Its low-pitched, shed roof supported by laminated wood trusses and sheathed in new metal roofing slopes gently toward the shore. An open deck constructed of dimensional lumber spans the lake side of the cabin, which has a wall of large, single-light glass windows to take in the view. The sides and rear of the cabin have board-and-batten siding and single-light casement windows with plain board trim. A large, concrete block chimney rises on the south exterior wall of the cabin. The kitchen in the southwest corner is entered through a paneled wood door with three horizontal lights in its upper half.

Before the turn of the century, H.D. Apgar had established a cabin resort to capitalize on the developing tourist trade on Lake McDonald. In 1897, explorer Lyman Sperry drew a map for the Great Northern Railway's passenger agent at Belton, who avidly promoted the Lake McDonald region, that showed both Apgar's and Geduhn's cabin resorts, at the foot and head of the lake respectively.[5] By May 1898, H.D. and Esli Apgar had built two cabins east of the outlet on land on loan from its owner, Charles Howes, until a bridge crossed the creek.[6] H.D. married Jessie Cunningham, daughter of Columbia Falls area homesteaders Jay and Atalanta Haworth Cunningham, in 1899. The Apgars lived east of the outlet on land claimed by Charles Howes, where they raised three children—Helen Bessie (b.1902), Jeanette (b.1914), and Harvey Milo Dimon (1917-1974).[7] The development of the Apgar cabin resort paralleled the increased visitation to Lake McDonald. Early on, the Apgars lived in a three-room cabin. About 1910, they moved into a large new cedar log cabin with a 24' x 24' living room with a fireplace that took four-foot long logs. There was also a dining room and kitchen on the first floor and three bedrooms above. By this time, the Apgars had "quite a large resort." This included the log cabins and a "great big log cabin," apparently a dining cabin for guests where they served meals family style.[8] Glacier Park Superintendent Logan rented Apgar's cabins as a temporary headquarters for the 1911 season after spending the 1910 season in platform tents. A bridge was built during this period, and Howes and Apgar went to court, presumably because Apgar refused to withdraw from Howes' land.[9] Land records suggest that H.D. received in settlement all of the land west of a line drawn south from a cedar tree on the lake shore in 1912.[10] This is roughly 50 feet east of the north-south road into Apgar.

In addition to the land east of the outlet, H.D. gained ownership of his father's entire claim in 1908. Milo B. Apgar's heirs, H.D. and Jessie Apgar and Phebe, H.D.'s sister, and Paul Giacopazzi, received the patent on 22 June 1908.[11] The heirs transferred the entire homestead to Frank Kelly, husband of Emmeline Haworth Kelly and a relation of Jessie Cunningham Apgar, on the 2nd of October, 1908, for $2,500.[12] Twenty days later, on the 22nd of October, Frank and Emmeline Haworth Kelly sold the entire property back to H.D. Apgar for $2,500.[13] Presumably, this series of deeds provided a short-term loan allowing H.D. Apgar to acquire his sister's share of the patent.

In 1908, Apgar allowed artist Charles Marion "Charlie" Russell to establish the camp that would become Russell's Bull Head Lodge property about a quarter-mile north of the outlet on the west shore. Russell lived in Great Falls and began visiting Lake McDonald before that. Apgar locals maintained that H.D. Apgar built the first part of the lodge in 1908, and that the studio was built by Eddie Cruger and Mart Sibley, another Apgar resident, in 1916 or 1917.[14] Based on architectural evidence, the main cabin was added onto twice in the 1910s and 1920s.

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[5] Vaught, *History of Glacier* (Unpublished manuscript n.d.): 444. (GNPA). No copy of this map has been located.
[6] Eddie Cruger, *History of Apgar*, [n.p., n.d.]: 36-37.
[7] Helen Haworth, Historical Interview, 20 Feburary and 8 May 1979. (GNPA). She stated that her parents always lived east of the outlet. Lynn Conley. e-mail, 30 November 2005, provided birthdates for their children from the Apgar family genealogical website.
[8] Edward Neitzling, Historical Interview, 12 October 1976. (GNPA)
[9] The records of this suit were borrowed and never returned to the County Clerk and Recorder's Office in Kalispell. The index suggests the suit was filed in 1908.
[10] The land records show the line drawn just east of the present day road to Apgar marked by a cedar tree on the shore. This parcel was numbered 2E and acquired by H.D. Apgar in 1912. All parcels in this area were later divided from this initial parcel.
[11] *Book of Deeds 84/334*. County Clerk and Recorders Office, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana.
[12] *Book of Deeds 109/384*. County Clerk and Recorders Office, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana.
[13] *Book of Deeds 109/385*. County Clerk and Recorders Office, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana.
[14] "Charlie Russell," *History of Apgar*, [n.p., n.d.]: 5. The National Register nomination reverses the building dates for these two structures. The Russells may have had the studio first and stayed at Apgar or at George Snyder's Glacier House hotel early on.

While other homesteaders or subsequent inholders had sold building lots piecemeal out of their holdings, the Apgars were the first Lake McDonald homesteaders to plat and file a *bona fide* subdivision in Flathead County. This encompassed the Apgars' entire half-mile of lake frontage west of the outlet and running north to their boundary with the park's land. The plat contained two blocks of lots, each with 50 feet of lake frontage. These flanked the Russell lots, labeled "A" and "B." Nancy Russell's deed to those was recorded in 1917.[15] By 1920, the Russells owned four additional contiguous lots, two north and two south of their first lots. The two southern ones, in Block 2, Nancy Russell purchased from Mae Vaught, wife of early Glacier historian L.O. Vaught, in 1919. Mrs. Vaught recorded her deed for those lots in 1917.[16]

The subdivision sold well, mostly in groups of lots, to well-to-do people, probably by word of mouth. Russell introduced his neighbor James W. Sherwood, president of General Mills, to Lake McDonald during this period, and Sherwood bought Lots 1 through 26 in Block 1, the northern range, in 1920.[17] In January 1923, Sherwood sold seven contiguous lots (15-21) to Vera M. Thelen, wife of lawyer, Jonathan N. Thelen, and five more contiguous lots (22-26) to Anna O. Coulter, wife of ear-nose-and-throat specialist, Dr. C.F. Coulter, all of Great Falls.[18] The Coulters built a cabin.[19] South of Russell's Bullhead Lodge, the last of Apgar's lots had sold by October 1922, a few months after his death on the 17th of June.[20] Even though his daughters Janette and Helen were not yet adults, they held the deeds to Lots 5 and 6 respectively. Ensenice Caroline Gruber, wife of Great Northern Railway vice president J.M. Gruber, assembled six contiguous lots by 1926, where they built a new cabin after their first one at Stony Point burned in the fire that year. The only other family known to have built on these lots in the pre-World War II era is the Bellefleurs[21], who owned Lot 19 near the outlet. The Greeleys, manufacturers of grain elevators, bought from them; the Hoglunds acquired the property in 1964.

By 1920, Sherwood had built a log lodge and boathouse, designed by Long Beach, California, architect, W. Horace Austin, at the northern end of his holdings. Like all other recreational cabins built on Lake McDonald at the time, Bullhead Lodge and Sherwood Lodge were designed under the influence of the rustic Craftsman style popular during the first quarter of the twentieth century. The taste was consciously based in the eighteenth and nineteenth century American building tradition, sometimes using the forms and details verbatim and other times mixing and matching to create a pleasing and coherent whole. Lake McDonald builders combined materials found locally, mainly the heavy construction components, with what could be easily bought, like factory sash and doors. Even well-to-do owners, who could have afforded some ostentation, built practical buildings that provided an easily managed *pied-a-terre* in the wilderness—shelter in the woods, a view of the lake, a sense of escape through simplicity.

In the post-World War II period, development and change occurred through much of the subdivision. The government continued acquiring inholder properties with three lots at the south end of Apgar's Cottage Sites subdivision in 1939; the pace quickened in the 1950s and early 1960s. By 1965, more than half the lots had

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[15] *Subdivision Book "A.", Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites.* (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)
[16] *Subdivision Book "A."*
[17] Dora Crump purchased 1 and 2 in November 1914, and sold them to Nannie Baker in May 1919. Harriet Fox Lundy bought Lot 3 in September 1916 and sold to Maud Baker in August 1918. Sherwood's deed was filed the same day for these three lots as the other 23.
[18] Subdivision Book "A."
[19] When the second part of the *History of Apgar* was compiled, Anna Coulter contributed an article. According to Bob Lundgren, her daughter, Margaret Verharen, and her family used the camp during the 1950s and he played with her sons. The property was sold to the federal government in 1962 (*Subdivision Book "A"*), and the cabin was torn down. The cobblestone foundation survives.
[20] H.D. Apgar's death date provided by Lynn Conley, President, Apgar Family Association. According to Lynn Conley of the Apgar Family Association, Jessie Apgar married Roy Haworth, a gas engineer sixteen years her junior, in 1924. Given his last name, he may have been a cousin. She lived until the 8th of April 1939.
[21] *History of Apgar*, XX.

transferred out of private hands. The Sherwood Lodge property (individually listed) retains eight of the fourteen lots held after the Thelen and Coulter sales in the early 1920s and its original cabin and boathouse. The Thelens apparently never built and sold their lots to the government in 1923. The government acquired the Coulter property in 1962. Charlie Russell's Bullhead Lodge property , sold to Leonard and Olga Storm by Nancy Russell's executors in 1947, was divided along original lot lines into four different camps beginning in the mid-1950s. Bullhead Lodge still occupies Lots A and B.

From the early 1950s to the mid-1960s, five new property owners in Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites subdivision built new cabins overlooking Lake McDonald. These varied one from the next in form, construction, and materials, but as a group they illustrate the marked change in recreational cabin design among the era's tastemakers. The more *avant-garde* looked to designs influenced by the International Style. New forms built using new materials were prominently sited in the landscape. Some of these cabins were a radical departure from earlier Lake McDonald buildings. Few such cabins were built as the number of inholder properties continued to fall throughout this period, and those owners who did build at other locations used more traditional post-World War II ranch-style designs. This group of recreational cabins is locally significant, some under Criterion G, as the best examples of this Mid-Century Modern style on Lake McDonald.

The Henderson (ca.1953) and Alderson (ca.1960) cabins combined aspects of the new aesthetic with the earlier tradition. David and Patricia Henderson, park magistrate's niece and her husband[22], filed their deed for Lots 13 and 14 bought from James Sherwood's widow, Mabel, in 1951.[23] This L-plan, gable-roofed frame cabin is set among the old growth cedars still growing on the property. A winding drive descends to a platform, thence to a catwalk to the cabin's open deck, each stage increasing the sense of retreat found in earlier cabins. From the lake, the cabin can be picked out in the deep shade, but it does not project beyond the forest's edge. The single-story cabin rests on a high, banked, poured concrete foundation. Its open deck, a departure from the earlier porches with their roofs integral to the overall design, extends beyond the foundation and its outer perimeter rests on tall wooden piers. The deck hints at the horizontality of designs to be built over the next two decades. It also places the residents more fully in the surrounding wilderness, while still within the footprint of the house, than a roofed porch. The gabled form, L-plan, and regular fenestration plan retain the earlier tradition, but the windows on the lake side are larger, taking in more of the view. Also in common with earlier cabins, it uses readily available board-and-batten siding and metal roofing like that used to reroof barns at the time. But, the Henderson Cabin cannot be mistaken for an earlier one. Its low-slung lines and horizontal orientation, in spite of its gable roof, make it unmistakably a post-war building. The Hendersons sold their camp in 1961 to Clayton and Harriet Fox, who retain a life estate today. Mary Grace Severson Galvin notes that when the camp was put up for sale, her mother Grace Severson, told the Foxes about it. Clayton and his brother Eugene both used a cabin at the head of lake until Clayton and Harriet bought the Henderson property near Apgar.[24]

The Alderson Cabin shares with the Henderson Cabin similar board-and-batten siding and a regular fenestration plan using single-light casements. Its form, however, departs from the building tradition. This is a long, narrow cabin, one room deep, so every room has a view of the lake. Its barely pitched shed roof rests on laminated wood beams running from front to back through the building and projecting beyond the walls. An open deck like that on the Henderson Cabin spans the lakeside. Its building materials, aside from the laminated roof beams, continue the in the traditional of economic simplicity.

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[22] Bob Lundgren, Interview with author, 31 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.
[23] *Subdivision Book "A."*
[24] Mary Grace Galvin, e-mail to author, 16 January 2006.

In 1945, Leonard and Olga Storm bought the Russells' Bullhead Lodge property from Nancy Russell's estate.[25] This included all six lots in the Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites, the studio, stable, guest cabin, privy, and the lodge itself. Their son was wheelchair-bound, and he found it difficult to maneuver in the cabin, and so about 1953, they built a new, more accessible, cabin at the water's edge.[26] The new cabin was built on a banked foundation composed of poured concrete piers, but its dramatic open deck extended well beyond the trees to the high water line, where its front edge rests on four massive cobblestone piers with battered sides. Glass sliding doors and plate glass windows span the lake side of the lower, gable-roofed framed main block of the house. Understated detailing, including exposed rafter ends, simple vertical board siding, and plain window casings on the varied casements of the fenestration plan allow the cabin itself to recede among the trees while its deck projects well beyond them. Jean Lundgren, who bought Lot 1 in Block 2 with the Storm House in 1968, added the taller gable-roofed north wing in 1972.[27] Although built nearly twenty years later, the new wing's finishes closely matched the original house, making it appear a nearly seamless composition. Jean Lundgren married Conrad Lundgren, one of three brothers from Sweetwater, Montana, who bought the West Glacier complex of mercantile, café, and gas station soon after their return from World War II. She brought two children to the marriage, Gail and Robert, who grew up around Glacier Park.[28]

The Storms sold parts of the Bullhead Lodge property during their ownership. To their son's tutor, Clarence Lee, and his wife Ethel they conveyed the deed for Lot 2 in Block 2 soon after they built their new cabin. The Lees had owned a cabin near the bridge over the McDonald Creek outlet since 1946[29], which they transferred to the federal government when they acquired the lakefront parcel.[30] The Lees built a new cabin next to the Storm Cabin. Its outbuildings survive, but Mary Martha and John Rice replaced the cabin with a large new cabin about 1975, which is considered non-contributing within the district.

The Storms sold Lots 27 and 28 in Block 1 on the north side of Bullhead Lodge to Everett and Margaret Lundgren, who filed their deed on the 1st of June 1960. Three weeks later, friends of theirs from the Sweetwater area[31], Waldo Y. (1905-1995) and Isabel "Babe" Q. Moberly filed a deed transferring the property to their names.[32] Moberly (b.1905) worked as a customs broker in Montana and Idaho for 40 years. He served as a Montana state senator from 1962 to 1966. And, he worked in northern Montana oilfields. The Moberlys retired to Kalispell in 1980.[33] After acquiring the property, which included the Russell stable at the top of the shared drive and the log guest cabin, now sunk into the ground on its log foundation. They first remodeled the guest cabin, placing it on a few concrete pier foundation, raising the roof about a foot and a half. They redaubed the space between the logs with Portland cement. They used it for two summers, while builder Bob Erickson of Kalispell built their new cabin on the lakeshore. The design uses laminated trusses for the roof and the foundation and deck piers required several concrete pours. Bob Lundgren, who now owns the Storm House, believes that the laminated trusses were floated up to the lake from Apgar Village. He has a vivid memory of the cement mixers laboring down the steep hairpin drive shared with the Storm House and Bullhead Lodge to the site.[34]

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[25] *Subdivision Book "A."*
[26] Robert Lundgren, Interview with author, 20 June 2005.
[27] Robert Lundgren, Interview with author, 20 June 2005.
[28] Roberth Lundgren, Interview with author, 31 July 2006. Taped for GNPA,
[29] James Grist, e-mail to author, January 2006.
[30] *Subdivision Book "A."*
[31] Robert Lundgren, Interview with author, 31 July 2006.
[32] *Subdivision Book "A."*
[33] http://data.opi.state.mt.us/bills/1997/Journals/SJ0077%20Apr%2011.htm.
[34] Robert Lundgren, Interview with author, 20 June 2005.

The Moberly House cascades down the slope to the beach on a banked poured foundation. The open deck extending over the beach is supported on story-high rectilinear piers, extending the building well beyond the trees edging the shore. The lake-facing wall of the main floor has a curtain of glass facing the water. A large hearth constructed of crisply cut stone occupies nearly all of the cabin south wall on the main floor. This is vented through a large, wide chimney of the same stone. The kitchen, retaining period copper-colored appliances and finishes, occupies the back wall of the main room, bringing the kitchen into the entertaining sphere as was advocated for the modern house of the time. Laminated wood trusses like those at the Alderson Cabin support the flat roof, a dramatic departure from the traditional gable roofs of Lake McDonald recreational cabins. The flat roof emphasizes the horizontal components of the cabin including its curtain of glass windows, the deck railing, and the wide, low proportions of both the upper story and the main, lower block. This house is the most clearly articulated expression of the desirable modern wilderness vacation home of the period on Lake McDonald.

The last of the camps built during the period of significance in Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites is the Athearn Cabin on Lots 9 and 10 in Block 1. The Sherwood family sold the lots to James "Jim" Athearn, who attended Apgar school and went on to become the dean at two different business schools: the University of Montana and the University of South Carolina [35], in 1967. The Athearns had owned Lot 4 in Block 4 of Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites at the east end of Apgar where they built a cabin in 1925.[36] When the park proposed the Apgar Amphitheater, Athearn sold the property to the government and bought this property from his friends, the Sherwoods. According to some, he had planned to drag the old cabin across the ice to the new property, but his widow states that they always intended to build a new cabin. Plans notwithstanding, the lake failed to freeze for two winters,[37] so the Athearns build anew using a design by a Kalispell architect called Lennon, who may also have designed the Moberly House.[38] The Athearn cabin is similar, although less dramatic, aesthetically to that of the Moberly House. Like the latter, the Athearn Cabin is sited close to beach, breaking through the treeline into the shared viewshed of the lake. It rests on a high, banked poured concrete foundation, and large glass windows and doors span the lake elevation above and below the open deck projecting from the main floor. The open deck, the nearly level shed roofs of the building's north and south blocks, and the heavy laminated beams supporting the roof all accentuate the horizontality of the building's composition. Even the chimney's broad, low proportions diminish its necessary verticality.

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[35] Richard Slater, e-mail to author, 5 August 2005.
[36] Helen Athearn, Interview with author, 25 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.
[37] Richard Slater, e-mail to author, 10 November 2005.
[38] The Athearn family have a partial set of plans for their cabin, but the drawings are not stamped or signed.

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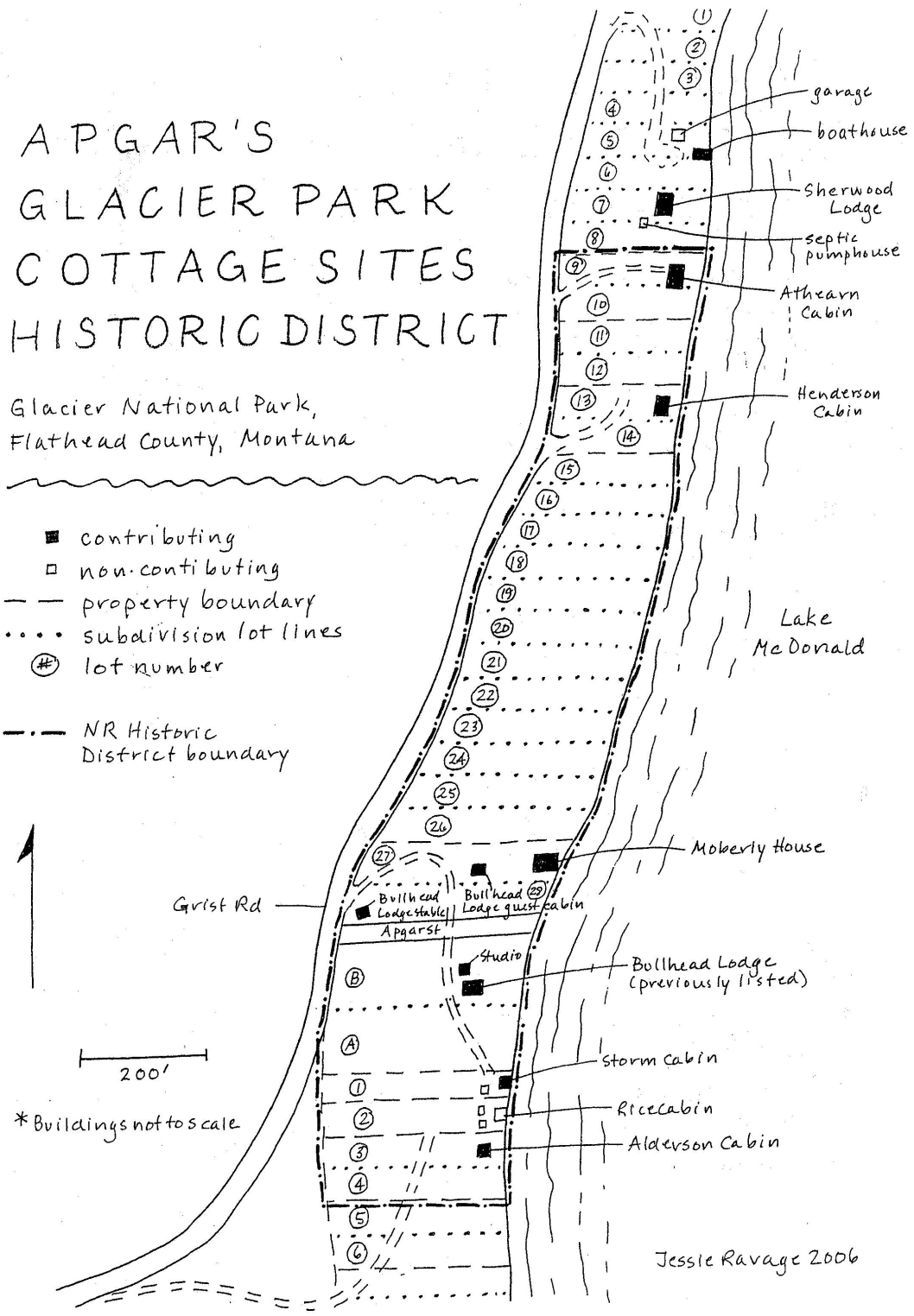
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Vaught, L.O., Papers. Correspondence from Frank Geduhn. (GPA)


APGAR'S
GLACIER PARK
COTTAGE SITES
HISTORIC DISTRICT
Glacier National Park,
Flathead County, Montana
contributing
non-contributing
property boundary
subdivision lot lines
(#) lot number
NR Historic
District boundary
garage
boathouse
Sherwood
Lodge
septic
pumphouse
Athearn
Cabin
Henderson
Cabin
Lake
McDonald
Moberly House
Grist Rd
Bullhead
Lodge stable
Bullhead
Lodge guest cabin
Apgarst
Studio
Bullhead Lodge
(previously listed)
Storm Cabin
Rice cabin
Alderson Cabin
200'
*Buildings not to scale
Jessie Ravage 2006

Property Owners

Lots 9 and 10, Block 1
name/title: James & Helen Athearn, Trustees
street & number: P.O. Box 123
city or town: West Glacier **state:** MT **zip code:** 59936

Lots 13 and 14, Block 1, Life Estate
name/title: Clayton & Harriet Fox LE
street & number: 1327 Ynez Place
city or town: Coronado **state:** CA **zip code:** 92118

Lots 11 through 28, Block 1;
name/title: Superintendent, Glacier National Park
street & number:
city or town: West Glacier **state:** MT **zip code:** 59936

Lots A and B and Lot 1, Block 2
name/title: Gail Ritchey and Robert S. Lundgren
street & number: P.O. Box 8
city or town: West Glacier **state**: MT **zip code:** 59936

Lot 2, Block 2
name/title: Mary M. Rice
street & number: 405 Park Drive North Apt 7B
city or town: Great Falls **state:** MT **zip code:** 59401

Lots 3 and 4, Block 2
name/title: Richard Alderson
street & number: 3000 Duncan Drive
city or town: Missoula **state:** MT **zip code:** 59802

Photographs
The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

Name of district: Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Historic District
County and State: Flathead County, Montana
Photographer: Jessie Ravage
Date of photograph: July 2005
Location of negative: Glacier National Park Archives

Athearn Cabin
View of east (front) and south sides of Athearn Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1

Henderson Cabin
View of east (front) and south sides of Henderson Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.2

Moberly Cabin
View of east (front) and north sides of Moberly Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.3

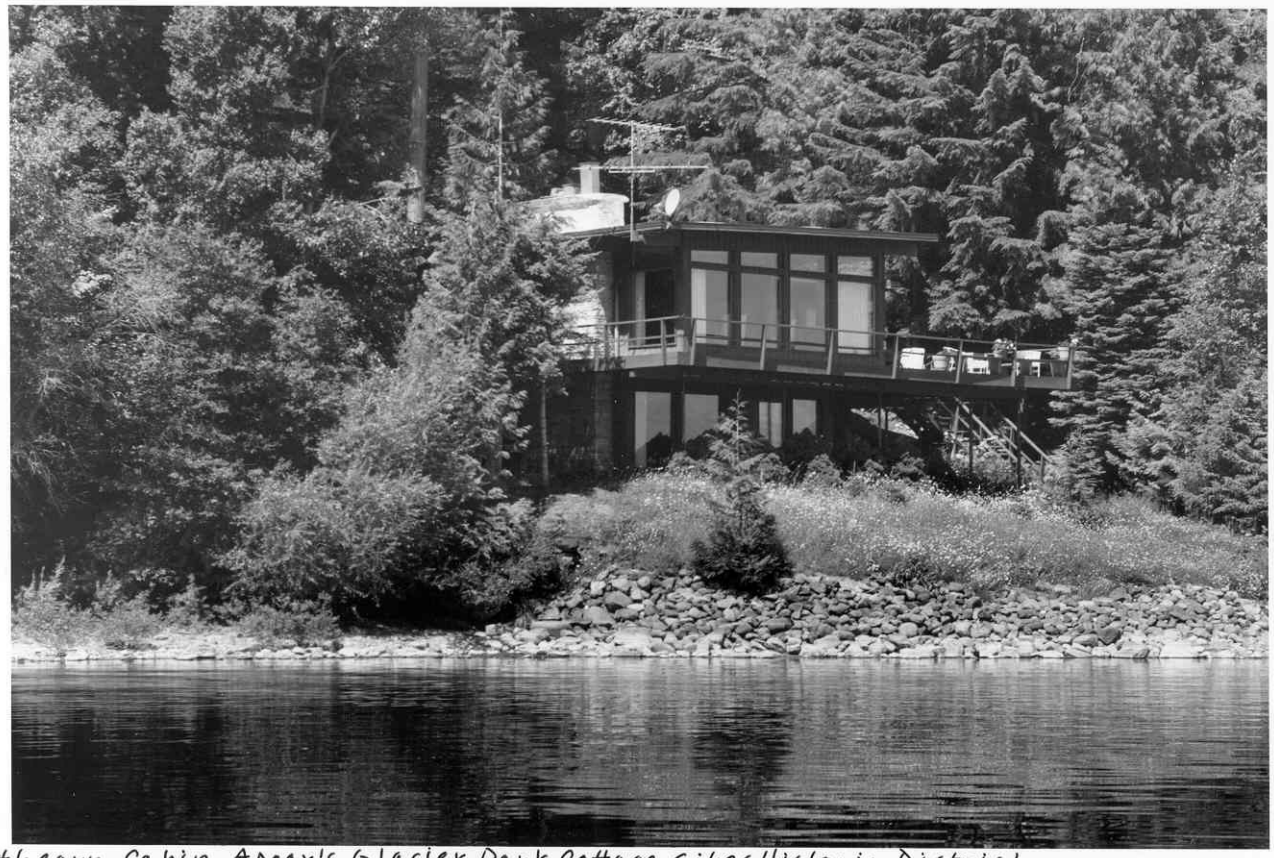
Bullhead Lodge Guest Cabin
View of east (front) and south sides of Moberly Cabin Guest Cabin
Photograph No.4

Bullhead Lodge Stable
View of northeast (front) and northwest sides of Moberly Cabin stable from road
Photograph No.5

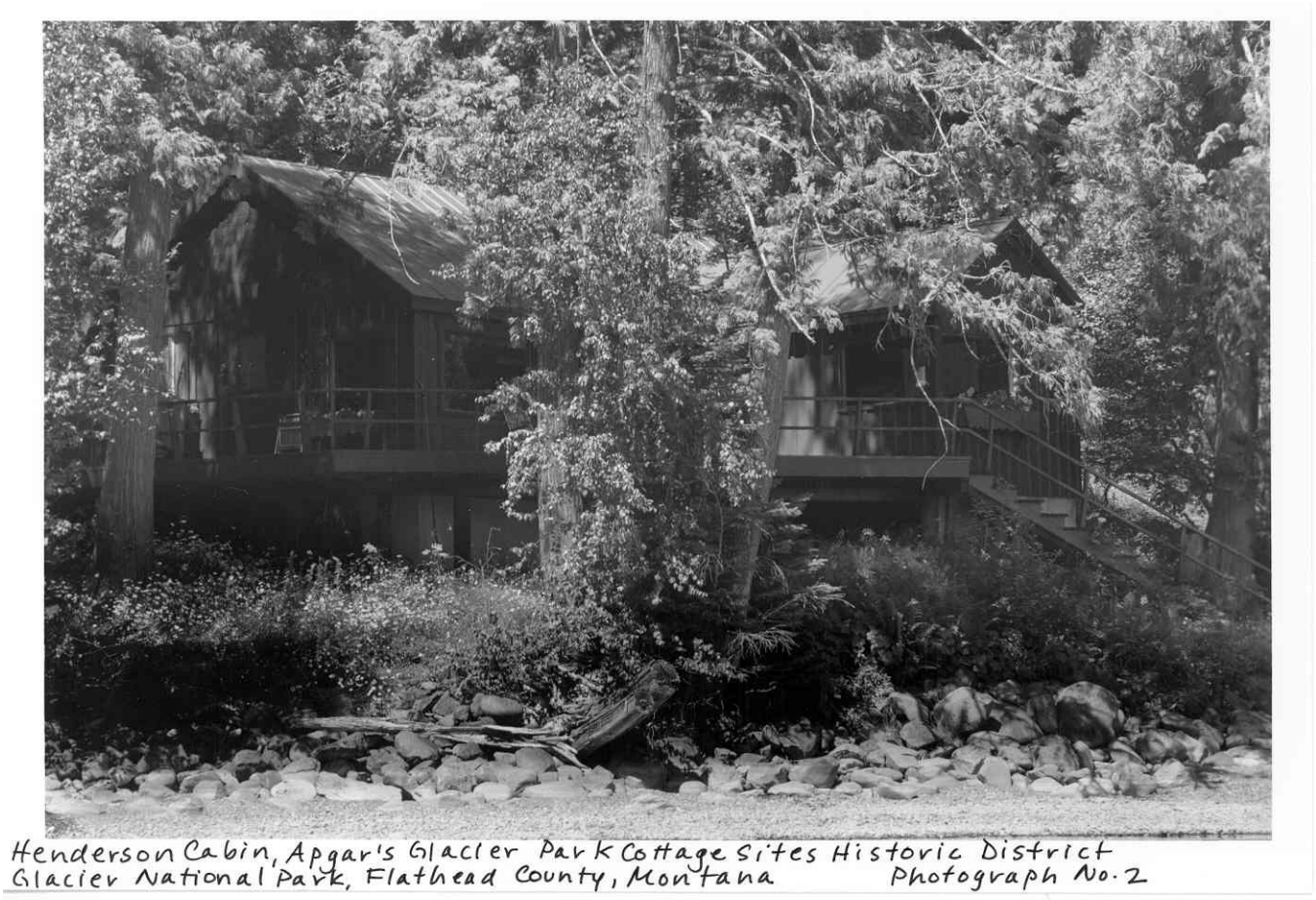
Storm Cabin
View of east (front) and north sides of Storm Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.6

Rice Cabin
View of east (front) side of Rice Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.7

Alderson Cabin
View of east (front) side of Alderson Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.8



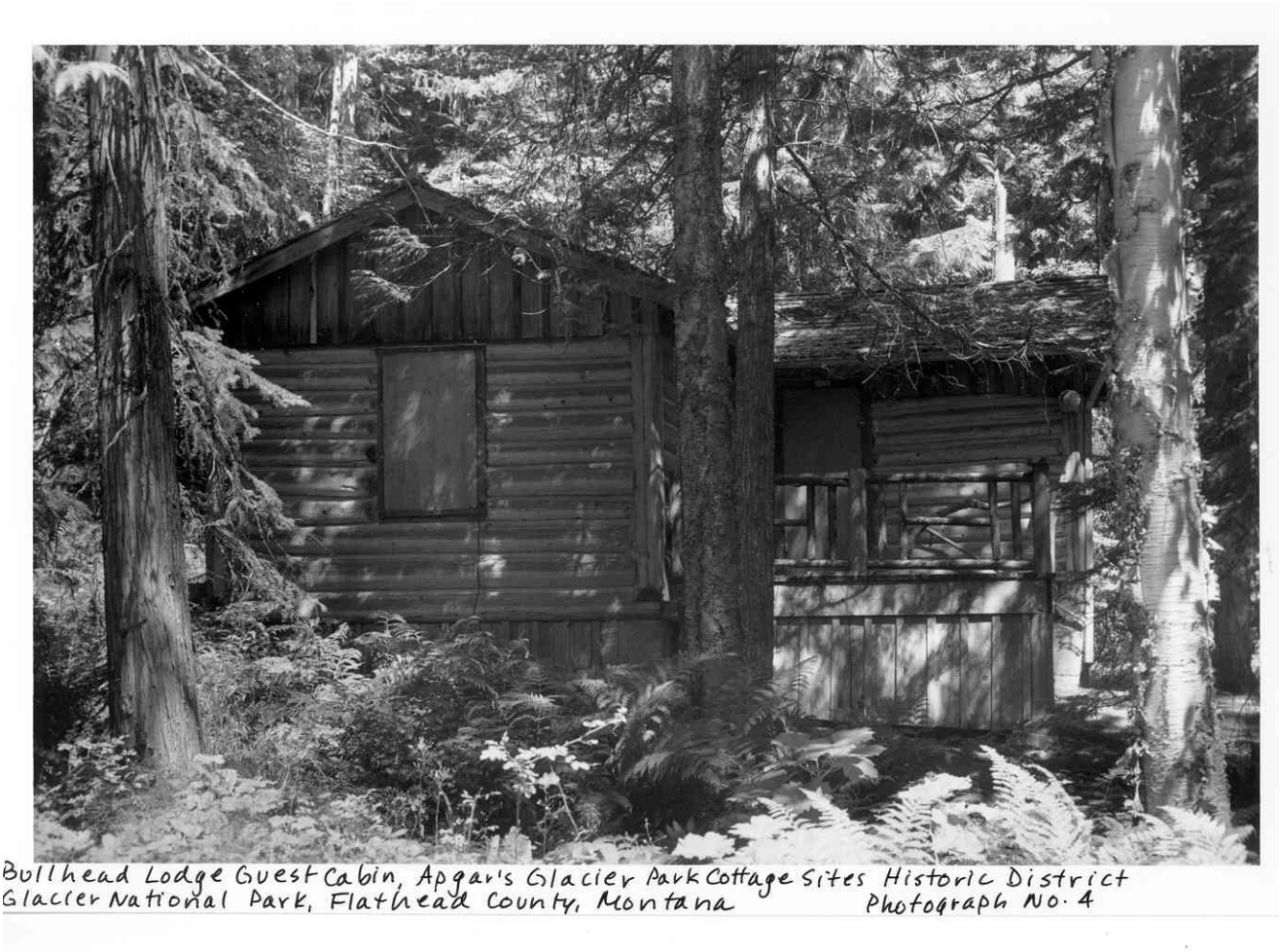
Athearn Cabin
View of east (front) and south sides of Athearn Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1



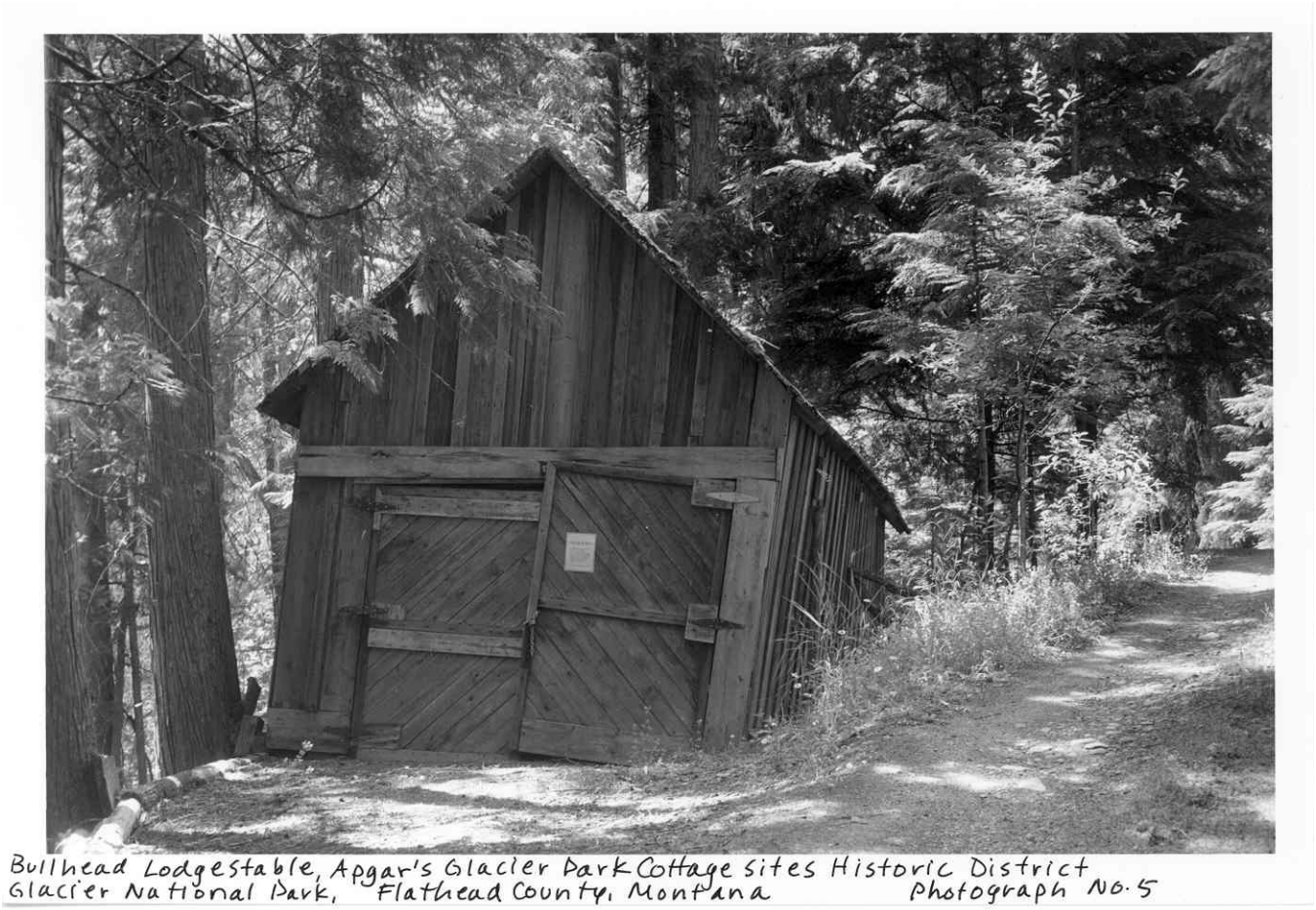
Henderson Cabin
View of east (front) and south sides of Henderson Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.2



Moberly Cabin
View of east (front) and north sides of Moberly Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.3



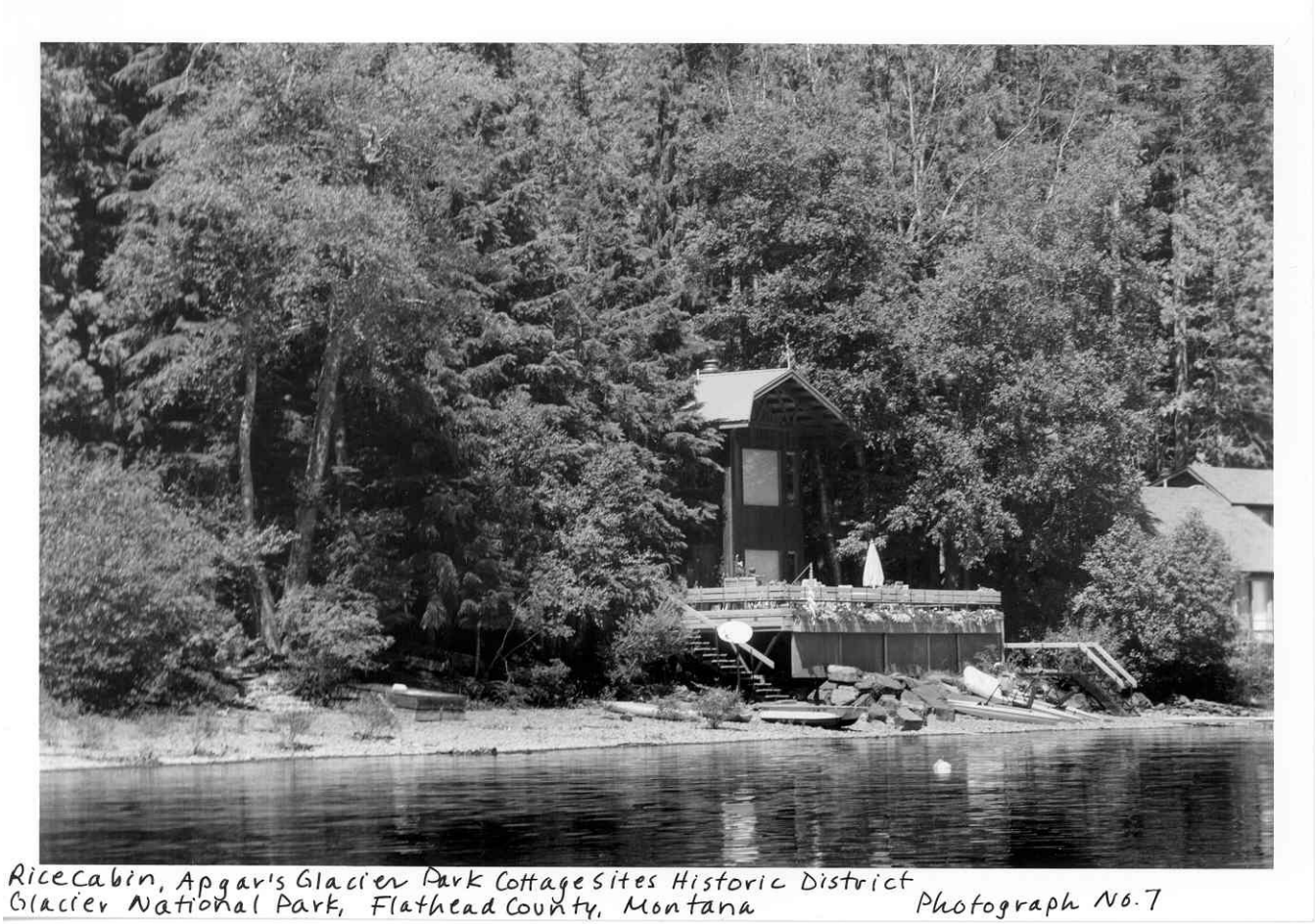
Bullhead Lodge Guest Cabin
View of east (front) and south sides of Moberly Cabin Guest Cabin
Photograph No.4



Bullhead Lodge Stable
View of northeast (front) and northwest sides of Moberly Cabin stable from road
Photograph No.5



Storm Cabin
View of east (front) and north sides of Storm Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.6



Rice Cabin
View of east (front) side of Rice Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.7



Alderson Cabin
View of east (front) side of Alderson Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.8

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Alice Beck Cabin

other name/site number: John T. Robinson Cabin

2. Location

street & number: S of Kelly's Camp Rd, E of McDonald Ck; Glacier National Park

not for publication:

city/town: Lake McDonald **vicinity:**

state: Montana **code:** MT **county:** Flathead **code:** 029 **zip code:** 59921

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 _ 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

State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ _____
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 Keeper	Date of Action
_____ 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)		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property 2

	Contributing	Non-contributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed In the National Register: 0	1		**building(s)**
			site(s)
		1	**structure(s)**
			objects(s)
Name of related multiple property listing: Recreational camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970	1	1	**TOTAL**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: Camp

Current Function:

DOMESTIC: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: Rustic Style

MATERIALS:

Foundation: log, concrete

Walls: log, frame

Roof: cedar shakes, asphalt shingles

Other:

Narrative Description:

The Alice Beck Cabin is a summer recreational camp located on a 75 x 100-foot lot on the east shore of Lake McDonald about 800 feet south of the McDonald Creek inlet in Glacier National Park in Flathead County, Montana. The camp is reached by a quarter-mile-long drive paralleling the inlet and connecting the property with the North Lake McDonald Road. The road passes through mixed conifer woods to a wide, level area where the cabin and its associated garage stand on an open lawn overlooking the north end of the lake. The cabin has an unobstructed view from its pebble beach to the lake's opposite shore.

Main cabin (ca.1910, contributing): The main cabin is a one-and-a-half-story, frontal gable cabin built of peeled and stained notched logs daubed with clay. A screened porch with log knee walls is set under the extended gabled roof and spans the front of the main block, overlooking the lake. The main block retains its fenestration plan dating to the cabin's construction with factory-made, double-hung, multi-light sash in the north and west elevations (those not covered by later additions). The roof is covered with an unusual corrugated aluminum roofing.

The cabin was renovated in the 1940s and also has later frame additions on the south (1965) and back (ca.1975) sides. The south addition is cross-gabled into the main roof and is sheathed in board-and-batten siding. The later back addition continues the height and roofline of the main block to the addition's back wall. It is sheathed in wood clapboard siding.

The main room of the interior is located at the west, or front, of the cabin. Behind this, in the northeast corner is small kitchen. A sleeping loft spans the back of the wall of the original cabin. The later additions provided bedrooms for extended family as the second and third generations shared the cabin during the season.

Garage (ca.1980, non-contributing): The garage is a two-bay, frontal gable, frame building plywood siding and simple, vertically sliding doors.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a
Significant Person(s):
Cultural Affiliation: European-American

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation; Architecture
Period(s) of Significance: ca.1910-1957
Significant Dates:
Architect/Builder: unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Alice Beck Cabin is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. The cabin is a representative example of a recreational seasonal camp on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Document (MPD) for "Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1895-1970" provides the historic context for the development of such wilderness recreational properties. The cabin's small lot was originally part of the Denis Comeau Homestead, one of six patented homesteads on Lake McDonald. The homesteaders followed a pattern of subdividing their lands, selling off lots for recreational cabin development. The MPD also describes the architecture associated with such properties on Lake McDonald. The cabin is an early example of a recreational cabin on Lake McDonald and retains integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling dating to that period. The cabin typifies the rustic camps built in the early twentieth century with its modest size and details reminiscent of the Craftsman-style bungalows popular at the time. Like most family-owned camps around Lake McDonald, the property has changed hands infrequently.

Summary History of Development

The Alice Beck Cabin property was platted and sold by Denis and Lydia M. Comeau to John J. Robinson for $250 on the 3rd of August 1905.[1] Denis Comeau had claimed a 164.08-acre homestead in the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 14 in the Township 33 North, Range 18 West, on the east shore, near the head of Lake McDonald, in the mid-1890s. Comeau, who worked winters as a sawyer in local mills, met Lydia Wing Cruger there about 1898, where she ran a boarding house called the Valley House. Mrs. Cruger was a widow with three adolescent children—Edward, Ida, and Ruth—when she and Comeau married about 1900. She had lived in Michigan and Ohio before coming to Montana about 1892. Denis Comeau was an Acadian from Nova Scotia, who had also worked his way west.[2]

See continuation pages for Section 8

[1] *Book of Deeds 107/63*. Flathead County Clerk and Recorders Office, Kalispell, Montana.
[2] Thelma Powell, Interview by author, 24 July 2005.

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation pages

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 # _____**

Primary Location of Additional Data:

___ **State Historic Preservation Office**
___ **Other State agency**
_x_ **Federal agency:** Glacier National Park Archives
___ **Local government**
___ **University**
___ **Other – National Archives, Denver**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: .172 acres (75 x 100 ft.)

UTM References:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
(NAD27)	12	288687	5390163

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary encompasses the lot occupied by the Alice Beck Cabin. This 75 x 100-foot parcel is located on the east shore of Lake McDonald south of McDonald Creek and at the end of a right-of-way off of Kelly's Camp Road. It is designated parcel 2C in the plat book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the 75 x 100-foot lot divided from the Comeau homestead by Denis and Lydia Comeau and sold to John T. Robinson in 1905.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jessie A. Ravage
organization:
date: 10 February 2006
street & number: 34 Delaware Street
telephone: 607.547-9507
city or town: Cooperstown **state:** New York **zip code:** 13326

Additional Documentation

See continuation pages, photographs, and maps

Property Owner

name/title: Julie Fox
street & number: 14359 S. Elizabeth Lane **telephone:**
city or town: Homer Glen **state:** Illinois **zip code:** 60491

Until their divorce in 1907 or 1908, the Comeaus kept their homestead largely intact, except for the sale of this 75 x 100-foot lakefront parcel to John Robinson made before the homestead patent was issued on the 6th of December 1906. At three dollars per lake front foot, the value of the property matches what George Snyder, who owned the Glacier House hotel on the point, anticipated getting for building lots he planned to sell in 1906. The Comeaus and John T. Robinson both lived in Columbia Falls at the time of the transaction.[3] A "Jack" Robinson worked as a night clerk at the Gaylord Hotel,[4] owned by John E. Lewis. Much later, however, Lydia Comeau would call the man who bought the parcel "Dr." Robinson.[5] The Fox family, who have owned the property since 1950, believe that selling the lot might have paid a doctor's bill.[6] Only a little later, Lydia Comeau sold a parcel south of the homestead cabins to Dora Crump to pay for her son's hospitalization[7], suggesting that the Comeaus' best source of ready cash during medical crisis was land. Denis Comeau sold the property surrounding this parcel to Olive Lewis, wife of John E. Lewis, in 1908, about the time he departed for British Columbia and soon after the divorce.[8]

Lydia Comeau acquired the southern two thirds of the homestead, and by 1910, she had platted additional small shoreline lots for sale to seasonal visitors. All of these parcels were south of the homestead cabins located near the center of the property's shore line. They varied in size from 50 to 210 feet of shoreline; depths also varied as the road, which forms the back line of lots platted from about 1920 on, was not yet planned. In addition, each of the Cruger children received a one-acre (210 feet x 210 feet) parcel with shoreline in the southern third of the property.[9] Roughly ten lots were divided off the property by the early 1910s. As the Transmountain Highway, now called the Going-to-the-Sun Road, was surveyed in the late 1910s and passed through the Comeau homestead in the early 1920s, Comeau and her son Edward Cruger laid out a few additional 50-foot shoreline lots running all the way to the road. This divided into parcels much of the land south of the homestead cabins, of which about half sold.

It remains unclear who built the cabin on the tiny parcel near the mouth of the creek and when. As early as 1925, it was deserted. Fannie Hollingsworth, staying at Kelly's Camp that summer while building her own cabin, Hollybourne, noted rowing over to visit the place.[10] Children growing up the in the 1930s at the head of the lake called it the "Haunted Cabin." By that period, it had no windows or doors and was in an advanced state of deterioration.[11] At the time of his death, the cabin's owner John Robinson owned 477.28 acres in Townships 31 and 32 as well as the lakefront parcel in Township 33. Robinson's widow, Leslie, signed a contract with the federal government to sell all of it—including the lakefront lot valued at $700—in January 1939.[12] No improvements, *e.g.* buildings, were noted on the lot, as they were on other lots in the report, and its price of less than $10 per lake foot suggests that the park service did not consider buildings on the site to have any value. By the mid-1920s, building lots were selling for $10 per lake foot; a cabin would have raised the value. Lydia Comeau noted in 1931 that the government was paying as much as $20 per lake foot[13] although such high figures may have been for property with commercial potential. Leslie Robinson's contract with the government listed other Robinson property within the

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[3] *Book of Deeds 107/63*. 3 August 1905.
[4] Henry Eckelberry, *Down Memory Lane in the Flathead* (Kalispell, Montana: Thomas Printing, Inc., n.d.): 20.
[5] Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 24 April 1931. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 2, Folder 9. (GNPA)
[6] Richard Fox, Interview with author, 31 July 2005.
[7] Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 4 March 1931. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 2, Folder 9. (GNPA)
[8] *Book of Deeds 103/499*.
[9] *Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*. (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)
[10] Fannie Hollingworth, 31 July 1925. *Journal for 1922-1926*. (Private collection)
[11] Marion Wheeler Scott, Interview with author, 21 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.
[12] Contract No.I-1p-15402, 27 January 1939 referenced in *General Report of the Investigation of 50 Per Cent Purchases of Private Lands in Glacier National Park* (Washington, D.C.: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Glacier National Park, 1940): 7.
[13] Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 21 March 1931. Vaught Papers.

park, which the government did buy, but for unknown reasons, it did not buy the shoreline parcel.[14] Two years later, on the 27th of March 1941, John Robinson's heirs sold the property to O.M. Junkind.[15] Alice Beck acquired the lot sometime after that, and she sold the property, with a cabin, to Eugene and Luella Fox in 1950.[16]

This suggests that Alice Beck or O.M. Junkind renovated the cabin during the 1940s. Architecturally, this makes more sense as the cabin's notched corner log construction and daubed spaces are among the traditional rustic style building techniques of cabins built during the period 1895 until the Half Moon Fire of 1929. It retains the milled lumber window and door casings and factory sash and doors regularly used by builders throughout the first half of the twentieth century. The cabin's frontal gable form with the porch recessed under the extended lakeside roof is in the stylistic tradition of Lake McDonald recreational cabins built in the early period. In form, the single-block frontal gable Dora Crump Cabin built south of the Comeaus' homestead cabins by Edward Cruger about 1910 is the most similar, and it seems possible that Cruger, may also have built this cabin. The log kneewalls on the front porch resemble those on cabins he built for R.E. McDonnell northeast of the hotel. The roof extended over the recessed porch is a feature found at Kelly's Camp and also at both the guest cabins built for the hotel, and two early cabins on the Apgar lakeshore. All of these examples, in turn, drew inspiration from the Craftsman bungalows built in numerous new American neighborhoods in the first quarter of the twentieth century.

Eugene Fox, grandfather of the current owner, lived near Chicago and first came to Glacier National Park in 1929 on a trip to visit this and other western parks. He thought Glacier was the most beautiful of all the places he visited, and he brought his family back for many summers, staying at the old Geduhn's resort in cabins managed by James Hindle. Richard Fox (b.1941), Eugene and Luella's son, does not remember a time when he did not spend summers here.[17] The Fox family's fourth generation is now using the cabin, which Eugene Fox enlarged for his family's use with a south wing and a back ell, both of matching height to the earlier log building. Both additions, however, are frame and use building materials that were relatively inexpensive at the time. Eugene Fox also convinced his brother, Clayton, and his wife, Harriet, to spend summers on Lake McDonald. They eventually bought the Henderson Cabin located in the Apgar Glacier Park Cottage Sites Subdivision at the south end of the lake in 1961. Richard Fox's daughter Julie Fox holds the deed on the Beck Cabin property.

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[14] *Plat Book, Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North.*
[15] *Book of Deeds 167/244*. (Flathead County Clerk and Recorders Office, Kalispell, Montana)
[16] Richard Fox, Interview by author. 31 July 2005.
[17] Richard Fox. Interview with author. 31 July 2005.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Sources

Buchholz, C. W. *Man in Glacier*. West Glacier, Montana: Glacier Natural History Association. 1976. 3rd printing, 1999.

Eckelberry, Henry. *Down Memory Lane in the Flathead*. Kalispell, Montana: Thomas Printing, Inc., n.d.

Fox, Richard and Julie. Interview with author. 31 July 2005.

General Report of the Investigation of 50 Per Cent Purchases of Private Lands in Glacier National Park. Washington, D.C.: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Glacier National Park, 1940. (Glacier National Park Archives (GNPA): West Glacier, Montana)

Harrington, Leona, *et al. History of Apgar*. [n.p., n.d.]. (GPNA)

Land Records Files. (GPNA)

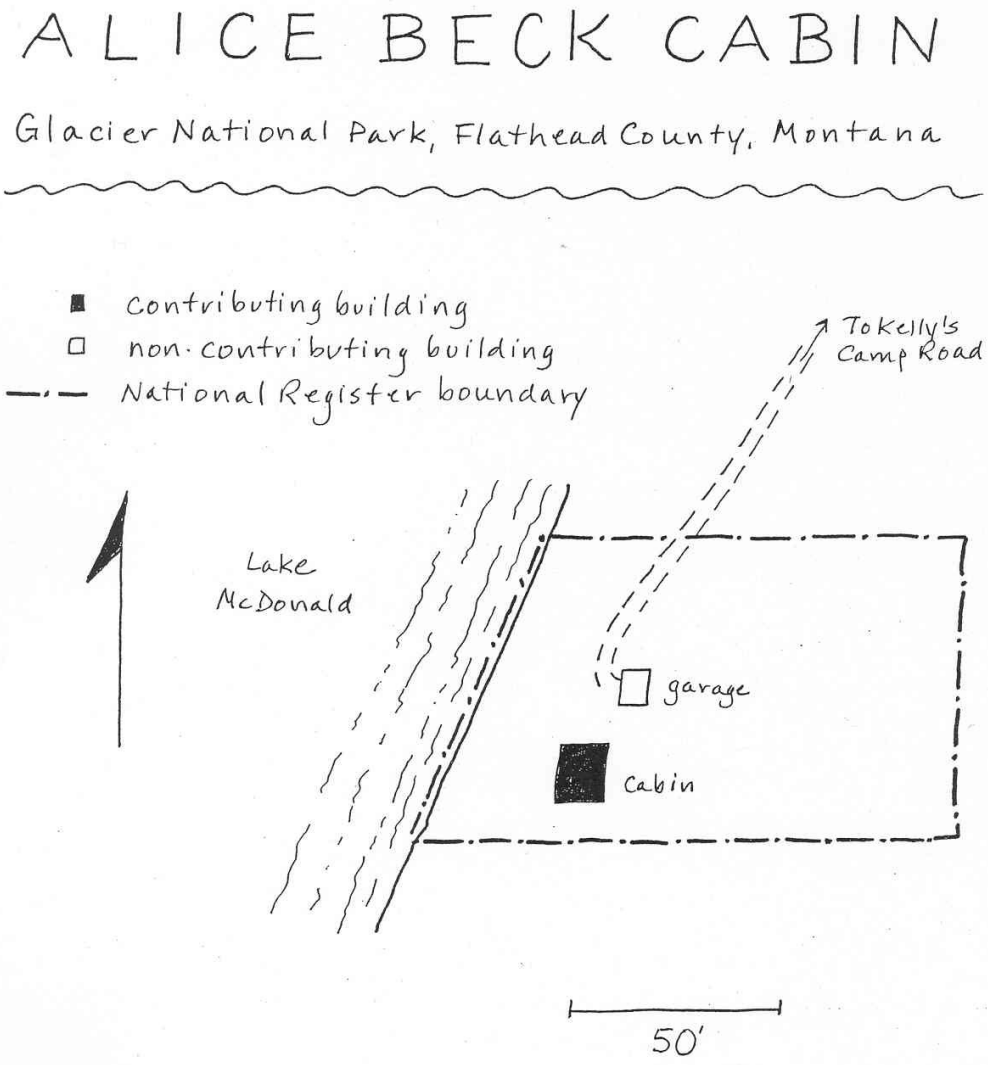
McDonald, James R. *Historic Structures Survey*. Glacier National Park. 1980.

Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North. Plat Room. (Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana)

Powell, Thelma. Interview with author. 24 July 2005.

Vaught, L.O. *History of Glacier*. Unpublished manuscript. n.d. (GPNA)

Vaught Papers. Correspondence from Lydia Comeau, Box 2, Folder 9. (GPNA)


ALICE BECK CABIN
Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana
contributing building
non-contributing building
National Register boundary
Tokelly's Camp Road
Lake McDonald
garage
Cabin
50'
Jessie Ravage 2006

11. Additional Documentation

Photographs
The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

Photographer: Jessie Ravage
Date of photograph: July 2005
Location of negative: Glacier National Park Archives

Alice Beck Cabin
Flathead County, Montana
View of Alice Beck Cabin from Lake McDonald showing southwest elevation, or front
Photograph No.1



Alice Beck Cabin; Flathead Co. Montana; Jessie Ravage; July 2005; neg: Glacier National Park Archives; SW elevation of cabin from water; Photo No. 1

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Blair's Cottage Sites Historic District

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: South side of Grist Rd, Glacier National Park **not for publication:**
city/town: West Glacier **vicinity: X**

state: Montana **code:** MT **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 _ 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

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
_____ 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)		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property 7

	Contributing	Non-contributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed In the National Register: 0	6	1	**building(s)**
			site(s)
			structure(s)
			objects(s)
Name of related multiple property listing: Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970	6	1	**TOTAL**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: Camp

Current Function:

DOMESTIC: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: Mid-Century Revival Style

MATERIALS:

Foundation: concrete
Walls: frame
Roof: metal, asphalt shingles
Other: cobblestone, brick

Narrative Description:

The Blair's Cottage Sites Historic District encompasses four recreational cabins on the southwest side of the Old North Fork Road west of the McDonald Creek in the Apgar area of Glacier National Park. Apgar Creek, which flows into McDonald Creek, forms the back line of all the lots. The main road is unpaved and rises gently through light woods of young conifers mixed with a few deciduous trees. Each property retains a frame cabin, or cottage, some with outbuildings; there are no buildings on the opposite, or northeast, side of the road. Rather than being in an obvious row, these buildings are all set at angles to the road and at varying pitches relative to one another. The lots are generally level near the road, and each is accessed by an unpaved drive. The individual property descriptions begin at the southeast end of the district and work northwest.

The **Carver Cabin** property includes Lots 1 and 2 in the Blair's Cottage Sites subdivision. The property is entered by a short, curving, unpaved drive leading toward the deck on the southeast end of the house. It passes a roughly built, open woodshed located southeast of the drive. A cobblestone bench wraps around one of the large trees at the northwest end of the house.

See continuation pages for Section 7

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):

Significant Person(s):

Cultural Affiliation: European-American

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation; Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: ca.1947-1957

Significant Dates:

Architect/Builder: unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Blair's Cottage Sites Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C as a representative example of recreational camp development on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Document (MPD) for "Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1895-1970" provides the historic context for the development of such wilderness recreational properties. These camps exemplified a national trend in vacationing in this period when some people sought rustic respites from working life, mostly in urban areas. Developed in the 1940s and 50s on a subdivision platted by Curtis and Clara Blair in 1947, these properties illustrate the broadening trend of vacationing and second homes of the post-war era. The MPD also describes the architecture associated with such properties on Lake McDonald. These frame cabins have traditional gable-roofed designs and simple rectangular footprints, but they were built and improved using a variety of post-war construction materials. Concrete block foundations and single-light casement windows were popular. Improvements, mainly new siding materials and "picture" windows, were added later. As a group they typify recreational cabins built by middle class people soon after the war.

Summary History of Development

Milo B. Apgar (1844-1896) claimed the homestead at the foot of Lake McDonald where the Blair's Cottage Sites Historic District lies soon after his arrival in June 1891.[1] According to family history, "H.D." or "Dimie" joined his parents at Lake McDonald in 1895. Milo died the following year before he received a patent for his 140.3-acre claim in Sections 14 and 23 in Township 32 West, Range 19 North.

After the Apgar children acquired Milo Apgar's patent in October 1908, they commanded roughly half a mile of shoreline west of the outlet.[2] In 1914, the Apgars platted and filed a subdivision of that land, which sold rapidly to noted or well-to-do people from Great Falls, including artist Charles Russell and General Mills President of the Montana Mills, James W. Sherwood, and others. When H.D. Apgar died in June 1922, Jessie Apgar, his widow inherited what remained of the homestead. She married Roy Haworth, a gas prospector in 1924[3] and they lived at Apgar running the cabin resort business.

See continuation pages for Section 8

[1] L.O. Vaught, *History of Glacier* (unpublished manuscript, n.d.): 408. (GNPA)

[2] The Apgars were among the heirs of Milo B. Apgar (H.D. and Jessie Apgar and Phebe and Paul Giaccopazzi), who were patented on the 22nd of June 1908 (*Book of Deeds 94/334*). H.D. and Jessie bought out H.D.'s sister's and her husband's claim in late October, using their own share as collateral to raise money by selling it in the short term, at the end of the tourist season to Frank and Emmeline Haworth Kelly. The Kelly's occupied a claim at the north end of the lake, and Emmeline was related to Jessie. These three deeds were recorded in the Flathead County Clerk and Recorder's Office in *Book of Deeds 84/334*; *Book of Deeds 109/384*; and *Book of Deeds 109/385*.

[3] Lynn Conley, Apgar Family Association, e-mail to Lon Johnson, Cultural Resources Manager, Glacier National Park, 30 November 2005.

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation pages for Section 9

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 # _____**

Primary Location of Additional Data:

___ **State Historic Preservation Office**
___ **Other State agency**
_x_ **Federal agency** Glacier National Park Archives
___ **Local government**
___ **University**
___ **Other – National Archives, Denver**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: approx. 1.5 acres

UTM References:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
(NAD27)	12	278693	5379343

Verbal Boundary Description

Blair's Cottage Sites Historic District encompasses Lots 1 through 9 of Blair's Cottage Sites Subdivision platted on the southwest side of Grist Road west of McDonald Creek in Apgar. Apgar Creek forms the back lines of the lots. The subdivision is located in Sections 14 and 23, Township 32 West, Range 19 North.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the surviving recreational camps built by individuals in the late 1940s and 1950s on land platted and subdivided by Curtis M. Blair in 1947. Blair purchased his land from the heirs of Milo B. Apgar in the post-war period, after lake front land was largely unavailable for any kind of private development.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jessie A. Ravage
organization: **date:** 10 February 2006
street & number: 34 Delaware Street **telephone:** 607.547-9507
city or town: Cooperstown **state:** New York **zip code:** 13326

Property Owner

Additional Documentation

See continuation pages, photographs, and maps

Main cabin (1949, contributing): The main cabin, or cottage, is a one-and-a-half-story, rectangular plan, gable-roofed, frame building on a concrete block foundation. It is entered through an offset doorway from the open-decked porch spanning the southeast wall. The deck overlooks Apgar Creek. The offset doorway is balanced by two windows with single, four-light fixed sash on the main floor. A pair of four-light casements above allow light into the sleeping area on the upper half-story. A large exterior cobblestone chimney with a stone mosaic panel near the top reading "BGB 1949" is centered on the northwest gable end. The cabin retains much of its period fenestration plan using horizontally sliding pairs of four-light sash, except for a large, multi-light "picture" window in the northeast, or road, side. The roof has overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends. It is sheathed in corrugated fiberglass roofing replacing an earlier material. The sides now have wide fiberboard siding, which replaces or covers an earlier siding.

The **Langel Cabin** property includes Lot 4 and the adjoining northwestern half of Lot 3 in the Blair's Cottage Sites subdivision. The property has a small, unpaved circular drive in front of the house. Behind the main cabin and below the road grade, a small lawn runs part of the way down to the creek. Near the back of the main cabin stand a frame, one-story guest cabin and a frame privy.

Main cabin (ca.1956, contributing): The main cabin, or cottage, is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled, frame building on a banked foundation built of concrete blocks. Its center entrance, on the northeast long wall of building, is reached by stoop of tiered, curved masonry steps edged with soldiered bricks. A secondary entrance at foundation level north of main entrance has a single step leading up to it. The side-gabled roof with exposed rafter ends and sheathed in metal "barn" roofing has a slightly raised shed-roofed section over both doors to protect them from rain. The asymmetrical fenestration plan uses a variety of sizes of paired casements on both the main floor and in the upper half-story. A single-light "picture" window overlooks the drive. The matching wood period doors both have a single glazed upper panel. An exterior chimney built of brick matching that used on the stoops is placed asymmetrically on the southeast gable end of the house. The house is sheathed using a pressed siding material, hung in large sheets. The gable ends retain wood clapboards, which may have once covered the entire building. Plain wood casings surround doors and windows.

Guest (Hansen) cabin (moved ca.1950, contributing): The guest cabin stands behind the main cabin. It is a small, single-story, side-gabled frame building with a concrete block, pier foundation. Its roof axis is set at right angles to that of the main cabin. The center entrance, with a paneled wood door, is in the long wall. This is flanked by windows with two-over-two sash. Casings throughout the regular fenestration plan are plain boards. The exterior is sheathed in asphalt shingles textured and colored to look like brick. The roof has exposed rafter ends. This cabin appears to be a former tourist camp cabin moved here from another location.

Outhouse (ca.1950, contributing): An outhouse also stands in the backyard. This small, square-plan, frame, building has a gabled roof with exposed rafter ends.

The **Jackson Cabin** property includes Lot 8 and the southeast half of Lot 9 in the Blair Cottage Sites subdivision. The drive linking the main road with the garage is lined on both sides with large loose rocks.

Main cabin (1948, non-contributing): This cabin is a single-story, five-bay, side-gabled frame building with an unusually long, narrow rectangular plan. The foundation is hidden by large, loosely laid up rocks. A shallow A-frame porch (ca.1960) with a shake roof and logs, which cross above the doorway, frames the center entrance. (Because of this prominent feature, the cabin has lost integrity of design.) The regular fenestration plan uses six-light casements flanked by plain board shutters throughout. The small center chimney serves a fireplace. A single-bay, side-gabled frame garage is linked to the southeast end of house by a breezeway. The garage is set back from

front line of the main block. The walls are shingled and the gable ends sheathed in vertical, peeled, milled log facing. The roof has been recently replaced with metal sheathing.

The **Gustafson Cabin** property encompasses the northwestern portion of Lot 9 in the Blair's Cottages Sites subdivision. The driveway connects the main road with the single-bay frontal gable garage connected to the cabin's northeast gable end by a short breezeway gabled into the garage roof.

Main cabin (ca.1949, contributing): The one-and-a-half-story, gable-roofed, nearly square plan, frame cabin rests on a concrete block foundation. Its main entrance in southeast long wall is offset and balanced by a large, slightly convex, multi-light "picture" window overlooking the main road. All of the remaining windows on both the main floor and in the upper half-story have four-over-four double-hung sash except for a smaller window next to the kitchen door opening onto the breezeway. An exterior brick chimney offset from the ridge rises on the southeast gable wall. The overhanging roof is finished with narrow cornice boards. Like the Carver cabin, the house and garage are sided with wide, fiberboard siding, a material popular from the mid-1930s into the 1950s and a large window probably replaces an earlier fenestration plan more like the rest of the house in the front wall. Drop siding remains visible on the leanto. The cabin, breezeway, and garage have been recently re-roofed with metal roofing.

Outhouse (ca.1949, contributing): This is a small, square-plan, gable-roofed frame building.

Integrity: The resources that comprise Blair's Cottage Sites Historic District retain a high degree of integrity. Though some changes have occurred from the original material and design, including some siding and fenestration, these changes largely date to the historic period, and do not interfere with the resources' ability to convey their historic associations. The one moved resource does not need to meet Criteria Consideration B because it was moved during the historic period.

While Glacier's founding legislation allowed proven land claims filed before 1910 to stand, the park service, established in 1916, quickly developed policy aimed at eliminating private holdings.[4] The Park Service believed that private land ownership within the parks jeopardized good management in the nation's best interest, but little was done in the Lake McDonald area to act on this mandate until the late 1920s. Money for acquisition was limited. And, in this area of the park, private land holders provided the only visitor accommodations. In 1927, as the Trans-Mountain Highway (later named the Going-to-the-Sun-Road) building crews prepared to cross the Continental Divide, the Park Service wanted to "extinguish the private holdings at the south end of Lake McDonald for the reason that the completion of the road at federal expense would enhance the value of the private property." Director Stephen Mather wrote, "The south end of Lake McDonald presents a very unattractive appearance at the present time as a result of the number of cheap types of cottages that have been built, and this condition will only be aggravated unless the remaining unimproved property can be secured by the Government and removed from sale as small building lots."[5]

After the Half Moon Fire swept through Apgar late in the summer of 1929, Congress moved quickly to appropriate $198,000 to buy out inholders at Apgar. It even relaxed the policy of requiring a 50% match from a private source, planning to make up the difference later, in an effort to speed the process. These purchases of 1930, called the 100% purchases, cleared many buildings from the lake shore at Apgar, but the influx of cash prompted further development in Apgar during the Great Depression. As the government offered a premium on lakefront parcels in an effort to clear all houses from the shore line, Apgar residents sold their shoreline land to buy inland parcels where they rebuilt houses and businesses.[6] These businesses found ready customers among the growing number of auto tourist services, especially with the opening of two highways crossing the mountains.

Jessie Apgar Haworth had offered to sell her 5.5-acre parcel of 18 inland lots south of the Old North Fork Road crossing the bridge to the government "on the same basis as . . .she sold adjoining properties to the Belton Mercantile Company and Greenwalt. . . approximately $57,000."[7] She also owned the 6-acre tract north of the road with an additional 23 lots and her cabin resort. Solinsky, the park service's agent for the purchases, knew both tracts could support business development, but could afford neither. Haworth sold all of these lots in the 1930s and early 1940s. She also sold inland lots west of the outlet, where Apgar residents built additional new houses and businesses. Horace Chadbourne, who lived at the head of the lake, characterized Apgar as having "many new homes" and "modern accommodations for tourists" in 1957.[8]

Among Jessie Apgar Haworth's holdings was the land purchased and developed by Curtis M. Blair after the fire. Blair came to the area in the winter of 1915-1916, having headed west from Massachusetts in 1914 with his sights set on Alaska. The onset of World War I so depressed the Alaskan economy that he ended up in Big Sandy, Montana, visiting friends from home, Ray and Gordon Price. With them, he spent the winter trapping on the North Fork of the Flathead River. By 1922, he had moved to Apgar and lived in a house next to the schoolhouse, which burned in the Half Moon Fire of 1929. Like Ray Price, he worked for the park. Blair was among the carpenters who built the superintendent's house.[9]

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[4] On 3 March 1917, Congress passed the first bill with this end. It allowed inholders to trade for land outside the park in exchange for timber holdings. A copy of the bill is Box 1, Folder 29, Land Records, Glacier National Park Archives.
[5] Stephen Mather to Senator Thomas J. Walsh, 11 June 1927. File No.610-01(L1425): *Land Acquisition. Exchanges (Gen.) Including State and School Lands, 1925-1951*. USDOI-NPS (Glacier NP). (GNPA)
[6] Horace Chadbourne, *History of Apgar* (n.p., n.d.): 50. (GNPA)
[7] Solinsky to Director of the Park Service, 10 November 1930. File No.610-D1 (L1425). (GNPA)
[8] Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, 47.
[9] *History of Apgar*, 12.

In 1930, Blair bought a 1.85-acre parcel on the northeast side of the road west of the outlet from Jessie Apgar Haworth.[10] He built a house and five tourist cabins,[11] which stood on the east side of old bridge road, beginning near the access road for the former Gruber camp near the outlet and running along the road almost to the sharp bend turning north to follow the shore. Most of the Blair tourist cabins were small, brown-stained log cabins with white trim, but there were also some frame ones too. While generally built for summer use, men working on the Hungry Horse Dam in the 1940s and 1950s rented some of them year round.[12] Several families, who came from Hi-Line towns like Rudyard, Chester, and Inverness on the Great Northern Railway east of the Continental Divide, were regular visitors. There were lots of children, who had a great deal of freedom to do as they pleased.[13] When the Blairs bought additional land on the opposite side of the road and platted a subdivision called Blair's Cottage Sites in 1947, some of Blair's seasonal customers bought lots and built their own cabins.[14] After the Blairs sold their rental cabin property to the government in 1956, the park used the cabins for some time as seasonal housing. Like the Nyberg cabins and the Sunell motel, built closer to outlet on the opposite side of the road and at about the same time, Blair's tourist cabins were demolished in the 1960s.[15]

While none of Blair's own tourist cabins remains, five individually built family cabins, or cottages, stand on Blair's 1947 Cottage Sites subdivision[16] Four of these, one non-contributing, are encompassed by this district. Each of the three contributing properties has a simple, one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled frame cabin built of standard, inexpensive materials with a minimum of detailing. Unlike all other recreational cabins around Lake McDonald, these cabins have no lake frontage. By the post-war period, shoreline lots were scarce and increasingly costly. Blair's lots provided their buyers with proximity to the lake and to the services at Apgar. Individually, little is known about the people who built these cabins, except what the buildings themselves suggest. Just as pre-war cabins drew their design aesthetic from the Craftsman bungalows built in America's expanding small towns and cities of that time, these post-war cabins were simple versions of the new housing springing up in large numbers in newly platted suburbs across America. The three contributing cabins are at once traditional in form, diminutive in size, and plain, as remained characteristic of summer cabins for many middle-class Americans until the late 1950s

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[10] *Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*. (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)
[11] [Mr. Blair], *History of Apgar*, 12.
[12] *Plat Books for Section 23, Township 32 West, Range 19 North* and for *Section 14, Township 32 West, Range 19 North*, and James Grist, e-mail to author, 19 December 2005.
[13] Judy Sargent, Interview with author, 20 June 2005.
[14] *Subdivision Book "B," Blair's Cottage Sites Subdivision.* (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)
[15] James Grist, e-mail to author, 19 December 2005.
[16] James Grist, e-mail to author, 19 December 2005.

and early 1960s. Like their suburban counterparts, these cabins were relatively affordable and provided a sense of orderly modernity within the accepted building tradition.

The first cabin starting at the southeast end, the Carver Cabin, retains a mosaic dated "1949" near the top of the stone chimney. The initials "BGB" are arranged around the date, standing for the Carver's first names, Betty, Glenn, and Beulah.[17] This is likely to be the building date for the cabin, as Glenn G. Carver filed the deeds for both lots of the property that year.[18] Glenn G. Carver sold the property, composed of two of Blair's lots, to Gilson and Betty Riecke in 1971. The former retains the deed.

Theo and Evelyn Langel filed the deed for the second cabin in the row from Thomas and Bernice Carver in 1956. R.E. and Margaret M. Hansen assembled the property, composed of one and a half of Blair's lots in 1948, with neighbor Glenn Carver buying the half lot adjoining his land. The Hansens owned the property six or seven years and may have built the small frame cabin with asphalt shingle siding that still stands behind the cabin facing onto the road. The Langels built the main cabin[19], and Evelyn Langel still holds the deed.

The last contributing cabin in the district (northwest end) is the Gustafson Cottage on the north half of Lot 9. Frithiof Gustafson filed the deed for that part of the lot in 1948, and it remained in the family until 1992.

[17] Jarmes Grist, e-mail to author, 17 January 2006.
[18] James Grist, e-mail to author, 17 January 2006.
[19] James Grist, e-mail to author, 17 January 2006.

Sources

Buchholz, C. W. *Man in Glacier*. West Glacier, Montana: Glacier Natural History Association. 1976. 3rd printing, 1999.

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Land Records Files. (GPA)

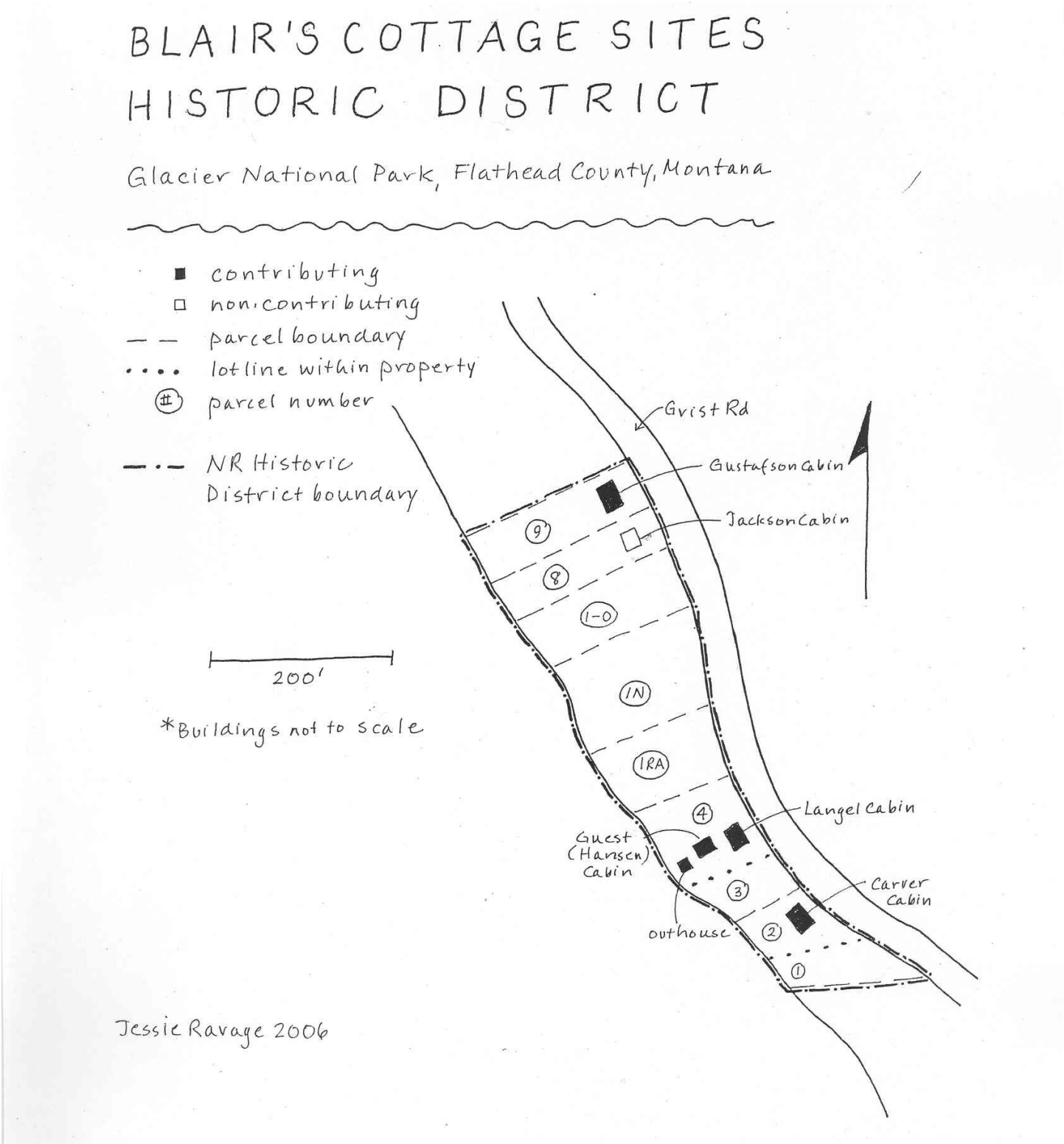
McDonald, James. *Historic Structures Survey*. Glacier National Park. 1980.

Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North. (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)

Sargent, Judy. Interview with author. 20 June 2005.

Subdivision Book "B." (Plat Room, Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana)

Vaught, L.O. *History of Glacier*. Unpublished manuscript. n.p., n.d. (GNPA)



Site Map for Blair's Cottage Sites Historic District

Property Owners

Lot 9 EX S25' and Lot 1RB
name/title: Loren Solberg and Seven Blackfoot Co. LLC
street & number: P.O. Box 468 **telephone:**
city or town: Choteau **state:** MT **zip code:** 59457

Lot 8 and S25' Lot 9
name/title: Rhody Revocable Living Trust
street & number: 22217 Melchert Way SW **telephone:**
city or town: Vashon **state:** WA **zip code:** 98070

N ½ Lot 3 and Lot 4
name/title: Evelyn Langel
street & number: P.O. Box 172 **telephone:**
city or town: Rudyard **state:** MT **zip code:** 59540

N26.2' 1 and 2 and S½3
name/title: Gilson Riecke
street & number: 2209 East Mitchell, P.O. Box 126 **telephone:**
city or town: Ruthaven **state:** Iowa **zip code:** 51358

Lots 1, 1RA, 1N, 1-O (vacant land)
name/title: Superintendent, Glacier National Park
street & number: **telephone:**
city or town: West Glacier **state:** MT **zip code:** 59936

Photographs
The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

Name of property: Blair's Cottage Sites Historic District
County and State: Flathead County, Montana
Photographer: Jessie Ravage
Date of photograph: July 2005
Location of negative: Glacier National Park Archives

Carver Cabin
View of northeast (front) and northwest sides of Carver Cabin from entrance to driveway
Photograph No.1

Langel Cabin
View of northeast (front) and southeast sides of Langel Cabin from entrance to driveway
Photograph No.2

Langel Cabin Guest (Hansen) Cabin
View of southeast (front) and northeast sides of cabin from back yard of Langel Cabin
Photograph No.3

Jackson Cabin
View of northeast (front) and southeast sides of Jackson Cabin from main road
Photograph No.4

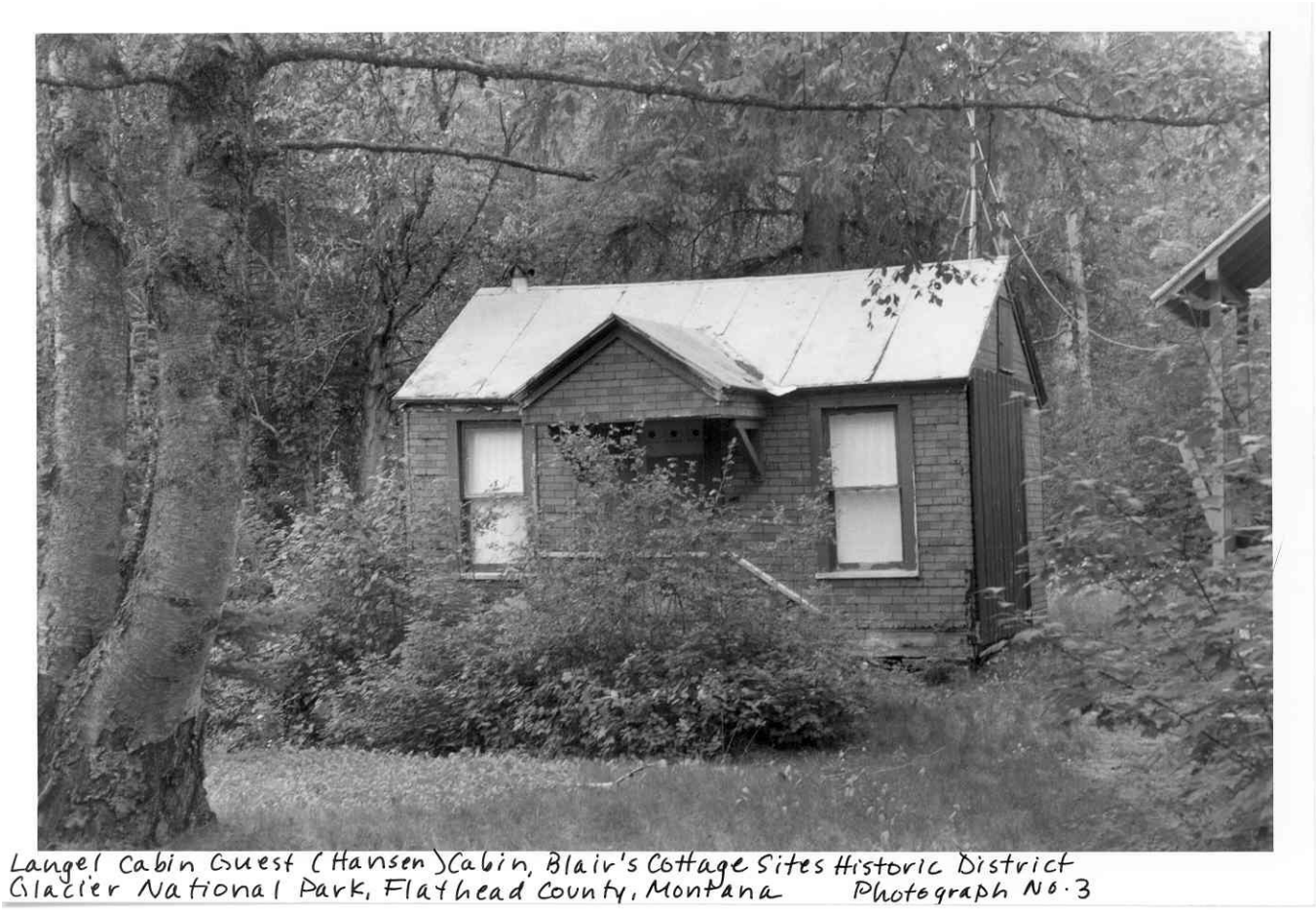
Gustafson Cabin
View of northeast (front) and southeast sides of Gustafson Cabin from road
Photograph No.5



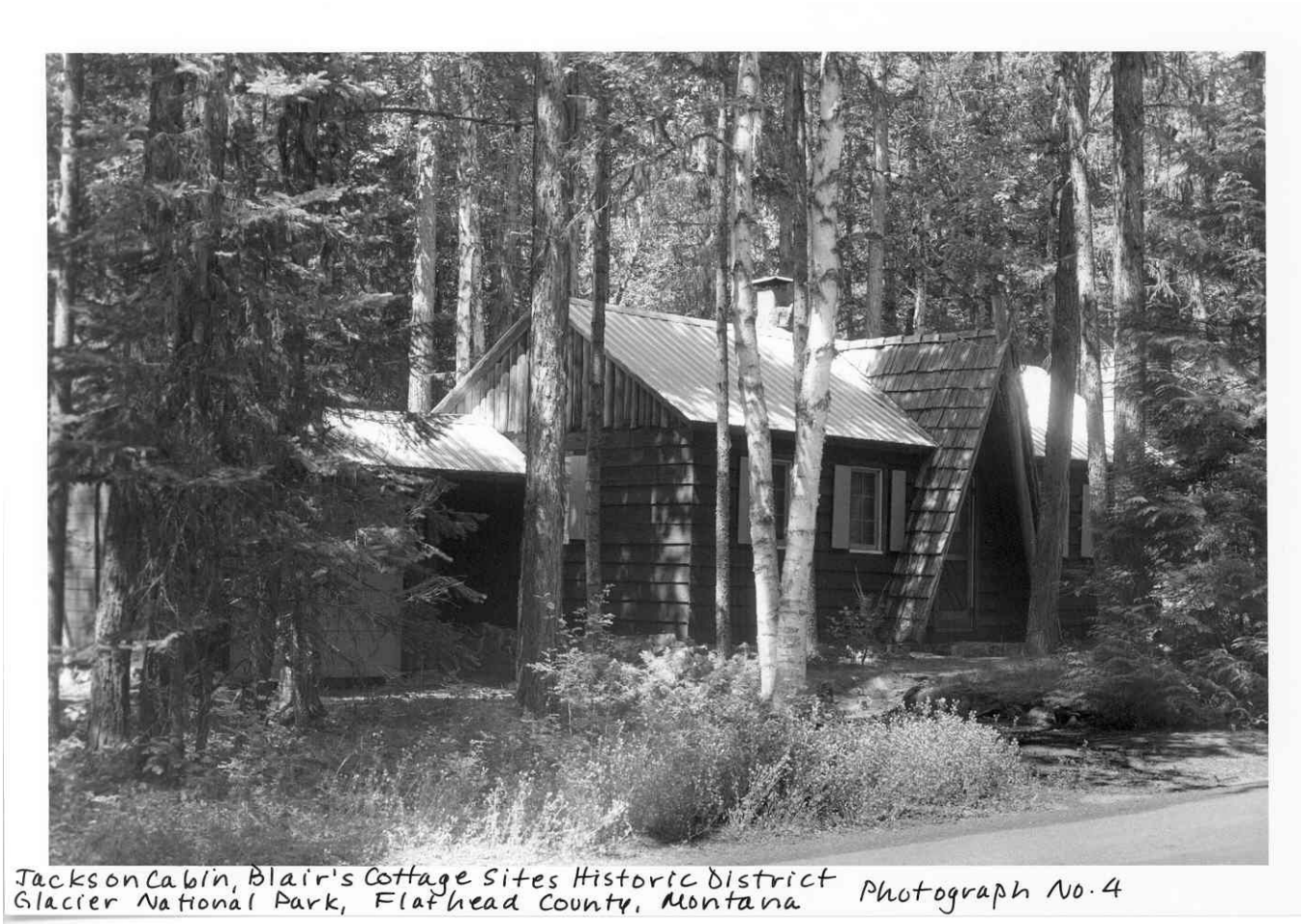
View of northeast (front) and northwest sides of Carver Cabin from entrance to driveway
Photograph No.1



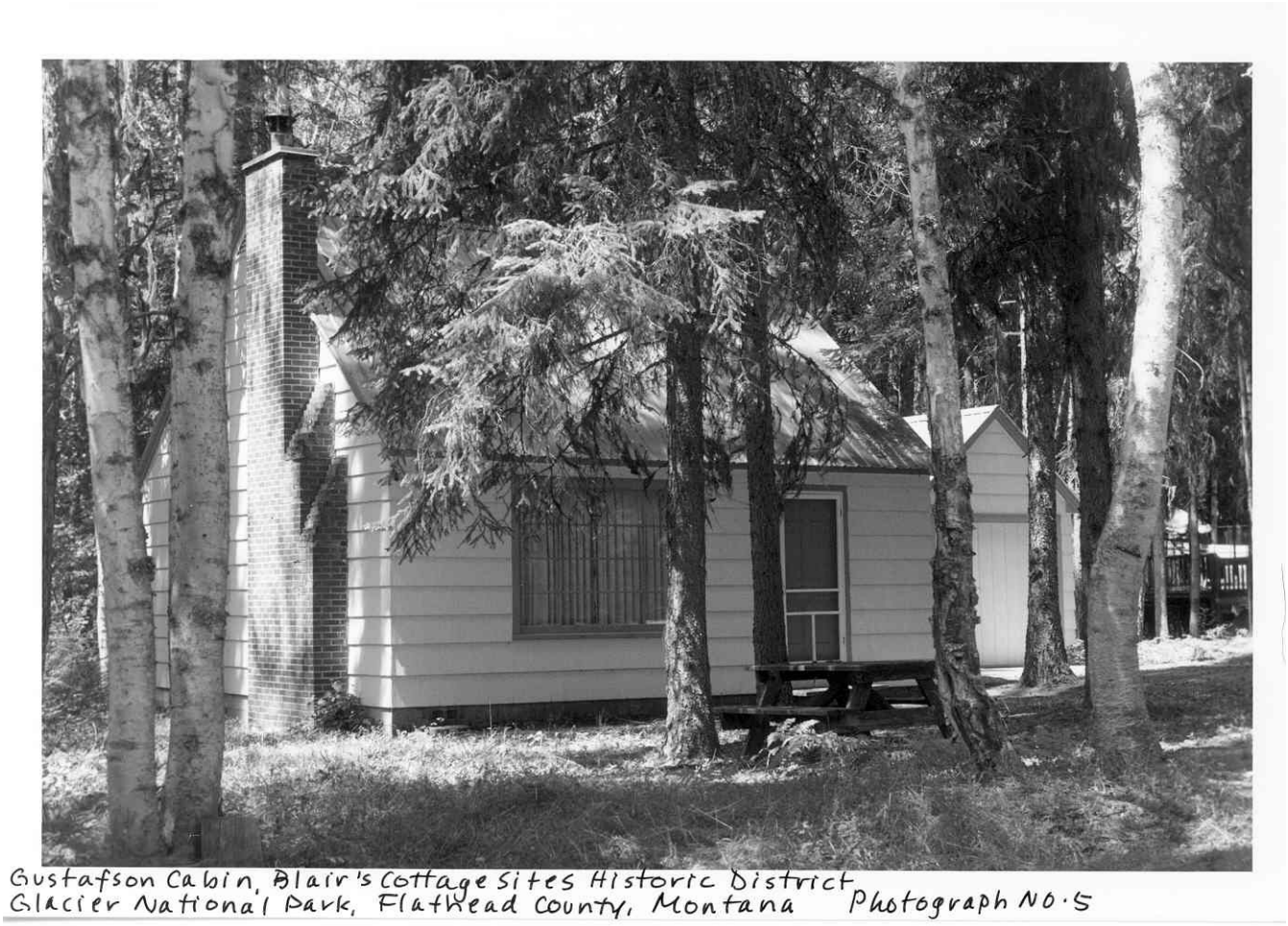
View of northeast (front) and southeast sides of Langel Cabin from entrance to driveway
Photograph No.2



View of southeast (front) and northeast sides of cabin from back yard of Langel Cabin
Photograph No.3



View of northeast (front) and southeast sides of Jackson Cabin from main road
Photograph No.4



View of northeast (front) and southeast sides of Gustafson Cabin from road
Photograph No.5

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Greve's Tourist Cabins

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: W side of Going-to-the-Sun Rd; Glacier National Park

not for publication: n/a

city/town: Lake McDonald **vicinity:** X

state: Montana **code:** MT **county:** Flathead **code:** 029 **zip code:** 59921

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 _ 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

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
_____ 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)		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-federal

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property 8

	Contributing	Non-contributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed In the National Register: 0	7		**building(s)**
			site(s)
	1		**structure(s)**
			objects(s)
Name of related multiple property listing: Recreational camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970	8	0	**TOTAL**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: Camp

Current Function:

DOMESTIC: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: Rustic Style

MATERIALS:

Foundation: log, concrete
Walls: log, frame
Roof: cedar shakes, wood shingles, asphalt shingles
Other: brick

Narrative Description:

The Greve's Tourist Cabins camp is located on the east shore of Lake McDonald roughly three-quarters of a mile from where the inlet, Lake McDonald Creek, flows into the lake and a half-mile north of the Lake McDonald Lodge. The property, sited between the lake shore and the Going-to-the-Sun Road, encompasses less than two acres, but includes 150 feet of shore line. The property is entered by a steep driveway turning off the highway at a sharp angle and sloping to a terrace or bench of land overlooking a less steep bank falling away to the pebble beach studded with boulders that rims the lake. The drive stops at a cleared area on the terrace, where fine grass forms a small lawn. Otherwise, a variety of conifers frame the group of eight buildings clustering on the terrace and the lower bank. Adjoining the open beach, deciduous shrubs grow among the boulders. All of the buildings on the property stand on the terrace and the lower bank. These include the Dora Crump (or main) Cabin near the center of the site; three guest cabins (one southwest of the main cabin and two north of it); a privy, a generator house, and a wood shed sited behind the main cabin in a row; and a bath house built at the east edge of the terrace across the drive. A flight of log steps connects the main cabin with the beach and the guest cabin southwest of it. Disused paths run between the various buildings.

The Greve's Tourist Cabins camp once included five additional frame cabins similar to Cabins 7 and 8, which were scattered in an irregular plan in the area south of where the surviving buildings stand. A second outhouse, like the one near Cabin 8, stood near them. While their loss alters the overall scale of the camp, the surviving buildings retain their density relative to one another along and with their ancillary structures. This preserves an integrity of setting among the remaining buildings, which embrace all of the necessary functions of the tourist camp.

See continuation pages for Section 7

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a
Significant Person(s):

Cultural Affiliation: European-American

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation; Architecture
Period(s) of Significance: ca.1910-1957
Significant Dates: ca.1910, ca.1932
Architect/Builder: unknown/Edward J. Cruger (Dora Crump Cabin); Frederick "Dutch" Greve (Cabins 7 and 8)

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Greve's Tourist Cabins is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria A and C. The property is a representative example of one type of recreational camp development, the tourist cabin camp, on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Document (MPD) for "Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1895-1955" provides the historic context for the development of such wilderness recreational properties. The property is part of the original Comeau homestead located on the east shore of Lake McDonald near the head of the lake. As a single woman, Ruth Anderson began buying parcels from the homestead in the early 1930s. She and her new husband, Fred Greve, bought additional parcels in the early to mid-1930s to assemble a property totaling about two acres with 150 feet each of lake frontage and road frontage. By 1938 or 1939, the Greves spent summers in the Dora Crump Cabin and rented eight cabins they had built during the previous six or seven years. The camp operated until 1978. The MPD also describes the architecture associated with such properties on Lake McDonald. The Greve's Tourist Cabins includes the Dora Crump Cabin built by noted cabin builder Edward J. Cruger. It also comprises three guest cabins. One is a log cabin with unusual dovetailed corners. The other two are frame cabins typical of the 1930s and 1940s around Lake McDonald. It also includes ancillary buildings necessary to a 1930s tourist cabin camp, including the generator house to provide electric light, a woodshed for stove wood, a privy, and a bath house.

Summary History of Development

The Greve's Tourist Cabin historic district encompasses roughly two acres of the former Comeau homestead located on the east shore near the head of Lake McDonald. Denis Comeau staked his claim to the property about 1893[1] and received a patent for it on the 6th of December 1906. The property lay in the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 14 in the Township 33 North, Range 18 West. While working as a sawyer during the winter in Columbia Falls, he met Lydia Wing Cruger. She ran a boarding house called the Valley House. Mrs. Cruger was a widow with three adolescent children—Edward, Ida, and Ruth—when she and Comeau married about 1900. She had lived in Michigan and Ohio before coming to Montana about 1892. Denis Comeau was an Acadian from Nova Scotia, who had also worked his way west. Mining was also among his early interests in this area, and he was one of six partners in the Evangeline Mine claim, presumably named for his Acadian heritage. The other partners were Mattie Comeau, Frank Kelley [sic.], William W. Kiley, John Greenwood, D.A. Greenwood, Mark Myers, and F.C. Geduhn, all of Flathead County.[2] Kelly and Geduhn were fellow homesteaders on Lake McDonald.

See continuation pages for Section 8

[1] L.O. Vaught, *History of Glacier* (unpublished manuscript, n.d.): 439. (GPA)
[2] *Book 67, page 115*, 18 December 1901. Book of Deeds. Kalispell, Montana: Flathead County Clerk and Recorder's Office. His granddaughter, Thelma Powell also mentioned the mine in an interview conducted by the author on 28 July 2006.

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation pages

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___ **preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.**
___ **previously listed in the National Register**
_x__ **previously determined eligible by the National Register** (SHPO)
___ **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** Glacier National Park Archives
___ **Local government**
___ **University**
___ **Other – National Archives, Denver**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 1.5 acres

UTM References:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
(NAD27)	12	288449	5389372

Verbal Boundary Description

The Greve's Tourist Cabins property is located between the Going-to-the-Sun Road and the east shore of Lake McDonald. The boundary encompasses Lots 2BE, 2BEA, 2BF, and 2BH as noted in the Flathead County plat book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the entire Greve's Tourist Cabins site between Lake McDonald and the Going-to-the-Sun Road..

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jessie A. Ravage
organization: **date:** 10 February 2006
street & number: 34 Delaware Street **telephone:** 607.547-9507
city or town: Cooperstown **state:** New York **zip code:** 13326

Additional Documentation

See continuation pages, photographs, and maps

Property Owner

name/title: Superintendent, Glacier National Park
street & number: **telephone:**
city or town: West Glacier **state**: MT **zip code:** 59936

Dora Crump Cabin (ca.1910, contributing building, GNP building 1316; Builder: Edward Cruger): This is the largest and most prominent cabin on the site. This frontal gable, one-and-a-half-story log cabin is built using unpeeled cedar logs with notched corners. The spaces between the logs are daubed with clay. The cabin has a banked log pier foundation. On the front, or lake side, of the cabin the main roof is extended over a full-width, pole-framed, screened porch. A flight of plank steps accesses the porch's south side. The back, or east end, has a shallower screened porch now partially enclosed. This is entered from ground level. The gable ends are shingled, and each end retains a pair of horizontally sliding six-light sash. Centered on the north wall, an exterior cobblestone fireplace chimney runs to eave level, where it is topped with several lengths of stovepipe. The cabin retains most of its period fenestration plan using factory sash and paneled wood doors. It retains double-hung windows with six-light sash in the front and back elevations. One of these is replaced with a large single-light fixed sash window (added 1955) in the west wall to give a broader view of the lake. Horizontally sliding pairs of six-light sash are used in all other openings. The main center entrance has a five-panel door with original hardware. The back door is a three-panel door, also with original hardware. The roof's north face is covered with shakes; the south roof face has asphalt shingles. A cinderblock chimney extends through the southeastern part of the roof.

The main floor includes a living room with a stone fireplace on the north wall and a kitchen and a bedroom at the rear of the cabin. A bathroom was added in the 1950s by enclosing the north half of the back porch. Above the kitchen and bedroom, is a sleeping area reached by an open stair from the living room. The log walls are partially hewn and the spaces covered with narrow cedar staves to create relatively smooth interior walls. Room divisions are simple stud walls sheathed in beadboard or board-and-batten. The cabin is open to the roof, and the entire ceiling is sheathed in beadboard. The living room and sleeping areas have hardwood tongue-and-groove flooring (added 1962). The kitchen and bathroom retain linoleum floors. Interior doors are five-panel wooden doors with original hardware.

n.b. When the government acquired the property, it numbered this Building #1316 in the park inventory.

Cabin 8 (1938, contributing building, GNP building 1370): Cabin 8 stands directly north of the main cabin. It is a single-story, gable-roofed, frame building with a banked, log pier foundation. Exterior plank steps at the northwest corner ascend to the screened porch and the only entrance to the cabin. This retains a five-panel wood door with original hardware. The southwest corner of the porch is enclosed to provide a bathroom. The exterior walls are sheathed in drop siding. The cabin retains its fenestration plan using paired six-light sash. In the gable ends, these are hung vertically, but the remainder slide horizontally. The cabin has a cedar shingle roof. A crumbling brick stove chimney projects from the roof's south face.

The cabin interior has three rooms divided by stained and varnished plywood walls in addition to the later-added bathroom on the porch. The floors are painted pine boards. The ceiling is open, with roof sheathing and rafters visible. A kitchen counter, sink, and small cupboard are located in the southwest corner.

n.b. This cabin is referred to as Cabin 1 in Fladmark's D.O.E. because the government referred to it as Cabin 1 in correspondence with Ruth Greve. Historically, it was called Cabin 8. When the government acquired the property, it numbered this Building #1317 in the park inventory.

Cabin 7 (1938, contributing building, GNP building 1318): Cabin 7 stands northwest of the main cabin. This is a single-story, gable-roofed, frame building resting on a banked, log pier foundation. Exterior plank steps ascend to the screened porch on the front, or lakeside, wall. A back door, with a five-panel door and a wood screen door, opens into the northeast corner at grade. A gable-roofed, frame bathroom addition (1957) is cross-gabled into the southeast corner of the main block creating an L-plan footprint. The main roof is covered with asphalt shingles, while the newer roof section retains wood shingles.

The cabin interior has three rooms divided by stained and varnished plywood walls in addition to the later-added bathroom on the porch. The floors are painted pine boards. The ceiling is open, with roof sheathing and rafters visible. A kitchen counter, sink, and small cupboard are located in the southwest corner.

n.b. This cabin is referred to as Cabin 2 in Fladmark's D.O.E. because the government referred to it as Cabin 2 in correspondence with Ruth Greve. Historically, it was called Cabin 7. When the government acquired the property, it numbered this Building #1318 in the park inventory.

Cabin 4 (1931, contributing building, GNP building 1320): Cabin 4 stands southwest of the main cabin on a banked log pier foundation. This single-story, gable-roofed cabin has log walls with tightly fitted, dovetailed reverse-notch joints smoothed at the corners to create flush ends. A screened porch spans the front, or lake side, and is reached by exterior plank steps. The gable ends are sheathed in wood shingles and the roof has asphalt shingles. The brick stove "closet" chimney pokes through the northeast corner of the roof. The west entrance retains a five-panel wood door with period hardware.

The interior is a single room with an enclosed bathroom inserted in the southeast corner. Wall logs are left round, and wood staves cover the daubing. The pine board floor is painted. The three windows have pairs of six-light sash which slide horizontally. A sink and space for a cookstove occupy the northeast corner. The ceiling is open with roof sheathing and rafter boards visible.

n.b. When the government acquired the property, it renumbered this Building #1320 in the park inventory.

Bath house (ca..1939, contributing building, GNP building 1325): The bath house stands southeast of the main cabin and across the drive overlooking the small lawn there. It is a long, narrow, single-story, side-gabled, frame building with drop siding and an asphalt shingle roof. A brick chimney projects through the center of the ridge line. Three five-panel wood doors enter three chambers in the middle portion of the building. Additional doors in the gable walls enter chambers at the north and south ends of the building. All doors and hardware are original. Windows with four-light, fixed sash flank the end doors. The end rooms housed men's and women's showers. The center chamber provided storage and housed the hot water heater. The building is badly deteriorated, and the roof partially collapsed, but retains a high degree of integrity of materials and setting and is important in understanding the ancillary facilities of a tourist cabin camp.

n.b. When the government acquired the property acquired the property, it numbered this Building #1325 in the park inventory.

Woodshed (ca.1910, contributing building, GNP building 1326): The woodshed stands immediately east of the main cabin. Both the roof and walls are sheathed in board-and-batten siding. The door is also board-and-batten. The interior is unfinished and unpainted. The board floor is rotting.

n.b. When the government acquired the property, it numbered this Building #1326 in the park inventory.

Generator shed (ca.1935, contributing structure): The generator shed is a single-story, gable-roofed, frame building with drop siding. The door is located in the south gable end. The door is made of vertical boards with interior horizontal battens. The roof has asphalt shingles. The interior is unfinished.

Outhouse (ca.1940, contributing building, builder WPA): The outhouse stands east of Cabin 8 and north of the generator house. This shed-roofed building has beadboard siding, a wood shingle roof, and rests on a concrete pad. The door is constructed of three vertical boards battened with an "X," and is shielded from view by a sagging lattice. The interior has a two-holed bench and white-painted walls.

The Comeaus lived at Lake McDonald in the summers, improving the property, and in Columbia Falls during winters. Denis also worked as a guide by 1898 and maintained a string of about a dozen horses and mules for clients at a corral and log barn on the homestead. He was among the group of local men involved in the exploration of the region's glaciers, along with Sperry and others, and a pass is named for him. Comeau built a small log cabin on the homestead claim, with a tiny cookstove in the southeast corner, a bed in the northeast corner, a table and chairs in the southwest corner by the door, and a closet made of a curtain in the northwest corner. There were also a smokehouse and an outhouse with a child's seat as well as a typically sized one. A few years later, Denis and Lydia Comeau built a larger cabin in two phases to replace the old claim cabin. Constructed close to the northeast corner of the latter cabin, the first block of the cabin included a kitchen with a big woodstove and two bedrooms. One bedroom was later converted to a pantry. A later addition provided a large living room and two additional bedrooms.[3]

Lydia and Denis Comeau divorced in 1907 or 1908, when their only child, Beatrice (b.1902) was about five years old. Denis went to British Columbia; Lydia continued living at Columbia Falls in the winter and Lake McDonald in the summer. In February 1908, Denis filed a deed giving Lydia Lots 2 and 3, comprising the southern two-thirds of their homestead. He retained Lot 1 (the northern third), which he sold to Olive Lewis, wife of John E. Lewis, in 1908.[4] A photograph shot from the lake, probably soon after Denis Comeau's departure, shows the cabins surrounded by an open, grassy area. A picket fence with a gate marks the edge of the beach. At the gate stand two women in summer dresses holding up a banner with "Camp Bohemia" on it.[5]

By 1908, the Comeaus had transferred two small parcels from the homestead property. In 1908, with her son Eddie hospitalized and herself recently divorced, Lydia Comeau sold a 100 x 100-foot shoreline parcel to Dora Crump[6], a well-to-do woman from the Polebridge area.[7] After his recovery, Cruger built her a log cabin. By this time, Cruger was well established as a log cabin builder on Lake McDonald. Over a career spanning nearly sixty years, he built numerous privately owned cabins and also worked for the park service as a master carpenter by the early 1920s.

The Crump Cabin is a relatively large frontal gable log cabin with the notched and daubed log walls, factory sash and doors, and a lakeside porch characteristic of all private recreational cabins of the period. Like most private cabins (as opposed to resort cabins), it has a large exterior cobblestone chimney rather than a simple stove chimney. It owes it frontal gable form with the porch recessed under its extended gable end to the inspiration of the Craftsman-style bungalows popular in the first quarter of the twentieth century. Its rustic log appearance and siting back among the trees evoked a sense of wilderness retreat unlike the sense of order at the adjacent homestead cabins where a neat picket fence delineated an open lawn and cabins from the beach and lake. The Crump Cabin later became the central building of the Greve's Tourist Cabins property.

Dora Crump sold her cabin with the south half of its original 100 x 100-foot parcel in 1930 to Thomas B. Hogan. He sold it in 1931 to Ruth Anderson[8], a schoolteacher from Oaks, North Dakota, who had also taught in Tonopah, Nevada, and Thompson Falls, Montana. The same year, Crump sold an additional 25 x 100-foot parcel

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[3] The description of this property comes from an interview with Beatrice Comeau McComber's granddaughter, Thelma Powell, conducted by the author in July 2005. In July 2006, she added that her grandmother built the picket fence from wooden packing crates to keep her young daughter from wandering away from the cabins. The salvage from this cabin was used to build a guesthouse by Alexander Speyer, current owner of the parcel with the old claim cabin. The latter cabin was incorporated into the new guest cabin. Both of these cabins appear in photographs donated by Beatrice Comeau Macomber to the Glacier National Park Archives.

[4] *Book of Deeds 103/499*. (Flathead County Clerk and Recorders Office, Kalispell, Montana).

[5] Photograph 9863. (GNPA)

[6] Lydia Comeau to L.O. Vaught, 4 March 1931. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 2, Folder 9. (GNPA)

[7] Bruce Fladmark, *Determination of Eligibility (D.O.E.) for Greve's Cabins*, Glacier National Park, 1994.

[8] *Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*. (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)

spanning the cabin lot's back line (and also the northern half of the original cabin lot). Anderson began teaching in Columbia Falls, where she met and married Fred "Dutch" Greve about 1932. Greve was a tall, awkward-seeming man, who worked at his parents' saloon. They opened the tourist cabin camp soon after they married. A childless couple, they raised Dutch's orphaned niece, Donna McClure (Greve – adopted surname) Tanaka (b.1942).[9]

The Greves added two adjoining parcels to the property. They bought the 50 x 100-foot parcel north of the cabin lot from C.[urtis] M. Blair, and a 1.72-acre parcel, which included the 50 feet of lake front south of the cabin parcel and wrapped behind the earlier acquisitions as far as the Going-to-the-Sun Road, from Lydia Comeau in 1935.[10] The completed property included the main cabin (Dora Crump's cabin), eight tourist cabins built between 1931 and 1938, a wood shed, a generator house, an outhouse, and a bath house (built ca.1939). These ancillary buildings provided small luxuries like electric lights powered by the generator and showers in the bath house. Since visitors cooked on wood stoves, the woodshed housed a wood supply. And, everyone used the outhouse. The water supply was provided *via* a gentleman's agreement between the Greves and Lydia Comeau.[11]

Cabin 4 was the oldest of the guest cabins on the property. It uses a reverse dovetail join at the logs, which were squared rather than left round as in all other log cabins around Lake McDonald. Ruth Anderson Greve stated that a Norwegian man built it in 1930 or 1931, so it may already have been on the Crump Cabin lot when she bought it. The Greves built the other seven cabins, all frame buildings with a variety of finishes. Cabin 1 stood west of Cabin 4, near the lake. Cabins 2, 3, 5, and 6 were south of these on the 1.72-acre parcel. Cabins 7 and 8 were north of the main cabin. The service buildings—the privy, generator house, and woodshed—stood in a line behind the main cabin. The bath house stood across the main drive into the property.[12]

Except for two summers during World War II, the Greves ran the cabin camp together every year until Dutch's death in 1966. Ruth Greve raked the grounds, did the laundry, cleaned cabins, and kept the books. Dutch Greve maintained the cabins and installed improvements, like indoor plumbing and a septic system in 1957 to replace the two outhouses (one still standing) built by the WPA. These had covered seats connected by a pulley and rope to the door, so that the latrine was covered automatically when the user left. The lids would drop suddenly with a sound like a shot. Their niece, Donna, filled kindling boxes and emptied "night jars", or chamber pots. In the winter, the Greves lived in Columbia Falls, and later in Portland, Oregon. Ruth Greve continued operations through the 1978 season.

A cooperative relationship existed among the tourist cabin camps around Lake McDonald. If no cabins were available at one site, its owners would call other cabin camps—Powell's, Blair's, and Greenwalt's at Apgar; Bose's Inwood Cabins less than a quarter mile south of Greve's, and Kelly's Camp across the lake—to find vacancies. The Lake McDonald Lodge cooperated as well. Visitors included overnighters, people who stayed a couple weeks, and

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[9] Fladmark, *D.O.E.* Much of Fladmark's information about day-to-day operations at Greve's was gained through correspondence with Donna Tanaka after the property transferred to federal government.

[10] *Plat book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North.* Fladmark states that the Greves bought the 1.72-acre parcel from Lydia Comeau in 1935. The plat book records the deed's filing date in 1939, but deeds were often filed long after the transfer occurred. Lydia Comeau sold all of her remaining holdings in the park to the government in 1937.

[11] Fladmark, *D.O.E.*

[12] Fladmark, *D.O.E.*

people who came back every year. Repeat visitors included John C. Harrison (b.1912), who honeymooned at Cabin 7 in 1942 and states that his firstborn, Nina, was conceived there. She owns a cabin northeast of Lake McDonald Lodge; Harrison became a Montana Supreme Court Justice. Dr. Dyer (d.1994), the head of the Law Department at Rutgers University in New Jersey, also visited Greve's.

The federal government bought the property in 1977 with a business reserve through the 1978 season. Ruth Greve retained the right of use of the main cabin through 1993 and the two cabins north of it through 1983. In 1984, the National Park Service removed all of the frame cabins south of the main cabin. Two of the cabins were moved to the Many Glacier Valley and joined to make a single residence (Building #1356) at the Swiftcurrent Ranger Station. Ruth Anderson Greve passed away in 1985. Her adopted daughter, Donna Greve Tanaka, used the main house through the summer of 1993.

n.b. Much of the information presented here about the Greves is taken from Bruce Fladmark's Determination of Eligibility (December 1994). It has been edited to accommodate additional information found by this author.

Sources

Buchholz, C. W. *Man in Glacier*. West Glacier, Montana: Glacier Natural History Association. 1976. 3rd printing, 1999.

General Report of the Investigation of 50 Per Cent Purchases of Private Lands in Glacier National Park. Washington, D.C.: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Glacier National Park, 1940.

Fladmark, Bruce. *Determination of Eligibility for Greve's Cabins*, Glacier National Park, 1994.

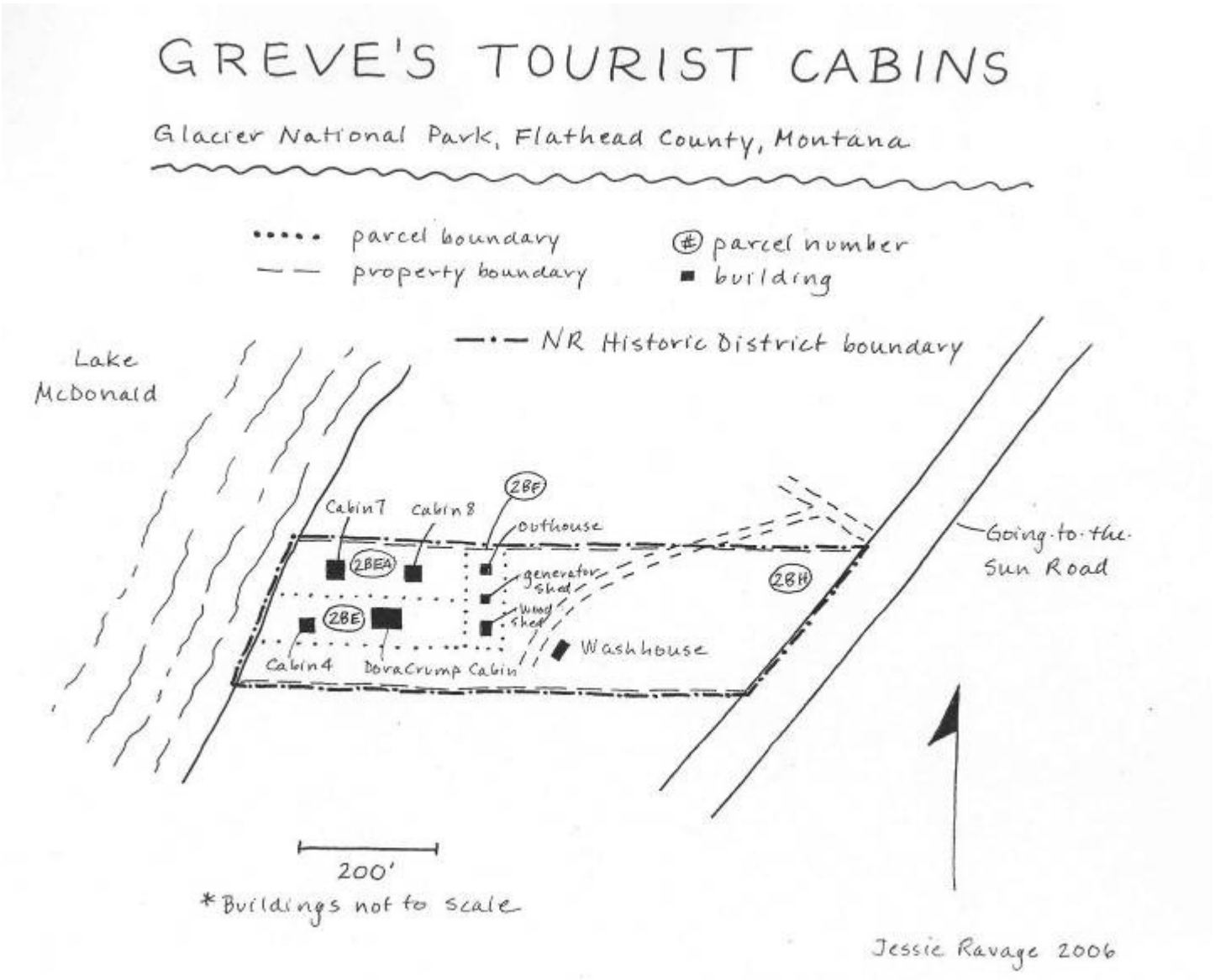
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McDonald, James R. *Historic Structures Survey*. Glacier National Park. 1980.

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Vaught, L.O. *History of Glacier*. Unpublished manuscript. n.d. (GNPA)

Vaught Papers. Correspondence from Lydia Comeau, Box 2, Folder 9. (GNPA)


GREVE'S TOURIST CABINS
Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana
parcel boundary
property boundary
parcel number
building
NR Historic District boundary
Lake McDonald
Cabin 7
Cabin 8
2BF
Outhouse
2BEA
generator shed
2BH
Going-to-the-Sun Road
2BE
wood shed
Wash house
Cabin 4
Dora Crump Cabin
200'
*Buildings not to scale
Jessie Ravage 2006

Site Map

Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

Name of property: Greve's Tourist Cabins
County and State: Flathead County, Montana
Photographer: Jessie Ravage
Date of photograph: July 2005
Location of negative: Glacier National Park Archives

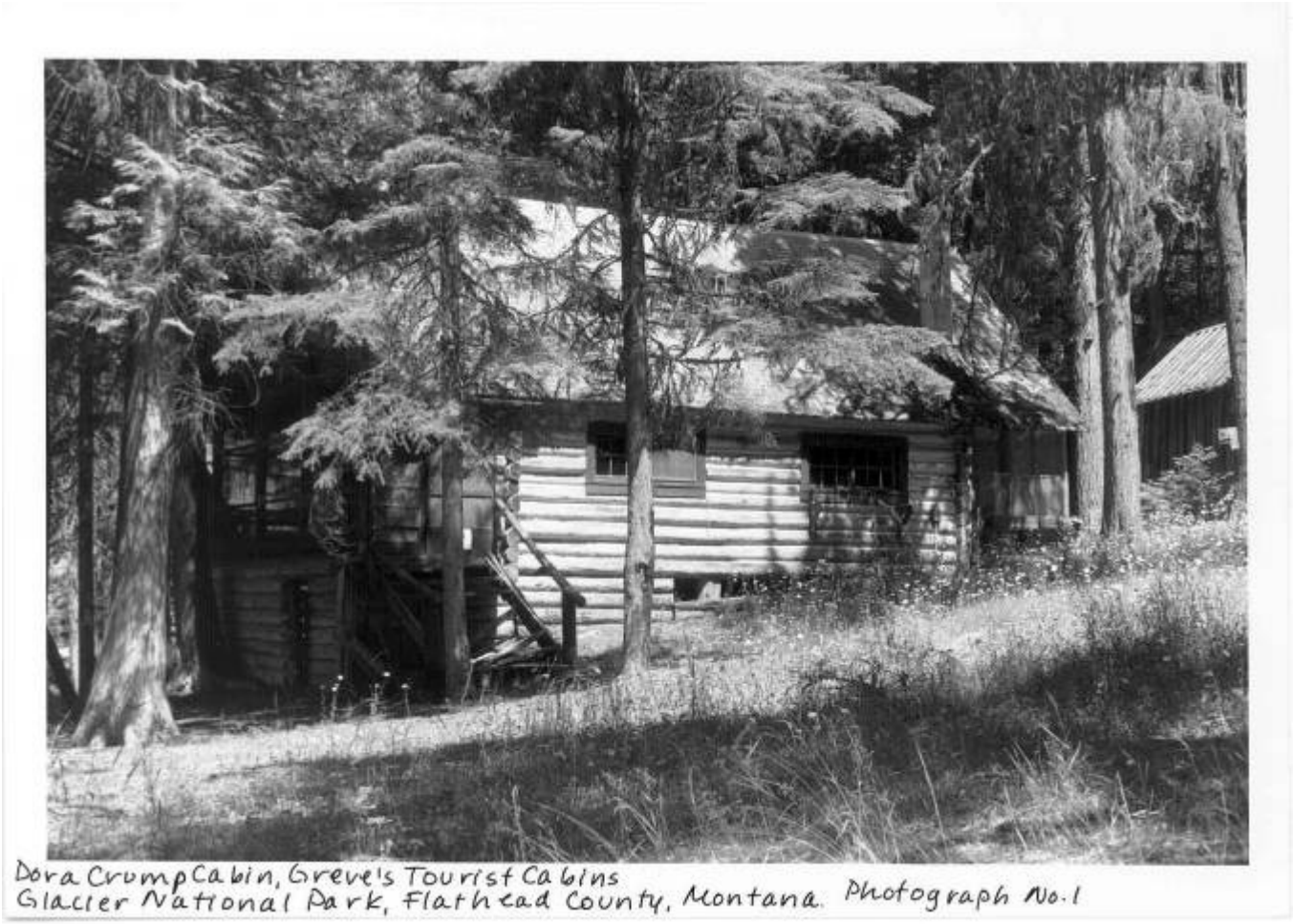
Dora Crump Cabin
View of west (front) and south sides of Dora Crump Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1

Cabin 8
View of west (front) and south sides of Cabin 8 from in front of Dora Crump Cabin
Photograph No.2

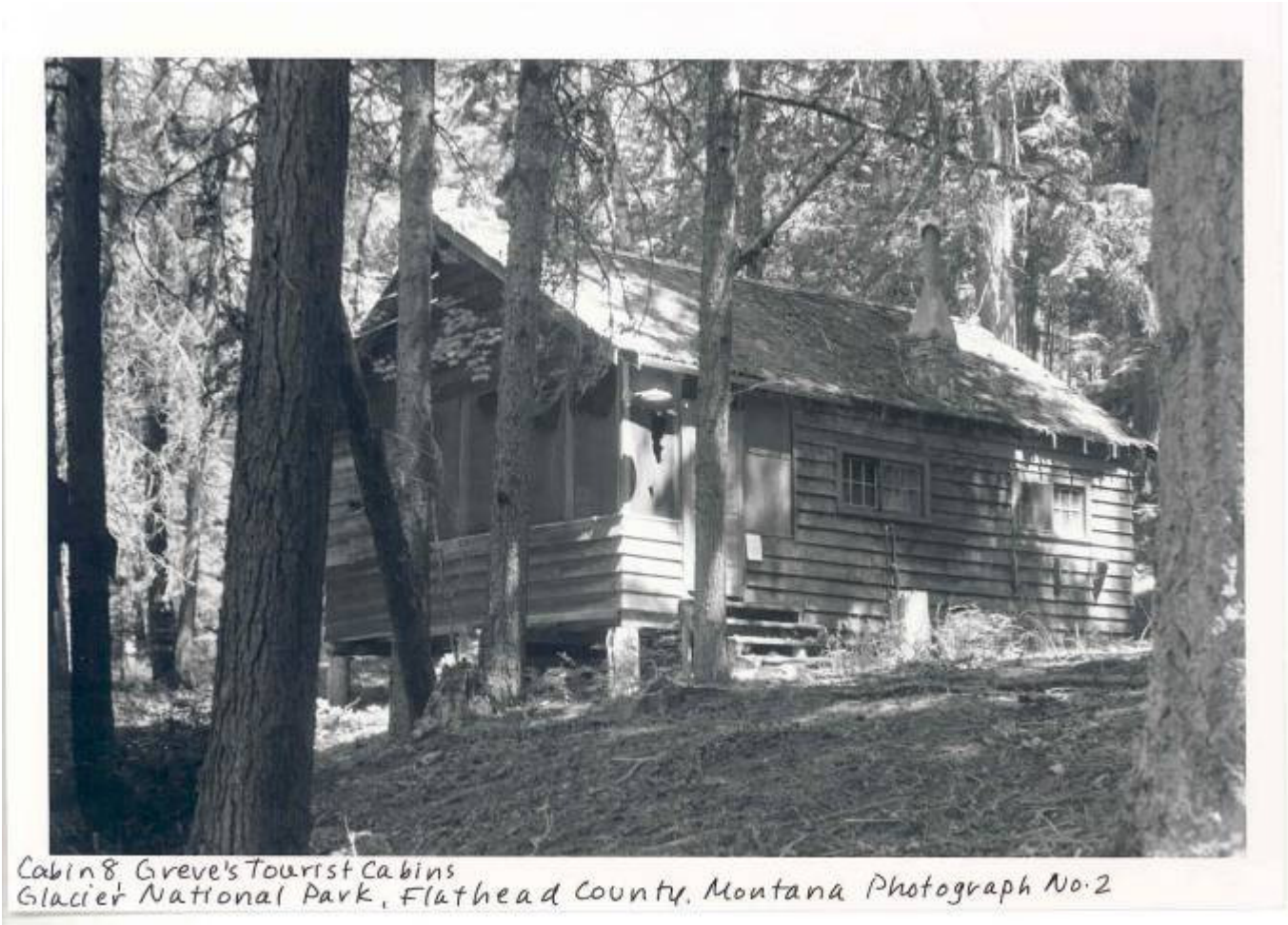
Cabin 7
View of west (front) and south sides of Cabin 7 from beach of Lake McDonald
Photograph No.3

Cabin 4
View of west (front) and north sides of Cabin 4 from beach of Lake McDonald
Photograph No.4

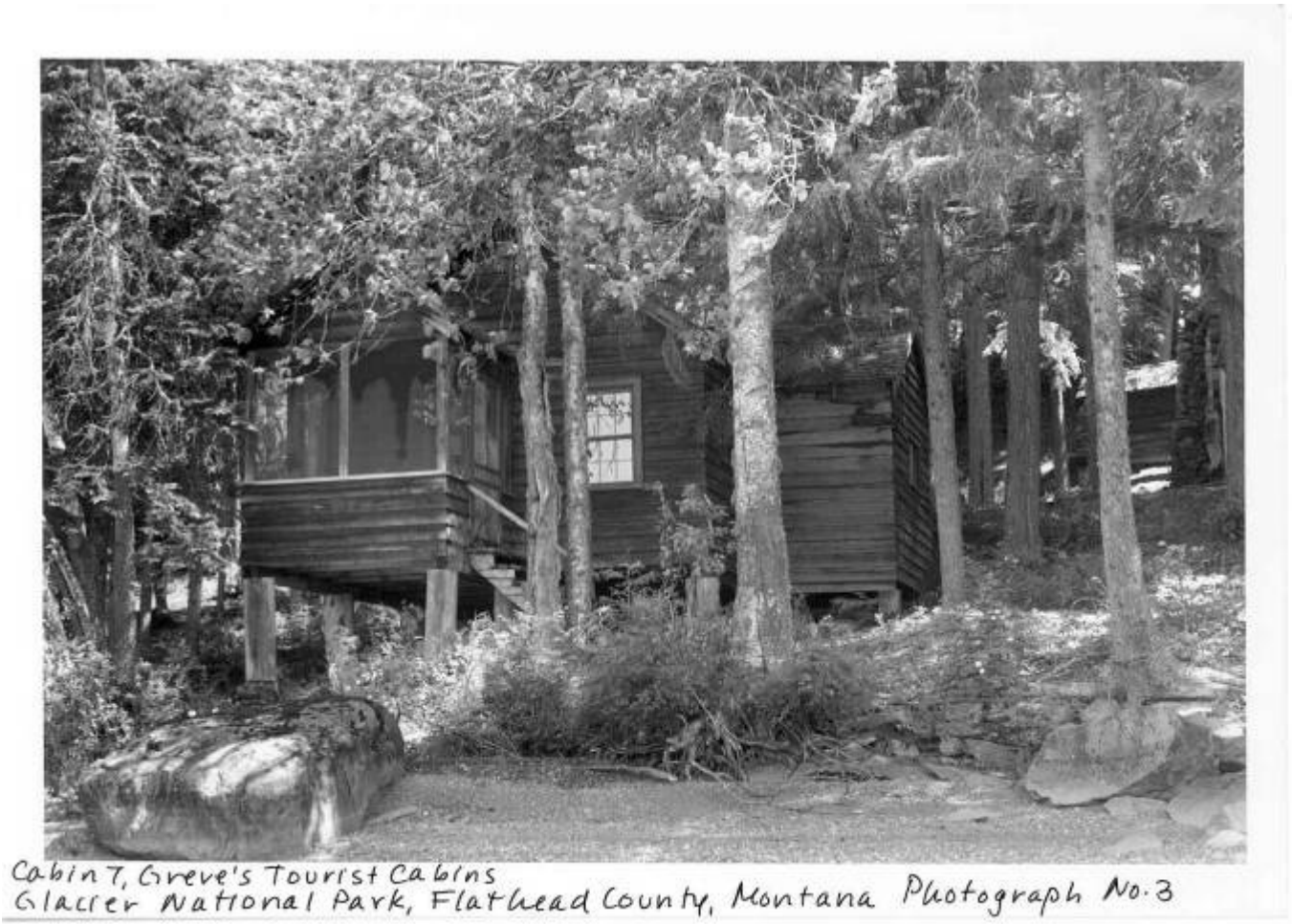
Outhouse, generator shed, woodshed
View of west and north sides of, from left to right, outhouse, generator shed, and wood shed from northwest of the outhouse and behind Cabin 8
Photograph No.5



Dora Crump Cabin
View of west (front) and south sides of Dora Crump Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1



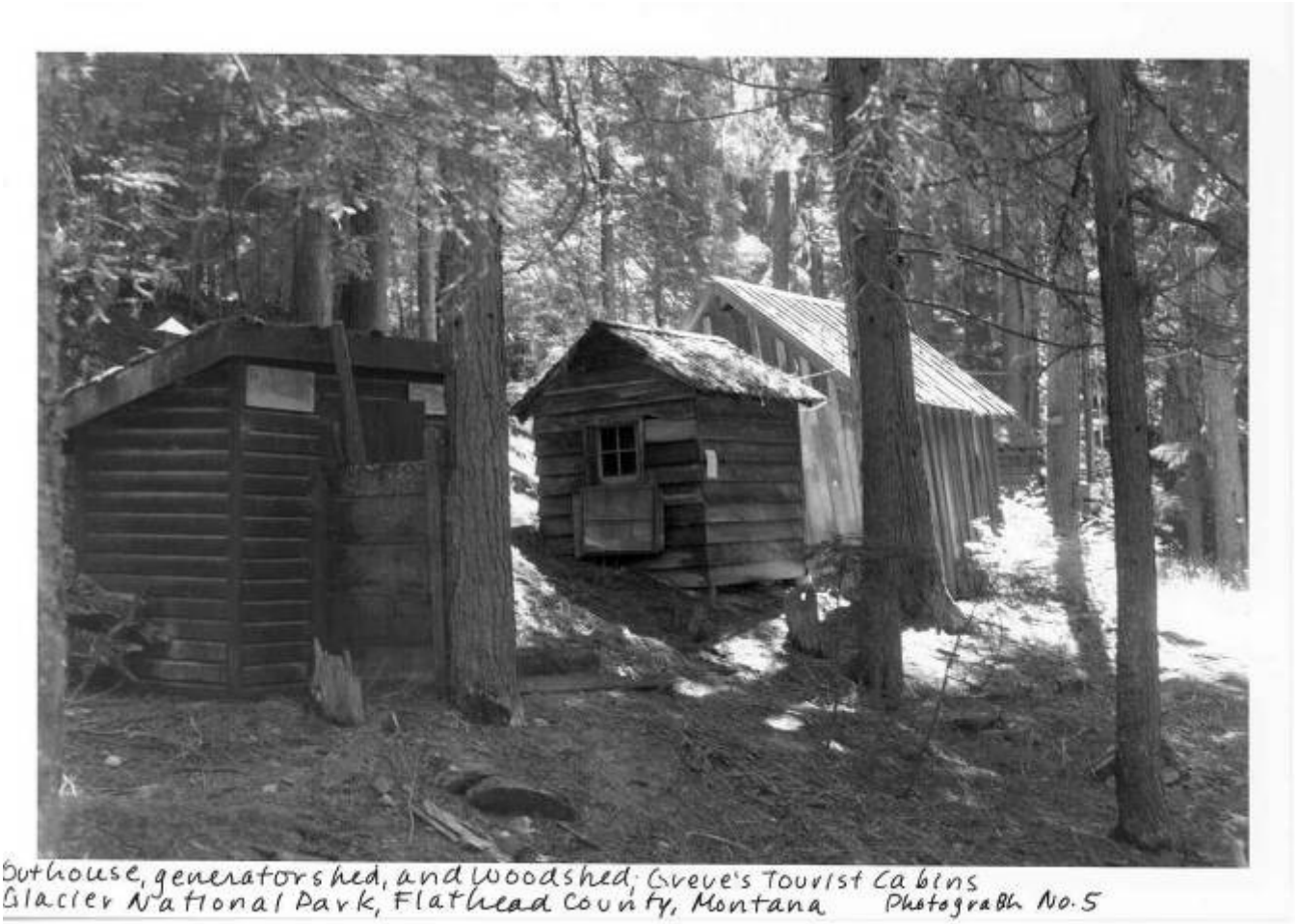
Cabin 8
View of west (front) and south sides of Cabin 8 from in front of Dora Crump Cabin
Photograph No.2



Cabin 7
View of west (front) and south sides of Cabin 7 from beach of Lake McDonald
Photograph No.3



Cabin 4
View of west (front) and north sides of Cabin 4 from beach of Lake McDonald
Photograph No.4



Outhouse, generator shed, woodshed
View of west and north sides of, from left to right, outhouse, generator shed, and wood shed from northwest of the outhouse and behind Cabin 8
Photograph No.5

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites Historic District

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: North side of Apgar Loop Rd, Glacier National Park

not for publication: n/a

city/town: West Glacier **vicinity:** X

state: Montana **code:** MT **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 _ 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

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
_____ 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)		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property 4

	Contributing	Non-contributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed In the National Register: 0	4		**building(s)** **site(s)** **structure(s)** **objects(s)**
Name of related multiple property listing: Recreational camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970	4		**TOTAL**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: Camp

Current Function:

DOMESTIC: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: Rustic Style

MATERIALS:

Foundation: log, concrete, stone
Walls: log, frame
Roof: metal, asphalt shingles
Other: stone

Narrative Description:

The Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites Historic District encompasses two lakefront properties each with a recreational cabin, on the shore of Lake McDonald, about a quarter-mile east of the village of Apgar in Glacier National Park. Combined, the two lots span 100 feet of shoreline. The lakeshore road connecting Apgar with the Going-to-the-Sun Road runs along the back lines of both lots, which are 150 feet deep. The area is cloaked in light woods of young conifers mixed with a few deciduous trees. Each property is accessed by a short dirt drive entering from the road. Located on the terminal moraine at the foot of the lake, the land here is level. The beach is composed of large pebbles ranging in size from quail's eggs to duck eggs.

Aubert Cabin (ca.1924, contributing): The Aubert Cabin is located on Lot 3 in Block 2 of Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites. It is a single-story, frontal gable, log cabin built of logs with notched corners and daubed with clay. It rests on a log pier foundation. The cabin's main roof is extended over an open porch on the lake, or north, side. The porch has rustic log railings and lattices extending the side walls to the front line of the building. The center entrance, with a wood paneled door, is flanked by windows with double-hung, six-over-six sash. The cabin retains its regular fenestration plan using double-hung six-over-six factory sash throughout the main block of cabin. A frame, gable-roofed back addition (ca.1970), which continues the axis and height of the main roof, has an offset doorway in the back wall with a single casement window next to it. Designed to house indoor plumbing, the addition has wood clapboard siding. The entire roof has been recently replaced with metal roofing.

See continuation pages for Section 7

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):

Significant Person(s):

Cultural Affiliation: European-American

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation; Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: ca.1924-1957

Significant Dates:

Architect/Builder: unknown/Peter Aubert (Aubert Cabin)

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C as a representative example of recreational camp development on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Document (MPD) for "Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1895-1970" provides the historic context for the development of such wilderness recreational properties. Charles Howes subdivided the shoreline of his homestead in 1920, and sold building lots with 50-foot frontages. Most of these lots were used for seasonal camps. These exemplified a national trend in vacationing in this period when some people sought rustic respites from working life. Some property owners at the Howes's sites were year round residents. And several of the sites were owned by fairly local people who wanted a place on Lake McDonald in addition to their winter residence. The MPD also describes the architecture associated with such properties on Lake McDonald. Built in the 1920s and 1930s, the family camps built at Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites had modest, rustic cabins. The two cabins in this district represent the two most common materials used for construction around the lake. The Aubert Cabin, is built of logs, which were popular before the Half Moon Fire of 1929 and the Mars Cabin is built of milled lumber, more commonly used after the destruction of the surrounding cedar forest.

Summary History of Development

Homesteader Charles Howes (b.1856, Steuben County, New York) followed the Great Northern Railway's tote road through Marias Pass from Great Falls with Milo B. Apgar (b.1844, Tompkins County, New York) to the foot of Lake McDonald in June 1891.[1] Howes and Apgar had a falling out shortly afterwards, and the latter moved west of the outlet with earlier arrivals Frank C. Geduhn (b.1859, Germany) and John Findlay.[2] Late in the year, Findlay fell through the ice on McDonald Creek and drowned. Geduhn, mourning the loss, exchanged his claim for one at the north end of the lake and left his claim west of the outlet to Apgar in May 1892. This left Howes and his wife Maggie, whom he had married in Wisconsin, on their own east of the outlet.

Howes was known for his wilderness skills. "He was a crack shot, an expert boatman in white water, knew [where] the trout were and how to catch them, was fully able to take care of himself in the wilds."[3] Gonhild "Bud" Henderson, who came to Belton in the early 1900s, visited the Howeses often. She described the Howses' first house as hardly more than a covered cellar placed near the location of the present Apgar Amphitheater. After it caved in, Howes replaced it with a "bungalow-type" cabin, which he later rented out seasonally. Still later, he built a third dwelling with walls made of logs set vertically and a cupola reached by a circular stair.[4]

See continuation pages for Section 8

[1] L.O. Vaught typescript synopsis of letters 1919-1937, affidavit, and notes from a conversation in 1926 or 1927. L.O. Vaught papers, Box 1, Folder 16. (Glacier National Park Archives)

[2] This falling out is mentioned in several sources. Charlie Howes skirted the issue in his correspondence with Vaught, but did say in a letter dated 8 February 1935, "I brought old man Apgar into the Country- now he and his wife, and his boys are all gone."

[3] L.O. Vaught. *History of Glacier*. (Unpublished manuscript, n.d.): 408. (GNPA)

[4] Gonhild "Bud" Henderson, Historical Interview, 25 August 1977. (GNPA)

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation pages

Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary Location of Additional Data:
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.	___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ previously listed in the National Register	___ Other State agency
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register	_x_ Federal agency Glacier National Park Archives
___ designated a National Historic Landmark	___ Local government
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____	___ University
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____	___ Other – National Archives, Denver

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 0.35 acres

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	12	279602	5378992

Verbal Boundary Description

Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites Historic District encompasses Lots 1 and 2 in Block 3 of Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites Subdivision platted between the Apgar Loop Road and the shore of Lake McDonald at the foot of the lake of the lake. The subdivision is located in Section 23, Township 32 West, Range 18 North.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the two remaining lots where cabins dating to the pre-World War II period survive in Charles Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites Subdivision, which he platted from his homestead in 1920.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jessie A. Ravage
organization: **date:** 10 February 2006
street & number: 34 Delaware Street **telephone:** 607.547-9507
city or town: Cooperstown **state:** New York **zip code:** 13326

Additional Documentation

See continuation pages, photographs, and maps

Property Owner

name/title: (HLMCS, Lot 1) Marilyn Wilcox Conservator, and Wilcox Family Living Trust, c/o Hamilton Misfeldt & Co.
street & number: P.O. Box 1605 **telephone:**
city or town: Great Falls **state:** MT **zip code:** 59403

name/title: (HLMCS, Lot 2) Christopher J. Lahr and Michael Lahr and Paul Lahr c/o Beverly Lahr
street & number: 1216 Mamalu Street **telephone:**
city or town: Honolulu **state:** HI **zip code:** 96817

Privy (ca.1924, contributing): The privy is a small gable-roofed log cabin built with unpeeled cedar logs. It retains a wood panel door, but has been recently roofed with metal sheathing, like the main cabin.

Mars Cabin (ca.1930-1935, contributing): The Mars Cabin is located on Lot 2 in Block 3 of Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites. The cabin as a single-story, side-gabled, nearly square-plan, frame building with clapboard siding and a prominent exterior cobblestone chimney on the west gable end. Parts of the cabin's cobblestone foundation match the chimney. A glazed, shed-roofed porch (probably glazed after initial construction) spans the lake (north) side of house. The irregular fenestration plan is composed of a nine-light casement windows and paired four-light sash which slide horizontally in plain board casings. The cabin also retains period wood paneled doors. The back entrance has a masonry stoop with soldiered brick edges. The roof, with exposed rafter ends, is covered with with metal roofing.

Boathouse (mid-20th century, contributing): The boathouse is a low, frontal gable, frame building oriented north-south and placed above high water line near the property's west line. It has wood clapboard siding and a roof with exposed rafter ends sheathed in asphalt shingles. The doors are laid up of vertical boards with horizontal battens.

As tourism developed in the mid-1890s, the Apgar area was the point of departure to the rest of Lake McDonald and all of the mountains and glaciers beyond on the west side of the Continental Divide. Rail passengers debarked at Belton and reached Apgar by ferry and stage. Some stayed there, while others boarded the steamer "F.I. Whitney" (placed on the lake in 1895 by hotel owner George Snyder) to the head of the lake.

Besides occasional cabin rental, Howes ran a store, built privies to accommodate tourists, and worked as a ranger. He also may have skippered the steamer "F.I. Whitney."[5] While H.D. Apgar played the leading role in the area's commercial development in the early 1900s, leading to the town's name, Howes's main role lay in realty. Around Lake McDonald, the cabin resort business ran parallel with the dividing of small lakefront parcels from the earlier homesteads beginning as soon as patents were issued, mostly in 1906 and 1907. The pace increased in the 1910s. Howes, himself, sold off lake front lots at the east end of his holdings to Charles Foot in 1909, David Ross in 1913, and Roderick "Doc" Houston in 1915.[6] At the west end of his claim, however, he lost about 14 acres in a suit with H.D. Apgar contesting a boundary about 1910.[7] No source yet uncovered documents the facts of the law suit, but maps and land records suggest that Apgar prevailed and received all of the land west of a line drawn south from a cedar tree on the lake shore in 1912.[8] After the settlement, Howes sold two lakefront parcels east of the dock—one to Orville Denney, a boat entrepreneur,[9] and the other to the Kalispell Mercantile.[10]

In October 1920, Howes still held over a half mile of shoreline between the Apgars' development and his own house, when he and his wife filed a four-block subdivision, Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites, totaling 37 lots. He had watched as H.D. and Jessie Apgar, in 1914, had filed and successfully sold off a similar subdivision of shoreline lots west of the outlet. The lots in Howes's Blocks 2 and 3 sold quickly, with most transferring in 1921 or 1922, and all but one transferred by 1926. In 1921, Theodore Herlihy of Belton purchased five contiguous lots in Block 2, as well as a large lot south of the road in 1921. He incorporated the Transmountain Hotel Co. with Walter H. Griffin of Kalispell and Maude Baker, also of Belton, as directors. Sidney and Douglas Gold became directors shortly thereafter.[11] Peter "Gus" Aubert came to Lake McDonald as the Golds' partner in 1921 and helped build a "beautiful little hotel."[12] This property included guest cabins and a dance hall on the large lot across the road.[13]

Other than the hotel property, individuals bought single lots. Some built recreational cabins. Among these were Hannah Mars, who filed a deed for Block 3, Lot 1, in 1924; the Athearns, the Schoknechts, and others.[14] Peter Aubert bought Lot 2 in Block 3 in 1924, where he built a cabin, and Lot 1 in Block 4 in 1926, where he built additional buildings.[15] By then, he had left the hotel partnership and was working as a caretaker for James W. Sherwood, who owned a camp in the Apgar subdivision.[16]

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[5] Bea Macomber and Ace Powell, Jr., Historical Interview, 4 June 1976. (GNPA)
[6] *Plat Book for Section 23, Township 32 West, Range 19 North.* (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)
[7] The records of this suit were borrowed and never returned to the County Clerk and Recorder's Office in Kalispell. The index suggests the suit was filed in 1908. No source yet uncovered states when the bridge was built, or by whom, but the suit was settled by 1912, suggesting that the bridge had gone in by then, possibly built by the new park administration to reach Fish Creek, where it established headquarters for the 1910 season.
[8] The land records show the line drawn just east of the present day road to Apgar marked by a cedar tree on the shore. This parcel was numbered 2E and acquired by H.D. Apgar in 1912. All parcels in this area were later divided from this initial parcel.
[9] Synopsis of Vern Kelly's correspondence with L.O. Vaught. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 1, Folder 11.
[10] *Subdivision Book "H", Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites.* Plat Room, Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana.
[11] Articles of Incorporation, Transmountain Hotel Co., 1921. (Helena, Montana: Office of Secretary of State)
[12] Peter "Gus" Aubert, *History of Apgar*, 9; and Col. and Mrs. Pratt, *History of Apgar*, 33.
[13] The dance hall was rebuilt in the Headquarters area at West Glacier. It is used as a community center.
[14] *Subdivision Book "H."*
[15] Subdivision Book "H."
[16] Aubert, *History*, 9.

As the pivot point in the lake's transportation system, Apgar was developing as a commercial center serving both tourists and the growing number of winter residents who worked in the park, in the tourist business, and in nearby logging camps. These people depended on the shops and school there and also built many of the summer cabins around the lake for seasonal visitors during the pre-World War II era. South of the road, Howes sold a few lots on an individual basis to local entrepreneurs and park employees in the 1910s, including John Weightman, who ran livery stables in Belton and Kalispell; the Sibleys; and the Powells. In 1924, the Greenwalts opened the first service station.[17] They surely saw commercial opportunity in the increase in auto traffic as the new Trans-Mountain Highway, later renamed the Going-to-the-Sun Road, inched its way up the east shore of Lake McDonald towards Logan Pass. By 1924, it had passed the Lewises' Glacier Hotel near the head of the lake, and an unpaved road connected the camps west of the inlet at that end of Lake McDonald.

While wanting to enhance tourist accommodations in the park, the National Park Service—newly formed in 1916—believed that private land ownership within the parks jeopardized their good management in the nation's best interest. In 1927, however, as crews prepared for the final building phase of the road, private land holders still provided the only visitor accommodations, auto tourist or otherwise, west of the Continental Divide in Glacier. The National Park Service's director, Stephen Mather, pushed to "extinguish the private holdings at the south end of Lake McDonald for the reason that the completion of the road at federal expense would enhance the value of the private property." He continued in a letter to Senator Walsh of Montana (who owned a camp at the head of the lake), "The south end of Lake McDonald presents a very unattractive appearance at the present time as a result of the number of cheap types of cottages that have been built, and this condition will only be aggravated unless the remaining unimproved property can be secured by the Government and removed from sale as small building lots."[18] To encourage owners to sell, the sub-committee set aside $50,000 to be matched dollar for dollar from private funds to purchase inholdings in national parks in 1928. None of this appropriation was expended in Glacier.

The destruction wreaked by the Half Moon Fire late in the summer of 1929 changed circumstances drastically. Frank Geduhn's description of the damage at Apgar just days after the blaze swept through the village provides a picture of what was gone and what remained.

> Well, we had a little fire, just what you may notice, the beautiful forest from Coram to Foot of Lake McDonald is destroyed—Belton and headquarters were saved, Sibleys, between headwaters and Apgar were burned out, at Apgar the Oil Station, Store, three buildings east of the store and old Apgar Bldgs west of the store to the creek were saved, then as you go along road east everything burned till you come to Howes, then all is saved on left hand along lakeshore to Houstons incl. then again burned—the dance bungalow of Golds right of road was saved.
>
> Howes has a pump which saved his and Houstons for latter of which he don't get any credit and this is another, but a good story—the Bldgs around store were saved owing to the heroic drive thro burning forest with a pump by Geo. Slack.[19]

Among those between Howes and Houston, Peter Aubert saved his log cabin. Horace Chadbourne described Aubert's appearance the morning after the blaze swept through Apgar.

> Gus Aubert was still pouring water on smoldering embers around his cabin; and his pants, held up by stout suspenders, appeared even more loose around him than usual. In telling me about his fight to save his cabin he pulled his pants out show how loose they were. He said: "During the worst of the sparks were falling so

[17] Mrs. D.L. (Bernice) Greenwalt, *History of Apgar*, 8.
[18] Stephen Mather to Senator Thomas J. Walsh, 11 June 1927. File No.610-01 (L1425): *Land Acquisition. Exchanges (Gen.) Including State and School Lands, 1925-1951*. USDOI-NPS (Glacier NP). (GNPA)
[19] Frank Geduhn to L.O. Vaught, 5 September 1929. L.O. Vaught papers, Box 5, Folder 3. (GNPA)

> thick that when I'd be running with a bucket of water to throw on the roof, the sparks would get down inside my pants and I'd have to stop and dig them out before they burned me. I had a boat on shore in case we had to run for it, but we didn't have to. It got pretty hot, but Doc [Roderick Houston] and I stuck it out and saved our cabins.[20]

Saddest of all, the ancient cedar forest, which so charmed early visitors, was a stand of charred poles and snags, and everyone mourned its loss.

Circumstances seemed prime for widespread government acquisition. R.E. McDonnell, a camp owner near Lake McDonald Lodge, wrote bitterly, "The feeling of all of the permanent residents and those who visit the Park seasonally, is that the Government employees are elated over the burning of privately owned cabins and it is commonly charged that the thousands of acres of beautiful timber were sacrificed in order to get rid of the few privately owned cabins."[21] The U.S. House of Representatives moved quickly to allocate $200,000 on the 10th of December to buy out as many Apgar inholders as possible.[22] When Congress passed the final budget, $198,000 was set aside. To speed the buying process, the government agreed to allow these purchases to be made at 100% of the property's value with the intention of making up the 50% difference required for government land purchases in national parks at a later time.[23] By mid-January 1930, Park Engineer Charles Randels and carpenter Edward Cruger had estimated values for those buildings surviving the fire and those built immediately after to replace ones burned.[24] Chadbourne noted that new houses sprang up "in the midst of the desolation, but of a frame-type construction instead of the universal log-type building which had preceded it."[25] Correlated with tax lot numbers, this list provides a very complete picture of Apgar at the time. Twenty-seven inholders—all but six or seven with lake frontage—owned a variety of buildings, both log and frame. Summer cabins, year round cabins and houses, small resorts, three stores, an ice cream parlor, a gas station, and many outbuildings lined the shore and the road to Belton. A few additional buildings stood south of the lake shore road near its intersection with the Belton Road.

Purchasing agent F.J. Solinsky, Jr., was dispatched from San Francisco in June 1930 to negotiate purchases, most especially along the lakeshore. By the 8th of July, Solinsky compiled a list of those owners with whom he negotiated contracts for outright sale to the government. Some owners would only consider a life lease for their properties, but the park service agreed that in Apgar, nothing but full and immediate transfer would do.[26] As July turned to August, Solinsky met with increasing difficulty in carrying out his mission. Everyone in Apgar discussed the latest offers and several held out for better prices as values escalated. In a letter dated the 15th of September, the Acting Director of the Department of the Interior enumerated those owners who had sold to the government for a total expenditure of $197,550.[27] By 1931, the government owned 18 of Howes's cottage sites, including the Gold Brothers' multi-lot cabin resort and hotel site; the Epworth League (Methodist Church) camp at the far east end; and the land of several owners who lost summer cabins or platforms in the fire. Both the Belton and the Kalispell mercantiles sold out. Rather than rebuild in the desolated landscape, Charlie Howes sold his remaining holdings for

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[20] Horace Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, 49.
[21] R.E. McDonnell to Secretary of the Interior, Ray Lyman Wilson, 5 September 1929, quote in Patricia Bick, *Homesteading on the North Fork in Glacier National Park*, (unpublished manuscript, Glacier National Park, October 1986): footnote, p.45.
[22] Superintendent of Glacier N.P., J.R. Eakin to Director of the Park Service, 13 December 1929. File No. 610-01. (GNPA)
[23] Mather to Eakin, received 27 December 1929. File No. 610-01. (GNPA)
[24] Charles E. Randels, Park Engineer, to J.R. Eakin, Superintendent of Glacier National Park, 17 January 1930. File No. 610-01. (GNPA)
[25] Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, 50.
[26] This discussion was carried on over several letters between Superintendent Eakin and the Acting Director of the Park Service, A.E. Demary, during the summer of 1930. *General Report of the Investigation of 50 Per Cent Purchases of Private Lands in Glacier National Park* (Washington, D.C.: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1940). File no. 610-01. (GNPA)
[27] A.E. Demary, 15 September 1930. Glacier Park Land Records, Box 1, File 32. (GNPA)

$18,000, and moved to Kalispell.[28] Solinsky was unsuccessful in making contracts for the following lakefront parcels: Lot 9 in Block 1; Lots 7, 8, 11, 12, and 13 in Block 2; Lots 1, 2, 5, and 6 in Block 3; and Lots 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8 in Block 4.[29] In February 1932, Superintendent Scoyen enumerated to the Director of the National Park Service the results of the auction of many of the buildings on the newly acquired lots. The park retained some buildings pending future use.[30]

While the 100% purchases, as they came to be called, of 1930 cleared many buildings from the lake shore at Apgar, the influx of ready cash actually prompted development there during the Great Depression. The opening of the Going-to-the-Sun and Roosevelt highways, which connected the west side to the east side via auto road, boosted the demand for tourist services west of the divide in the early 1930s. As the government offered a premium on lakefront parcels in an effort to clear all houses from the shore line, some Apgar residents, like the Greenwalts, Sibleys, and Powells, used the money to buy inland parcels where they rebuilt houses and businesses.[31] From the Belton Road east and south of the road paralleling the lake shore, Apgar residents built new houses and businesses in the 1930s and 1940s, so that Chadbourne, writing in 1957, characterized Apgar as having "many new homes" and "modern accommodations for tourists."[32]

Half a century later, the federal government has acquired all but five of the Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites lots. These include Peter Aubert's cabin, diligently saved from wildland fire in 1929, and the Mars Cabin on the adjoining lot to the west. In 1924, Aubert had built a simple, side-gabled log cabin in the rustic tradition established on Lake McDonald over the previous quarter century. He used readily available logs, a minimum of milled lumber for door and window casing, and factory sash and doors. Like other recreational cabins, its front façade was oriented toward the lake with a porch providing an intermediate space between the cabin's interior and the outdoors from which to take in the view. The Mars Cabin is the earliest surviving example of a frame cabin built after the fire at Apgar, although not by the time Randels and Cruger took their inventory in January 1930. Like those built in the 1910s and 1920s, its design owes much to the rustic taste of the Craftsman style that influenced so many recreational cabin owners around Lake McDonald in the early decades of the twentieth century. Although a frame rather than a log cabin, its plain board window and door casings with factory sash and doors; its lake side porch; and siting all continue building traditions established in the pre-1929 period. The cabin's stained clapboard siding resembles tonally that of the older log cabins. Lots further west, each with a post-1970 cabin, are owned by Bottomly (Block 2, Lot 11), Schoknecht (Block 2, Lot 7), and Salansky (Block 1, Lot 9). The Bunday Cabin property (Block 2, Lot 13) is held on a life lease by Grisley, who acquired this lot in an exchange for land now part

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[28] Typescript synopsis of Howes to Vaught, 9 December 1933. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 1, Folder 16. (GNPA)
[29] *Subdivision Book "H."*
[30] E.T. Scoyen, Superintendent, and R.R. Vincent, Assistant Superintendent, to Director of Park Service, 1 February 1932. File 610-01. (GNPA)
[31] Horace Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, 50.
[32] Chadbourne, *History*, 47.

of the Apgar Amphitheater site.[33] James Athearn, an Apgar native, also owned a lot in this area, which he sold to the government in 1969 and built a new cabin on land he bought from the Sherwoods west of the outlet.[34]

[33] *Subdivision Book "H."*
[34] *Subdivision Books "A"* and *"H."*

Sources

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General Report of the Investigation of 50 Per Cent Purchases of Private Lands in Glacier National Park. Washington, D.C.: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1940. File no. 610-01. (GNPA)

Henderson, Gonhild "Bud." Historical Interview, 25 August 1977. (GNPA)

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Macomber, Bea, and Ace Powell, Jr. Historical Interview, 4 June 1976. (GNPA)

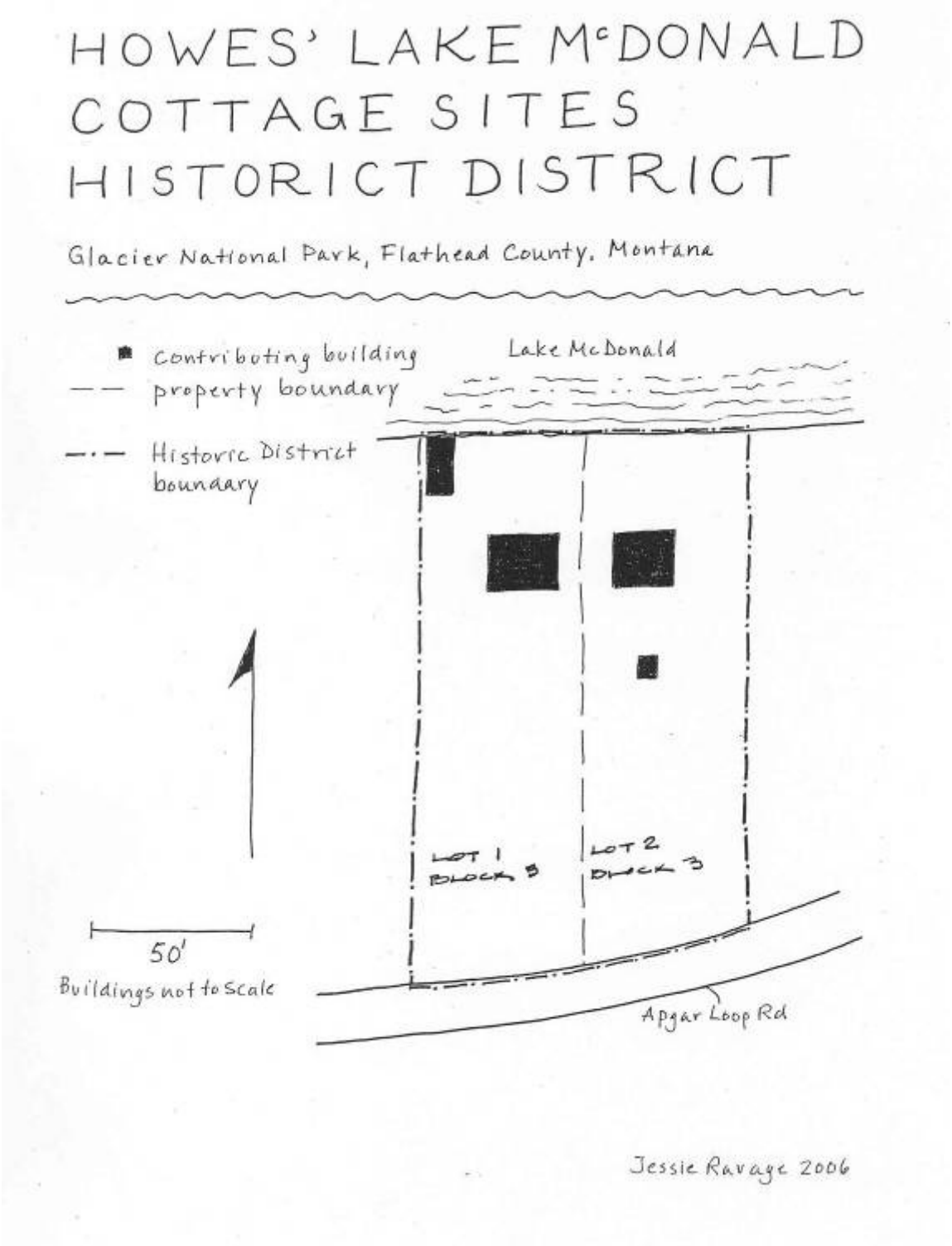
McDonald, James R. *Historic Structures Survey*. Glacier National Park. 1980.

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Subdivision Book "H." (Plat Room, Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana)

Vaught, L.O. *History of Glacier*. Unpublished manuscript. n.p., n.d. (GNPA)

Vaught Papers. Correspondence from Frank Geduhn, Box 5, Folder 3. (GNPA)


HOWES' LAKE McDONALD
COTTAGE SITES
HISTORICT DISTRICT
Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana
Contributing building
property boundary
Historic District
boundary
Lake McDonald
LOT 1
BLOCK 3
LOT 2
BLOCK 3
50'
Buildings not to Scale
Apgar Loop Rd
Jessie Ravage 2006

Photographs
The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

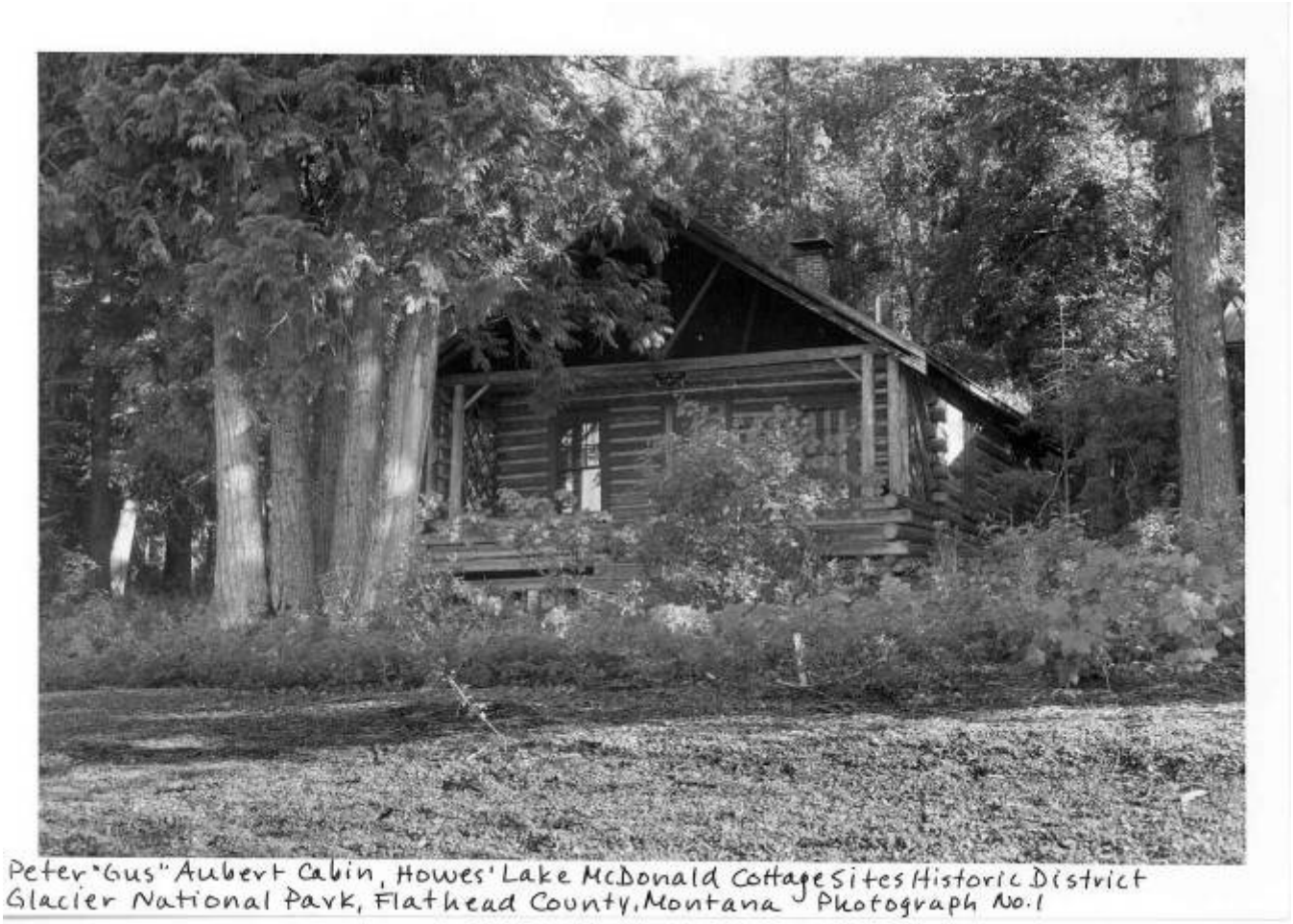
Name of district: Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites Historic District
County and State: Flathead County, Montana
Photographer: Jessie Ravage
Date of photograph: July 2005
Location of negative: Glacier National Park Archives

Peter "Gus" Aubert Cabin
View of north (front) and west sides of Aubert Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1

Peter "Gus" Aubert Cabin
View of south (back) and east sides of Aubert Cabin from main road
Photograph No.2

Mars Cabin
View of north (front) and east sides of Mars Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.3

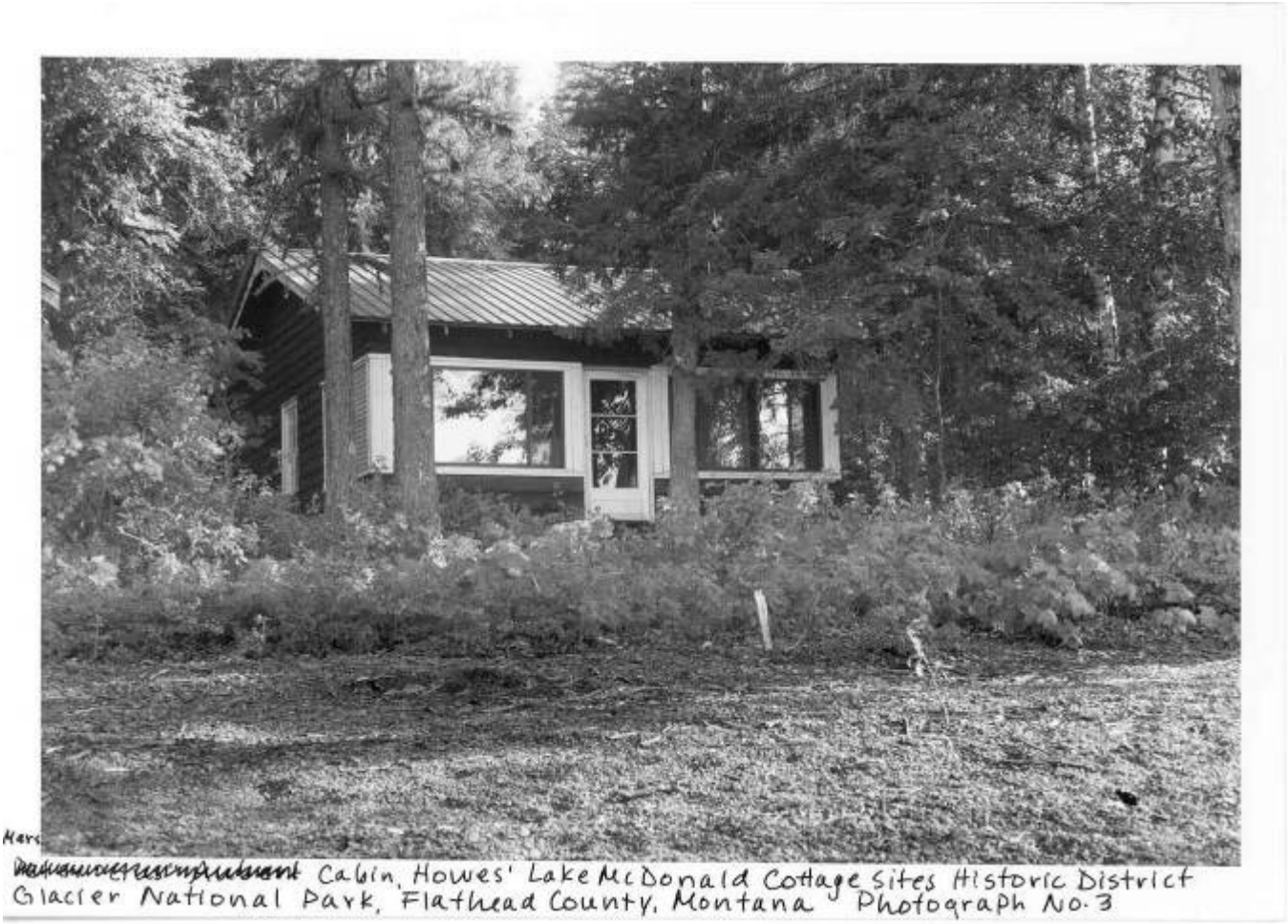
Mars Cabin
View of south (back) and west sides of Mars Cabin 4 from main road
Photograph No.4



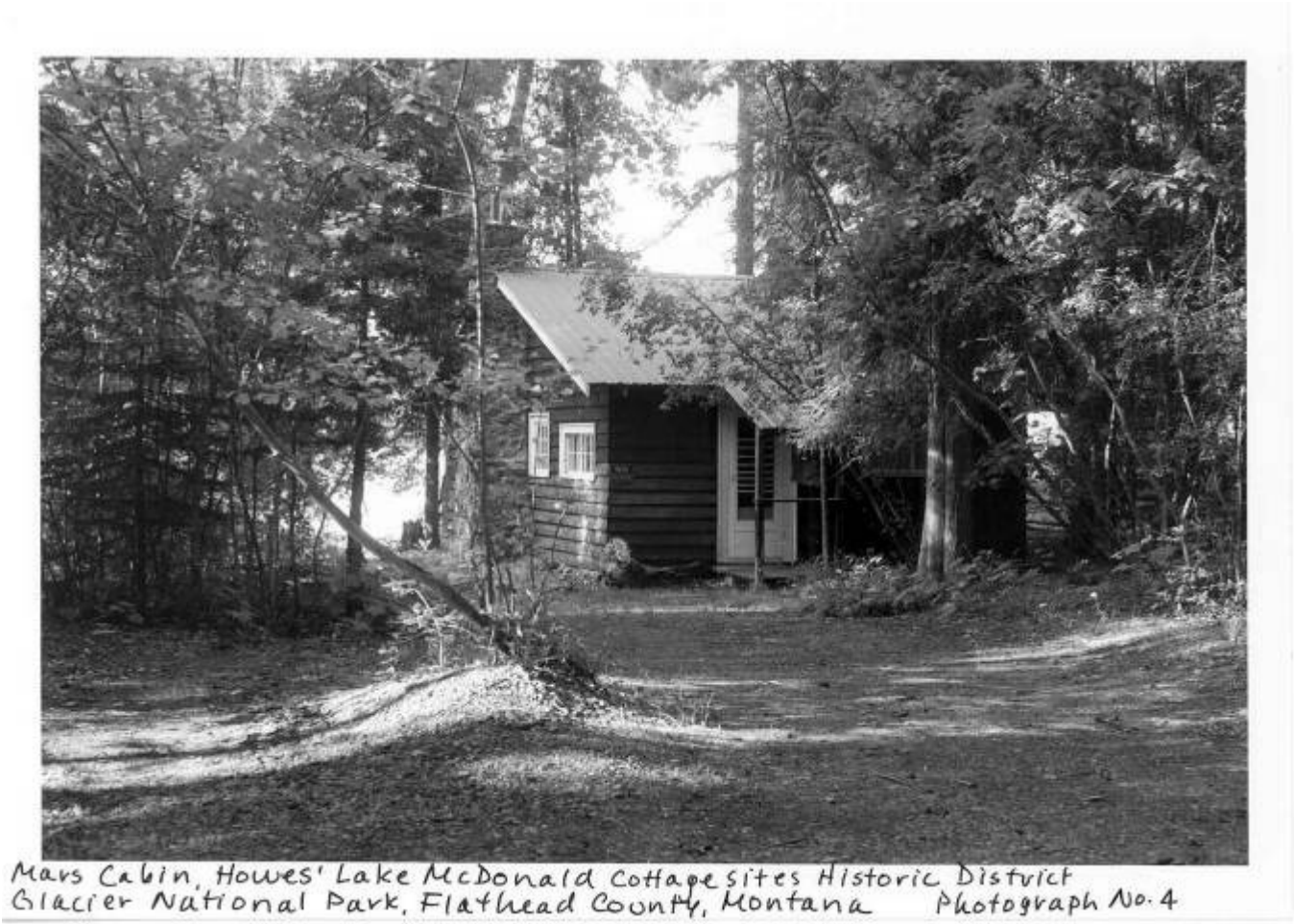
Peter "Gus" Aubert Cabin
View of north (front) and west sides of Aubert Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1



Peter "Gus" Aubert Cabin
View of south (back) and east sides of Aubert Cabin from main road
Photograph No.2



Mars Cabin
View of north (front) and east sides of Mars Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.3



Mars Cabin

View of south (back) and west sides of Mars Cabin 4 from main road
Photograph No.4

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Kelly's Camp Historic District

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: South of Kelly's Camp Rd between Kelly's Ck and bay S of cabins, Glacier National Park
not for publication: n/a

city/town: Lake McDonald **vicinity:** X

state: Montana **code:** MT **county:** Flathead **code:** 029 **zip code:** 59921

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 _ 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

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
_____ 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)		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private; Public-federal

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property 27

	Contributing	Non-contributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed In the National Register: 0	12	13	**building(s)**
	1		**site(s)**
	1		**structure(s)**
			objects(s)
Name of related multiple property listing: Recreational camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970	14	13	**TOTAL**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:
DOMESTIC: Camp

Current Function:
DOMESTIC: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: Rustic Style

MATERIALS:

Foundation: log, concrete
Walls: log, frame
Roof: cedar shakes, metal, asphalt shingles
Other: brick

Narrative Description:

Kelly's Camp, located on the west shore of Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana, developed as a summer tourist cabin resort from an earlier homestead claim. It retains integrity of design, materials, setting, and workmanship dating to its development as a cabin resort (ca.1905-1935) even though the former 26-acre property is now divided into 23 parcels with eight different owners, including the federal government. Kelly's Camp embodies roughly 2,400 feet of waterfront along Lake McDonald, including a small, shallow bay. Its entire length is fringed by a mixed coniferous forest, and most of the buildings are partially hidden from view from the lake by these woods. An unpaved access road runs behind the row of cabins, ending behind Cabin 00 at the north end. The camp is reached by a rough dirt road originating at the Going-to-the-Sun Road and paralleling the lake shore around the head of the lake.

The Kelly's Camp Historic District encompasses twelve rustic log buildings overlooking the shoreline, including ten housekeeping summer cabins, a larger house, and a small cabin used as a washhouse. Frame buildings dating to the period of significance include a generator house, a shed, a pavilion used as a work shed, and ten privies. There is also an open air chapel reached by a wooden footbridge crossing Kelly's Creek.

The Kelly's Camp log buildings, excepting one, stand in a row set within the trees and facing the lake. Each rests on a banked foundation of doubled log piers; the outer piers support the log walls and the inner piers support the floor system. Open porches span the fronts, or lake sides, and provide views of the lake. Utility areas are placed at ground level at the back of each cabin. Most of the cabins have frame additions to the rear that house showers and toilets. The cabins retain brick or stovepipe chimneys, usually set near the center of the ridge, designed to draft woodburning stoves and kitchen ranges. Most of the log cabins retain their interior finishes. The inside surface of the log walls are hewn with a broadaxe or adze and the spaces between the logs are covered with narrow staves to create a fairly smooth wood surface. Interior partitions are stud walls with milled beadboard.

See continuation pages for Section 7

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a
Significant Person(s):
Cultural Affiliation:

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation; Architecture
Period(s) of Significance: ca.1894-1959
Significant Dates:
Architect/Builder: Frank Kelly; Verne Kelly

Narrative Statement of Significance

Kelly's Camp is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C as a representative example of a cabin resort on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Document (MPD) for "Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970" provides the historic context for the development of such wilderness recreational properties. Cabin resorts run by Harvey Dimon Apgar and Frank Geduhn opened on Lake McDonald before 1900. Other entrepreneurs, including Frank and Emmeline Kelly, followed in the early 1920s, capitalizing on increased automobile traffic in the park. They developed the resort called Kelly's Camp on part of the tract on which Frank Kelly filed a homestead claim in 1894, and for which he received a patent for 55 acres in 1917. The Kellys sold the undeveloped southern half of the property to Fannie Hollingsworth in 1926.[1] She transferred it to her daughter and son-in-law, Cecilia and Horace Chadbourne in 1927 and 1930. The MPD also describes the architecture associated with such properties on Lake McDonald. Like many cabin resort buildings constructed on Lake McDonald in this era, most of Kelly's Camp's buildings are log cabins constructed of locally available materials, augmented with milled lumber and fittings like sash, doors, and stoves. The Kelly's Camp property continued as a single parcel until 1962, when Frank Kelly's daughter-in-law and her daughters began dividing the property, selling most of the rental cabins to longtime visitors. Though the cabins now stand on individually owned lots, Kelly's Camp retains an extraordinary degree of architectural integrity of design, materials, workmanship, setting, and feeling dating to its use as a cabin resort.

Summary History of Development

Frank Kelly came to the Lake McDonald region in 1893, at roughly the same time as fellow homesteaders Frank C. Geduhn and Denis Comeau and a little later than homesteaders Charles Howes and Milo B. Apgar. Born in Dubuque, Iowa, of Irish parents in 1855, Kelly worked primarily as a carpenter in the upper Midwest, but also as a raftman on the Mississippi. At nineteen, he moved to Minnesota. In 1883, he came west to Livingston, Montana, with the Northern Pacific Railroad. He also worked in California and Astoria, Oregon. Kelly came to the Belton area to run a portable sawmill for the Great Northern Railway, and staked his homestead claim on the west shore of Lake McDonald, about two miles from the north end, in March 1894,[2] locating it in Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 in the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 33 West, Range 19 North.[3] L.O. Vaught said that Kelly chose his homestead site in 1894 for its morning light, but the bay, the stream, and good timber must also have played a role in his choice.[4]

See continuation pages for Section 8

[1] Fannie Hollingsworth, Journal for 1922-1926. (Private collection). Hollingsworth recorded making payments to Kelly and completing the documents in the fall of 1926, as the was completing her cabin at Hollybourne south of Kelly's Camp.
[2] L.O. Vaught, *History of Glacier* (unpublished manuscript, n.d): 439. (Glacier National Park Archives (GPNA): West Glacier, Montana)
[3] *Plat Book for Section 15, Township 33 West, Range 19 North*. (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)
[4] L.O. Vaught, *History of Glacier*, 439.

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation pages

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 #** _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

___ **State Historic Preservation Office**
___ **Other State agency**
_x_ **Federal agency:** Glacier National Park Archives
___ **Local government**
___ **University**
___ **Other – National Archives, Denver**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 6.5 acres

UTM References:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
(NAD27)	12	286190	5389796

Verbal Boundary Description

Kelly's Camp lies between the shore and the Kelly's Camp Road. It includes about one acre east of Kelly's Creek and land west of the creek running to a property line northeast of a small bay. For the southwestern part of the district, the boundary is drawn following the camp drive running behind the cabins. The property includes the following parcels identified in the Flathead County plat book for Section 15, Township 33 West, Range 18 North as 1D, 1DA, 1G, 1GA, 1J, 1M, 1N, 1Q, 1QA, 1QB, 1QC, 1QD, and 1QG.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the portion of Frank Kelly's homestead that he developed as a seasonal tourist cabins resort called Kelly's Camp.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jessie A. Ravage
organization: **date:** 10 February 2006
street & number: 34 Delaware Street **telephone:** 607.547-9507
city or town: Cooperstown **state:** New York **zip code:** 13326

Property Owner

See continuation page

Additional Documentation

See continuation pages, photographs, and maps

Big House (ca.1910, contributing building): The Big House is the largest of all the buildings at Kelly's Camp. It stands near the north end of the site. While it is set within the same line as the log housekeeping cabins, no large trees hide it from view from the lake. The remnants of a flower garden—iris, daisies, and poppies in cobblestone lined beds—struggle in the unmown grass. The Big House was built in two phases using unpeeled, notched western larch and red spruce logs daubed with clay from the lakebed. Both blocks stand on banked foundations of log piers. First built was the one-and-a-half-story, southeastern, frontal gable block. The later, side-gabled wing was added to its northeast side, and its roof was cross-gabled into that of the first block. The roofs have deep eaves with exposed log rafter tails. The roofs of both blocks are extended over a shed-roofed porch with log posts and a lattice railing spanning the front façade. This is reached by wood plank steps at each end of the porch's deck. The Big House retains its regular fenestration plan with plain, rough board trim and six-light sash. Some sash are double hung, while others slide horizontally. Two wood doors with vertical panels enter the cabin from the porch. Both these and the sash appear to be mill stock. A small brick stove chimney straddles the ridgeline. Inside, the Big House has a large room on the main floor in the older block, which was used an office for running the resort. In the later block, the main floor has a large living area and a kitchen. Stairs run upstairs to bedrooms above.

Camp shop (ca.1910-20, contributing building): The shop is an open-walled pavilion built using log pole supports, log plates, and log purlins. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The north quarter was enclosed with clapboard siding (ca.1960) to provide closed storage space for tools. A wood plank door opens into it from under the roofed section. The structure was used for cutting and stacking firewood for the camp. It stands southwest of the Big House.

Cabin 00 (ca.1925-1930, contributing building): Cabin 00 is the northernmost of the housekeeping cabins and the only side-gabled one. It is constructed of unpeeled, notched western larch and red spruce logs daubed with clay from the lake bed. The shake roof was replaced with a metal roofing after a 2003 wildland fire threatened Kelly's Camp. An open porch sheltered by a shed-roofed extension of the main roof is supported by log posts and spans the long wall on the lake side of the cabin. The porch railing is made of unpeeled logs, and plank steps are set at the end of the deck. The entrance door from the porch is offset and framed with rough cut boards, as are the window openings. The windows are paired two-over-two sash, some double hung and some in horizontally sliding casings. A second door enters the back, or non-lakeside, of Cabin 00, into a later frame toilet and bath area. The main entrance opens into a common area. A sleeping loft reached by narrow stairs occupies the north end of the building, with a bedroom below. The kitchen is at the back of the cabin.

Generator house (ca.1927, contributing structure): Northeast of Cabin 00, where the creek flows into Lake McDonald, is the gable-roofed frame generator house. It has vertical flushboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. In the creek, a still-operating turbine powers the generator, which provides power to all the cabins.

Woodshed (ca.1910, contributing building): Behind Cabin 00 stands a single-story, windowless, gable-roofed shed sided with cedar shakes.

Shower and laundry house (ca.1905-1910, contributing building): Between Cabin 00 and the Big House, stands a small, single-story, gable-roofed cabin constructed of notched logs with a small frame addition to its northwest corner. The building has a shake roof and paneled wood door. Kelly descendants state that this was the homestead cabin, later redesigned as a shower and laundry house. The addition provided space for the hot water heater. Clothes lines of heavy wire strung along "trees" constructed of logs and boards stand nearby.

Root cellar (ca.1905-10, contributing building): Between Cabin 00 and the Big House are the remains of a log that was built into the slope.

Southwest of the Big House, Cabins 1 through 8 stand in a row set behind the trees fringing the beach. All eight of these housekeeping cabins were designed for rental and built over a period of approximately fifteen years, from about 1920 to about 1935. Some are larger than others and have slightly different interior layouts. Except for Cabin 3, which is built of unpeeled cedar logs, and Cabin 8, built of peeled larch (a.k.a. tamarack) logs, these frontal gable cabins were all constructed of unpeeled western larch and red spruce logs and daubed with clay from the lake bed. Like the Big House and Cabin 00, they had hewn interior log walls and beadboard partitions. All have the characteristic two-part, log pier banked foundations and open porches set under the extended frontal gable roof. These porches are reached by plank steps on the outside and by center entrances from the cabin interiors. Stock paneled doors and a combination of two-over-two double hung sash on the façade and horizontal sash on the sidewalls were used originally, and most cabins retain these. A Kelly signature was the decorative row of narrow-caliper, unpeeled logs set in the gable end above the lakeside porch, matching the front porch railings.

Cabins 1, 2, 3 and 4 (ca.1920-1925, contributing buildings): These nearly identical cabins appear much as they did at the time of their construction. They retain their frontal gable forms, open porches facing the lake, and original fenestration using two-over-two sash and paired sliding sash set in frames with rough board trim. Their notched log walls retain the bark. The shake roofs were replaced with metal roofing in the 1960s. Small masonry chimneys are set at the center of the ridgelines. Each cabin has a small, shed-roofed frame addition spanning the back of the cabin to provide space for indoor plumbing. These were added in the post-World War II era. The addition on Cabin 4 has been replaced with a slightly larger new addition of board-and-batten siding and the roof extended to the north to create a cover for the door. Cabin 4 also has a shed roof addition spanning approximately one-half the length of the west wall. The addition is placed on log piers and the porch was extended across the front of the addition, thus maintaining the characteristic open porch facing the lake. The posts and porch railings replicate the historic design.

Cabins 5 and 6 (ca.1920-1930, non-contributing buildings): Cabins 5 and 6 remain, but not longer retain integrity of design. They have been rehabilitated in the period between 2000 and 2005 by individual owners using the same builder. Both sides of each cabin have substantial additions enclosed with drop siding and the historically visible log pier supports have been enclosed. The early, rear addition on Cabin 5 has been replaced with larger, more elaborate addition. Cabin 6 retains its open front and back porches with the characteristic Kelly lattice in the overhanging gable. Like many cabins around Lake McDonald, these cabins have new metal roofs.

Cabin 6 guest cabin and dog house (ca.2003, non-contributing building): This is a single-story, gable-roofed, frame cabin with drop siding on concrete piers. It has metal-framed windows and a sliding glass door.

Cabins 7 and 8 (ca.1920-1930, contributing buildings): Cabins 7 and 8 retain a high degree of architectural integrity. They retain their frontal gable forms, open porches facing the lake, and original fenestration using two-over-two sash and paired sliding sash set in frames with rough board trim survive. Both have open back porches set under the overhanging gables, which have vertical log details in their gable ends matching those on the fronts of cabins. Small masonry chimneys designed for stoves are centered on the ridges. Cabin 7 has recently been roofed with metal; cabin 8 is roofed with asphalt shingles.

Chapel (ca.1945, possibly earlier, contributing site): Kelly's Camp also includes an open air chapel built on the north side of the creek and reached by a narrow wooden bridge over the watercourse. The chapel has half-log seats arranged in a rough circle facing a small lectern.

Privies (undated, non-contributing buildings): Five pairs of shed-roofed, frame privies stand on the slope behind Cabins 00, 2, 4, 5, and 6. These have flushboard siding and asphalt shingled roofs. Their date of construction is unknown.

In 1897, Kelly married Emmeline Haworth, the widow of the Great Northern Railway's section foreman at Belton and a relation of Jessie Cunningham, who married Harvey Dimon Apgar at the foot of the lake in 1901. The Kellys' wedding picture was taken in Spokane, Washington, farther west on the Great Northern line. Mrs. Kelly had a three-year-old son, Vernon "Vern", from a previous marriage, and Kelly adopted him at least so far as giving him his last name.[5] One version of family lore relates that the Kellys spent their first winter of marriage living in the small log cabin that Kelly later remodeled as a wash house for his cabin camp,[6] but Vernon Kelly told L.O. Vaught that they lived in Columbia Falls, where Frank Kelly worked as a sawyer in one of the sawmills in 1897, and that as a toddler he spent only the summer of 1896 on Lake McDonald until the family returned in 1904 or 1905. In between, Kelly worked three years in a mill in Sedan (now Kila), Montana (west of Kalispell on the Great Northern), and then moved farther west to Milan, Washington (north of Spokane), for at least another year.

The Kellys were back on the lake, however, for the winter of 1905-1906, when Frank Kelly built a 35-foot gas-powered launch, which he christened the "Emmeline" in honor of his wife. The new boat, launched from Apgar on the 1st of June 1906, provided Kelly with easy access to his claim, and also opened up commercial opportunities for him, as she filled the space left by the recently decommissioned "F.I. Whitney."[7] Kelly and Orville Denny became partners in the boat business about 1912 when Denny brought the "Cassie D." to Lake McDonald and set up a dock in Apgar on land bought from Charles Howes.[8] A few years later, John E. Lewis, owner of the Glacier Hotel across the lake from Kelly's, bought out Denny's share. Soon after, Kelly and Lewis built the "Ethel" at Apgar and launched her.[9] Jointly, they brought a third boat, the "City of Polson," from Flathead Lake a year later and renamed her "Lewtana." They ran all four boats until about 1918, when Kelly bought out Lewis's share.[10] In January 1919, Kelly was seeking to sell his property, encompassing about three-quarters of a mile of lake frontage for $15,000, as a way to get out of the boat business, which was barely paying expenses.[11] Unsuccessful with the sale, Frank Kelly ran all four boats, sometimes with Vern, until the fall of 1921, when he sold the boat business alone to Rollo C. Abell. Frank Kelly bought the "Emmeline" back soon after, and she ran through the 1936 season, providing transportation to the Kelly's resort.[12]

A chronology of the development of Kelly's Camp is more elusive than that of the boat company, even though the two enterprises were almost certainly linked by developments prompted by park policy. Stephen Mather, the first director of the newly founded National Park Service in 1916, urged auto road development to

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[5] Gonhild "Bud" Henderson, Historical Interview, 25 August 1977. (GPA). Frank Kellenbeck, Frank Kelly's great-grandson, has a copy of their wedding photograph.

[6] Frank Kellenbeck, Interview by author, 19 July 2005. Another story, told by Frank's brother, Robert, is that Frank Kelly was "shanghaied" from San Francisco and taken round the world via Cape Horn on a sailing ship, eventually landing in a British harbor, where he swam to an American ship, and begged to be signed on for the voyage to New York City. From there, he worked his way across the continent back to his claim on Lake McDonald. This story doesn't fit with other seemingly more likely information supplied to L.O. Vaught by Vernon Kelly.

[7] When John and Olive Lewis bought Snyder's Glacier House hotel for the 1906 season, they discontinued the "F.I. Whitney" on Lake McDonald.

[8] *Subdivision Book "H," Hollybourne.* (Plat Room, Flathead County Courthouse. Kalispell, Montana)

[9] The "Ethel" was named for one of the Kellys' nieces, who was recorded living with them in the 1920 federal census. Mrs. Horace (Cecilia) Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, [n.p., n.d.]. 52.

[10] Entire chronology for the boat business is taken from: L.O. Vaught. Notes (or transcription) from Vernon Kelly, undated. L.O. Vaught papers, Box 1, Folder 11. (GPA).

[11] Frank Kelly to L.O. Vaught, 29 January 1919. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 2, folder 11. (GPA)

[12] Notes from Vernon Kelly, undated. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 1, folder 11. (GPA).

accommodate the nation's newest holiday trend.[13] With the opening of the highway along the east side of Lake McDonald in the early 1920s, demand for boat transportation to the hotel and the Geduhn's cabin resort at the head of the lake decreased, but interest in inexpensive cabin lodgings increased. Several Lake McDonald residents, Frank Kelly among them, began building to accommodate the influx of auto travelers in the 1920s.

Horace Chadbourne, whose mother-in-law Fannie Hollingsworth started visiting Kelly's Camp in 1922,[14] wrote that the Kellys had seven rental cabins by about 1925, and that they were building one per year.[15] Working backwards, that might place the outset of the guest cabin business in 1919, about the time when Kelly was tiring of the boat business and considering selling out. That Kelly made no mention of guest cabins, an obvious asset, in 1919, suggests he had not begun building them. Further, the trouble Kelly had acquiring his patent suggests that he had done little to "improve" his claim, under the conditions of the Homestead Act of 1862. When the park was formed on the 11th of May 1910, homestead claims were no longer subject to settlement and entry. [16] While Kelly claimed settlement in March 1894, A.W. Swaney, Registrar of the Land Office noted that Kelly's claim had been cancelled on the 27th of October 1909.[17] Kelly was one of eight claimants for whom an act was proposed in Congress in 1914 that allowed their claims to be patented.[18] Kelly duly received a patent for his holdings in Lots 2, 3, and 4 (totaling 54.86 acres), a reduction of his original claim, on the 10th of May 1917.[19]

Kelly sold two parcels totaling half of his patent to Fannie Hollingsworth, who stayed at Kelly's Camp during the summer of 1922. They closed on 11 acres in Lot 4 in 1926[20], despite his earlier reluctance to divide his 55-acre tract, and the deed was filed in 1927.[21] This purchase may have helped finance Kelly's development of the camp in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Frank Kellenbeck says it helped buy the generator for the resort.[22] Beginning in the fall of 1926, Fannie Hollingsworth began building the cabin called "Hollybourne," joining her surname with that of her son-in-law. Horace and his wife Cecilia Hollingsworth Chadbourne played a large role in its construction, along with Mart Sibley and Asa Powell, Sr., of Apgar. In 1930, Kelly sold the adjacent 17.87 acres to the north in Lot 3 to Chadbourne, which he platted into a 32-parcel subdivision, also called Hollybourne. Some of these lots hosted tent campers, but none ever had permanent buildings. By 1934, Cecilia Chadbourne held title to both parcels, when she sold them to the federal government, which agreed to a life lease for the property. She also held title to a homestead (Entry no.325) of 113.35 acres on the North Fork.[23]

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[13] C.W. Buchholtz, *Man in Glacier* (West Glacier, Montana: Glacier Natural History Association, 1976, 3rd printing, 1999): 58.
[14] Fannie E. Hollingsworth, Journal for 1922-1926. (Family collection)
[15] Horace Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, [n.p., n.d.]: 48.
[16] James Wilson, Secretary, Department of Agriculture to the Secretary of the Interior, 8 June 1912. Land Records Files, Box 1, Folder 12. (GPA). According to this letter, all applicants on record who were described for examination and listing under the previous act of 11th of June 1906 (amendment to the Homestead Act of 1862) within the park were cancelled by the district forester and the applicants notified that said lands were no longer subject to settlement and entry.
[17] *Plat Book for Section 15, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*. (Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana)
[18] Proposed Bill S.A. 320, 13 February 1914, to allow the homestead entries of Howard E. Jones, Ernest R. Henthorn, Daniel C. Doverspike, Ora Reeves, Louis N. Fournier, Pat Doyle, and Frank Kelly. Land Records, Box 1, Folder 16. (GPA)
[19] *Plat Book for Section 15, Township 33, Range 18 North*.
[20] Hollingsworth, Journal.
[21] *Plat Book for Section 15, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*.
[22] Frank Kellenbeck, Interview by author, 19 July 2995.
[23] Mrs. Horace (Cecilia) Chadbourne, *History of Apgar*, [n.p., n.d.]: 52-53. While Mrs. Chadbourne's contribution to the history suggests she and her husband built the cabin, Fannie Hollingsworth's journal, written at the time, makes it clear that Hollingsworth was paying the bills, owned the land, and had hired Horace to work for her. The *General Report of the Investigation of 50 Per Cent Purchases of Private Lands in Glacier National Park*. USDOI, NPS, Glacier National Park. (GNPA), records the Chadbourne transactions.

Kelly's Camp was in full swing by 1931, and the Kellys hoped to continue with it despite a policy established by federal legislation in 1917 to acquire all privately owned land in the park. Referring to federal appropriations made in the early 1930s to purchase property at 50% valuation, Emmeline "Liney" Kelly noted in March 1931, "The government hasn't offered to buy us out yet. We are sure that it would be hard for us to find a place we like as well or felt at home like we do hear [*sic*.]." Mrs. Kelly continued, saying that the 1930 Great Northern Railway's purchase of the Lewises' Glacier Hotel (now the Lake McDonald Lodge) would probably improve their business "as [the Railway's] prices are almost too high for people who want to keep house." At the end of the letter, she provided details of Kelly's Camp's lodgings:

> Our small cottages are furnished with 2 full size beds and plenty of everything for a Party of 4. They are $60.00 a month $150.00 for season of 3 months our larger cottages have 3 full size beds and every thing for a Party of 6. They are $100.00 a month $250.00 for the season. We furnish every thing for housekeeping but your food. Wood and electricity included and I do the cabin laundry. Spring water piped to each cabin. Frank makes 1 trip a day across to the store at the hotel after groceries and mail. And any one that wants to go on that trip can, and there is no charge. The fare for all extry [*sic*.] trips is .25¢ each way per person. Frank makes an extry trip any time one wants him to.[24]

Kelly's Camp's present day appearance, with a few exceptions, was established by this period. Standing in a row facing the lake, there were nine or ten rental cabins, numbered 00 to 8, in addition to the Kelly's Big House.[25] Frank and Liney Kelly occupied the Big House year round in this period. Verne and Helen's two daughters, Jean Kelly Kellenbeck and Joan Kelly Berry, grew up on at Lake McDonald, going to the Apgar School. When they entered high school, the younger Kellys moved into Kalispell in the winter as Apgar School only went to eighth grade. Further south around the bay were the Bay Cabin and the Chadbournes' Hollybourne and Sun Cabin. One more Kelly building called the Halfway Cabin stood in between the Bay Cabin and the Chadbourne cabins.

All of the Kelly cabins were built to withstand difficult winters even though most were designed only for summer use. The outer log walls were supported on heavy cedar log piers, while the floor system rested on a separate set of piers to allow the floor to float independently of the walls and reduce buckling. With the exception of Cabin 3, which was built of cedar logs, the rest of the cabins were built using larch and some red spruce logs. The cabins were "chinked," or daubed, using fine glacial silt from the bottom of the lake. All had cedar shake roofs, probably split from local trees. The cabins vary somewhat in size and style, but with the exception of the cross-gabled Big House and side-gabled "00," they are all frontal gable buildings resting on piers with open porches facing the lake.

The cabins began with open back porches, most of which were later enclosed to house a shower and indoor sink sometime after the mid-twentieth century. Side additions were also later added to Cabins 4, 5, and 6. Two of the larger cabins (00 and 1) had sleeping lofts and a single bedroom on the main floor. Cabins 2, 3, and 4 were large cabins and had two bedrooms on the main floor. The smaller cabins (5, 6, and 7) probably had a bed in each of the two rooms on the main floor. Cabin 8 had just three rooms, including a bedroom. Like 00 and 1, the Bay Cabin

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[24] Emmeline Kelly to L.O. Vaught, 7 March 1931. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 2, Folder 11. (GPA). In a letter signed by A.E. Demary, Acting Director of the National Park Service dated the 15th of September 1930, he outlined the expenditure of nearly all of the $198,000 allocated by Congress to buy out inholders in 1930 after the Half Moon Fire of 1929. (Land Records, Box 1, Folder 32. (GPA)). Mrs. Kelly misspoke when she said the railway bought the hotel; it had acquired the lease to run it when the government bought the property from John and Olive Lewis in 1930.

[25] Frank Kellenbeck does not know which cabins were built when, but believes that "00" was the last to be constructed, and that Cabin 8 and the Bay Cabin were among the earliest. The last may have been built in 1935 by Vern Kelly.

had a sleeping loft. The latter cabin was used as a year round cabin during the 1920s by trapper Frank Sherburne and retains its log root cellar built into the bank behind the cabin.[26] Sherburne had apparently squatted on Geduhn land. Kelly offered him the cabin, where he also kept chickens.[27] Kelly drew water for the cabins off the stream northeast of the developed area; he set a turbine downstream of the water intake to power the generator providing electricity to the cabins.[28] In front of the Big House, in the open area leading down to the lake shore, Helen Kelly maintained a large flower garden that many remember as being very colorful and beautiful. Privies lined the slope above the camp drive running behind the backs of the cabins.

Until August 1933, Kelly's Camp could only be reached by boat. A road running as far as the Wheeler Camp, contiguous to the Lake McDonald Ranger Station, stopped about two miles short of Kelly's. It is unclear what role the park agreed to play in pushing the road through to Kelly's. The Lake McDonald Ranger Station log records that Frank Kelly and Horace Chadbourne did much of the hard labor, starting with "swamping a right of way" along the west shore on the 7th of November 1932. In the spring of 1933, they began clearing trees by blasting and pulling. The culvert was laid in July, and the government graded the road in August. [29] With vehicle access established, Vern Kelly built a two-bay log garage with a small gas pump where the camp drive met the new road.[30] This would have made the "Emmeline" less critical to the camp's daily routine, but Frank Kelly continued her run through the summer of 1934.

In January 1935, Frank and Emmeline Kelly died one day apart of a virulent pneumonia. Local lore relates that their bodies were stored in the attic until spring, but their son, Vern, wrote that Frank Kelly's body was taken out the day after he passed away, and that while a blizzard intervened, his mother's corpse was taken out four days later. The log kept at the Lake McDonald Ranger Station corroborates the difficulties in taking the Kellys' bodies out in the snow.

Writing in March 1935, Vern Kelly noted that he had "had the logs out and foundation down for one cabin when the trouble [his parents' pneumonia] came."[31] Possibly this was Cabin 8, built of peeled logs and with a different porch than Cabins 1 through 7. This may have been the last cabin built by the Kellys. By now deep in the Great Depression, Vernon Kelly settled into running his parents' business, saying "I hope I can consider all of the folks' old friends my friends. They [Frank and Emmeline] made a schedule of rates this coming summer and I am going to use them as they drew them up. At the present time only three cabins are reserved."[32] The lack of business may have prompted Vern Kelly to take the "Emmeline" out of service in 1936. The war brought

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[26] Joanne Hatalsan Holcomb, Interview by author, 22 July 2005. The root cellar behind the Big House is gone, but Gonhild "Bud" Henderson (Historical interview, 25 August 1977 (GPA)) recollected that Frank and Emmeline Kelly were very frugal and resourceful, spending about $125 on winter food to supplement the venison and pork mixture and canned huckleberries they put up each year.

[27] One of Jess LaDow's youthful recollections is of visiting Sherburne at the Bay Cabin. Interview by author, 24 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.

[28] James R. McDonald, *Historic Structures Survey, Glacier National Park*, 1980, dates the generator house 1928, based on an interview with Sam Medlicott, a long time visitor, and at length, owner at Kelly's Camp.

[29] Senator Walsh, who owned a camp at the head of the lake, successfully brought to Congress a bill to construct the road from the Going-to-the-Sun Highway as far as the Wheeler Camp in 1921. Frank Geduhn noted that it was done by June 1922. In 1933, Frank Geduhn noted that the road had been extended down to Kelly's Camp and Hollybourne by Horace Chadbourne and Verne Kelly, who cut the timber and blew out the stumps. The government graded the road. Ray Newberry, who kept the logbook kept at the Lake McDonald Ranger Station during this period recorded the road's progress from November 1932 until it was graded by the government in August 1933. Logbook is in the GNPA.

[30] Bill and Sue Medlicott Price, Interview by author, 22 June 2005.

[31] Vernon Kelly to L.O. Vaught, 4 March 1935. L.O. Vaught papers, Box 1, Folder 11. (GNPA)

[32] *Ibid.*

additional lean years. In May 1942, he expected the summer to be "a blank," due to gas rationing, although the Whitlaches, for whom Cabin 00 was built, and the Thompsons were booked.[33]

The post-World War II era brought stability to the Kelly's Camp business. In 1946, Vern Kelly wrote, "All of the (as we refer to the old timers) family will have their cabins if they wish as long as I am there and I fully expect to put in the rest of my time here and the place at the lake isn't for sale, and I feel healthy. So we should have many more happy summers."[34] The younger generation of several of the families who had their cabins each year during the 1940s and 1950s and who now own cabins at Kelly's Camp recount many stories of those happy summers.

During the 1950s and 1960s, there were as many as 40 children around Kelly's Camp, drawn from the Kelly cabins, tent platforms at Hollybourne, the Sprague Creek campground, and Boses' Inwood motel and cabins across the lake and north of the Lake McDonald Lodge. At Kelly's alone, there were regularly two Medlicott, two Nelson, two Beck, six Kelly, four Hatalsan, and four Hammond children and grandchildren. They did a lot of waterskiing, hiking, playing cards, and tenting, including sleeping out near the mouth of Kelly's Creek in a platform tent and using a flashlight to communicate in Morse code from the dock in front of the Big House with the fire tower keeper on top of Mt. Brown to the east. Many of the families staying in the cabins gathered at the large table at the Big House, in the evening for cards and conversation. On Sundays, Merrill Nelson held a church service in the open air chapel, which was mandatory before waterskiing.[35] John and Virginia Upjohn Hatalsan, Cecilia Chadbourne's niece, and their four daughters lodged in Cabin 4. Their family socialized with numerous people, including the Kellys, the Chadbournes, camp owners at the head of the lake, and others across the lake near the hotel.[36]

Most of the Kelly's Camp "families" had longtime connections with Kelly's Camp and Glacier National Park. M.L. Staples, a seasonal ranger who taught school in Evansville, Indiana, in the winter, convinced Sam Medlicott, who worked next door at the YMCA, to try Glacier in 1937, and recommended Kelly's Camp. The Medlicotts spent nearly every summer through the last years of the Depression and World War II, and every summer after that at Kelly's Camp. Both of their daughters continue to spend summers at Kelly's Camp, and now Phyllis Medlicott Cox's children and grandchildren come as well. Staples probably also encouraged the Roses, also from Evansville, to vacation in Glacier. Mrs. Rose, now 89, honeymooned in Cabin 7, and her children and grandchildren come every year. The Becks came from Terre Haute, Indiana, and continued coming after they moved to California. The Nelson family, also from California, stumbled across Kelly's Camp in the mid-1940s when they got lost while visiting Glacier National Park. They returned all or most summers after that.

Changes came to Kelly's Camp in the early 1960s. Vernon Kelly died of leukemia in 1958. His widow Helen and their daughters Jean Kellenbeck Burk and Joan Berry ran Kelly's Camp with little change for a few more years. In 1962, Helen Kelly sold land on the north side of the bay to Wendell "Teet" Hammond, who had worked at Kelly's Camp. That year, he built two frame cabins now owned by his daughter. In 1963, Mrs. Kelly sold a lot south of the Bay Cabin to Edward and Mary Jane Theefs, and they constructed a frame cabin. In all three cases, these were relatively small buildings set back among the trees, sited in the earlier tradition. Beginning in 1964, Helen Kelly and her daughters began selling individual cabins and their lots to people who were longtime members of the Kelly's Camp "family." John and Virginia Hatalsan bought the Bay Cabin in 1965. By the end of 1969, Alfred and Bernice Rose owned Cabin 4, Merrill and Amy Nelson owned Cabin 5, Sam and Alys "Billie" Medlicott owned Cabin 6, and Robert and Wanda Beck owned Cabins 7 and 8.

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[33] Vernon Kelly to L.O. Vaught, 25 May 1942. L.O. Vaught papers, Box 1, Folder 11. (GNPA).
[34] Vernon Kelly to L.O. Vaught, 25 March 1946. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 1, Folder 11. (GNPA).
[35] Susan Medlicott and Bill Price, Interview, 22 June 2005.
[36] Joanne Holcomb, Interview by author, 22 July 2005.

Further changes came in the 1970s. The Becks sold their property to the Millers, a Montana ranching family. While Jean (née Kelly) Kellenbeck Burk continued to hold title to Cabins 00, 2, and 3, her sister Joan (née Kelly) Berry sold the Big House and Cabin 1 to the National Park Service, retaining a life lease, in 1988.[37] The Nelsons sold Cabin 5 to the Medlicott daughters in the 1990s. In 2006, the ten rental cabins, the Big House, the wash house, generator house, and the wood shop survive. The only buildings gone, aside from several disused privies, is the log, two-bay garage near the road. Cabins 5 and 6 were substantial remodeled between 2000 and 2005.

[37] *Plat Book, Section 15, Township 33 West, Range 18 North.*

Sources

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Harrington, Leona, *et al. History of Apgar*. Unpublished manuscript. [n.p., n.d.],

Historical Interview with Gonhild "Bud" Henderson (transcription), 25 August 1977. (Glacier National Park Archives (GNPA): West Glacier, Montana)

Holcomb, Joanne Hatalsan. Interview by author, 22 July 2005.

Kellenbeck, Frank. Interview by author. 19 July 2005.

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Lake McDonald Ranger Station Logbooks, 1932-1935. (GNPA)

Land Records Files. (GNPA)

McDonald, James R. *Historic Structures Survey*. Glacier National Park. 1980.

Plat Book for Section 15, Township 33 West, Range 18 North. (Plat Room, Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana)

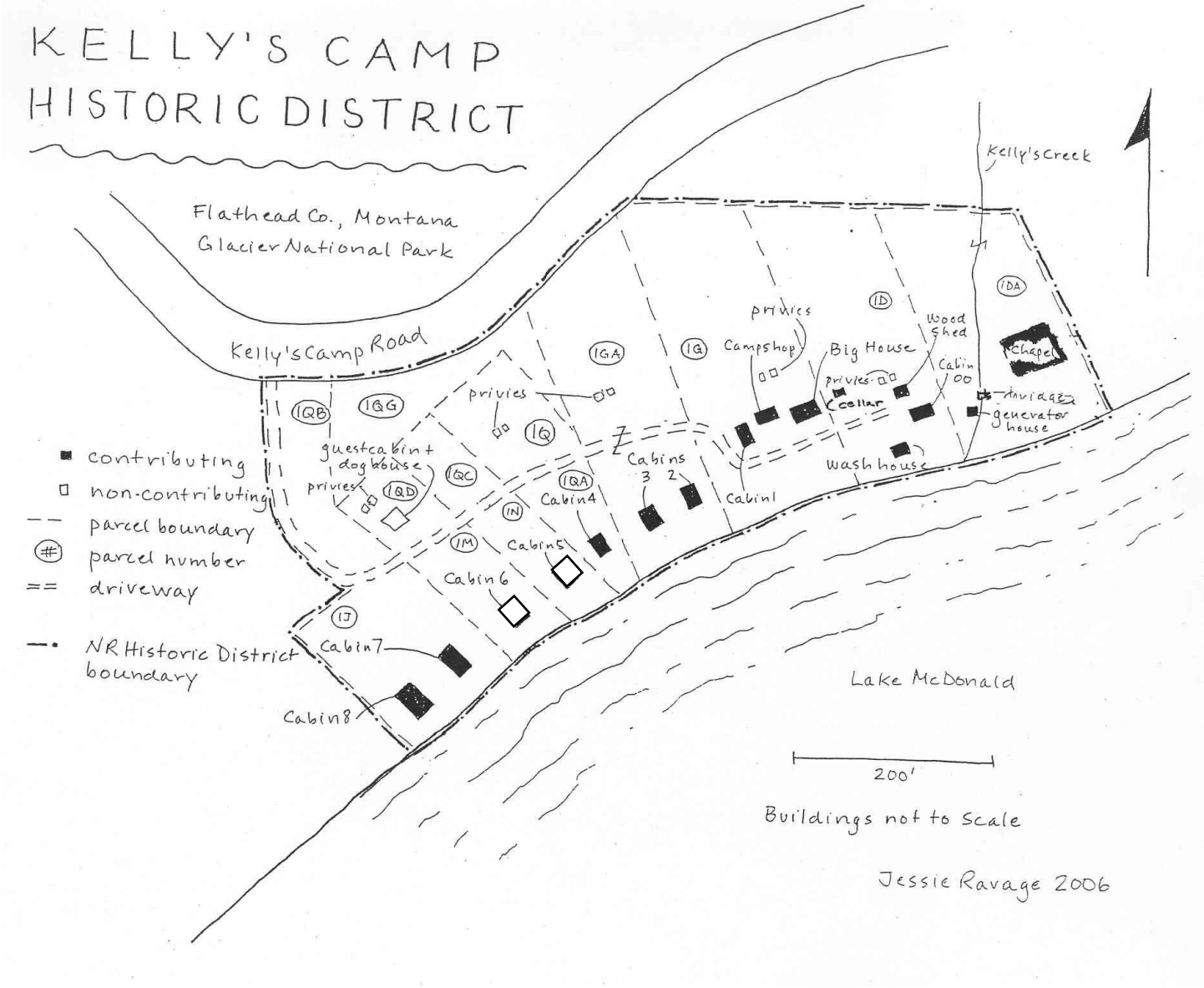
Price, Bill and Sue Medlicott Price. Interview by author. 22 June 2005.

Subdivision Book "H." (Plat Room, Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana)

Vaught, L.O. *History of Glacier*. Unpublished manuscript. n.d. (GNPA)

Vaught Papers. Correspondence from Frank and Emmeline Kelly. Box 2, Folder 11. (GNPA)

-------. Correspondence from Verne and Helen Kelly. Box 1, Folder 11. (GNPA)


KELLY'S CAMP
HISTORIC DISTRICT
Flathead Co., Montana
Glacier National Park
Kelly's Camp Road
Kelly's Creek
privies
Campshop
Big House
Wood Shed
Cabin 00
Chapel
Cellar
carriage
generator house
wash house
guest cabin + dog house
Cabins 3 2
Cabin1
Cabin4
Cabin5
Cabin6
Cabin7
Cabin8
IQB
IQG
IQ
IQA
IQC
IQD
IN
IM
IJ
IGA
ID
IDA
41
contributing
non-contributing
parcel boundary
parcel number
driveway
NR Historic District boundary
Lake McDonald
200'
Buildings not to Scale
Jessie Ravage 2006

Property Owners

Tracts 1D, 1DA, 1GA
name/title: Frank Kellenbeck and Robert Kellenbeck and Jesse P. Todd
street & number: P.O. Box 130444
city or town: Coram **state:** MT **zip code:** 59913

Tract 1G
name/title: Superintendent, Glacier National Park
street & number:
city or town: West Glacier **state:** MT **zip code:** 59936

Tracts 1QA, 1Q
name/title: Bernice E. Rose Trust Agreement and and Alfred Rose
street & number: 5713 Washington Avenue
city or town: Evansville **state**: IN **zip code:** 47715

Tracts 1N, 1QC
name/title: Donald M. and Phyllis Cox
street & number: 14 Beechwood Place
city or town: Watchung **state:** NJ **zip code:** 07060

Tracts 1M, 1QD
name/title: Mark D, Michael E. and John D Cox c/o William H. Price
street & number: 650 Shorehaven Drive
city or town: Kissimmee **state:** FL **zip code:** 34759

Tracts 1J, 1QB
name/title: Douglas Miller and Bonnie Snavely
street & number: P.O. Box 210083
city or town: Lake McDonald **state:** MT **zip code:** 59912

Photographs
The following information applies to photographs 1 through 15 listed below:

Name of district: Kelly's Camp Historic District
County and State: Flathead County, Montana
Photographer: Jessie Ravage
Date of photograph: July 2005
Location of negative: Glacier National Park Archives

Big House
View of east (front) and south sides of Big House from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1

Wood shop
View of east (front) and south sides of wood shop
Photograph No.2

Cabin 00
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 00 from mouth of creek
Photograph No.3

Generator house
View of south (front) and west sides of generator house overlooking Lake McDonald to the east
Photograph No.4

Wood shed
View of south (front) and east sides of wood shed from behind Cabin 00
Photograph No.5

Wash house
View of north (gable end) and east sides of wash house from the north, standing in front of Cabin 00
Photograph No.6

Cabins 1, 2, 3, and 4
View of east (fronts) and north sides of Cabins 1, 2, 3, and 4 (from foreground to background) looking south from in front of the Big House
Photograph No.7

Cabins 3 and 4
View of east (fronts) and south sides of Cabins 2 and 3 from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.8

Cabins 2 and 3
View of east (fronts) and north sides of Cabins 2 and 3 from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.9

Cabin 5
View of west (back) and north sides of Cabin 5 overlooking Lake McDonald to the east
Photograph No.10

Cabin 6
View of west (back) and north sides of Cabin 6 and its generator shed behind overlooking Lake McDonald to the east
Photograph No.11

Cabin 7
View of west (back) and north sides of Cabin 7 overlooking Lake McDonald to the east; part of Cabin 8 shows at right side
Photograph No.12

Outdoor chapel
View from east near the creek, looking up the slope
Photograph No.13

Privies behind Cabin 00
View of east (fronts) and north sides of pair of privies on slope north of Cabin 00
Photograph No.14

Privies behind Cabin 1
View of east (fronts) and north sides of pair of privies on slope north of Cabin 1
Photograph No.15

The following information applies to all photographs 1 through 15 listed below:

Name of district:	Kelly's Camp Historic District
County and State:	Flathead County, Montana
Photographer:	Lon Johnson
Date of photograph:	May 2009
Location of negative:	Glacier National Park Archives

Cabin 1
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 1
Photograph No. 16

Cabin 2
View of east (front) side of Cabin 2
Photograph No. 17

Cabin 3
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 3
Photograph No. 18

Cabin 4
View of east (front) side of Cabin 4
Photograph No. 19

Cabin 4
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 4
Photograph No. 20

Cabin 5
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 5
Photograph No. 21

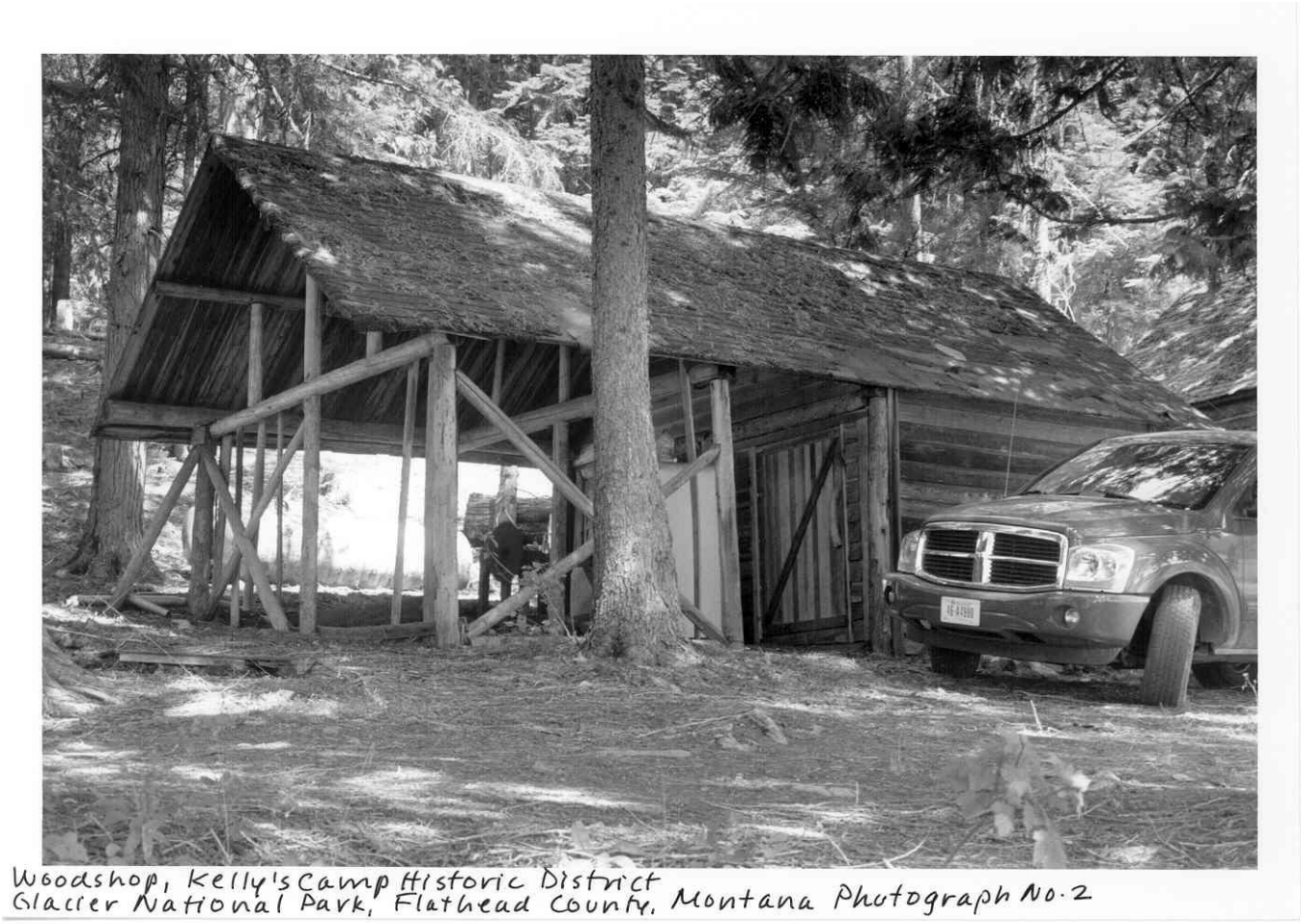
Cabin 6
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 6
Photograph No. 22

Cabin 7
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 7
Photograph No. 23

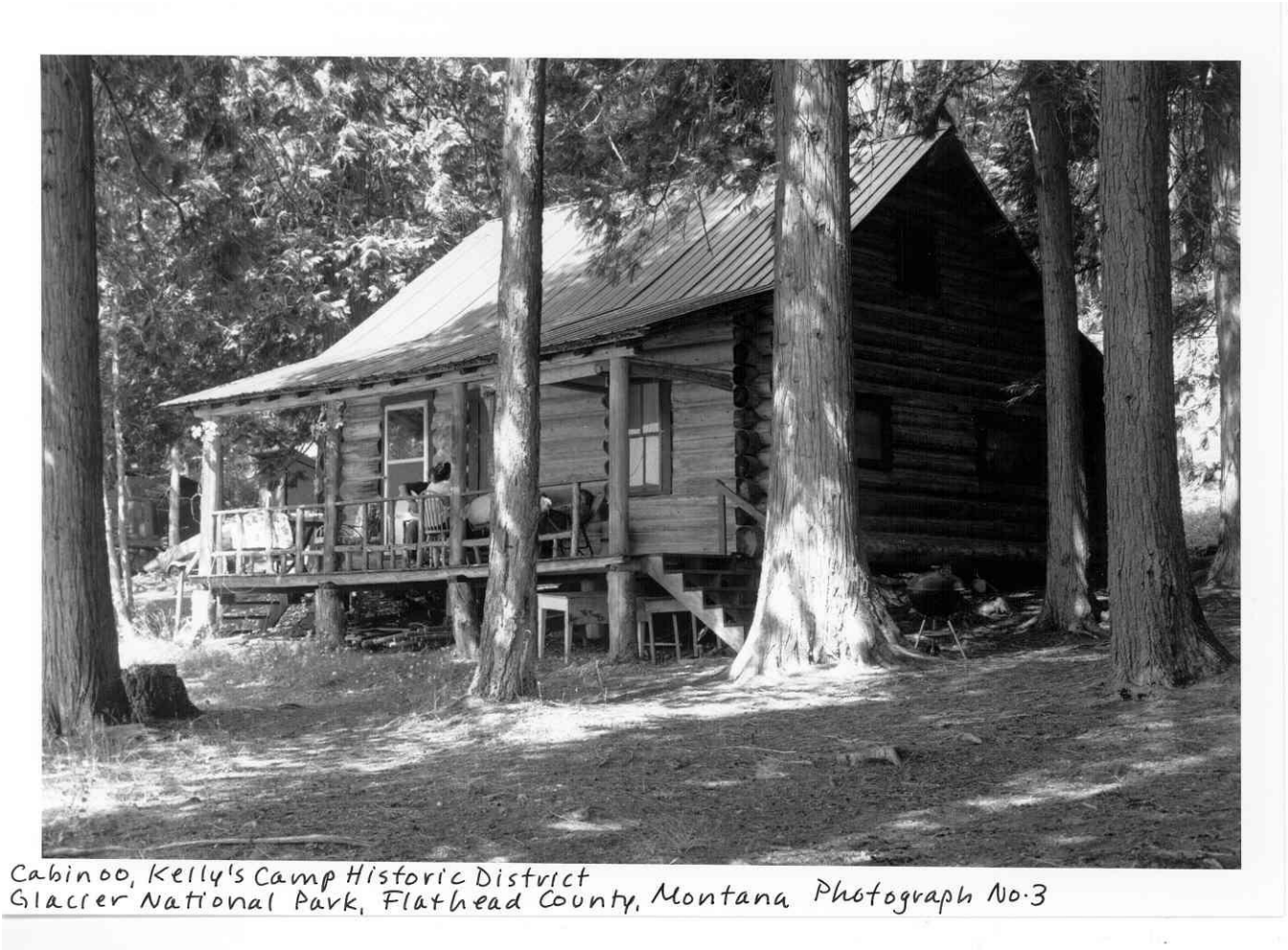
Cabin 8
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 8
Photograph No. 24



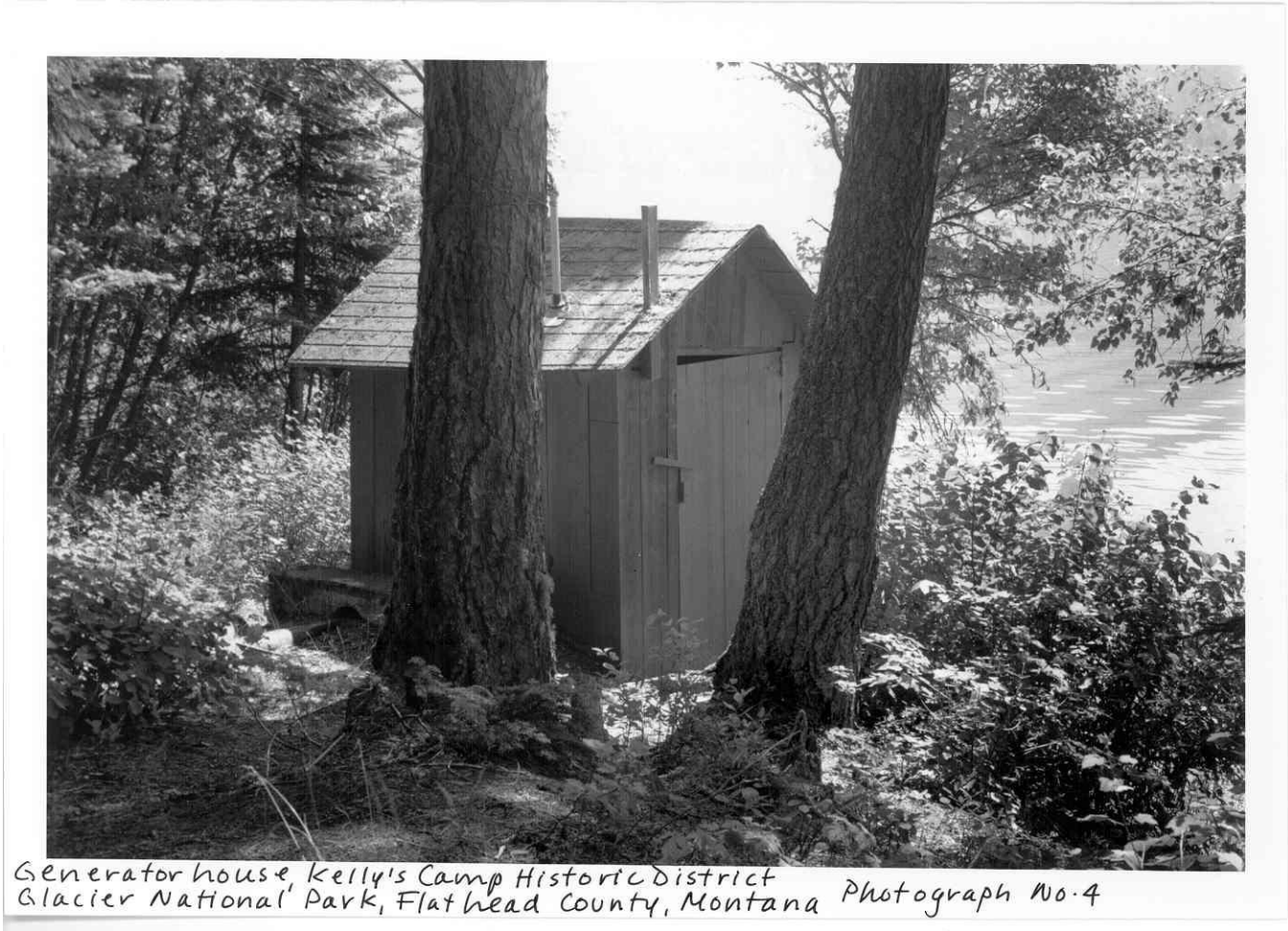
Big House
View of east (front) and south sides of Big House from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1



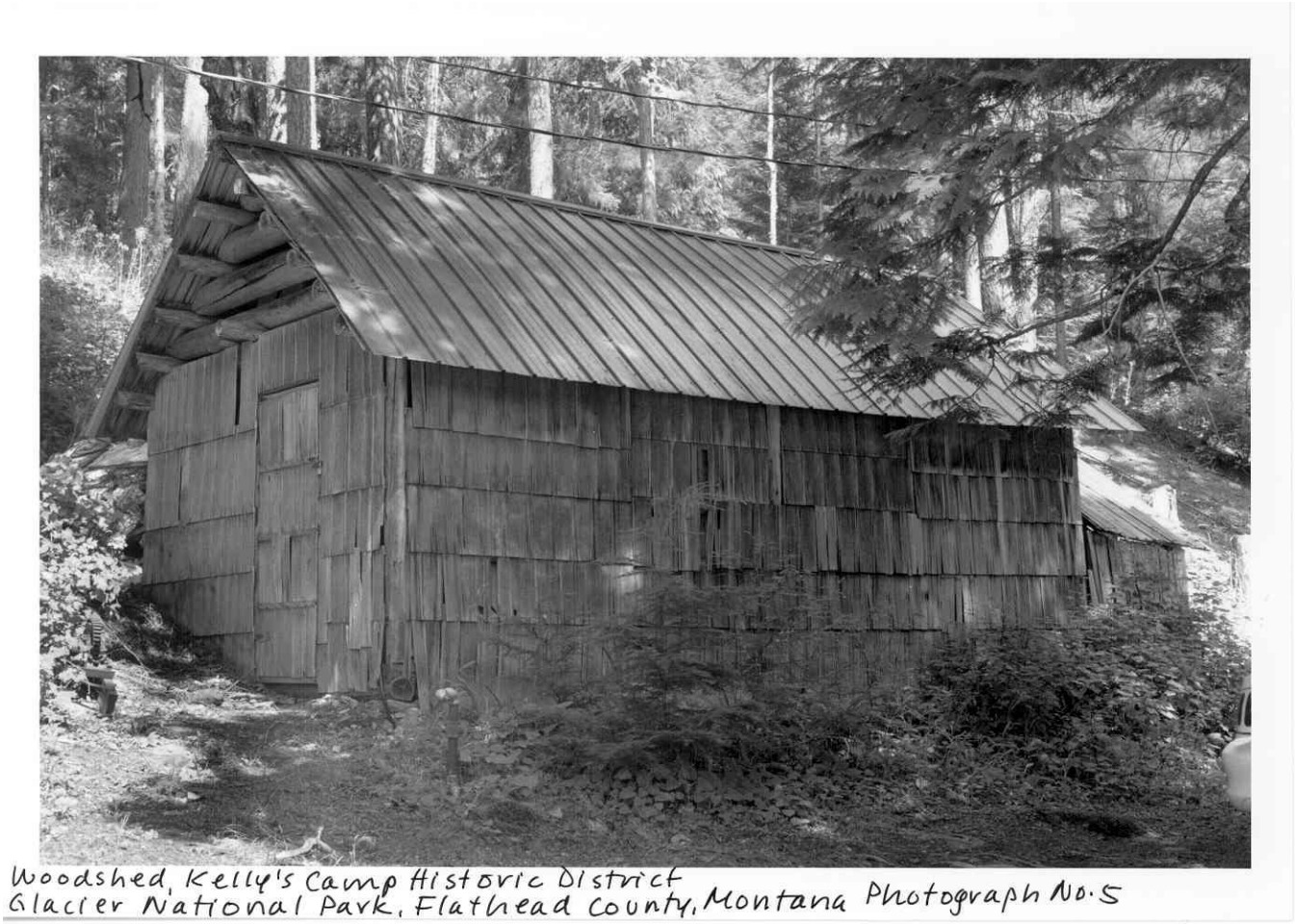
Wood shop
View of east (front) and south sides of wood shop
Photograph No.2



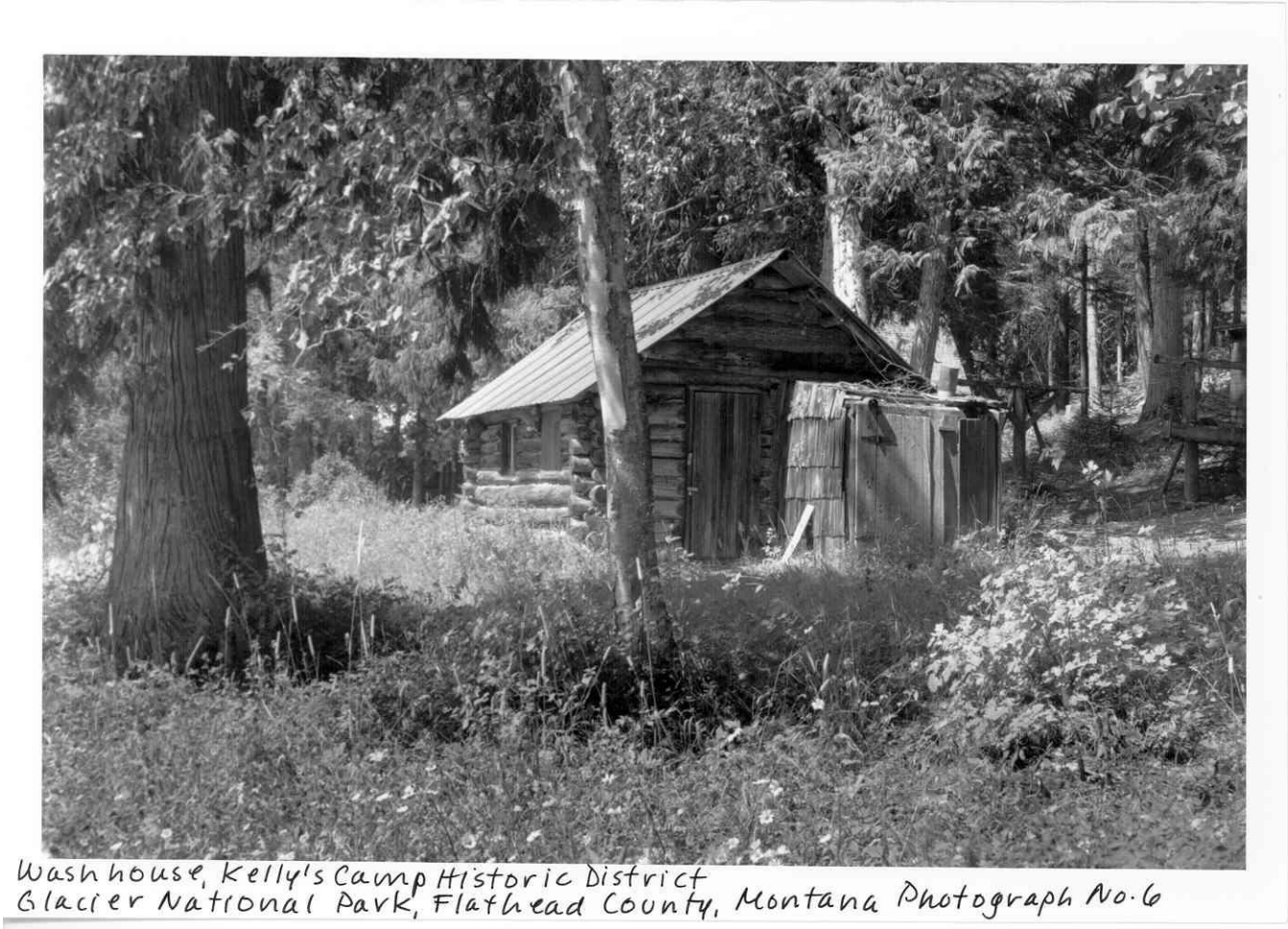
Cabin 00
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 00 from mouth of creek
Photograph No.3



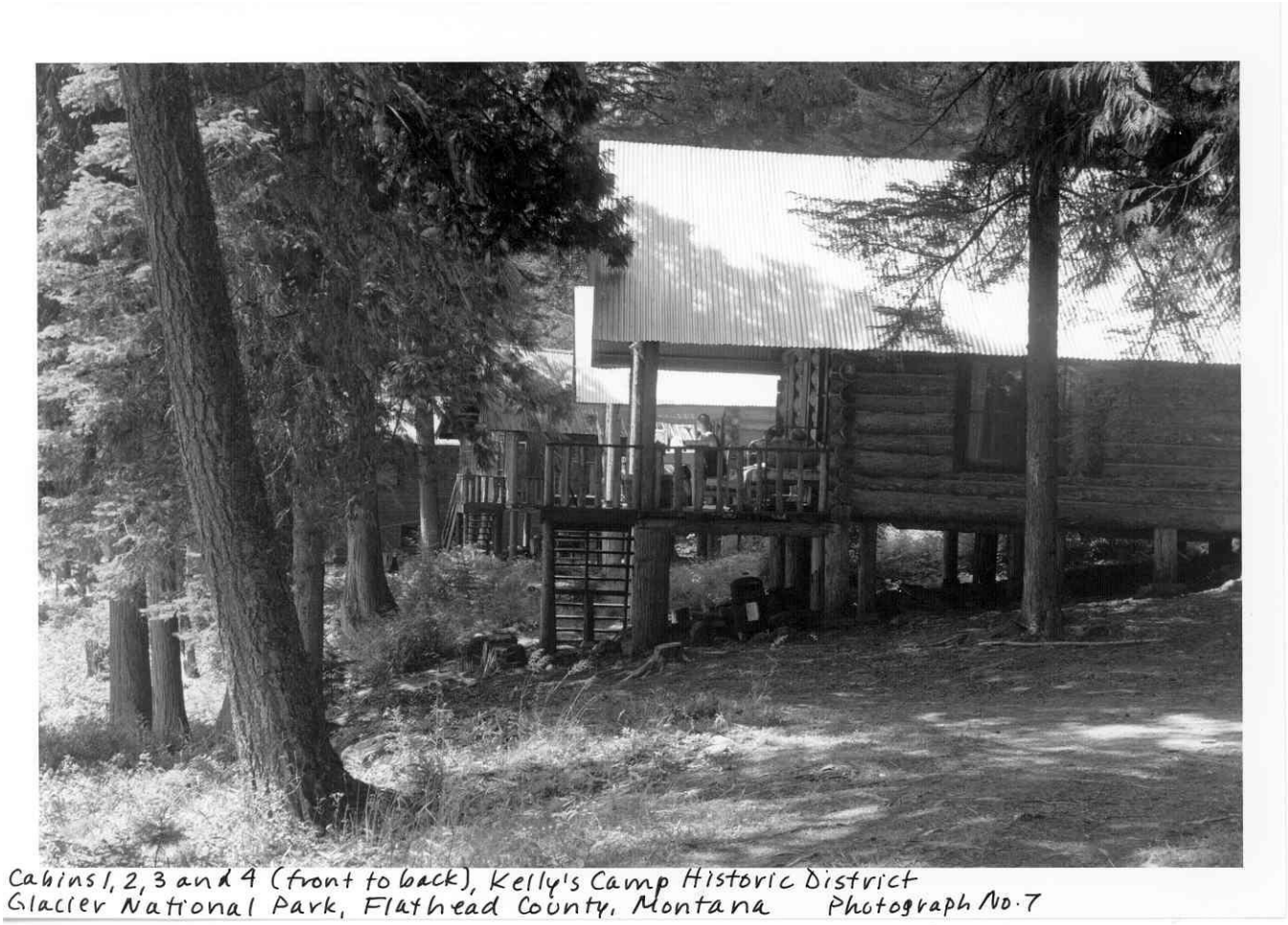
Generator house
View of south (front) and west sides of generator house overlooking Lake McDonald to the east
Photograph No.4



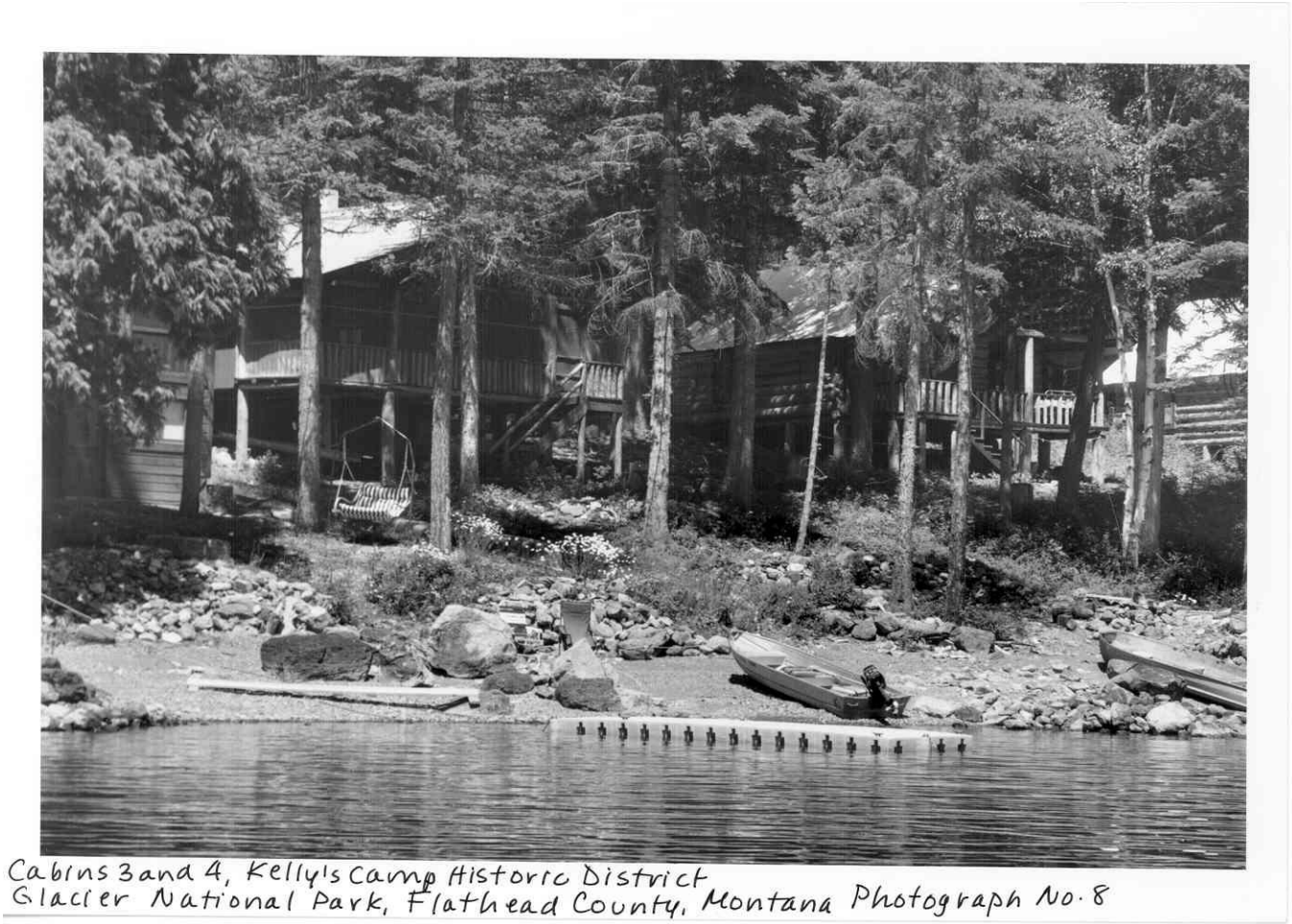
Wood shed
View of south (front) and east sides of wood shed from behind Cabin 00
Photograph No.5



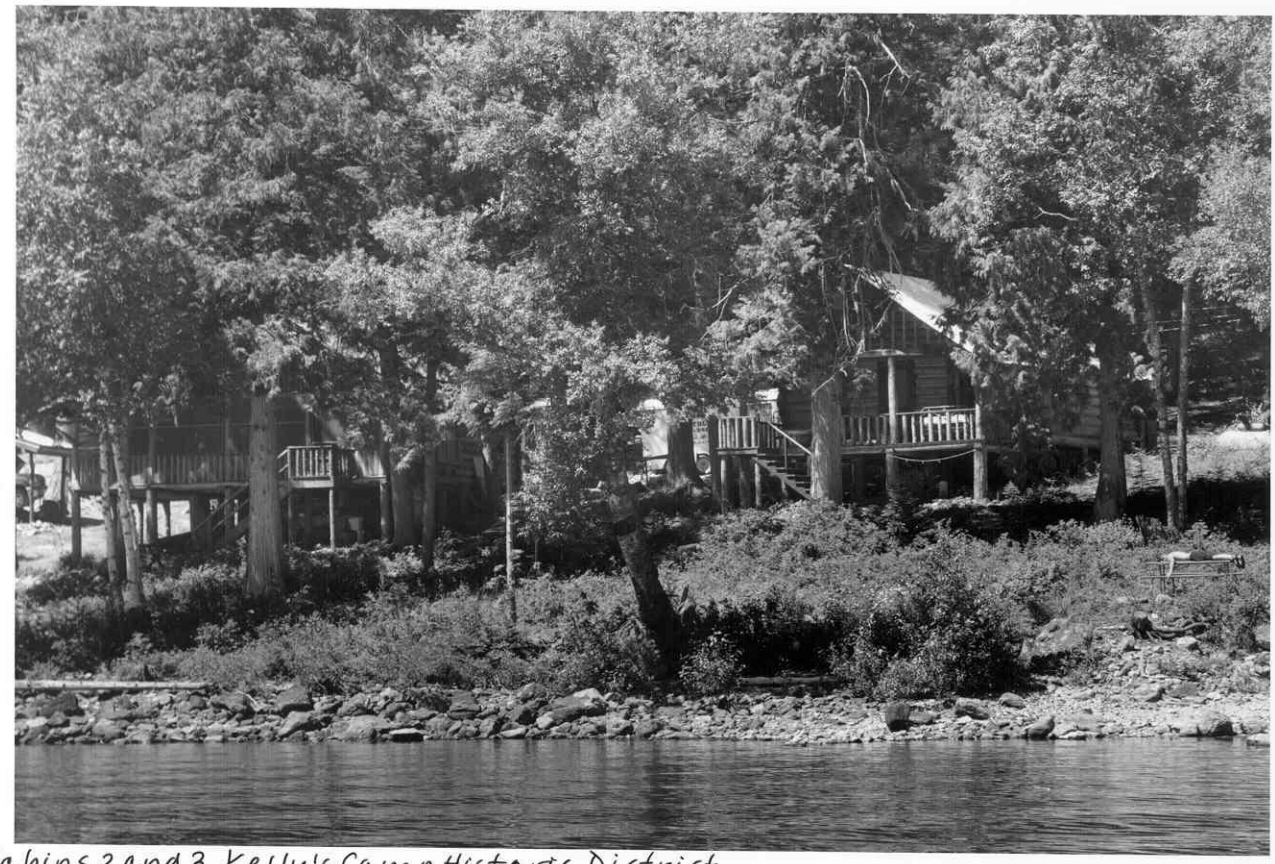
Wash house
View of north (gable end) and east sides of wash house from the north, standing in front of Cabin 00
Photograph No.6



Cabins 1, 2, 3, and 4
View of east (fronts) and north sides of Cabins 1, 2, 3, and 4 (from foreground to background) looking south from in front of the Big House
Photograph No.7



Cabins 3 and 4
View of east (fronts) and south sides of Cabins 2 and 3 from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.8



Cabins 2 and 3, Kelly's Camp Historic District
Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana Photograph No. 9

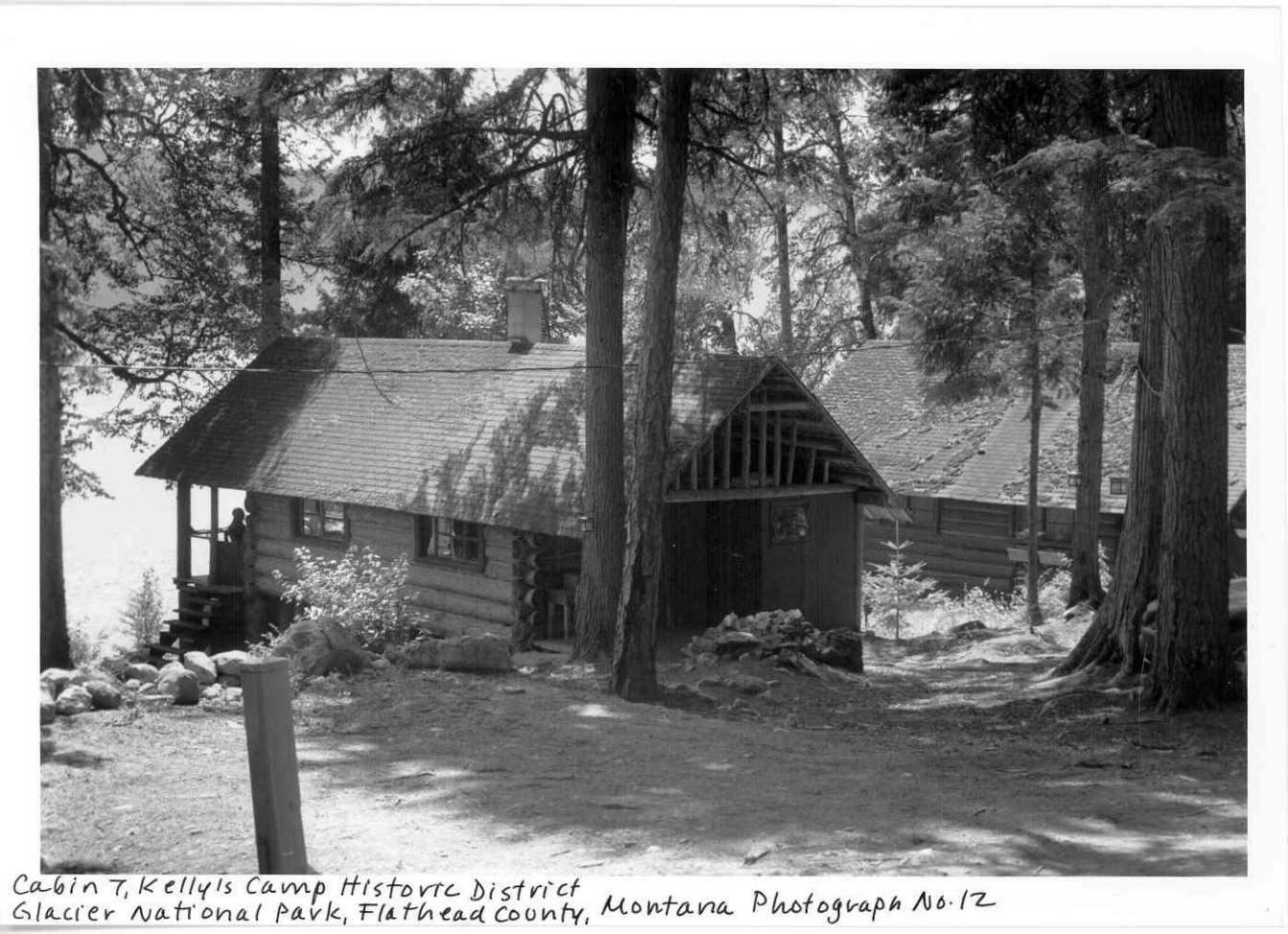
Cabins 2 and 3
View of east (fronts) and north sides of Cabins 2 and 3 from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.9



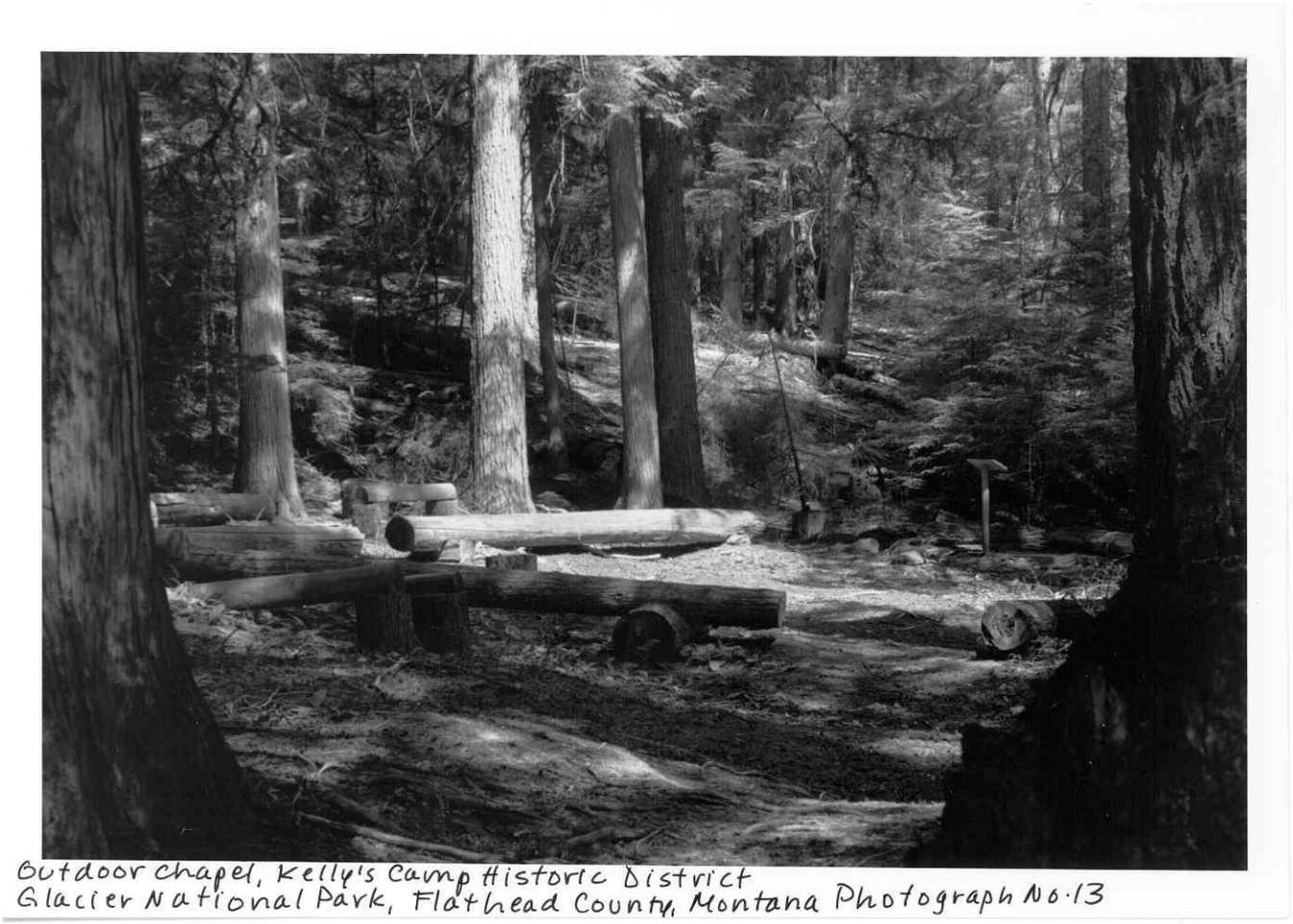
Cabin 5
View of west (back) and north sides of Cabin 5 overlooking Lake McDonald to the east
Photograph No.10



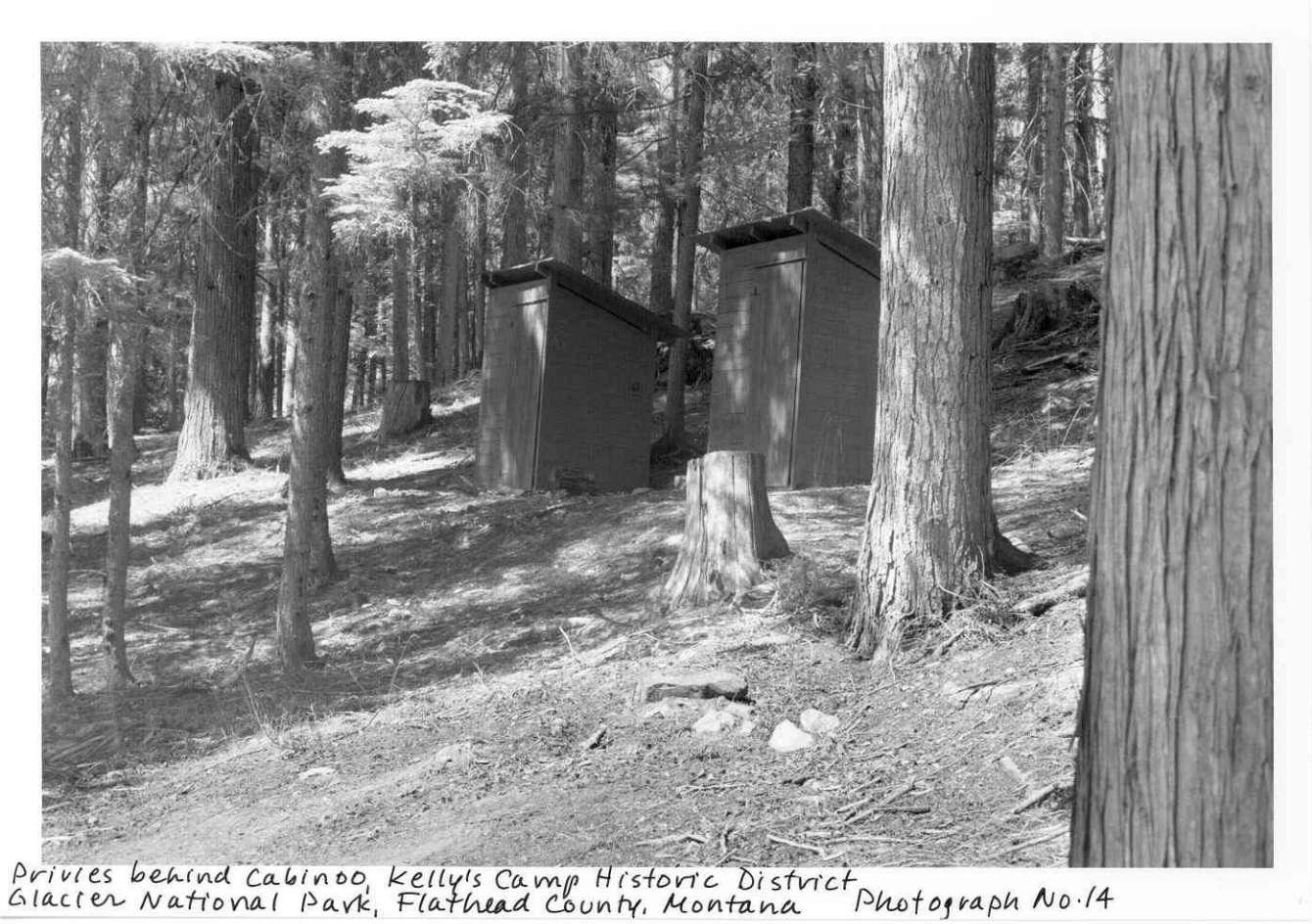
Cabin 6
View of west (back) and north sides of Cabin 6 and its generator shed behind overlooking Lake McDonald to the east
Photograph No.11



Cabin 7
View of west (back) and north sides of Cabin 7 overlooking Lake McDonald to the east; part of Cabin 8 shows at right side
Photograph No.12



Outdoor chapel
View from east near the creek, looking up the slope
Photograph No.13



Privies behind Cabin 00
View of east (fronts) and north sides of pair of privies on slope north of Cabin 00
Photograph No.14



Privies behind Cabin 1
View of east (fronts) and north sides of pair of privies on slope north of Cabin 1
Photograph No.15



Cabin 1
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 1
Photograph No. 16



Cabin 2
View of east (front) side of Cabin 2
Photograph No. 17



Cabin 3
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 3
Photograph No. 18



Cabin 4
View of east (front) side of Cabin 4
Photograph No. 19



Cabin 4
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 4
Photograph No. 20



Cabin 5
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 5
Photograph No. 21



Cabin 6
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 6
Photograph No. 22



Cabin 7
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 7
Photograph No. 23



Cabin 8
View of east (front) and north sides of Cabin 8
Photograph No. 24

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Lewis's Cabin Lots Historic District

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: NE of Lake McDonald Lodge on shoreline; Glacier National Park

not for publication: n/a

city/town: Lake McDonald **vicinity:** n/a

state: Montana **code:** MT **county:** Flathead **code:** 029 **zip code:** 59921

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 _ 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

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
_____ 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)		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private; Public-federal

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property 27

	Contributing	Non-contributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed In the National Register: 7 (Lake McDonald Lodge HD)	13	10	**building(s)**
			site(s)
	1	3	**structure(s)**
			objects(s)
Name of related multiple property listing: Recreational camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970	14	13	**TOTAL**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: Camp

Current Function:

DOMESTIC: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: Rustic Style

MATERIALS:

Foundation: log, concrete
Walls: log, frame
Roof: cedar shakes, metal, asphalt shingles
Other: stone; concrete block

Narrative Description:

The Lake McDonald Lodge Recreational Camps Historic District is located on a point projecting from the east shore of Lake McDonald adjacent to the Lake McDonald Lodge development and roughly a mile south of the head of the lake in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. The district embraces four acres of land with about 650 feet of shore frontage. This is cut into ten narrow lots with between 50 feet and 70 feet of lake frontage apiece. A row of ten cabins, one per lot, lines the low bluff overlooking the water. This bluff grows gradually steeper and higher as it continues to the northeastern boundary of the district. The fronts, or lake sides, of the cabins are partially hidden from view by mature trees growing along the bluff and on its steep bank. All but two of the cabins have routes—steps or a path—descending to the pebble beach. A low retaining wall, varying somewhat in height and appearance along its length, fronts the beach along much of the shoreline encompassed by the district. One cabin retains a boathouse on the shore and two others have floating docks. Of the ten cabins, eight are built of logs and but one have side-gabled main blocks. The eighth log cabin has a frontal gable. Frame cabins occupy the first and second lots from the northeast boundary. All of the cabins have porches on the lake side. Most retain some part of the early open porch set under a shed-roofed extension, but several are now glazed with a further open deck extending toward the water. All but two of the cabins occupy 300-foot deep lots. A post-1955 motel is set behind the fourth and fifth cabins from the northeast boundary, shortening their lots to 150 feet. Behind the main cabins there are lawns shaded by individually planted trees—mainly conifers, and frame outbuildings, including garages, guest cabins, and former generator houses. A row of fourteen log guest cabins maintained by the Lake McDonald Lodge, formerly Lewis's Glacier Hotel, abuts the district's southwest line. The horse corral adjoins the northeast boundary. An access road runs along the backs of the properties.

See continuation pages for Section 7

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a

Significant Person(s):

Cultural Affiliation: European-American

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation; Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: ca.1906-1957

Significant Dates:

Architect/Builder: Edward J. Cruger (McDonnell, McDonnell-Broadwater, McDonnell-Severson, McDonnell 1918, Scott, Creaser cabins); Martin Sibley, stone chimneys, except for Moore (chimney built by Asa Powell, Sr.)

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Lewis's Cabin Lots Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C as a representative example of recreational camp development on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Document (MPD) for "Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1895-1970" provides the historic context for the development of such wilderness recreational properties. The ten cabins and their associated outbuildings and landscape exemplify one type of property division that occurred around Lake McDonald in the first third of the twentieth century, from before the formation of the park until just before World War II. Like all of the recreational properties around the lake, the origins of the properties in this district originated with a homestead claim made in the 1890s and patented before the park was set aside in 1910. George Snyder acquired the patent in this area and established a hotel on the point. When he sold the 168.65-acre homestead property *in toto* to John and Olive Lewis, they began almost immediately to divide lake front properties northeast of the hotel from it. Between 1907 and 1916, they sold roughly 650' of shoreline totaling about 4.5 acres in six transactions. This became ten narrow and contiguous lots, each with a cabin. This district encompasses the private camps developed by individual families during the period 1907 to about 1935, by which time the ten lots were laid out. The district retains the visual appearance of ten individual properties even though they are now owned by only eight owners, including the federal government.

The MPD also describes the architecture associated with such properties on Lake McDonald. This district retains eight log cabins built using local timber and stone and augmented with stock mill work. The frame cabins and most of the associated outbuildings are built using materials acquired from beyond the park, and use forms and a scale similar to other such buildings around Lake McDonald. Several of the log cabins were built and possibly designed by Edward J. Cruger, a locally important builder. Mart Sibley, another builder and an Apgar resident, laid up several of the prominent cobblestone chimneys. As a group, these properties retain a high degree of integrity of feeling and setting. Most also retain integrity of design, workmanship and materials.

See continuation pages for Section 8 for **Summary History of Development**

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation pages

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 # _____**

Primary Location of Additional Data:

___ **State Historic Preservation Office**
___ **Other State agency**
_x_ **Federal agency** Glacier National Park Archives
___ **Local government**
___ **University**
___ **Other – National Archives, Denver**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 3.75 acres

UTM References:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
(NAD27)	12	288142	5388913

Verbal Boundary Description

The Lewis's Cabin Lots Historic District encompasses roughly 550 feet of Lake McDonald's shoreline contiguous to the area occupied by the Lake McDonald Lodge's guest cabins. The district includes ten lots, all 300 feet deep except for lots IF, 1B, and 1BA, which are only 150 feet deep. The property includes the following parcels identified in the plat book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North as 1A, 1AB, 1AC, 1AD, 1AE, 1AF, 1B, 1BA, 1BB, 1C, 1D, 1E, and 1F.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the land divided off from the Lewises' hotel property by them for sale to individuals who built private recreational cabins on their parcels. These parcels were not part of a filed subdivision, but were sold on an individual basis. The boundary excludes Lot 1BB on which the Stuart Motel is located.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jessie A. Ravage
organization: **date:** 10 February 2006
street & number: 34 Delaware Street **telephone:** 607-547-9507
city or town: Cooperstown **state:** New York **zip code:** 13326

Property Owner

See continuation page

Additional Documentation

See continuation pages, photographs, and maps

The following individual property descriptions start at the southwest boundary of the district and work toward the northeast boundary.

R.E. McDonnell 1935 Cabin and Camp

The R.E. McDonnell 1935 Camp centers on the first cabin in this row of properties. At this end of the district, the low bluff is retained at beach level by a cobblestone wall of between three and four feet in height. A path lined with cobblestones runs down to the beach from the back yard along the southwest side of the main cabin. A second stone retaining wall runs behind the cabin itself. A short flight of stone steps cuts through the latter wall to reach the back entrance of the main cabin. Near the property's back line stand three outbuildings. Near the southwest line, stands a generator house.

Main cabin (ca.1935, contributing building, NPS number 1274): The main cabin is the first of three virtually identical cabins constructed at the same time. It is a one-and-a-half-story, rectangular plan, side-gabled building constructed of unpeeled cedar logs with notched corners. The gable roof has exposed log purlin ends and is sheathed in wood shingles, probably replacing earlier shakes. On both the front and back elevations, roughly two-thirds of each roof face is extended over porches with notched log kneewalls. Both porches are set towards the northeastern end of the building. The back porch is now glazed; the north, or front porch, appears to be screened, but temporary plastic sheeting partially hides this feature from view. A large cobblestone chimney is centered on the exterior of the southwest gable end and flanked by windows with six-over-six sash. These are matched in the northeast wall. Other openings have horizontally sliding six-light sash (back wall) and six-light casements (sleeping loft at northeast end). The back entrance retains a custom-made heavy door made up of vertical boards.

Well/Chlorinator house (post-1975, noncontributing structure, NPS number 1358): The small, nearly square plan, frame well/chlorinator house has a gable roof with knee braces on the gable ends, exposed rafter ends, and cedar shakes. The walls are sheathed in clapboards without cornerboards. It stands on a poured concrete foundation. Its door is of insulated metal. This building is part of the larger Lake McDonald Lodge water system and not associated with this property.

Garage (ca.1940, contributing building): This garage is a side-gabled structure with exposed rafter ends and a wood shingle roof. Like the generator house, it is sided with clapboards without cornerboards. It has paired doors laid up of diagonally laid boards and small windows stacked over one another in the southeastern gable end. The decorative aspect of the gable ends is completed by boards laid vertically above the plate.

Garage (between 1963 and 1975, non-contributing building, NPS building number 1271): The second garage has a single bay entered through a vertically sliding door. The structure is sheathed in T-111 siding and roofed with asbestos corrugated sheets. The foundation is concrete block.

R.E. McDonnell-Broadwater Cabin and Camp

This camp centers on the second cabin in the row. The beach level, cobblestone retaining wall continues northeast along this property's lake side. Simple plank steps run straight down to the beach from the cabin's southwest side. Like the nearly identical cabin to the southwest, a second stone retaining wall runs behind the cabin, with shallow stone steps passing through it to the back entrance. Near the property's back line, across a grassy lawn, stand a guest cabin and a small outbuilding, possibly a former privy.

M**ain cabin** (ca.1935, contributing building): The main cabin is one-and-a-half-story, rectangular plan, side-gabled building constructed of unpeeled cedar logs with notched corners. The roof has exposed log purlin ends and retains cedar shakes dating to its construction. On both front and back, roughly two-thirds of the gable roof face is extended in shed roofs over porches with notched log kneewalls. In both cases, these porches are set towards the

northeastern end of the building. Both porches are now glazed; the northwest, or front, porch has a later added open deck with a fitted post-and-rail railing extending beyond it. A large cobblestone chimney is centered on the exterior of the west gable end and flanked by windows with six-over-six sash. These are matched in the east wall. Other openings have horizontally sliding six-light sash (back wall) and six-light casements (sleeping loft at east end). The back entrance retains a custom-made wide, heavy door made up of vertical boards.

Guest cabin (ca.1955-1965, non-contributing building): The guest cabin is a frontal gable, one-and-a-half-story frame building with textured plywood walls and a wood shingle roof. It retains original windows and doors.

Outhouse (ca.1930-1940, contributing building): The outhouse stands northeast of the guest cabin. It is a small (approx. 5' x 5'), shed-roofed frame structure with drop siding and a beadboard door. Now set on a concrete block foundation, this appears to be reused as a storage shed. It may not be on its original site.

McDonnell-Severson Cabin and Camp

This camp centers on the third cabin overlooking Lake McDonald from the low, wooded bluff. The cobblestone retaining wall at beach level continues along this property's lake frontage. Log edged steps descend to the beach in a straight run along the southwestern edge of the property. Like the two cabins to the southwest, both very similar to this one, a stone retaining wall wraps around the back of the cabin, and a low flight of stone steps descends through it. A flagged patio spans the space between this wall and the main cabin. The grassy backyard is dotted with mature conifers. Outbuildings include a guest cabin and pumphouse.

Main cabin (ca.1935, contributing building): The main cabin is one-and-a-half-story, rectangular plan, side-gabled cabin built using unpeeled cedar logs with notched corners. Its cedar shake roof has exposed log purlin ends. On both front and back, roughly two-thirds of the gable roof face is extended in shed roofs over porches. The front, or lakeside, retains notched log kneewalls and is glazed above. A later, large, open deck with a railing built from dimensional lumber extends from the porch toward the lake. The earlier back porch has been replaced with a glazed porch with a cobblestone kneewall. The original large cobblestone chimney is centered on the exterior of the southwest gable end. At the northeast end of the cabin, the earlier sleeping loft is raised with dormer windows projecting from the front and back roof faces. These have low-pitched frontal gable roofs, and their walls are clad in unpeeled milled log siding. The windows throughout are all recent single-light recent replacement casements or fixed sash depending upon location.

Guest cabin (ca.1960, non-contributing building): The guest cabin stands near the back line of the property. This frontal gable, one-and-a-half-story, frame building is sheathed in wood clapboards and has an asphalt shingle roof. Plank steps in two runs lead up to the upper level porch and sleeping area.

Pumphouse (late 20th century, non-contributing structure): The pumphouse is a small (3' x 4'), gable-roofed frame structure with textured plywood siding and an asphalt shingle roof, stands about midway between the main cabin and guest cabin near the northeast property line.

Thorne Cabin

The Thorne Cabin is the fourth log cabin and the only frontal gable main cabin in the row. The cobblestone retaining wall at beach level continues along this property's lake frontage. The wooded bluff's increasing height is further retained about halfway up by a second wall of rubble and logs. A straight run of plank steps runs down the bank to the beach from the level of the grassy back yard dotted with middle-aged conifers, which it shares with the McDonnell-Severson Cabin property to the south. A small pumphouse stands near the water on the northeast side of the house.

Main cabin (ca.1908, contributing building): The main cabin is a one-story, frontal gable log cabin with a later side-gabled wing cross-gabled onto the northeast side of the main block. The latter has a stovepipe chimney projecting through its metal roof. The main block retains a cedar shake roof. An additional shed-roofed enclosed porch sheathed with unpeeled milled log facing extends from the southwest wall. The front porch spans the frontal gable main block and retains a decorative fan of unpeeled narrow caliper logs in the gable end overhanging the porch. It is now enclosed, as is the back porch on the wing. All sash have been replaced with late twentieth century single-light casements, apparently retaining much of the original fenestration plan for placement.

Pumphouse (late 20th century, non-contributing structure): The pumphouse is a small (approx. 3' x 4') gable-roofed, frame structure with textured plywood siding and asphalt shingle roof stands on northeast side of the house near the water.

McDonnell-Walsh Cabin and Camp (a.k.a. Waldheim)

The Talbot Camp occupies a 300-foot deep lot and is marked by the fifth cabin overlooking the lake. Its deep lot has a grassy back lawn. Two frame guest cabins stand near the southeastern, or back, line of the property.

Main cabin (ca.1923, contributing building): The main cabin is a one-and-a-half-story, rectangular plan, gable-roofed cabin constructed of peeled tamarack logs with notched corners. The lakeside porch (now enclosed) has a rustic log railing set under the shed-roofed extension of the main roof. An open deck built using dimensional lumber now extends beyond that toward the lake. A large exterior cobblestone chimney is centered on southwest gable end. While the front, or lakeside, of the cabin is largely intact, the back has received several frame additions. These include shed-roofed dormers in both front and back roof faces at northeast end to raise the sleeping loft; a full-height, frontal gable-roofed ell off the back wall; and a small, single-story, frontal gable addition to the eastern corner of main block. A small cobblestone chimney, possibly for a hot water heater or a stove, projects from the southeast, or back, dormer. The main block retains its period fenestration plan with six-over-six sash in plain openings. The later back ell has single-light casements. The roof has been newly sheathed with metal roofing.

Guest cabin (ca.1960, non-contributing building): The guest cabin is a frontal gable, one-and-a-half-story, frame building designed to resemble a Swiss chalet, with a splat-railed open porch spanning the upper half level. This balcony is reached from inside the building through a large sliding glass door. It has decoratively cut eaveboards and a vertical board detail in the gable ends. Otherwise, it is sheathed in clapboards.

Guest house (late 20th century, non-contributing building): The guest house is a smaller and more simply built single-story building than the older guest cabin. It rests on a piered foundation. It is sheathed in clapboards with cornerboards and has an asphalt shingled roof.

McDonnell 1918 Cabin and Camp

The McDonnell 1918 Cabin is the sixth in the row of privately built cabins in the district. Unlike the properties to the southwest, the length of its lot is halved by a later motel built behind it so it is set between the retaining wall at beach level and a later poured concrete retaining wall about four feet high adjoining the property behind. A third low stone retaining wall cut by shallow steps wraps behind the house. This camp has the only boathouse in the district. A prominent feature, it stands just above the high water line.

Main cabin (1918-1919, contributing building): The main cabin is a one-and-a-half-story, rectangular plan, side-gabled, cabin built of peeled tamarack logs with notched corners. This exterior is nearly all hidden by composite siding designed to look like wide clapboards added after 1980. The fenestration plan is largely intact with its period six-light sash in vertically and horizontally sliding orientations with bark-faced casings. The bark-faced door frame

in back entrance also survives. The shed-roofed back porch spanning three quarters of the southeast elevation is now enclosed with single-light fixed sash. The roof has been recently sheathed with metal roofing.

Boathouse (ca.1920, contributing building): The boathouse is a flat-roofed log structure, now sheathed in a later composition siding. Its roof serves as an open deck for the main cabin.

Scott Cabin and Camp

The Scott Camp includes the seventh log cabin in the row of cabins overlooking Lake McDonald in the district. Like the adjoining McDonnell 1918 Cabin property to the southwest, its back yard is cut short by the motel property carved out of it to the southeast. It shares the poured concrete retaining wall, about 4 feet tall, which runs along the northeast line of the motel parcel, with the McDonnell property. Poured concrete steps descend from the motel property to the Scott Camp's grassy back yard. A low stone retaining wall dating to the construction of the cabin skirts the cabin's back wall. A short run of steps cuts through the stone wall to the level of the cabin. Two small sheds, one by the back door and one by the retaining wall steps stand in the back yard.

Main cabin (ca.1916, contributing building): The main cabin is a one-and-a-half-story, rectangular plan, side-gabled building constructed of unpeeled cedar logs with notched corners. It has a full width, shed-roofed open porch spanning the lake (northwest) side and an enclosed shed-roofed back porch spanning three-quarters of the southeast side. A large cobblestone chimney is centered on the exterior of the southwest gable end. The cabin retains six-light sash in vertical, double-hung orientation on the gable ends and four-light sliding sash in horizontal openings on the long walls. Four-light casements open from the sleeping loft on the east end of the upper half-story. The roof has recently been sheathed in metal roofing.

Shed (late 20th century, non-contributing building): The shed stands next to the steps on the property's back line is a small, gable-roofed, frame structure with clapboard siding.

Woodshed (late 20th century, non-contributing building): The woodshed is a small frame structure with a shed roof standing next to the door into the enclosed back porch of the main cabin.

Creaser Cabin

The Creaser Cabin is the eighth and last log cabin in the row of cabins standing along the bluff in the district. The property has steps running down to the beach, which meet the retaining wall just above the high water mark. As with most of the other log cabins in the group, a low stone retaining wall runs behind the cabin, and steps pass through it to the cabin's back entrance. The property has a long, narrow, grassy backyard dotted with mature conifers. A frame garage stands at the very back of the property with its long back wall on the southwest boundary. This building was moved to this position from a place nearer the back of the house.

Main cabin (1918-1919, contributing building): The main cabin is a one-and-a-half-story, rectangular plan, side-gabled, cabin constructed of unpeeled cedar logs with notched corners. It retains its open porch set under the extended roof face with its rustic log railing spanning the lake side of the cabin. The formerly open back porch, also set under an extended roof face and spanning the northeastern two-thirds of the back, or southeast wall, is now enclosed to house the kitchen. A concrete block chimney with tall metal stovepipe replaces the earlier cobblestone chimney on the exterior wall of the southwest gable end. The sleeping loft in the upper half-story of northeast end of the cabin is accessed by an interior stair with a rustic log railing. The fenestration plan remains intact but the earlier sash and casements have been replaced with single-light fixed sash. The cabin has an asphalt shingle roof.

Garage (ca.1940, non-contributing building): The garage is a single-bay, gable-roofed structure with clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The garage was moved to the present site from a spot right behind the main cabin in the 1960s.

Newman-Dolliver Duplex Cabin

This property is the ninth in the row of ten overlooking the lake from a low, wooded bluff in the district. It occupies the characteristic site set just within the trees capping the bluff, at the front of the long narrow lot. The stone retaining wall just above high water line sets the bluff off from the beach, and plank steps descend to the beach at either end of the cabin. The bluff is more wooded here, nearly hiding the cabin from view. A deep grassy yard dotted with mature trees stretches behind to the property's back line. The long northeast and southwest boundaries are marked by a simple fence of narrow caliper, unpeeled log posts with a single course of similar logs laid on top. It has no outbuildings.

Main cabin (1950, contributing building): The main cabin is one of only two frame main cabins in this district, the only one built in the post-war period, and the only one designed for the use of two families at once. It is also the only one built and owned by two families. It may have replaced an earlier log cabin. It is a one-and-a-half-story, T-plan, frame building with a cross-gabled roof designed for two families, one residing in the northeast half and other in the southwest half. Paired screened porches project from the lake side of the cabin and paired entrances access the back. Only the north side has a stone chimney. The regular fenestration plan uses one-over-one sash and log-faced trim around windows and doors. It has an asphalt shingle roof.

Griggs-Moore Cabin and Camp

The Griggs-Moore Cabin and its associated camp property is the tenth and last cabin in the row running northeast along the bluff overlooking Lake McDonald in this district. A long flight of plank steps leads down to the water along the property's southwest line, where it meets a low retaining wall running along the upper edge of the beach. A small terraced flower garden wraps around the northeast corner of the main cabin. The long, narrow backyard has a grassy lawn and is shaded by mature conifers. The property includes three outbuildings. The frame generator house, now used as the laundry, stands near the northeast line of the property and about halfway back along the length of the lot. A single-story, gable-roofed frame guest cabin stands near the southwest property boundary in the back half of the yard. A second guest cabin was designed out of a former garage nearly on the property's back line.

Main cabin (ca.1928, contributing building): The main cabin is a two-story, frame building with a clipped gable roof oriented northeast-southwest. The building has received at least two additions over the years. A single-story, shed-roofed addition housing a dining area and part of the kitchen extends from northeast wall, creating an L-plan footprint. This enclosed an earlier sleeping porch. A large screened porch with a sleeping loft above replaces an earlier two-level porch spanning the lake side. Later interior changes include partitioning off more private sleeping quarters than the older loft arrangements. The cabin has wood clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The irregular fenestration has a variety of replacement casement windows in an irregular fenestration plan.

Generator house (ca.1935, contributing structure): The generator house is a small, square-plan, frontal gable, frame structure with clapboard siding standing on a poured concrete foundation. Its gable roof has exposed rafter ends gable roof face, which are extended on the southwest side to provide open storage. It has a period wood paneled door.

Guest cabin (ca.1955-1960, non-contributing building): This guest cabin stands about two-thirds of the way back from the lake near the southwest line of the property. It is a single-story, gable-roofed frame building with wood clapboard siding. It has exposed rafter ends and an asphalt shingle roof. Sliding glass doors entering its northeast long wall; it has vinyl one-over-one sash in the window openings.

Guest cabin (ca.1950-1960, non-contributing building): This guest cabin is a ca.1980 remodeling of an older storage structure. The taller section was added at that time. This building stands near the back line of the property.

It is composed of two shed-roofed, frame blocks, one slightly taller than the other, with their long walls adjoined. The taller of the two blocks has log rafters with exposed ends. It is sided with textured plywood siding and an asphalt shingle roof. It is entered through large, sliding glass doors and has single-light, fixed sash.

Summary Development History

George Snyder, first visited Lake McDonald in the fall of 1894 and claimed a homestead, which included Lots 1 and 2 in the NW ¼ of the NE¼ of Section 23 and Lots 4 and 5 in Section 14, all in Township 33 North, Range 18 West, of the Montana Meridian, in the spring of 1895. He continuously occupied it until he sold the property in 1906,[1] even though he did not receive a patent for the homestead until October 1907.[2] Snyder's deed to the property suggests that he had family support, as he received the property, not through a government patent, but from Edwin A. and Elizabeth A. Snyder, also of Flathead County, on the 6th of June 1905. One Lake McDonald resident called Snyder a remittance man, a term for an easterner sent west with an income, either to give him a new start or to get him out of trouble.[3] Charles Howes, a fellow homesteader, stated that Snyder was born in Menominee, Wisconsin, in 1870, so Snyder was younger than the other five homestead patentees on Lake McDonald.[4]

During his decade of tenure, he built the frame Glacier House hotel with outbuildings to serve early visitors to the region. He ran a steamer, the "F.I. Whitney" up the lake from Apgar landing at his own dock. When L.O. Vaught, a regular visitor, queried Snyder about selling the property, he responded on the 19th of February 1906:

> In regards to selling my place I really don't care to let it go as it is getting to be a pretty good paying business and shore line near the head of the lake going to be a gold mine soon. I have now offers of three dollars per front foot for lots on the shore line and the parties are coming to select the ground as soon as the snow is gone, but if you have anybody in sight that wants to buy they can have the ranch, hotel, boat, and everything for ten thousand dollars ($10,000). I suppose naturally that will look high to a prospective buyer, but I know it will be a losing proposition to me to take any less. My plan had been to plat some lots on the shore line and sell a thousand dollars worth of lots and keep the balance myself, but [if] I have a chance to sell it in a bunch before I have closed the deal on any of the lots, I will let it go.[5]

Snyder may have been bluffing, as soon after, he sold the property to Olive Lewis, wife of Columbia Falls lawyer and the owner of the Gaylord Hotel, John Lewis, on the 5th of May, 1906, for $8,500.

While the Lewises continued operating Snyder's frame hotel for eight more years, they began expanding the business in 1907 by adding ten log housekeeping cabins northeast of the hotel. They added two more in 1908.[6] While Snyder's choice of a frame hotel may have spoken of refinement in the wilderness, the Lewises' choice of log cabins had the dual appeal of rusticity for an upper class clientele seeking a wilderness respite and economy as they drew the building materials from their tract. The Lewises also executed Snyder's plan to sell lakefront lots. They sold a 300' x 300' lot (2.04 acres) just northeast of their new guest cabins to F.P. Thorne (1854-1950) of Waterville, Kansas, that year. Thorne paid $500, roughly 60 cents per lakefront foot, 20% of Snyder's stated price in February 1906.[7] He may have contracted to build a cabin soon after his purchase, as the cabin on Lot 1AD (a later division)

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[1] Statement to L.O. Vaught, 1934. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 1, Folder 18. (Glacier National Park Archives (GNPA): West Glacier, Montana*). Book of Deeds 89/387*, 5 May 1906. (County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)
[2] *Book of Deeds 84/264*. Flathead County Clerk and Recorders Office, Kalispell, Montana.
[3] Bea Macomber and Ace Powell, Jr., Historical interview, 4 June 1976. (GNPA: West Glacier, Montana).
[4] L.O. Vaught typescript synopsis of letters 1919-1937, affidavit, and notes from a conversation in 1926 or 1927. L.O. Vaught papers, Box 1, Folder 16. (GNPA). Milo B. Apgar was the oldest, born in 1844. Geduhn, born in 1859, was the youngest, aside from Snyder.
[5] George E. Snyder to L.O. Vaught, 19 February 1906. L.O. Vaught Papers, Box 1, Folder 18. This is written on hotel stationery with the following heading:"The Glacier House/ Geo. E. Snyder, Proprietor/ The starting point for all places of interest in the Lake McDonald Region,/ Including the Glaciers, Avalanche Basin, Etc."
[6] James R. McDonald. *Historic Preservation Architectural Guide. Lake McDonald [Lodge] Cabins. Glaicer National Park*. February 1985, rev. October 1985: 5. (Ruhle Library, Glacier National Park: West Glacier, Montana).
[7] *Book of Deeds 99/615*.

was once identical to the hotel's Cabin 10. Built of notched, unpeeled logs, it originally had a two-room plan and a frontal gable overhang with the decorative open fan constructed of unpeeled branches. Jacqueline Creaser Brewer recollected that Thorne used it as a guest cabin in the 1920s, but this would have been after he had bought another lot in 1919 from William and Ethelyn Thorne Johnston (his daughter) and built a very large cabin there.[8] Described as a "character" and a Kansas man[9], Thorne moved to Waterville in 1876 to work at the Marshall County Bank. In addition to banking, he engaged in other businesses, including lumber and mercantile interests. Thorne was raised in a Quaker community in Greene County, New York.[10]

Thorne's cabin appears to have been solitary until after 1916, when the Lewises sold five additional 50' x 300' lots at $500 each. At $10 per lake foot, values had increased considerably from Thorne's 1907 purchase. From Thorne's original lot northeastward, these buyers were R.E. McDonnell,[11] William Scott,[12] William Talbot,[13] Ward H. Neff,[14] and William W. Johnston.[15] As was characteristic of most Lake McDonald purchases at this period, enclaves of people who already knew each other gathered at particular locales. F.P. Thorne probably introduced William Scott (1866-1927) and William Talbot to Lake McDonald. Talbot was one of Thorne's business partners in Waterville.[16] Scott was also a Waterville businessman.[17] Johnston, a resident of East Lansing, Michigan, was married to Ethelyn Thorne Johnston, F.P. Thorne's daughter. Neff and McDonnell, apparently the odd ones out, came from St. Louis and Kansas City, Missouri, respectively.

McDonnell, however, was born in Gallatin County, Montana, in 1872. He became an engineer after graduating from Stanford University in 1896. He moved to Kansas City in 1898 and established the partnership of Burns and McDonnell Engineering Company with classmate Clinton S. Burns. They chose Kansas City as the part of the country with the largest number of cities lacking water works and sewer systems within a 200-mile radius.[18] He and his wife Georgia and their son, also Robert, first visited Lake McDonald in July 1913.

Talbot bought at least three additional lots on the bluff before 1919. These included the shoreline at both ends of the parcel F.P. Thorne bought in 1907 (southwestern 60 feet and the northeastern 100 feet) and also another 50-foot lot from the Lewises.[19] This undoubtedly helped him choose his neighbors in this select enclave. Among them were the Creasers, a young couple from Williston, North Dakota. Sidney was a pharmacist suffering from nervous strain looking for a respite when they came to Lake McDonald with their infant daughter in 1915 and stayed in Cabin 14 at the hotel. They camped in 1917 and 1918. Among Jackie Creaser Brewer's earliest memories is walking up and down the beach deciding between lots Talbot had for sale.[20]

Frank Kelly, a homesteader and cabin camp owner across the lake, noted in January 1919 that "several people have bought lots and built on the Lewis place they are near Rogers Corell [*sic*.]."[21] The horse corral still marks the

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[8] Jacqueline Creaser Brewer, Historical Interview, 30 July 1987. (GNPA: West Glacier, Montana).
[9] Brewer, Interview.
[10] "Pioneer Passes," and Obituary for Franklin Pierce Thorne, *Waterville Telegraph* (27 July 1950): 1 (Marshall County Historical Society), and "F.P. Thorne and lady" attended the wedding of Mary Stevenson Thomas in Blue Rapids, Kansas, in March 1880. (www.public.asu.edu/~aajth/history~m/m.s.thomas.html)
[11] *Book of Deeds 164/511*.
[12] *Book of Deeds 149/52*.
[13] *Book of Deeds 147/493*. This deed is from F.P. Thorne to Talbot.
[14] *Book of Deeds 149/283*.
[15] Deed chains compiled in James R. McDonald, *Historic Structures Survey, Glacier National Park*. 1980.
[16] Don Fitzgerald, *Peaceful Valley, Waterville Revisited* (n.p., n.d.): 42-59. (Marshall County (Kansas) Historical Society)
[17] Obituary for William Scott, *Waterville Telegraph* (26 August 1927): 1. (Marshall County (Kansas) Historical Society)
[18] "Who's Who in Kansas City," *Kansas City Star* (3 June 1923): 6E. (Kansas City Public Library)
[19] *Book of Deeds 167/128*, and *Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33 West, Range 18 North*.
[20] Brewer, Interview.
[21] Frank Kelly to L.O. Vaught, 29 January 1919. L.O. Vaught Papers. Box 2, Folder 11.

northeastern line of the district's row of lots. These cabins were designed as rustic retreats on a small scale and with simple, rustic details for individual owners. The seven cabins built from about 1918 into the mid-1930s are all one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled buildings with roof faces extended over porches that were once open. Some porches had log kneewalls; others had rustic log railings. All had large exterior cobblestone chimneys built on one gable end. A sleeping loft occupied the upper half-story of the gable end away from the chimney. These can be picked out by the small casement windows in the upper gable portion of the building. The regular fenestration plan included main floor windows with standard openings and six-over-six sash on the short walls and six-over-sixes turned on their sides in horizontally sliding casings on the long walls. The interiors were simply appointed, with wood floors and open plank steps with rustic railings ascending to the sleeping loft. The logs of the interior walls were hewn smooth with an axe or an adze, and the spaces partially covered with slender wooden staves to create relatively smooth walls. Most of the cabins in this group were built of the preferred cedar logs, but two used tamarack instead. The Thorne Cabin appears to use two different species.

Noted local cabin builder, Edward J. Cruger constructed at least three of these cabins during 1918 and 1919, including the McDonnells' first cabin of tamarack logs in 1918;[22] the Scott Cabin, and the Creaser Cabin.[23] Mart Sibley, an Apgar man, built the chimneys. The Scotts had collected colored cobblestones from around the lake for theirs, and Mrs. Scott (Caroline or "Cab") kept scooping away the wet cement to expose them more fully. Sibley protested, but when all was done, the chimney was sound, so he built them that way afterwards.[24] The Scotts sold their property to R.E. McDonnell in 1923; McDonnell may have acquired the property for Louise Fay, as the title transferred to her the same year. Caroline Scott wrote a letter for the *History of Apgar* published in 1951.

As Talbot sold his lots, they turned him a tidy profit as land values rose dramatically after 1917, driven first by the newly legislated national parks policy to eliminate private land ownership and then by anticipation of the auto road that would connect the hotel with the train at Belton. Talbot sold his last lot to his neighbor, R.E. McDonnell, in 1925 for $1,150 ($23/lake foot).[25] McDonnell built a tamarack log cabin as an engagement gift to his son and Elizabeth Walsh, niece of Senator Walsh and daughter of John Walsh. After the engagement was broken, McDonnell sold the cabin to Dr. Husser in 1931.[26] Of German descent, he named his cabin "Waldheim," meaning "house in the woods". Husser died soon after, and his widow sold the cabin.[27]

Besides Talbot, McDonnell and F.P. Thorne, played significant roles in shaping the development of the area now encompassed by this historic district from about 1920 into the World War II era. In addition to parceling off parts of his original 300' x 300' purchase, F.P. Thorne bought the last of the Lewises' 50-foot lots in the row in 1919. Sometime during this period, he also built on his first parcel a camp with a large cabin, a stable, and a boathouse, all constructed of unpeeled, notched cedar logs. Thorne sold the 50-foot parcel to Irma S. Griggs in 1927, the guest cabin to Alma and S.T. Cogswell in 1929, and the 140-foot parcel to R.E. McDonnell in 1934. In October 1934, McDonnell also bought the 60-foot parcel at the southwest end of Thorne's first parcel from William Talbot's estate. Thus, by 1934, McDonnell owned his first cabin and an additional 200 feet of lake frontage at the southwest end of the district where Thorne's large cabin and outbuildings stood.[28] Further, he had also built and sold the tamarack cabin to the Hussers by about 1925. McDonnell salvaged the cedar logs from the large Thorne Cabin and outbuildings, a scarce and highly desirable commodity within the park after the Half Moon Fire

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[22] W.E. McDonnell, *History of Apgar*, ed. Leona Harrington, [n.p., n.d.]: 19-21.
[23] Brewer, Interview.
[24] *Ibid.*
[25] *Book of Deeds 191/119.*
[26] *Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33, Range 18 North.*
[27] Jim Johnson, owner of "Waldheim", Interview with author, 24 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.
[28] Brewer, Interview.

of 1929.[29] He then hired Edward J. Cruger to build three identical log cabins similar to the existing Talbot, McDonnell, Scott, and Creaser cabins at the southwest end of the district. They were the last of this type to be built within this historic district boundary. McDonnell appears to have intended to rent these, but he and his wife moved into the cabin nearest the hotel soon after it was completed. They rented their first cabin out and eventually sold it to Jess and Mary I. LaDow in 1940.[30] Jess and Robert McDonnell, Jr., were good friends. The McDonnells added a Craftsman-style frame generator house and garage behind the cabin they moved into, possibly before 1940, but certainly by 1950. Most people used generators for lights. After the Roosevelt Highway (US 2) through Marias Pass and the Going-to-the-Sun Road opened in 1932 and 1933, visitors from east of the divide came to Lake McDonald by car, so some private owners built garages.

McDonnell sold the middle cabin to Sadie Broadwater of Havre in 1939. Her descendants still own the property. In 1937, Clarence J. and Grace Severson of Wolf Point, Montana, acquired the last of the trio, although the deed was apparently not filed until 1943. They brought their two daughters and Mrs. Severson's mother to stay at Lake McDonald every summer thereafter. Their older daughter died young of brain hemorrhage, probably caused by a weakening due to childhood disease. In 1946, the Seversons filed the deed for the old Thorne Cabin property adjoining their northeast line. This doubled their property. Mrs. Severson glazed the lakeside porches o both cabins to reduce the wind. They also enlarged the enclosed area of the latter cabin by sheathing the sleeping porches in milled log siding like that used on the later added dormers on the cabin they bought from McDonnell. Their younger daughter, Mary Grace Galvin (b.1935) inherited both cabins.[31]

At the north end of the bluff, the Griggs built a small frame cabin on their property before selling it the Moores in the early 1930s, which Jackie Brewer referred to as the Moore Cabin.[32] When the present owner, Nina Harrison, remodeled the kitchen, she found that the backs of the beadboard kitchen cupboards were labeled for shipment by rail to Belton for the Griggses. The Moores apparently expanded the cabin toward the lakeshore and added the sleeping loft.[33]

Recreational cabins built after the mid-1930s by private individuals were generally frame buildings constructed of milled lumber brought from outside the park. Few owners had their own land to draw on, and logs were largely unavailable except as salvage or at considerable cost. The cabin's clipped gables reflect Swiss details found on Lake McDonald Lodge and allude to the continued marketing of Glacier's mountains as the American Alps. The roof form seems to have been especially popular on the west side among the few people constructing new buildings during the Great Depression. The Grist family in Apgar built a clipped gable house, and at Belton, the entire group of service buildings designed for auto tourists also sported clipped gable roofs. While a decidedly minor chord within the larger picture of recreational cabin architecture around Lake McDonald, the Swiss taste was nevertheless highly recognizable among Glacier Park residents and visitors. In the post-war period, owners in this district and around the lake made more restrained allusions to the chalet style, mainly using decorative eaveboards on gable ends and exterior balconies with splat railings. Asa "Ace" Powell, Sr., an Apgar resident, built the stone chimney on the southwest wall of the main room of the cabin. The Moores sold to the Weyhs, who filed their deed in 1953.[34] The cabin was originally designed with an open, two-level, lakeside porch. This failed due to rot, and the current owner replaced it with a single story, glazed porch spanning the front of the cabin.

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[29] *Ibid.*
[30] Nina Harrison says that McDonnell furnished his rental cabins with Fiestaware crockery and Hudson's Bay blankets.
[31] Mary Grace Severson Galvin, Interview with author, 18 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.
[32] Brewer, Interview.
[33] Nina Harrison, conversations with author, July 2006.
[34] *Plat Book for Section 14, Township 33, Range 18 North.*

The tenth and last built cabin in the row of main cabins, the Newman-Dolliver Duplex Cabin, was built in 1950 as a two-family cabin. Mary Grace Galvin remembers the excitement she felt when she learned that the families had children who might be playmates. This is a frame cabin built using materials brought from outside the park, similarly to later cabins constructed at Apgar.

From the time the private cabins were built down to the 1950s, their owners formed a social set with camp owners at the head of Lake McDonald. Those at the head of the lake received their mail and bought some of their groceries at the store near the hotel, and so regularly came and went by boat until 1922, when a road reached the Wheeler Camp and the ranger station. After that, people traveled by car, too. In addition to the camps at the head of the lake, there were at least six more individually owned camps located on the former Comeau homestead, which abutted the former Snynder Homestead on the north just beyond the Griggs-Moore Cabin.[35] A well-worn footpath ran along the backs of these properties connecting Comeaus' homestead cabins and everything in between with the hotel's guest cabins. At each of the properties in the district, there was a turnstile

Sales of several of the individual properties on the Comeau homestead to the government and their subsequent demolition during the 1950s and 1960s eroded the strong connections between these properties and the ten nearer the hotel. Frank O. Stuart bought the McDonnell 1918 Cabin in 1945.[36] By 1954, he also owned the Scottt Cabin.[37] He cut the two cabin lots from southwest to northeast to create a non-lakeside lot for a new two-story motel that he built in 1955. This severed the path and further broke up the social continuity. The motel passed quickly through two ownerships, and thence to Donald Hummel in 1961. Donald Ford, a partner in the motel purchase, acquired the Scott Cabin, which remains in his family.[38] The Hummel family retains the deed for the first McDonnell Cabin. Neither the Hummels nor the Fords retain an interest in the motel.

The row of private cabins built on the Snyder homestead, later the Lewis property, however, has remained highly intact. Stability of ownership contributes considerably to this. The Creaser Cabin is owned by descendants of Sidney and Bertha Creaser, who built the cabin. They also own the northern half of the Duplex Cabin. Two of McDonnell's trio of cabins built from salvaged logs—the McDonnell-Severson Cabin and the McDonnell-Broadwater Cabin—are owned by descendants of the people who bought from McDonnell. In 1963, R.E. McDonnell's son left the last of the trio to Stanford University. Stanford deeded it to the park; it is now concessioner housing. The remaining cabins, excepting the Griggs-Moore Cabin, have remained in the same families since the 1950s. Nina Harrison (b.1942), who has spent every summer of her life on Lake McDonald, and her ex-husband, Eric Myhre, bought this in the late 1970s.

Owners have executed changes characteristic of all the privately owned family camps around the lake, but they have maintained the overall aspects of design, materials, and workmanship. siting, scale, mass, and building materials. The most apparent changes are usually to the porches, which were once all open. Many are now enclosed and are fronted with open decks. Most cabins in this row have required stabilization of their log

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[35] These included cabins owned by the Rues, Boses (who built Inwood Cabins), McKelveys, Kennedys, Colonel Mears, a surveyor for the Great Northern Railway.
[36] McDonald, 355.
[37] McDonald, 356.
[38] Donald Hummel, Historical Interview, 29 August 1979. (GNPA)

foundation piers.[39] Some owners have replaced window sash, but have usually retained the original window openings. Sleeping lofts have been enlarged and turned into more private individual bedrooms. And some owners have built small frame guest cabins to accommodate new generations. As a group, they present a remarkably coherent group retaining a high degree of integrity of setting, location, and feeling. Except for the McDonnell 1918 Cabin, all retain their original exterior finishes, either log or frame walls. A few retain period cedar shake roofs, while some now have new metal roofs, a response to the wildland fires of 2003, which threatened the west shore of the lake. At least six of the cabins were built by Edward J. Cruger, a noted local builder, and they are a testament to the quality of his worksmanship as they are largely as he built them seventy or more years ago.

[39] Jackie Brewer states that they replaced the log piers in the 1960s when the cabin began to list. Brewer, Interview.

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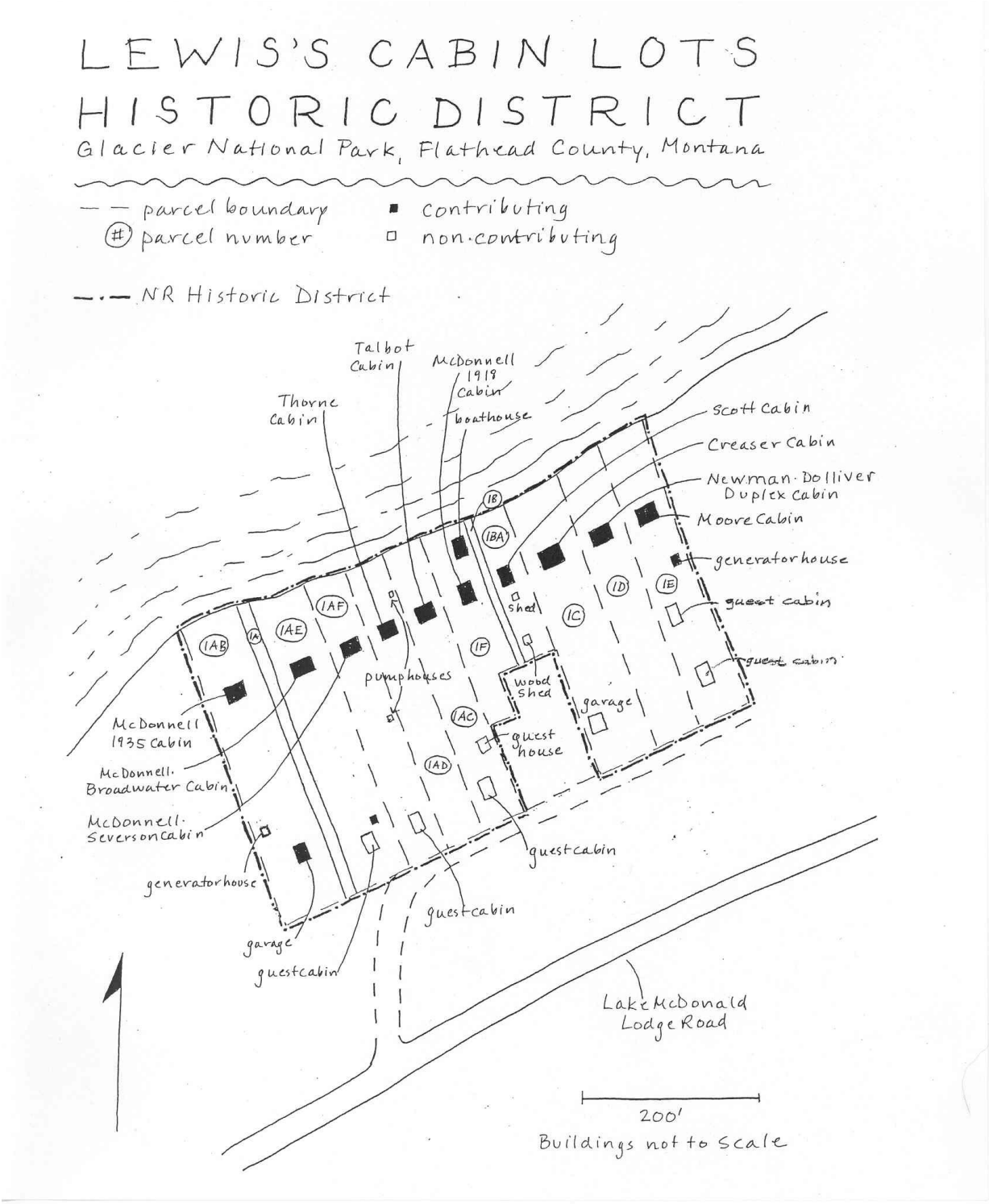
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LEWIS'S CABIN LOTS
HISTORIC DISTRICT
Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana
parcel boundary
parcel number
contributing
non-contributing
NR Historic District
Talbot Cabin
McDonnell 1919 Cabin
Thorne Cabin
boathouse
Scott Cabin
Creaser Cabin
Newman-Dolliver Duplex Cabin
Moore Cabin
generator house
guest cabin
guest cabin
shed
pumphouses
wood shed
garage
guest house
McDonnell 1935 Cabin
McDonnell-Broadwater Cabin
McDonnell-Severson Cabin
generator house
garage
guest cabin
guest cabin
guest cabin
Lake McDonald Lodge Road
200'
Buildings not to scale

Property Owners

Tracts 1A and 1AB
name/title: Superintendent, Glacier National Park
street & number:
city or town: West Glacier **state:** MT **zip code:** 59936

Tract 1AE
name/title: Kuhr Family LLC
street & number: P.O. Box 1310
city or town: Havre **state:** MT **zip code:** 59501

Tracts 1AC, 1AD, and 1AF
name/title: Modapaco Trust
street & number: 130 Fairway Blvd.
city or town: Kalispell **state:** MT **zip code:** 59901

Tracts 1F and 1B
name/title: James K. Johnson and Nancy Lindsay Trust
street & number: 501 Payton Building
city or town: Spokane **state:** WA **zip code:** 99201

Tracts 1F and 1B
name/title: Donna Bodie, Don Hummel LE, and Diane Rowley c/o Louis Stamler
street & number: 2344 E. Speedway #2
city or town: Tucson **state:** AZ **zip code:** 85719

Tract 1BA
name/title: Barbara Jean Harrington and Carol Ann McMullin
street & number: 8987 Denver Street
city or town: Ventura **state:** CA **zip code:** 93004

Tracts 1C
name/title: Jacqueline C. Brewer
street & number: P.O. Box 419
city or town: Lakeside **state:** MT **zip code:** 59922

Tracts 1D
name/title: Marvin & Jeanne Kildahl Revoc Living Trust
street & number: P.O. Box 419
city or town: Lakeside **state:** MT **zip code:** 59922

Tracts 1E
name/title: Nina L. Harrison and Aidan Myhre
street & number: 1822 LeGrande Cannon Blvd
city or town: Helena **state**: MT **zip code:** 59601

Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

Name of district: Lewis's Cabin Lots Historic District
County and State: Flathead County, Montana
Photographer: Jessie Ravage
Date of photograph: July 2005
Location of negative: Glacier National Park Archives

McDonnell 1935 Cabin
View of southeast (back) and northeast sides of McDonnell Cabin overlooking Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1

Well/Chlorination House
View of northeast side
Photograph No.2

McDonnell-Broadwater Cabin
View of southeast (back) and southwest sides of cabin from lawn behind cabin
Photograph No.3

McDonnell-Severson Cabin
View of northeast (front) of cabin, bluff, and beach from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.4

Thorne Cabin
View of northeast (front) of cabin, bluff, and beach from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.5

Thorne Cabin
View of southeast (back) and southwest sides of Thorne Cabin from lawn behind the Thorne and McDonnell-Severson cabins
Photograph No.6

Talbot, Thorne, and McDonnell-Severson Cabins
View of northeast (front) sides of Talbot, Thorne, and McDonell-Severson Cabins (left to right) from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.7

Talbot Cabin
View of northeast (front) side of Talbot Cabin, bluff, retaining wall, and beach from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.8

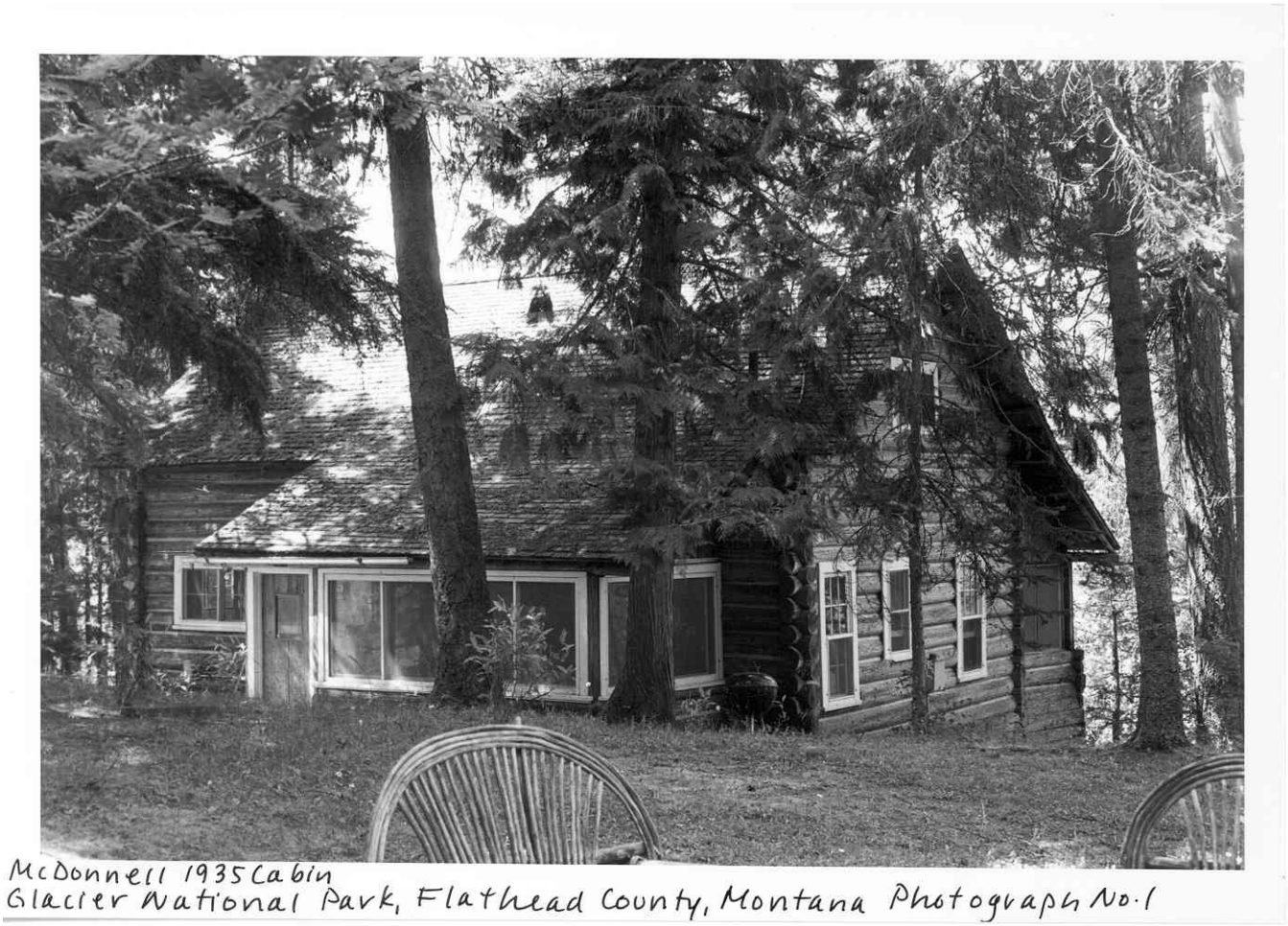
McDonnell (1918) Cabin
View of southeast (back) and northeast sides of McDonnell (1918) Cabin from raised lawn behind the Scott Cabin
Photograph No.9

Scott Cabin
View of southeast (back) and southwest sides of Scott Cabin from raised lawn behind the Scott Cabin
Photograph No.10

Scott and McDonnell (1918) Cabins and McDonnell boathouse
View of northeast (fronts) of Scott and McDonnell (1918) Cabins, the retaining walls and beach in front of Scott Cabin and the McDonnell boathouse from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.11

Newman-Dolliver Duplex Cabin
View of northeast (front) of Newman-Dolliver Duplex Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.12

Moore Cabin
View of northeast (front) of Moore Cabin, retaining walls, and beach from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.13



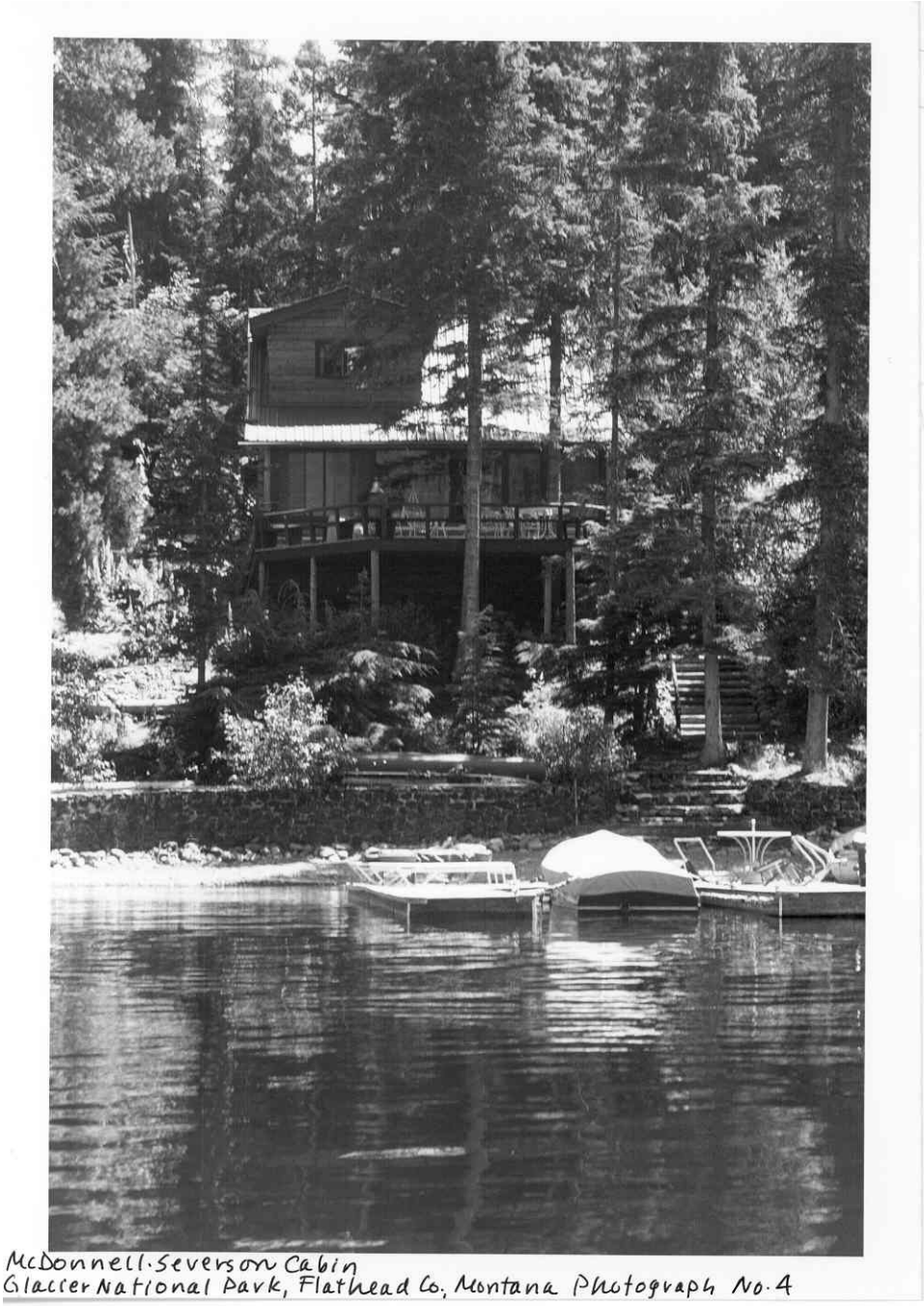
McDonnell 1935 Cabin
View of southeast (back) and northeast sides of McDonnell Cabin overlooking Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1



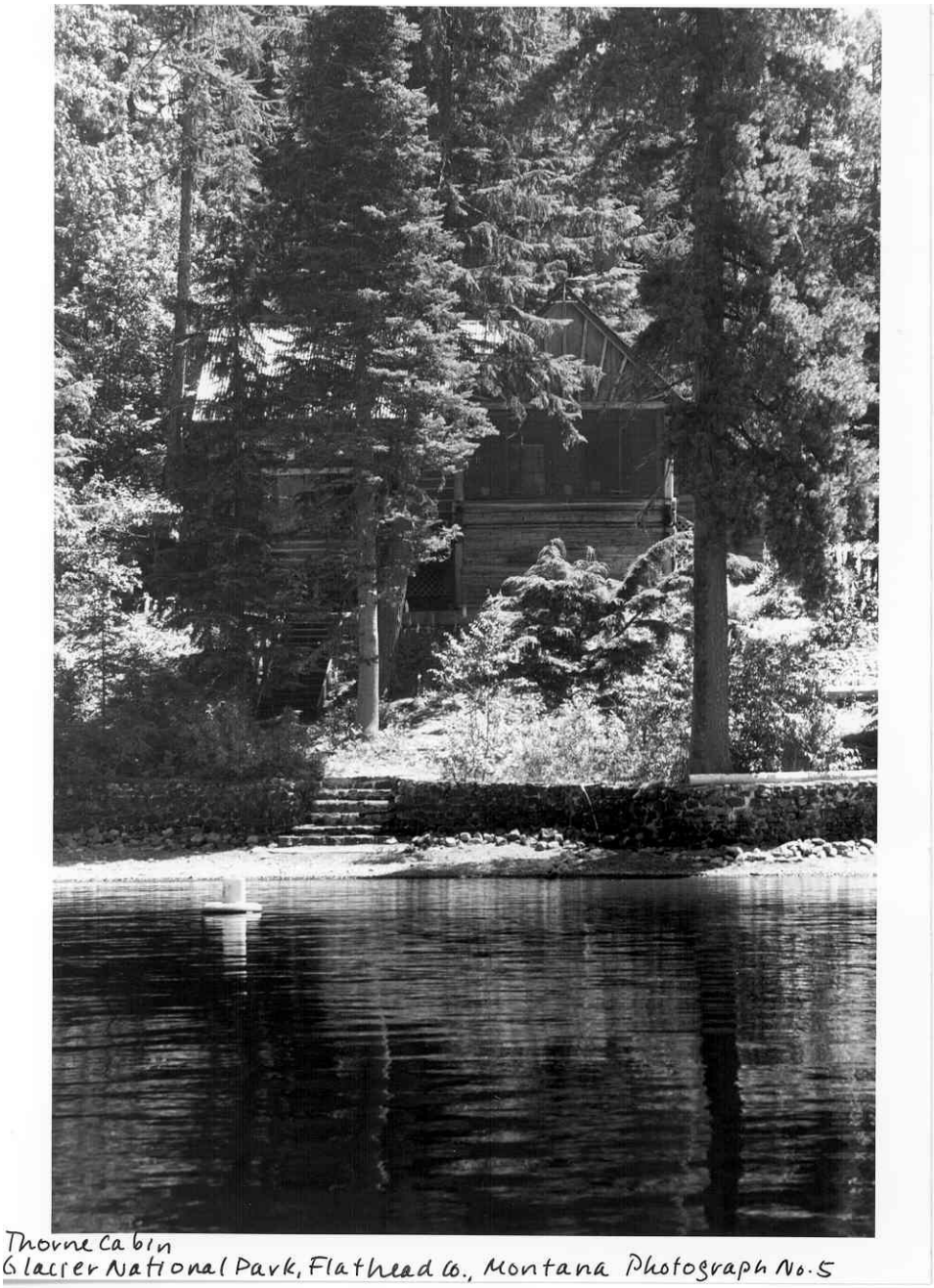
Well/Chlorination House
View of northeast side
Photograph No.2



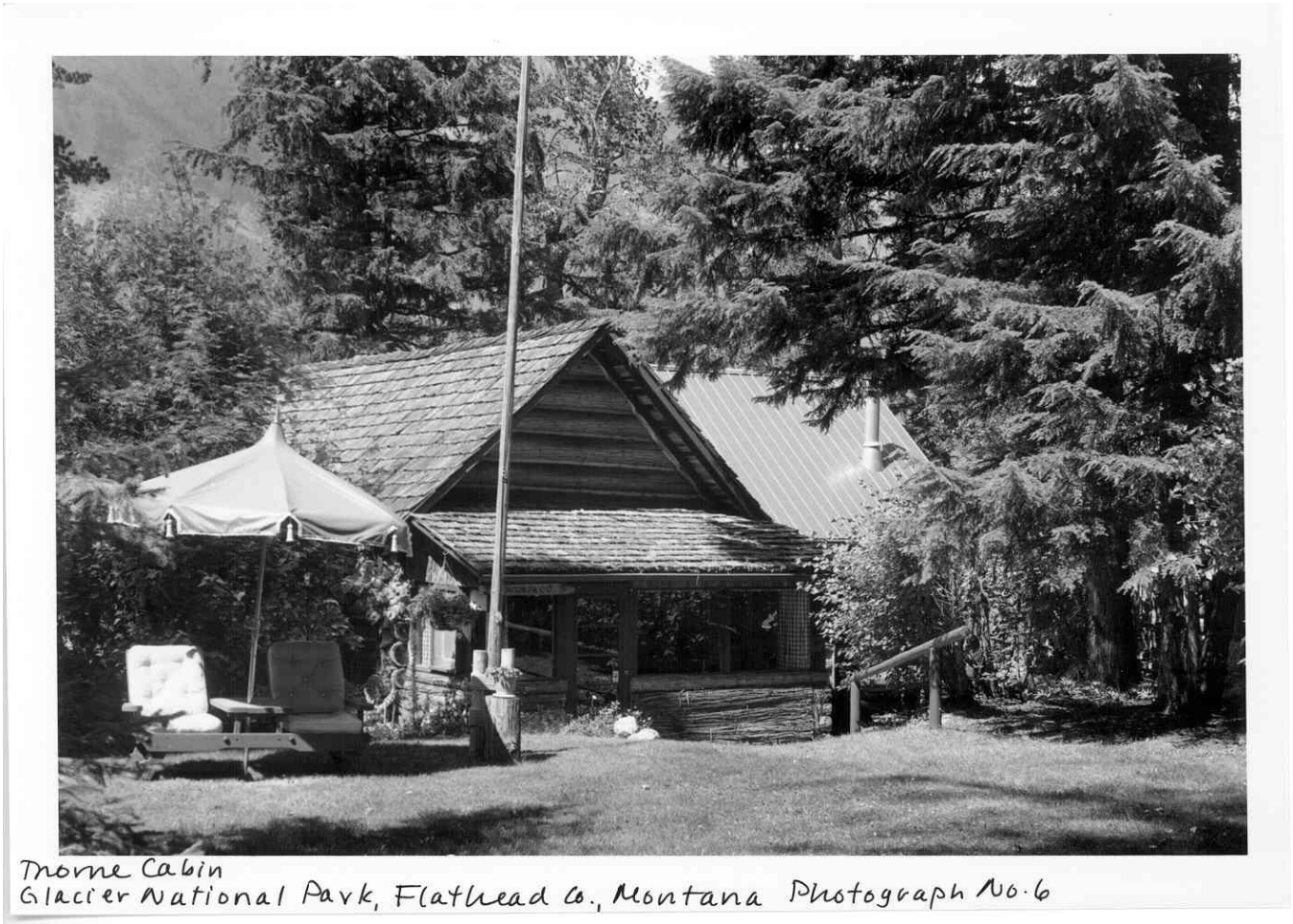
McDonnell-Broadwater Cabin
View of southeast (back) and southwest sides of cabin from lawn behind cabin
Photograph No.3



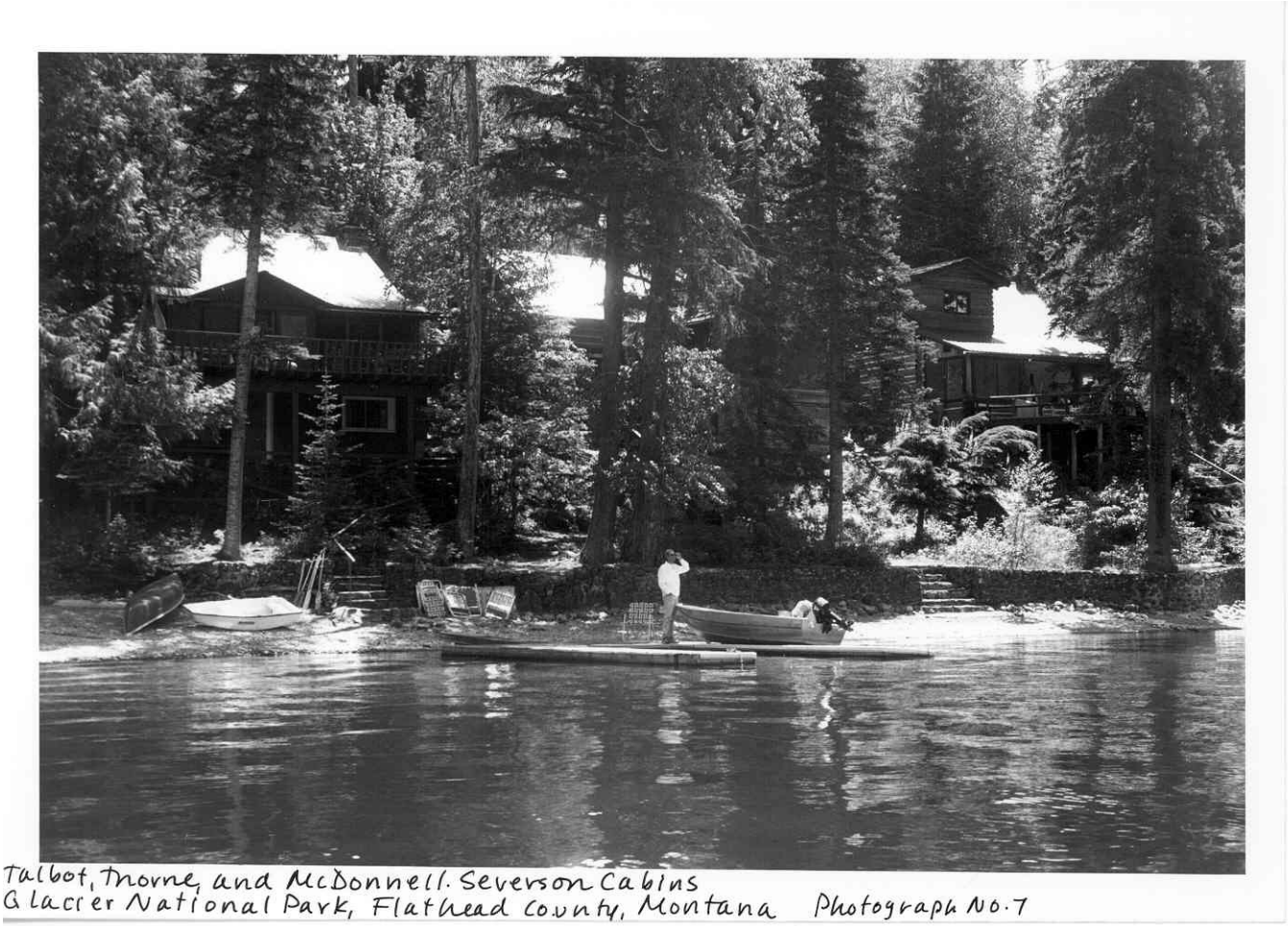
McDonnell-Severson Cabin
View of northeast (front) of cabin, bluff, and beach from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.4



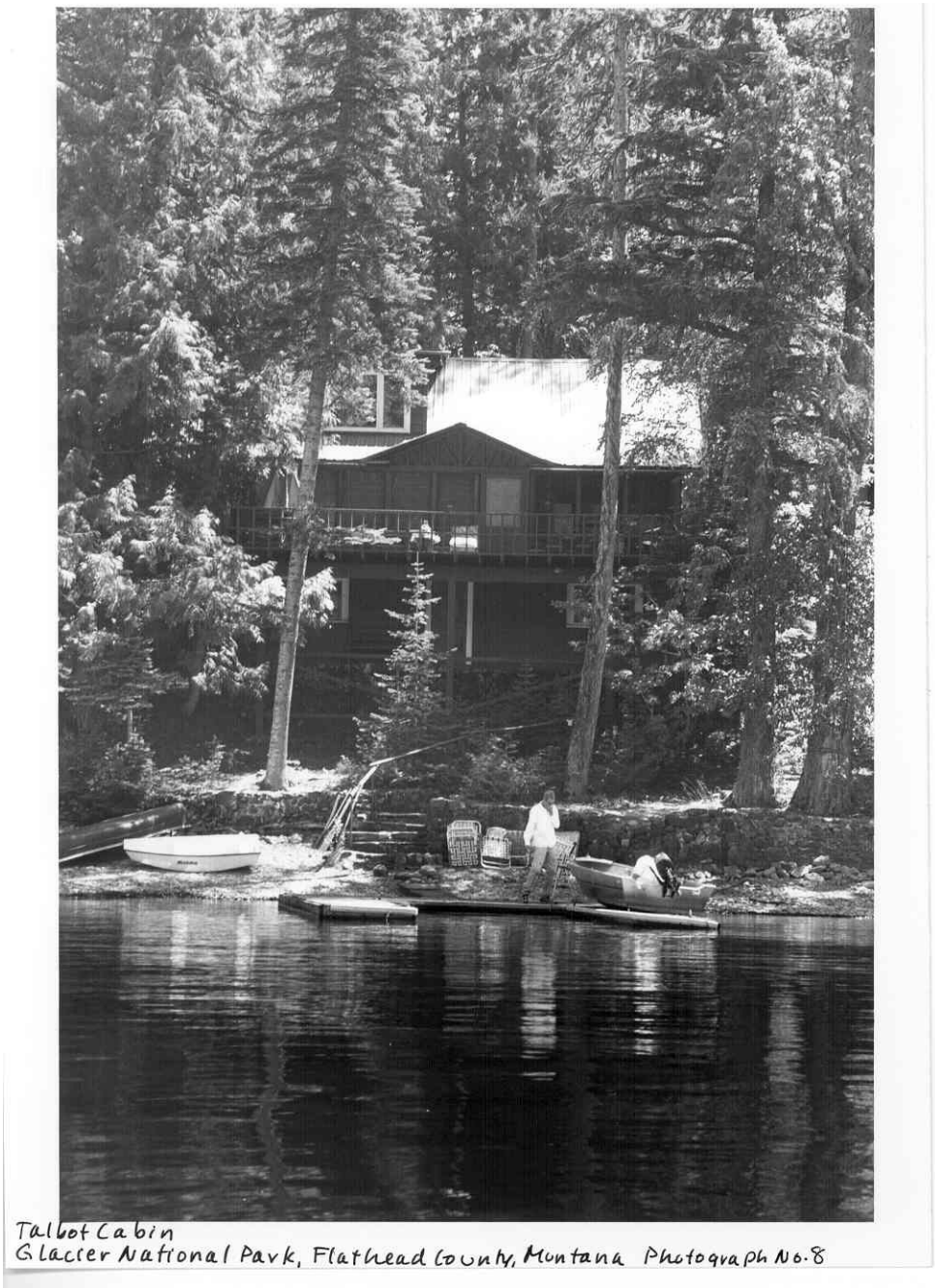
Thorne Cabin
View of northeast (front) of cabin, bluff, and beach from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.5



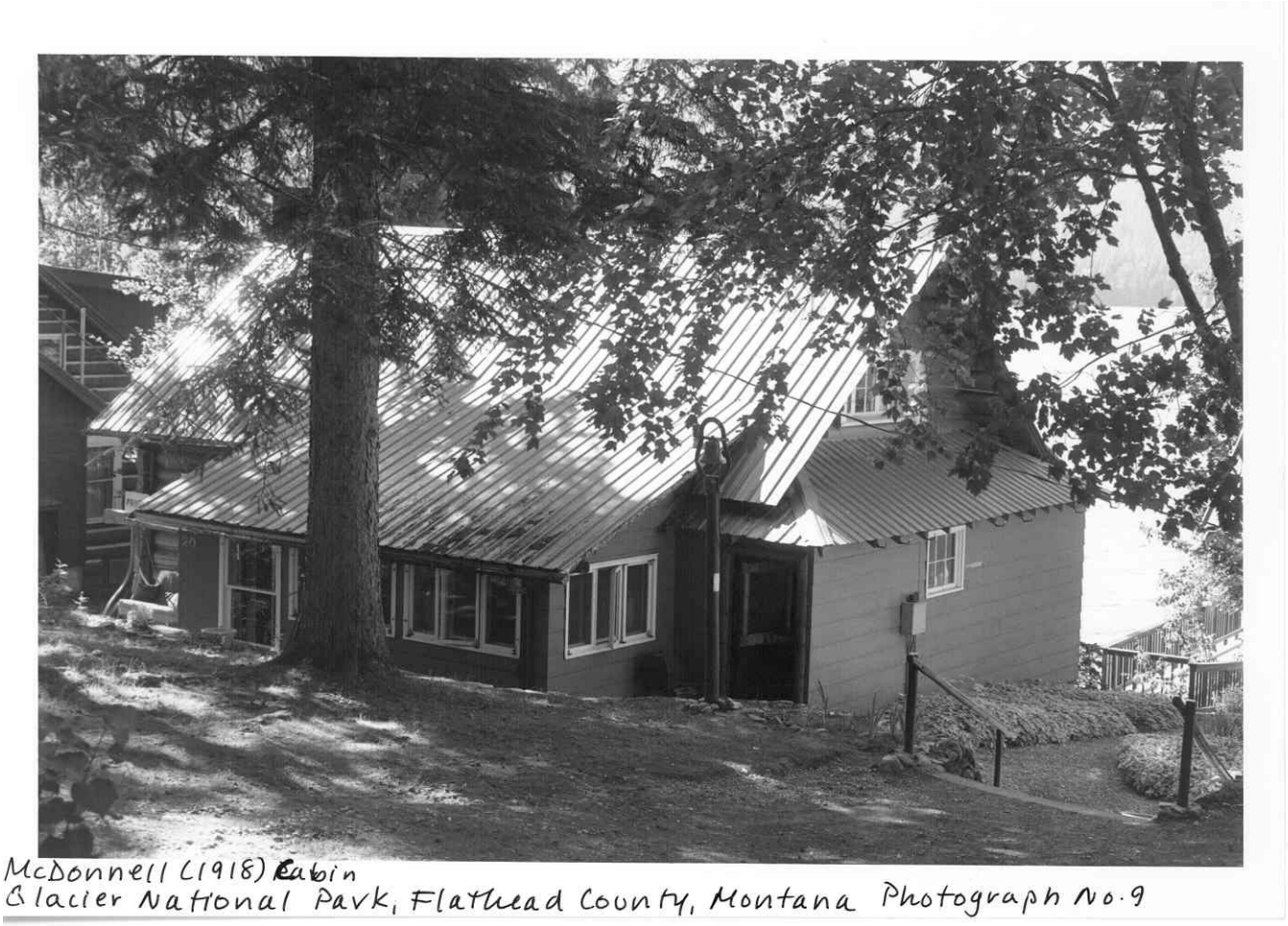
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View of southeast (back) and southwest sides of Thorne Cabin from lawn behind the Thorne and McDonnell-Severson cabins
Photograph No.6



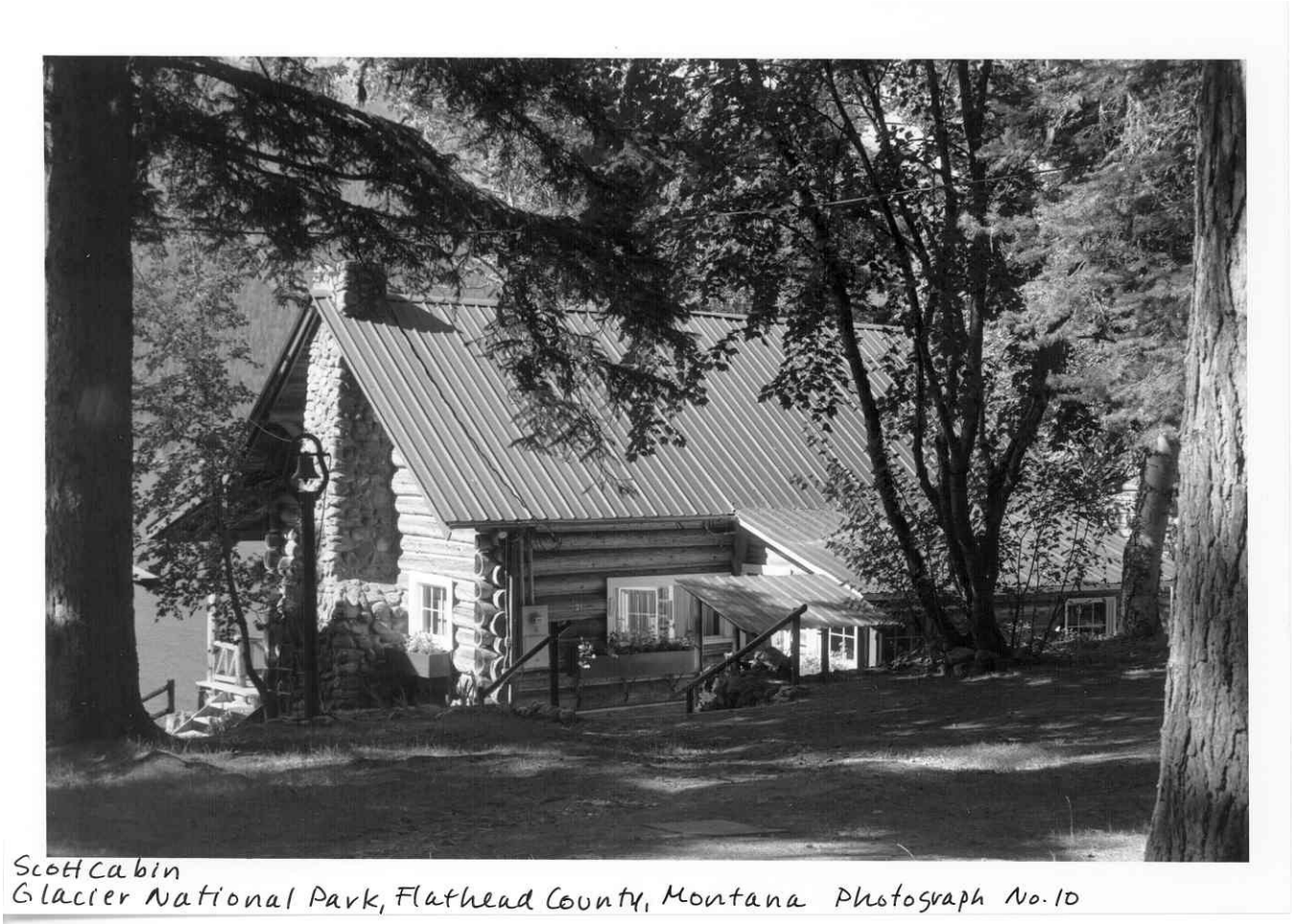
Talbot, Thorne, and McDonnell-Severson Cabins
View of northeast (front) sides of Talbot, Thorne, and McDonell-Severson Cabins (left to right) from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.7



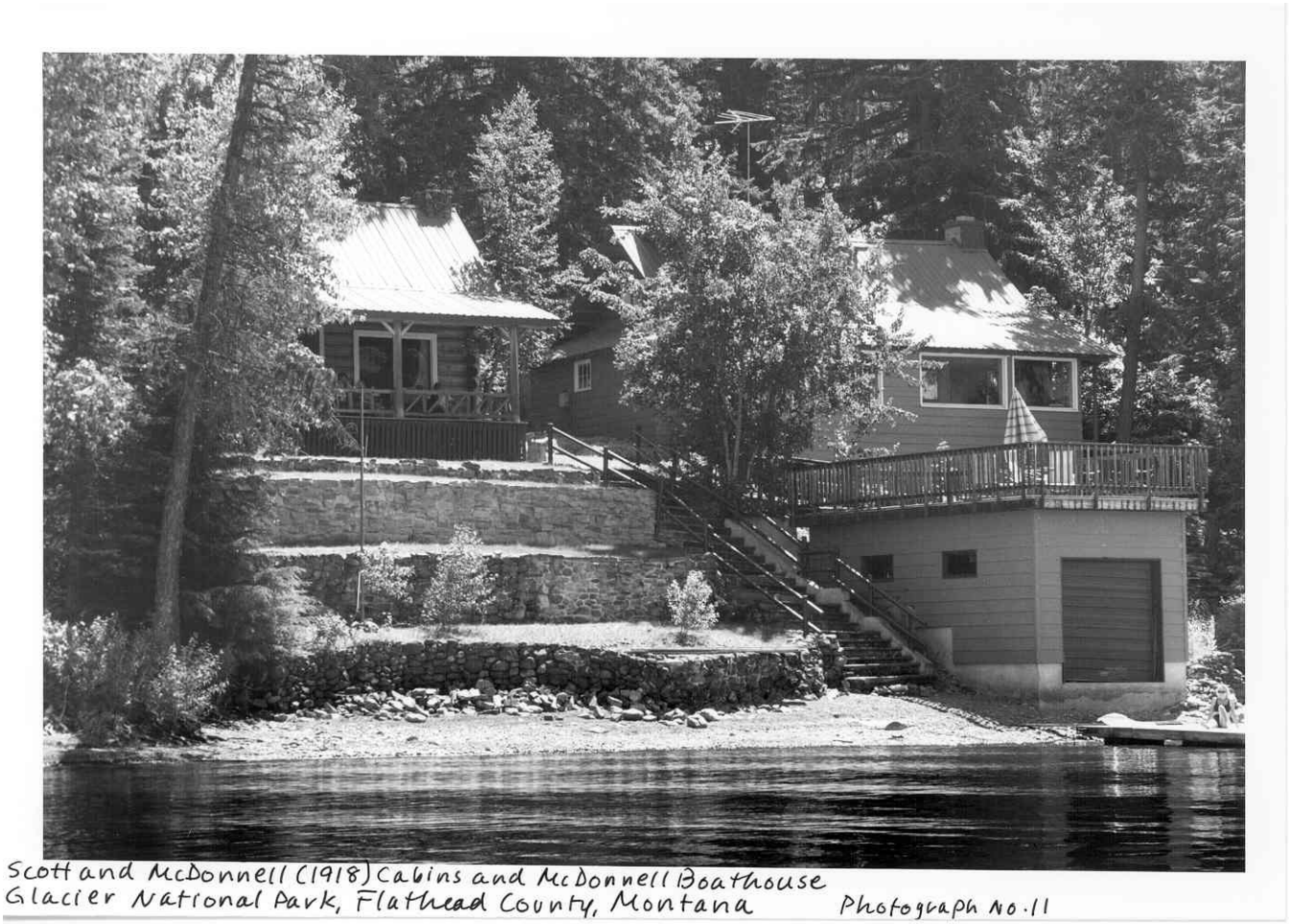
Talbot Cabin
View of northeast (front) side of Talbot Cabin, bluff, retaining wall, and beach from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.8



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Photograph No.9



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Photograph No.11



Newman-Dolliver Duplex Cabin
View of northeast (front) of Newman-Dolliver Duplex Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.12



Moore Cabin
View of northeast (front) of Moore Cabin, retaining walls, and beach from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.13

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Sherwood Lodge

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: Grist Road, Glacier National Park

not for publication: n/a

city/town: West Glacier **vicinity:** X

state: Montana **code:** MT **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 _ 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

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
_____ 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)		

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property 4

	Contributing	Non-contributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed In the National Register: 0	2	1	**building(s)**
			site(s)
		1	**structure(s)**
			objects(s)
Name of related multiple property listing: Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970	2	2	**TOTAL**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: Camp

Current Function:

DOMESTIC: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: Rustic Style

MATERIALS:

Foundation: stone

Walls: logs

Roof: metal, cedar shakes, asphalt shingles

Other: cobblestone

Narrative Description

Sherwood Lodge, located on the west shore of Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park in Flathead County, Montana, encompasses a main lodge (Sherwood Lodge), a boat house, a garage, and a septic pump house. The property is composed of the northernmost eight lots in Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites subdivision, and lies between the unpaved Grist Road paralleling the lake shore and the lake itself. It shares its north boundary with federal land. The land rises in two slopes away from the pebble beach. The first bank, roughly 20 feet high, levels out to a terrace about 50 feet wide, and then rises again to the road grade. The second bank is closer to 50 feet in height. Mixed conifer woods cloak the entire property except where the trees have been cut away for the buildings. Streams descend the hillside both north and south of the main lodge site. Narrow walkways lined with cobbles lead to the entrances of the main lodge, and also over the streams on small wood plank bridges. One path continues south along the main terrace to the next cabin south, located on Lots 9 and 10 of the subdivision. The main lodge is a one-and-a-half-story log cabin with an irregular plan composed of two rectangular blocks offset from each other, each with its own gabled roof covered in large, heavy cedar shakes. South of the house, a septic pump house constructed of logs and built into the hillside, resembles a homestead-era root cellar. North of the lodge and nearer to the lake stands a three-level log boathouse with its gable roofs aligning along an east-west axis and descending to the beach. North of the boathouse, a low earth retaining wall edges a parking area and turnaround area at the base of the long, steep driveway. A frame, two-bay, frontal gable garage opens onto this area. Between the boathouse and the lodge, a recently built frame deck (built 1998) projects over the beach, but is hidden from view on the lake by the woods surrounding the buildings.

See continuation pages for Section 7

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):

Significant Person(s):

Cultural Affiliation: European-American

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation; Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: ca.1919-1956

Significant Dates: ca. 1919

Architect/Builder: W. Horace Austin/Edward J. Cruger, Peter Aubert, Martin Sibley

Narrative Statement of Significance

Sherwood Lodge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, the lodge is a representative example of a recreational camp on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Document (MPD) for "Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1895-1970" provides the historic context for the development of such wilderness recreational properties. Built in the late 1910s, Sherwood Lodge is characteristic of the family camps constructed during the first quarter of the twentieth century by wealthy people who bought land from homesteaders and built summer retreats around Lake McDonald. These camps exemplified a national trend in vacationing in this period when some people sought rustic respites from working life, mostly in urban areas. The MPD also describes the architecture associated with such properties on Lake McDonald. Like many camp buildings constructed in this era Sherwood Lodge and its boathouse are built in the Rustic Style of notched logs with clay daubing. The main lodge was designed by Long Beach, California, architect W. Horace Austin; Edward J. Cruger, a locally notable builder of log cabins, headed the building crew that gave Austin's plans physical form.

Summary History of Development

James W. Sherwood was born in 1871 in Anoka, Minnesota. He attended school in Minneapolis when his family moved there. He moved west to Montana as a representative and branch manager in Helena, Butte, and Anaconda for the Royal Milling Co. During the 1890s, the Montana plains were increasingly developed for large scale wheat production following the opening of the Great Northern Railway between Minneapolis and Seattle. Flour mills followed close behind, and so did Sherwood. In 1905, he became manager of the Royal Milling Co. and Kalispell Flour Mills Co. in Great Falls. Fourteen years later, in 1919, he was the manager of the Rocky Mountain Elevator Co., the Royal Milling Co., and Kalispell Flour Mills Co. He was appointed president of the Montana Companies for General Mills in 1928, when General Mills formed. He retired the following year, but remained a major stock holder and a director for the rest of his life.[1]

See continuation pages for Section 8

[1] Richard Slater, e-mail to author, 5 August 2005.

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation pages

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 # _____**

Primary Location of Additional Data:

___ **State Historic Preservation Office**
___ **Other State agency**
_x_ **Federal agency** Glacier National Park Archives
___ **Local government**
___ **University**
___ **Other – National Archives, Denver**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 1.75 acres

UTM References:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
(NAD27)	12	278971	5380094

Verbal Boundary Description

Sherwood Lodge is located on Lots 1 through 8 of Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Subdivision platted between Grist Road and Lake McDonald on the west side of the lake. The subdivision is located in Section 14, Township 32 West, Range 19 North.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the current Sherwood Lodge property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jessie A. Ravage
organization: **date:** 10 February 2006
street & number: 34 Delaware Street **telephone:** 607-547-9507
city or town: Cooperstown **state:** New York **zip code:** 13326

Property Owner

name/title: Lorraine C. Moore Trust
street & number: 17439 Anona Ct.
city or town: Grass Valley **state:** CA **zip code:** 95949

Additional Documentation

See continuation pages, photographs, and maps

Sherwood Lodge (main lodge) (ca.1919, contributing building): Sherwood Lodge, is constructed of unpeeled, notched cedar logs and is roofed with long, heavy cedar shakes. The spaces between the wall logs are daubed with clay. The cabin is composed of two rectangular, one-and-a-half-story, gable-roofed blocks offset from one another, with the larger of the two nearer the lake.

This larger east block is side-gabled, with its long east wall facing the lake. Here, the main roof face is extended over an open porch supported by heavy log posts. A kneewall composed of large cobblestones runs along the porch's front edge and stone steps at each end rise to the flagged floor of the porch. An oversized center entrance with a custom-made door of vertical planks opens into the main room of the cabin. This is flanked by windows with eight-light casements capped by two-light fixed transoms above. A three-sided bay with tall, narrow, multi-light casement windows capped by a hipped roof is attched to the south wall of the main block. A large cobblestone chimney projects above the back, or west, wall. On the north wall, the stone knee walls rise to chest height and a smaller stone interior chimney rises between the main block and the slightly smaller west block.

The west block is offset from the main block and its ridgeline parallels that of the main block. It houses the kitchen and service area on the main floor and bedrooms above, and has a separate entrance with a standard-width door opening off a small stone porch. A twelve-light fixed sash allows light into the kitchen. The upper story windows are small six-light casements.

The main door on the east side of the cabin opens into a single large room open to the rafters. Across from the door is a massive chimney composed of large stones occupying much of the back wall. At the north end of the main room, stairs made of half-log treads and a rustic railing of unpeeled logs run along the north wall to small bed chambers and a bathroom in the upper half story. A door opens below the stairs into the stone-walled "chimney" room in the northeast corner of the building. This has a stone fireplace on its west wall and windows set in deep recesses. The kitchen, painted a bright yellow, is reached by a door in the west wall of the main block. A bright green is used elsewhere in the house. The lodge is furnished largely with hand-made rustic-style tables, chairs, bedsteads, and chandeliers built of narrow caliper, unpeeled logs. These were built especially for the house, and many pieces will not fit through the door jambs as they were made in place.

Boathouse (built ca.1917, contributing building): North of the main lodge, the boathouse cascades down the lower bank to lake from the level of the house in three rectangular plan, single-story, gable-roofed blocks built of notched, unpeeled logs daubed with clay. The axes of the three blocks' roofs align east-west, with the lowest block set on the beach above the high water mark. The second block rests about halfway up the slope rising from the lake, and third is set just below the elevation of the terrace where the lodge is built. A walkway with a rustic log railing connects the boathouse with the driveway turnaround. The walkway wraps around the south side of the building and descends by stairs to the second level. The boathouse has windows with paired, horizontally sliding six-light sash. The doors are stock paneled doors with sheets of bark tacked to them. This building has been newly roofed with corrugated sheet metal. Its concrete foundation replaced an earlier one in the 1950s.

Garage (ca.1960, non-contributing building): The two-bay, frontal gable, frame with milled log siding stands on the north side of the turnaround at the bottom of the driveway.

Septic pump house (ca.1970, non-contributing structure): The septic pumphouse is a small log building with a heavy wooden door dug into the hillside south of the house to shelter the septic pump.

Sherwood and his wife Clara probably met noted Montana artist Charlie Russell when they moved to Great Falls; family history holds that Russell introduced Sherwood to Lake McDonald. Russell and his wife Nancy probably began building their cabin between 1905 and 1910 on the west shore of the lake on land that was part of the Milo B. Apgar homestead, by then owned by his son.[2] Milo Apgar came to Lake McDonald in June 1891 from Great Falls with Charles Howes, following the Great Northern Railway's tote road through Marias Pass. Apgar took over Frank C. Geduhn's claim west of the McDonald Creek outlet of the lake in 1892, when Geduhn moved to the north end of the lake.[3] Apgar's son, Harvey Dimon or "H.D.", joined his parents at Lake McDonald in 1895, and Milo died the following year.[4] H.D. and his wife Jessie Cunningham Apgar became sole owners of the patented homestead in 1908.[5]

The Apgars were among the area's most eager entrepreneurs in the growing tourist business. By the turn of the century, they were already operating a successful cabin resort east of the outlet. Recognizing the potential value of the homestead's half-mile of lakefront, H.D. and Jessie platted and filed Apgar's Glacier Park Cottages subdivision in Flathead County in 1914 dividing it into building sites, each with 50 feet of shoreline. The Russells' slightly wider lots "A" and "B" were near the middle of the plat. Twenty-eight lots extended north from there. The Russells acquired the first two, and James Sherwood filed deeds for the remaining 26 in two purchases in 1920. He bought Lots 1, 2, and 3 at the north end from Maud and Nannie Baker. He purchased Lots 4 through 26 directly from H.D. and Jessie Apgar on the 7th of January 1920.[6]

Sherwood retained W. Horace Austin (1881-1942), an architect from Long Beach, California, to design Sherwood Lodge. Austin was well-established in Long Beach by this period, but it is unclear why or how Sherwood chose him. Like many practitioners of his day, Austin worked in a variety of styles. By the early 1920s, he was designing large municipal commissions, and had apparently moved away from the more modest Craftsman-style domestic projects that gained him his livelihood through the early 1910s.[7] His Sherwood Lodge design, however, uses scale, forms and motifs drawn from the Craftsman taste. It is the only log building he is known to have designed. The Sherwood family still has a set of Austin's drawings (undated).

Like most summer cabins built on Lake McDonald's shores in the pre-World War II era, Sherwood Lodge is constructed of notched, unpeeled cedar logs, stone, and cedar shakes obtained locally. Some of the large stones in the lodge's main hearth were hauled from the north end of the lake, but the stones in the foundation and knee walls were found more locally. The casements and the paneled doors appear to be mill stock, probably bought in Columbia Falls, where there were several mills operating. The large, heavy front door was surely made on site. In common with other cabins, Sherwood Lodge was oriented to the lake, with its main room on the lake side opening onto a shed-roofed porch spanning much of that façade. It was set back from the shore among the trees so that while it commanded a view of the lake, a person on the lake could see little of the cabin. But, the Lodge's plan, with its hip-roofed, three-sided bay window at the south end of the main block, its irregular footprint, and its complex

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[2] This date is not substantiated by deed research. *The History of Apgar* assembled by Leona Harrington's students at the Apgar School states that the Russells built with H.D. Apgar's permission in 1908 before they obtained their deed to Lots A and B in 1917. Lots A and B have more lake frontage and intervene between Blocks 1 and 2, suggesting they preceded the 1914 subdivision.

[3] L.O. Vaught, *History of Glacier* (unpublished manuscript, n.d.): 408. (Glacier National Park Archives (GNPA): West Glacier, Montana)

[4] Kelly Apgar. Telephone interview with author, November 2005.

[5] *Book of Deeds 84/334*. U.S.A. to Heirs of Milo B. Apgar; *109/384*, H.D. and Jessie Apgar and Phebe and Paul Giaccopazzi to Frank Kelly; and *109/385*, Frank Kelly to H.D. Apgar, 22 October 1908. (County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)

[6] *Book of Deeds 170/25*. (County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana) and *Subdivision Book "A," Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites Subdivision* (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)

[7] Louise Ivers, *An Architectural Stylist, W. Horace Austin and Eclecticism in California* (Dominguez Hills, California: University Art Gallery, 2005): 4-5.

roof design set this building apart from other privately built family cabins of the period, which had much simpler plans and rooflines. The detailing, including the deep, open porch with the prominent stone knee wall, the massive chimneys and the "nook-and-cranny" feel of the interior all derive from the rustic aspect of the Craftsman taste popular through the first quarter of the twentieth century, but are more elaborate than any others around the lake. The interior, with its carefully chosen deep earth tone paint colors, stone chimneys, and wide, half-log steps boast a level of finish and design more costly than that of most of the other cabins.

The three-level log boathouse was built before the house.[8] Unlike the handful of other boathouses found at Lake McDonald, this three-level structure was designed with living space as well as boat storage. The upper two blocks, each built on a slightly higher level than the one below, are equipped with windows, and an open porch wraps the top level. The second level was called the "Delco Room" for the batteries stored there to power the generator that once provided electricity to the camp.[9]

The quality of execution of Austin's design attests to high degree of skill of the building crew, headed by locally noted log cabin builder, Edward J. Cruger. Cruger was the son of Lydia Cruger Comeau and stepson of Denis Comeau, who homesteaded on the east side of the lake in the early 1890s. Eddie, as he was called, ran pack strings with Denis, but also developed considerable expertise as a builder on Lake McDonald. In this period, he built cabins and lodges for numerous new landowners, including Senator Thomas J. Walsh and Robert E. McDonnell. By the late 1920s, Cruger was working for the park as a master carpenter, where he continued well into the 1950s. His Sherwood Lodge crew included three Apgar village residents—Peter "Gus" Aubert, Asa Powell, Sr., and Martin Sibley. Aubert was a partner in the Intermountain Hotel Company and had a house and a cabin in Apgar by the time of the Half Moon Fire of 1929.[10] Sibley and Powell had settled in Apgar at roughly the same time, in the mid-1910s, on house lots bought from homesteader Charles Howes.[11] Sherwood family history states that the crew occupied the boat house while building the lodge, although this may have been intermittent as at least three of them owned houses less than a mile distant. What is clear is that they possessed a high degree of talent and ability. In addition to building the lodge and the boathouse, they also built nearly all of the lodge's furniture using small caliper logs to make bedsteads, tables, chairs, and chandeliers, some of which cannot be taken out through the openings.

James W. Sherwood visited Sherwood Lodge throughout his life. In the early 1920s, he transferred twelve of the original 26 lots from the south end of the property to other Great Falls people. Vera M. Thelen, wife of a Great Falls lawyer Jonathan N. Thelen, acquired Lots 15 through 21, while Anna E. Coulter, wife of Great Falls ear, nose, and throat specialist Dr. C.F. Coulter, acquired title to Lots 22 through 26.[12] The Coulters built a cabin, which they used for many years.[13] In 1961, the federal government acquired the property from their daughter, Margaret Verharen, and demolished the buildings. The cobblestone and concrete pier foundations mark the spot. The Thelens sold their land to the government in 1956.[14] James W. Sherwood was widowed twice, and his third wife, Mabel, outlived him and acquired Lots 11 through 14 in 1941. She sold these in 1953 to Arnold R. Menzel, which in turn he sold to Henry and Charlotte Piepenkotter. They sold the lots to the government in 1967, but retained a life estate until 1974. David and Patricia Henderson, relations of Glacier Park's commissioner Margaret Lindsay

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[8] Richard Slater, e-mail to the author, 5 August 2005.
[9] *Ibid.*
[10] Peter Aubert, *History of Apgar*, 9.
[11] *Plat Book for Section 23, Township 32 West, Range 19 North.* (Plat Room, Flathead County Courthouse, Kalipsell, Montana)
[12] *Subdivision Book "A."*
[13] Mary O. Coulter, *History of Apgar*, 30-31.
[14] *Subdivision Book "A."*

during the 1950s, acquired Lots 13 and 14, where they built the cabin still standing there today. They sold to Harriet and Clayton Fox in 1961. Mrs. Fox uses the property under a life estate with the government.[15]

James Sherwood's son, James, Jr., inherited Sherwood Lodge and the surrounding property in 1943. By the time James, Jr., married his third wife, Lorraine Slater Sherwood (b.1911) in 1955, Sherwood Lodge suffered from disuse. James and Lorraine Sherwood, along with her two children from her first marriage, Richard and Saranne (b.1937 and 1940 respectively), visited annually and worked on rehabilitating the buildings. Richard Slater helped replace the boathouse's failing foundation with concrete in the mid-1950s.[16] They added the two-bay garage in the 1960s, and in the 1970s, a septic pump housed in a log building dug into the hillside south of the house built by Austin Weikert, another noted builder in the area.[17] While designed for a modern use, the latter structure resembles the root cellars built by some early twentieth century residents.

During this period, there was a regular social round at the south end of the lake, including the Sherwoods, the Athearns, and the Grubers. Less immediate, perhaps, were the Hoglunds with a camp just west of McDonald Creek; the Peppers, who rented east of Apgar village; and Robert E. McDonnell, who owned a cabin northeast of the Glacier Hotel, now Lake McDonald Lodge, near the head of the lake. When the park began redesigning the Apgar waterfront in the mid-1960s, Sherwood sold Lots 9 and 10 to James Athearn, who grew up in Apgar and retained a summer property near the present day amphitheater and campground. Athearn built a new cabin on the lots in 1970.

Lorraine Slater Sherwood inherited the Sherwood Lodge property when her husband died in 1979. Mrs. Sherwood married a third time, becoming Lorraine Moore. Until recently, she continued to visit Sherwood Lodge. Her son and daughter (James W. Sherwood, Jr.'s, stepchildren), Richard Slater and Saranne Slater Shillinglaw, share use of the property with James Sherwood's youngest son, Richard Sherwood (b.1954).

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[15] *Subdivision Book "A."*
[16] Richard Slater, e-mail to author, 5 August 2005.
[17] Richard Slater, e-mail to author, 6 August 2005.

Sources

Apgar, Kelly. Telephone interview with author, November 2005.

Buchholz, C. W. *Man in Glacier*. West Glacier, Montana: Glacier Natural History Association. 1976. 3rd printing, 1999.

Harrington, Leona, *et al. History of Apgar*. [n.p., n.d.]. (Glacier National Park Archives (GNPA): West Glacier, Montana)

Haworth, Helen [Apgar]. Typescript of Historical Interview, 20 February and 8 May 1979. (GNPA)

Ivers, Louise. *An Architectural Stylist, W. Horace Austin and Eclecticism in California*. Dominguez Hills, California: University Art Gallery, 2005.

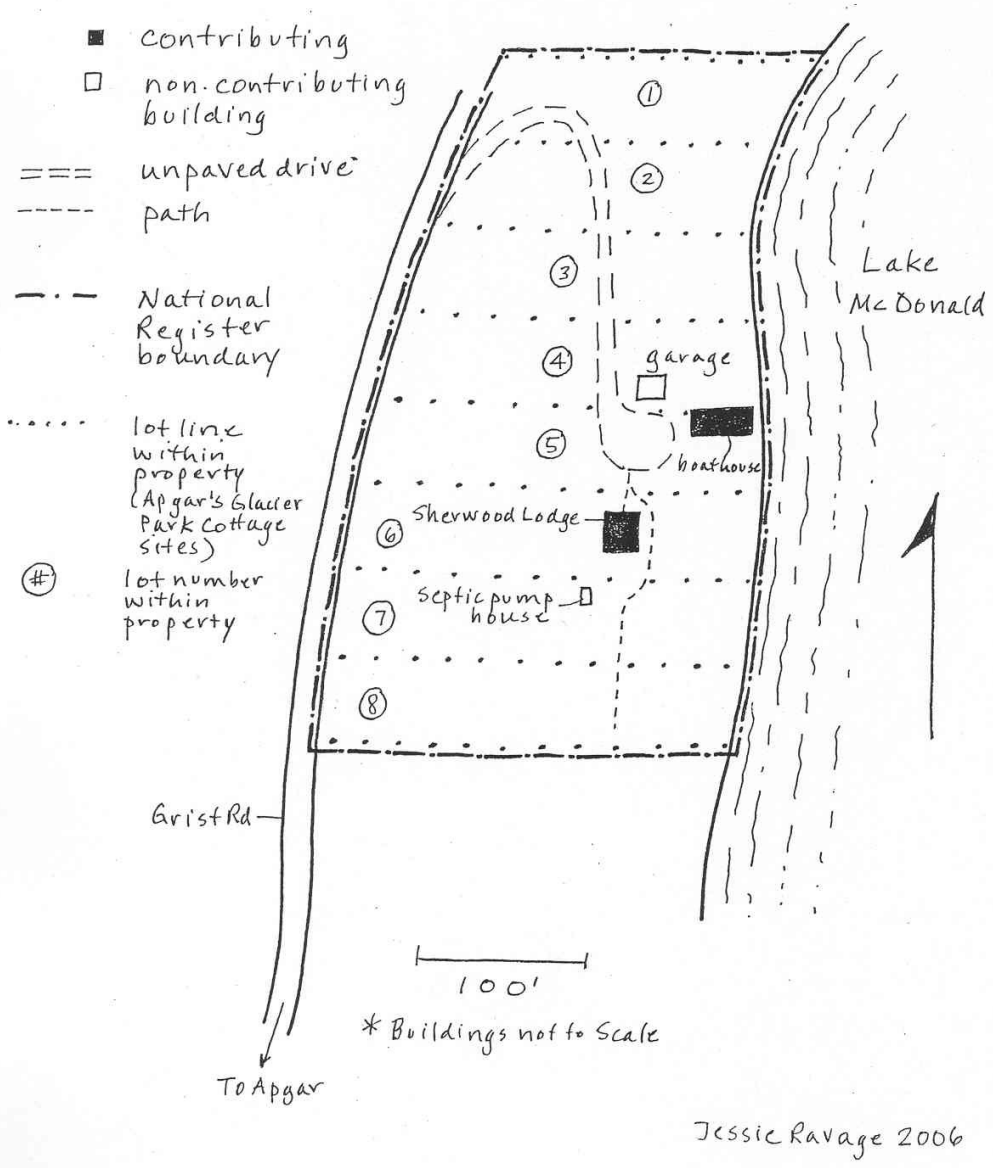
Land Records Files. (GNPA)

McDonald, James. *Historic Structures Survey*. Glacier National Park. 1980.

Slater, Richard. e-mails to author. 2005-2006.

Subdivision Book "A." (Plat Room, Flathead County Courthouse, Kalispell, Montana)

Vaught, L.O. *History of Glacier*. Unpublished manuscript. n.p., n.d. (GNPA)


SHERWOOD LODGE
Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana
contributing
non-contributing building
unpaved drive
path
National Register boundary
lot line within property (Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites)
lot number within property
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
garage
boathouse
Sherwood Lodge
septic pump house
Lake McDonald
Grist Rd
To Apgar
100'
* Buildings not to Scale
Jessie Ravage 2006

Photographs
The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

Photographer: Jessie Ravage
Date of photograph: July 2005
Location of negative: Glacier National Park Archives

Sherwood Lodge (main cabin)
Flathead County, Montana
View of Sherwood Lodge showing north elevation and lakeside porch on east, or front
Photograph No.1

Sherwood Lodge (main cabin)
Flathead County, Montana
View of southeast (front) corner of Sherwood Lodge; bridge over stream at south end of house in left foreground
Photograph No.2

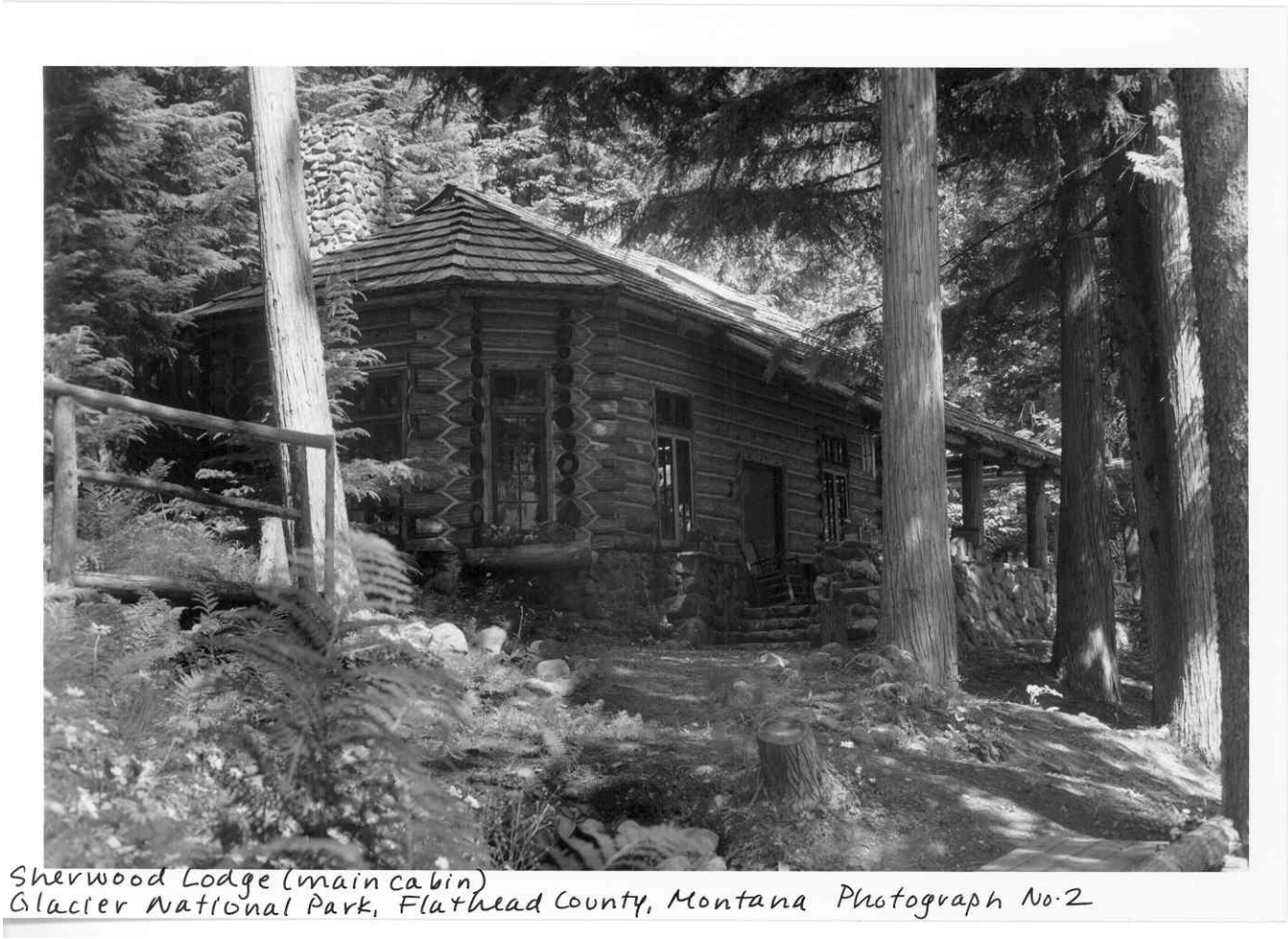
Boathouse, Sherwood Lodge
Flathead County, Montana
View of east (front) and north sides of boathouse from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.3

Boathouse, Sherwood Lodge
Flathead County, Montana
View of east (front) and south sides of boat house from beach southeast of the boathouse
Photograph No.4

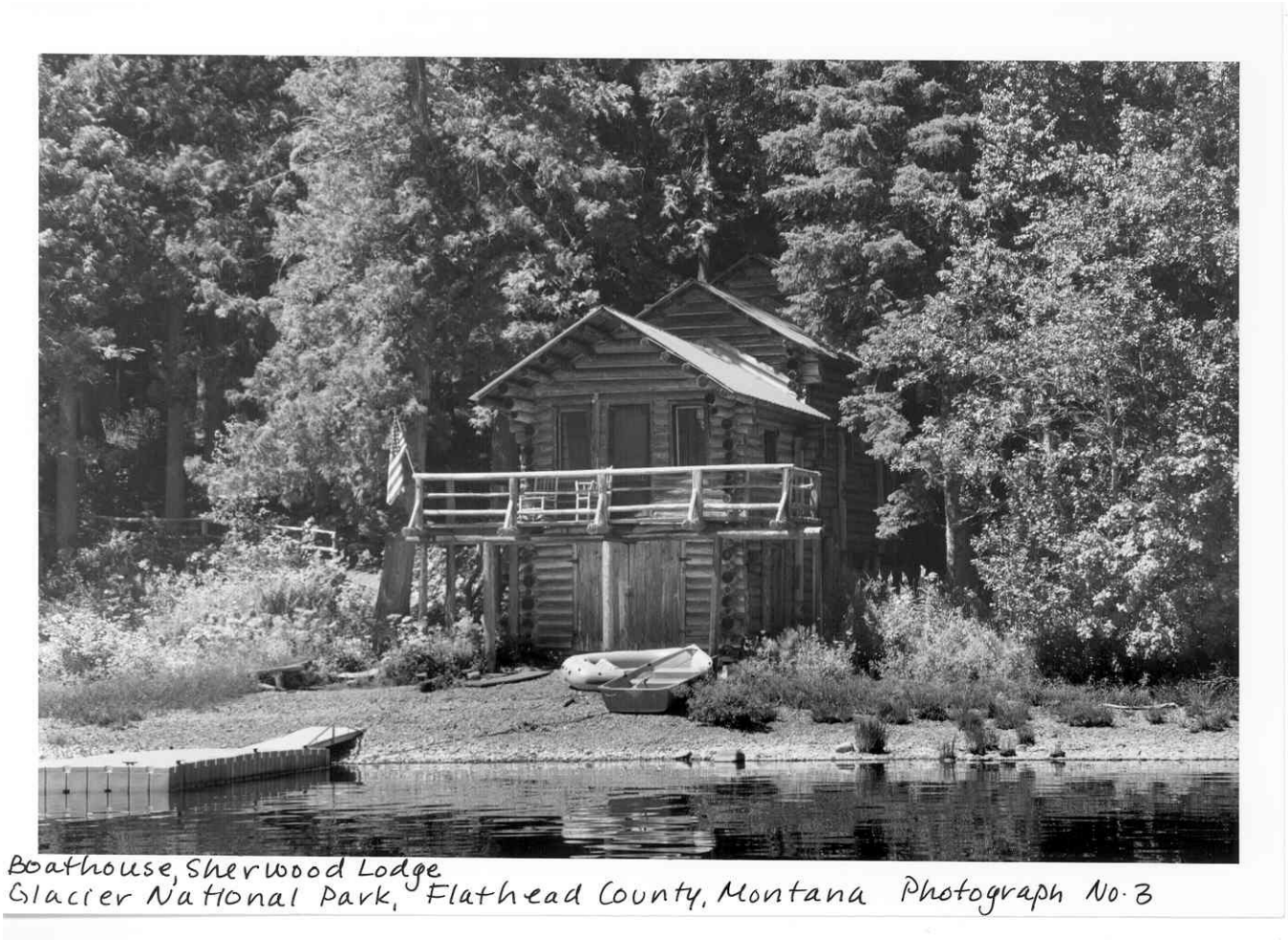
Septic pump house, Sherwood Lodge
Flathead County, Montana
View of east (front) side of septic pumphouse south of main cabin
Photograph No.5



Sherwood Lodge (main cabin)
Flathead County, Montana
View of Sherwood Lodge showing north elevation and lakeside porch on east, or front
Photograph No.1



Sherwood Lodge (main cabin)
Flathead County, Montana
View of southeast (front) corner of Sherwood Lodge; bridge over stream at south end of house in left foreground
Photograph No.2



Boathouse, Sherwood Lodge
Flathead County, Montana
View of east (front) and north sides of boathouse from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.3



Boathouse, Sherwood Lodge
Flathead County, Montana
View of east (front) and south sides of boat house from beach southeast of the boathouse
Photograph No.4



Septic pump house, Sherwood Lodge
Flathead County, Montana
View of east (front) side of septic pumphouse south of main cabin
Photograph No.5

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Wheeler Camp (Boundary Increase and Addendum)

other name/site number: Ocqui; Burton and Lulu Wheeler Cabin

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 _ 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

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

_____ 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)

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:

Category of Property: District

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 1

Name of related multiple property listing:
Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing (Amended)
Recreational camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970

Number of Resources		
Contributing	**Noncontributing**	
5		**building(s)**
		sites
		structures
		objects
5		**Total**

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: Rustic Style

MATERIALS:

Foundation: stone, concrete
Walls: logs; log siding
roof: asphalt shingles, cedar shakes
Other: stone

Narrative Description:

The Burton and Lulu Wheeler Cabin, built in 1942, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places [98001527] in 1998. The boathouse (ca.1950) was included within the cabin's boundaries but listed as non-contributing. The remaining three cabins and the former generator house were excluded from the boundaries of the original nomination. This amendment, among other things, changes the one previously non-contributing structure to contributing and revises the property's boundaries to include the four buildings that fall within a revised period of significance.

The Wheeler Camp occupies a 1.21-acre parcel abutting the west boundary of the Lake McDonald Ranger Station at the north end of Lake McDonald. The lot includes about 200 feet of shoreline, down to which the open, grassy site slopes from the unpaved road forming the lot's back line. The road curves gently toward the shoreline as it passes east to west behind the camp. Conifer woods frame the property on the west and north. An unpaved road runs between the Wheeler Camp and the ranger station, which is lightly wooded and includes several buildings. The camp and its buildings are partially hidden from view from the lake by trees fringing the pebble beach. The property includes four cabins, a laundry (former generator house), and a boathouse.

The already listed **Burton and Lulu Wheeler Cabin** is sited close to the shore west of the center of the lot. The boathouse is to the west with its front edge near the lake's high water mark. The other three cabins are behind the main cabin in an irregular pattern. The former generator house, now used as a laundry, is south of the space between the garage cabin and the northeast cabin.

Boat House (ca. 1950, contributing structure): The boat house is constructed with an exposed exterior log frame. The vertical-placed logs are set on a concrete foundation and horizontal logs tie them together at the top and midpoints. Vertical board siding is placed on the interior side of the logs. The frontal gable roof is covered with cedar shingles. A pair of side-hinged doors constructed of vertical boards provides access from the lake side. A block-and-tackle is used to move boats into the structure.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, B, C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a
Significant Person(s): Burton Kendall Wheeler
Cultural Affiliation:

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation
Period(s) of Significance: 1925-57
Significant Dates: 1941-42
Architect/Builder: Lulu Wheeler/Gus Aubert, Jean Sullivan, and Asa "Ace" Powell, Sr. (main cabin)

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Burton and Lulu Wheeler Cabin is listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria B and C. This amendment changes the name from the Wheeler Cabin to the Wheeler Camp, adds additional significance under Criterion A, provides additional supporting documentation for significance under Criterion C, and revises the period of significance from 1941-1948 to 1925-1956. Additionally, as discussed in Section 7, one non-contributing resources is reclassified as contributing and the boundaries are changed to include four contributing resources.

Besides the previously documented significance under Criterion B and C, the Wheeler Camp is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A as a representative example of a recreational camp on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Flathead County, Montana. The amended Glacier National Park Multiple Property Document (MPD) for "Recreational Camps on Lake McDonald, 1895-1955" provides the historic context for the development of such wilderness recreational properties. Such camps exemplified a national trend in vacationing in the early decades of the twentieth century when some people sought rustic respites from working life. In 1915, Burton K. Wheeler took his family to Lake McDonald for a vacation. Before buying the former Eaton Cabin at this site, located on land leased from the federal government, the Wheelers summered at other locations around the lake. The family used the Eaton Cabin as their day cabin until it burned in 1941. To provide electric light, they added a small structure, once set well away from the buildings, to house a generator. They constructed the Sleep Cabin in 1930, to provide separate and quiet sleeping quarters. After the main cabin burned, Lulu Wheeler, Burton K. Wheeler's wife, supervised the construction of its replacement. By the mid-1950s, two more cabins, built to accommodate the Wheeler's six children's families and activities completed the built environment. The MPD also provides additional contextual information for recreational camps on Lake McDonald under Criterion C. The Wheeler Camp buildings include some of the last log cabins built around Lake McDonald by private individuals. The two post-war buildings illustrate the tendency in the early 1950s to retain the architectural tradition of the area rather than to break with it. These are both gabled buildings, one actually built of logs and the other designed to look like it is. All retain aspects of the traditional forms used in rustic architecture on Lake McDonald, and they form a harmonious group retaining integrity of design, workmanship, setting, feeling, and materials.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Harrington, Leona, *et al. History of Apgar*. n.p., n.d. (GPA)

Scott, Marion Wheeler. Interview by author. 22 and 31 July 2005.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___ **preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.**
_x_ **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:

_x_ **State Historic Preservation Office**
__ **Other State agency**
_x_ **Federal agency** Glacier National Park Archives
___ **Local government**
___ **University**
___ **Other – National Archives, Denver**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: the original NR boundary encompassed 0.6 acres, the boundary increase area encompasses 0.61 acres for a total of 1.21 acres.

UTM References:	**Zone**	**Easting**	**Northing**
(NAD27)	12	288059	5391288

Verbal Boundary Description

The Wheeler Camp is bounded on the east by the Lake McDonald Ranger Station, on the north by the Kelly's Camp Road, on the west by forest land owned by Glacier National Park, and on the south by Lake McDonald. The property is listed in the Flathead County Tract Book as parcel A in Section 11, Township 33 North, Range 18 West.

Boundary Justification

The revised boundary includes the entire Wheeler Camp property, leased from the federal government since 1916.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jessie Ravage (amendment)
organization: **date:** 10 February 2006
street & number: 34 Delaware Street **telephone:** 607.547.9507
city or town: Cooperstown **state:** New York **zip code:** 13326

Additional Documentation

Please see continuation pages, photographs, map

Property Owner

Land:
name/title: Superintendent, Glacier National Park
street & number: **telephone:**
city or town: West Glacier **state:** MT **zip code:** 59936

Life Estate:
name/title: Marion M. Wheeler LE, Richard B. Wheeler LE, Edward K. Wheeler LE, Susan K. and Leslie A. Wheeler, Elizabeth Wheeler LE, Francis L. Wheeler LE, Lulu M. Wheeler LE
c/o Mrs. R.M. Scott
street & number: 11021 Rosemont Drive **telephone:**
city or town: Rockville **state: MD** **zip code:** 20852

Sleep Cabin (1930, contributing): The sleep cabin stands on the gentle slope northwest of the main cabin, but below the road grade. Young trees along the road shield this cabin from passing vehicle noise and sight. This single-story log cabin is composed of two side-gabled blocks adjoined on the gable ends. Built with peeled, notched cedar logs, the cabin rests on a cobblestone foundation. A prominent exterior chimney of mortared stone is centered on the south, or lake facing wall of the east (CHECK) block of the building. An open deck with a rustic log railing wraps the south, east, and west sides of the building. The fenestration plan was designed with screen windows in 1930, but more recently the openings have been filed with single-light fixed sash and casement windows. The cabin retains a cedar shake roof.

Garage Cabin (1940 and mid-1950s, contributing): The garage cabin stands nearer to the road than the sleep cabin. A short unpaved driveway with a gate leads to the garage placed under this building. The cabin is named for the two-bay garage reached by a steep ramp on the west side of the cabin. This single-story, rectangular plan, frontal gable log cabin was built in two phases, with the south, or lake end, built earlier, and the north half added in the mid-1950s. Its unpeeled log walls with notched corners and daubing stand on a cobblestone foundation. A large exterior cobblestone chimney is centered on its south, or lake-facing, gable end. An open deck with a rustic log railing spans this side of the cabin and runs alongside the east and west walls as a walkway accessing exterior doors on the east (kitchen) and west (main room) sides. A later room with large glass windows facing the lake is set under the deck. The building retains a period fenestration plan with one-over-one sash and wood doors. The roof has recently been replaced with metal roofing. The interior retains the characteristic treatment of the logs, with the curves partially hewn and cedar staves laid over the spaces to create a smooth wood wall.

Boys' Cabin (ca.1952, contributing): This cabin stands east of the garage cabin, near the northeast corner of the lot. The Boys' Cabin is a single-story, L-plan, frame building on a foundation of poured concrete and stone. Its open deck has a log railing and spans the east, west, and south sides of the cabin. The gabled roof, with recent metal roofing, has a valley at the corner of the plan. The cabin retains peeled, milled log siding and shutters on its windows. A later, two-bay frame garage is on the northeast corner of the cabin.

Generator house (ca.1925 with later addition, contributing): The generator house, now used as a laundry is a small, frontal gable frame building with a larger frame addition continuing north on the same axis. It has a poured concrete slab foundation. A factory-made paneled door opens from the south gable end.

Summary History of Development

Burton K. and Lulu Wheeler brought their three children to Lake McDonald for a three-week visit in 1915 and stayed in a platform tent at Fish Creek as the guests of Park Commissioner Clarence Davidson. In 1916, they had the use of the Colonel Nolan camp just east of the Lake McDonald Ranger Station at the head of Lake McDonald.[1] Nolan was a former Montana Attorney General. There, the Wheelers learned of a hunting cabin built for Wyoming dude rancher Howard Eaton before the park was designated in 1910.[2] Eaton was a friend of John E. Lewis and a regular at his Glacier Hotel. Each summer, Eaton would bring a party up to Lake McDonald to camp at "Jacksonville," a campsite leased from the park near Sprague Creek. Before the park was established, Eaton had leased land at the head of the Lake from the government and built a cabin for use during the fall hunting season. In the 1910s, the Eaton party's visit was considered a high point for people at the head of the lake, whose social life revolved around the hotel.[3] Hunting was prohibited in the park once it was designated, and Eaton had sold the cabin to Lewis. Under Lewis's ownership, it laid unused so that when the Wheelers bought it in 1916, the woods had closed in around it.[4]

The Wheelers spent their first summer in the cabin in 1917, now with four children. They spent much of that summer clearing the land around the cabin.[5] This established the open lawn that still sets the Wheeler Camp property apart from the surrounding forest. Such lawns, often with scattered trees, were typical at recreational camps and resort hotels of the period. Practically, the open area allowed light into the cabins in a time before electric lights were used in these buildings. More important, however, the surrounding lawn was an aesthetic tendency with a legacy in the naturalistic park designs of the romantic period of the nineteenth century. The lawn was a small buffer, a middle landscape between the domesticity of the cabin, however rustic, and wilderness of the surrounding forest. The Wheeler lawn was cropped short by two riding horses they kept during the 1930s and 1940s.[6]

By 1924, the Wheelers had six children, and the cabin felt small. Burton Wheeler stated that they built the Sleep Cabin in 1927[7], but his daughter, Marion Wheeler Scott, says it was after the Half Moon Fire of 1929, when salvage logs were available, that this cabin was built. The Sleep Cabin had a bunkroom with screened windows at each end, one for the three boys and one for the three girls, and a screened sleeping porch projecting from the front wall for Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler. There was a small sitting room with a hearth for Lulu Wheeler's piano on the back wall. In addition to the main cabin and sleep cabin, there was a privy set behind the main cabin and up the hill. This was later added to and put on a concrete foundation to house the DC generator that Mrs. Wheeler bought from the Great Northern Railway to power electric lights for the camp about 1925. Mrs. Wheeler never liked the noise the generator made, so she would have the generator turned off fairly early in the evenings. Once power lines reached the ranger station and Wheeler Camp, the generator was replaced with laundry machines used in common by all of the Wheeler descendants at camp.[8]

The Wheelers were one of a group of families who owned recreational camps at the head of the lake during the 1920s and 1930s, including the Clacks, the Aronows, the Walshes, and the LaDows. Among them, there were many children ranging in age from toddlers to college students, who spent their summers hiking, fishing, and

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[1] Lulu Wheeler, *History of Apgar* (n.p., n.d.): 22. (Glacier National Park Archives (GNPA): West Glacier, Montana)
[2] Burton K. Wheeler, *History*, 44.
[3] Caroline Scott, *History*, 16; and Margaret Lindsay, *History*, 15.
[4] Burton K. Wheeler, *History*, 22.
[5] Burton K. Wheeler, *History*, 22.
[6] Marion Wheeler Scott, Interview with author, 21 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.
[7] Burton K. Wheeler, *History*, 45.
[8] Marion Wheeler Scott, Interview with author, 22 July 2005.

swimming together. A well-worn path ran through the woods connecting the camps. The Wheelers kept two horses for riding, and Richard Wheeler owned one of the early sailboats on the lake. By about 1930, they also kept a motorboat. Even during his 24 years as a United States senator, Burton K. Wheeler spent time on Lake McDonald each summer. Descendants of all of these families continue to use the same camps. Some still hold the deed to their properties. Others hold life leases from the federal government. Burton and Lulu Wheeler's children hold a lease negotiated by their parents in 1946 to 1947.

Many topics of national importance were discussed on the telephone lines strung through the trees on the west side of the park. The lookout at Mt. Brown, Mr. Stanley, related that when he heard the telephone ring, he would watch to see whether the senator would walk across from his cabin to the ranger station. If he did, Stanley would pick up to listen in. Until 1940, Wheeler was Chairman of the Sentate's Indian Affairs Committee, and many times, the Wheeler Camp hosted meetings and ceremonies with members of the Blackfeet Tribe.[9] The phone was also used to eavesdrop more locally. Until the early 1930s, when the Lewises sold the hotel and Emmeline Kelly at Kelly's Camp died of pneumonia, everyone knew they could catch up on the latest Lake McDonald news at 9:00 a.m. when one telephoned the other.[10]

Like several inholders who had been visiting Lake McDonald for many years, the Wheelers' six children were growing up. With two of the older boys working for the park, Lulu Wheeler built a third cabin at the northwest corner of the property to provide additional bunk space. Called the "Garage Cabin" for the two-bay garage underneath, Jean Sullivan of Apgar built the two-room log cabin in 1940. Asa "Ace" Powell, Sr. built the large stone fireplace. As Lulu Wheeler's health began to fail in the mid-1950s, an additional room and a kitchen were added to the east wall to provide a separate space for the Wheelers' youngest daughter, Marion Wheeler Scott, and her growing family, as she acted as her mother's caretaker. Mrs. Scott continues to use this cabin.

The year after the Garage Cabin was built, the original main cabin burned. Lulu Wheeler immediately undertook plans to replace it. She designed a one-and-a-half-story log cabin with a cross-gabled roof. The overhanging gable end on the lake side was supported by log posts the full height of the structure. Apgar bulders Gus Aubert, Jean Sullivan, and Asa "Ace" Powell, Sr., as well as a fourth man, possibly Austin Weikert, worked on the new cabin.[11]

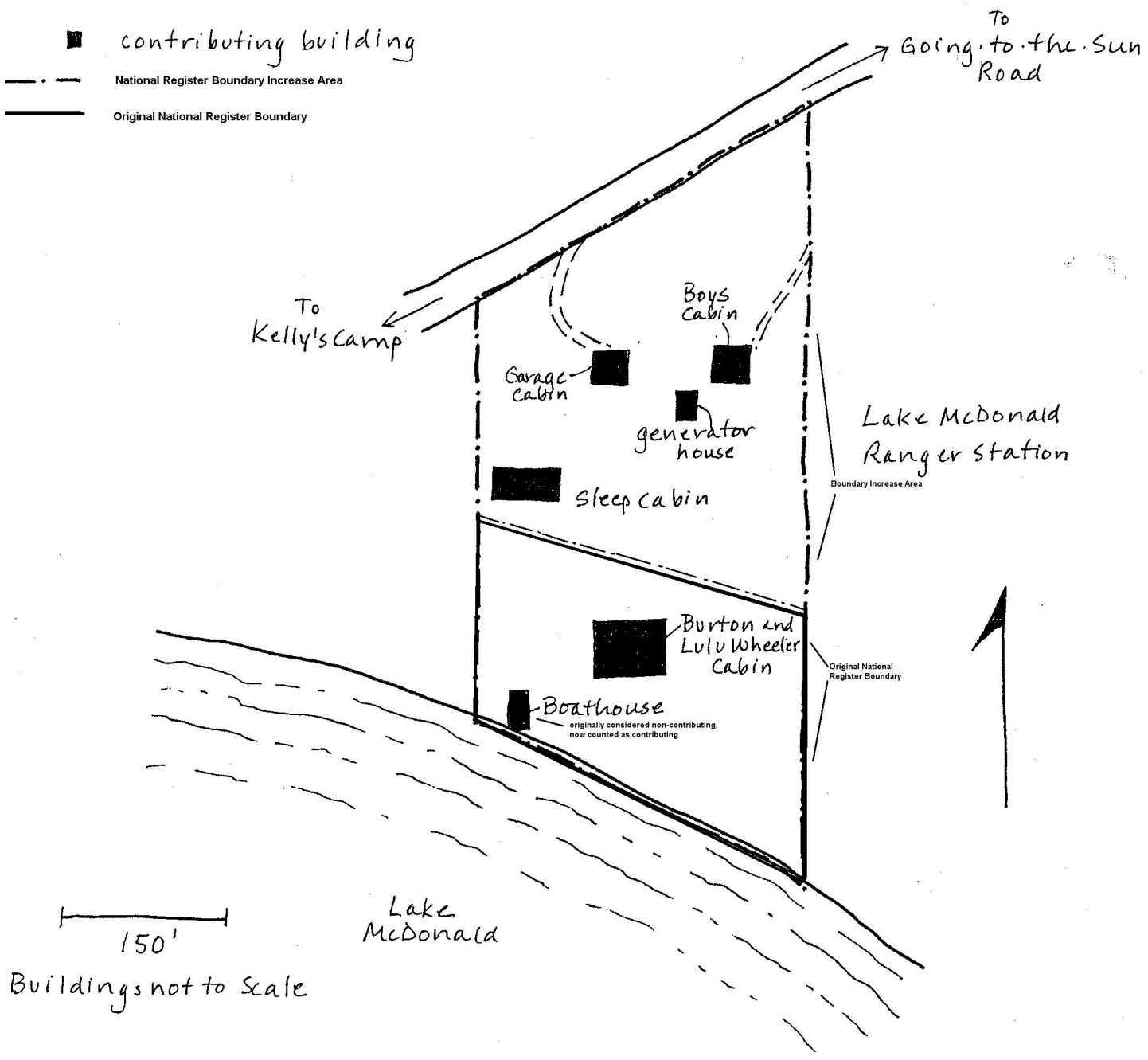
After 1947, when the Wheelers' life lease was settled, Mrs. Wheeler added one more cabin at the back of the camp in 1952. The "Boys Cabin" is unlike the other buildings on the property as it was constructed using modern building materials and framing practices by an outside builder following the pattern of post-war building by inholders around Lake McDonald. The cabin was meant to be shared by Richard, John, and Edward Wheeler. Richard and Edward added the garage to the road side of the cabin later, but the cabin is otherwise much as it was built. More recently, about 1980, John Wheeler remodeled the "Sleep Cabin" for his family's use. He replaced the screens in the windows with glass and reorganized the interior walls to accommodate indoor plumbing, a kitchen, and bedrooms. The main entrance is a sliding glass door.

Elizabeth Wheeler Colman, the eldest of the six Wheeler children, inherited use of the Main Cabin. Lulu Wheeler died at the camp over Labor Day weekend in 1962. Burton K. Wheeler died in January 1975 at age 92.

The Wheeler Camp retains integrity of design, setting, and feeling as a whole dating to the early 1950s, when the property achieved its final configuration with satellite cabins to accommodate Burton and Lulu Wheeler's six children and their families. Each of the cabins and outbuildings was designed individually, each to serve a purpose. Even though the buildings have changed use over the years, they generally retain high degrees of integrity of design,

[9] Marion Wheeler Scott. Interview.
[10] Marion Wheeler Scott, Interview.
[11] Marion Wheeler Scott, Interview.

materials, and workmanship dating to their periods of construction. As a group they form a harmonious group retaining integrity of setting in keeping with a recreational camp used by the same family for ninety years on Lake McDonald.


contributing building
National Register Boundary Increase Area
Original National Register Boundary
To
Going-to-the-Sun
Road
To
Kelly's Camp
Boys
Cabin
Garage
Cabin
generator
house
Lake McDonald
Ranger Station
Boundary Increase Area
Sleep cabin
Burton and
Lulu Wheeler
Cabin
Original National
Register Boundary
Boathouse
originally considered non-contributing,
now counted as contributing
Lake
McDonald
150'
Buildings not to Scale

Photographs
The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

Name of property: Wheeler Camp
County and State: Flathead County, Montana
Photographer: Jessie Ravage
Date of photograph: July 2005
Location of negative: Glacier National Park Archives

Burton K. and Lulu Wheeler Cabin (main cabin)
View of north (front) and east sides of main cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1

Boathouse
View of east side and north (back) of boathouse from lawn between main cabin and boathouse
Photograph No.2

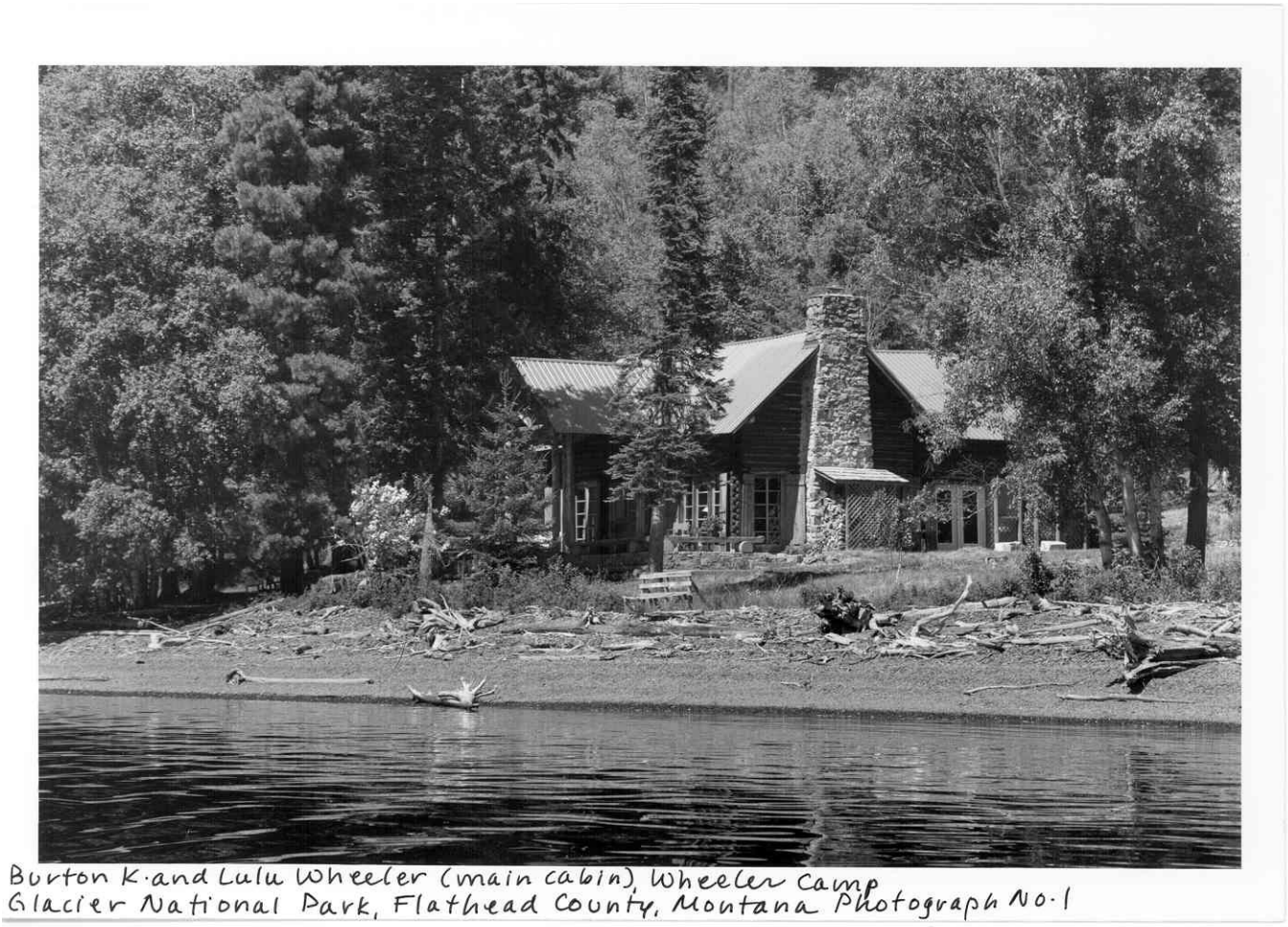
Sleep Cabin
View of south (front) and east sides of Sleep Cabin from lawn behind main cabin
Photograph No.3

Garage Cabin
View of south (front) of Garage Cabin from lawn behind main cabin
Photograph No.4

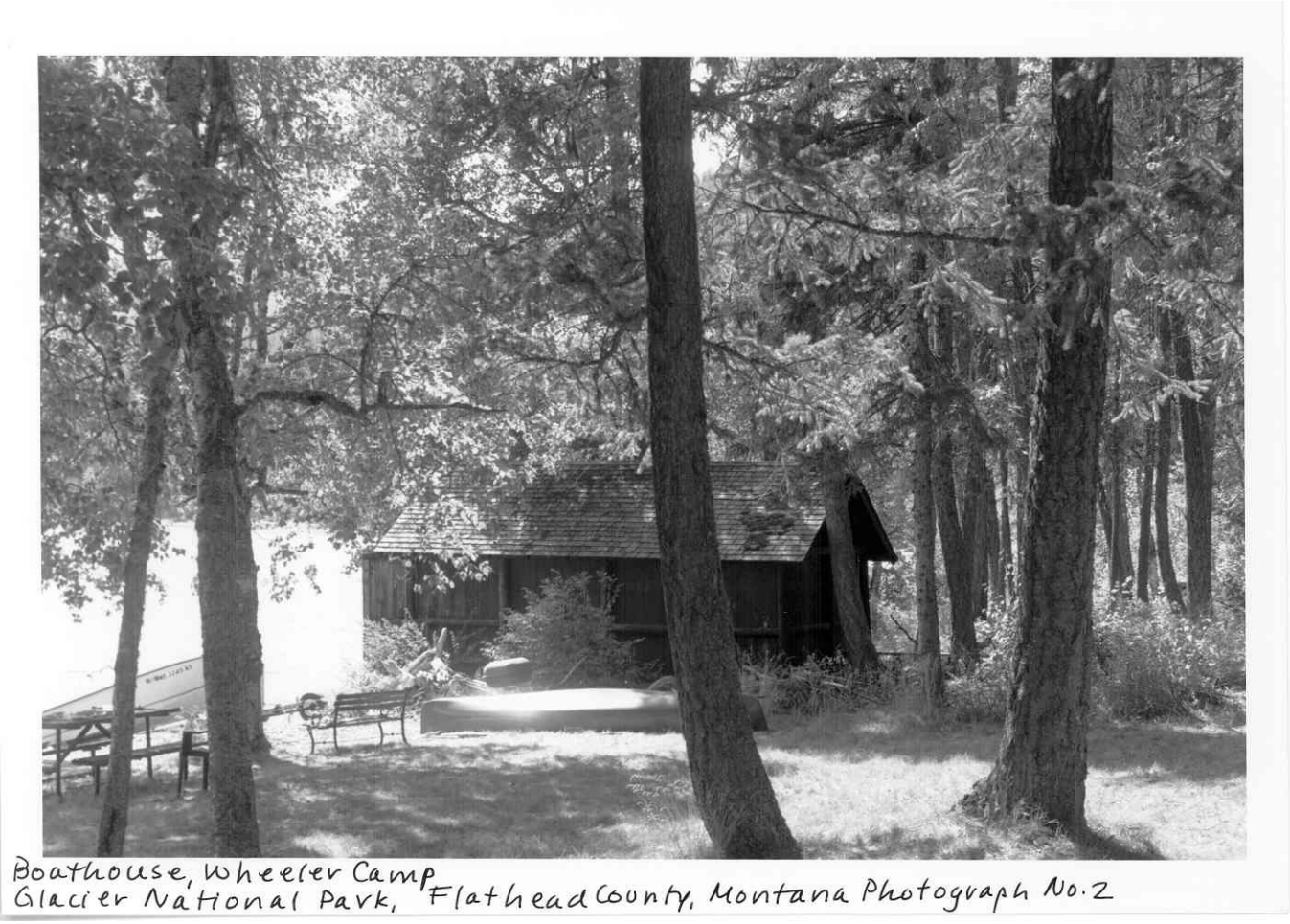
Boys Cabin
View of south (front) of Boys Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.5

Boys Cabin with generator house
View of south (front) and east sides of Boys Cabin with generator house to left
Photograph No.6

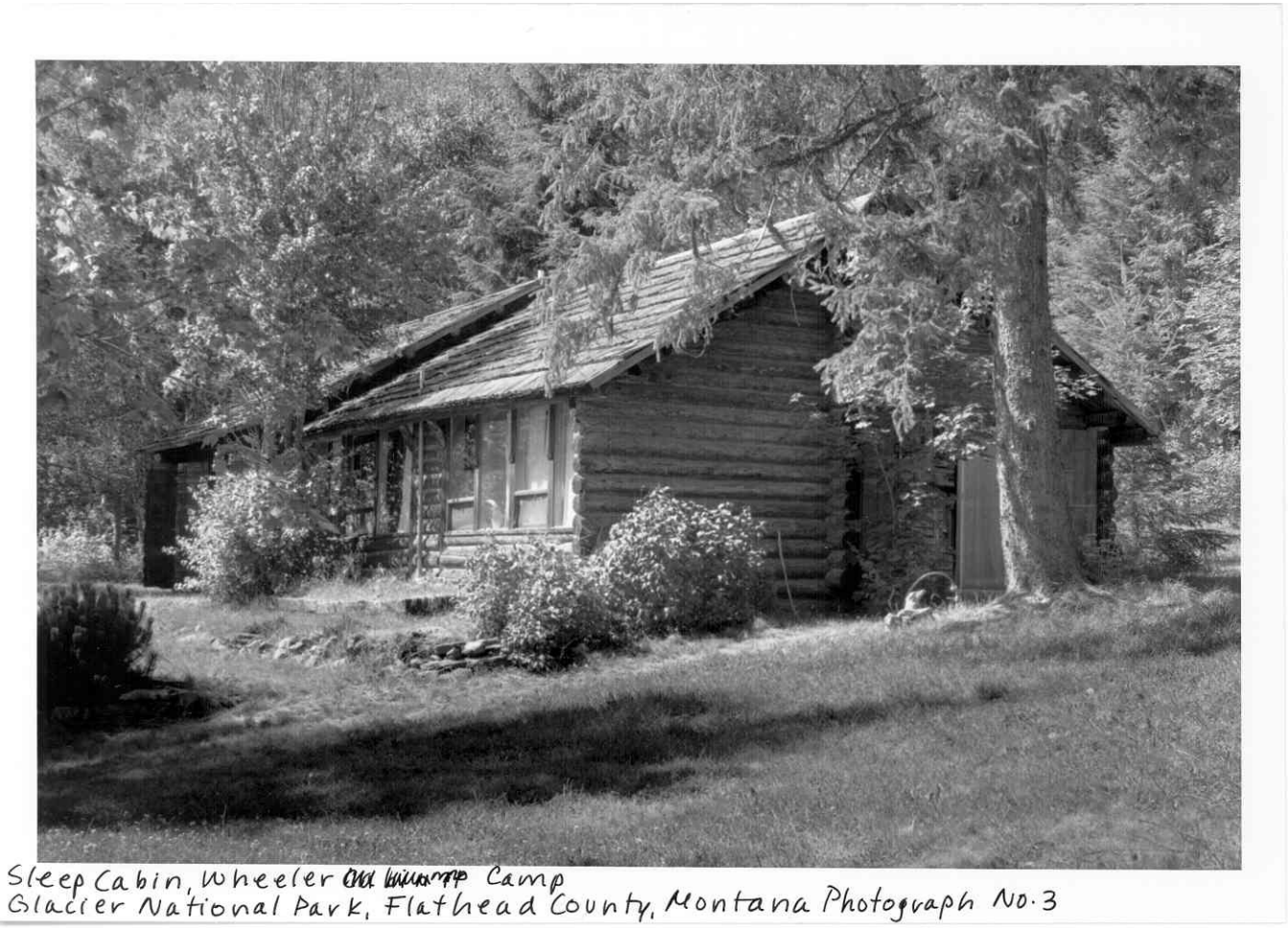
Generator house
View of south (front) and west sides generator house with Boys Cabin to right and roof of Garage Cabin to left
Photograph No.7



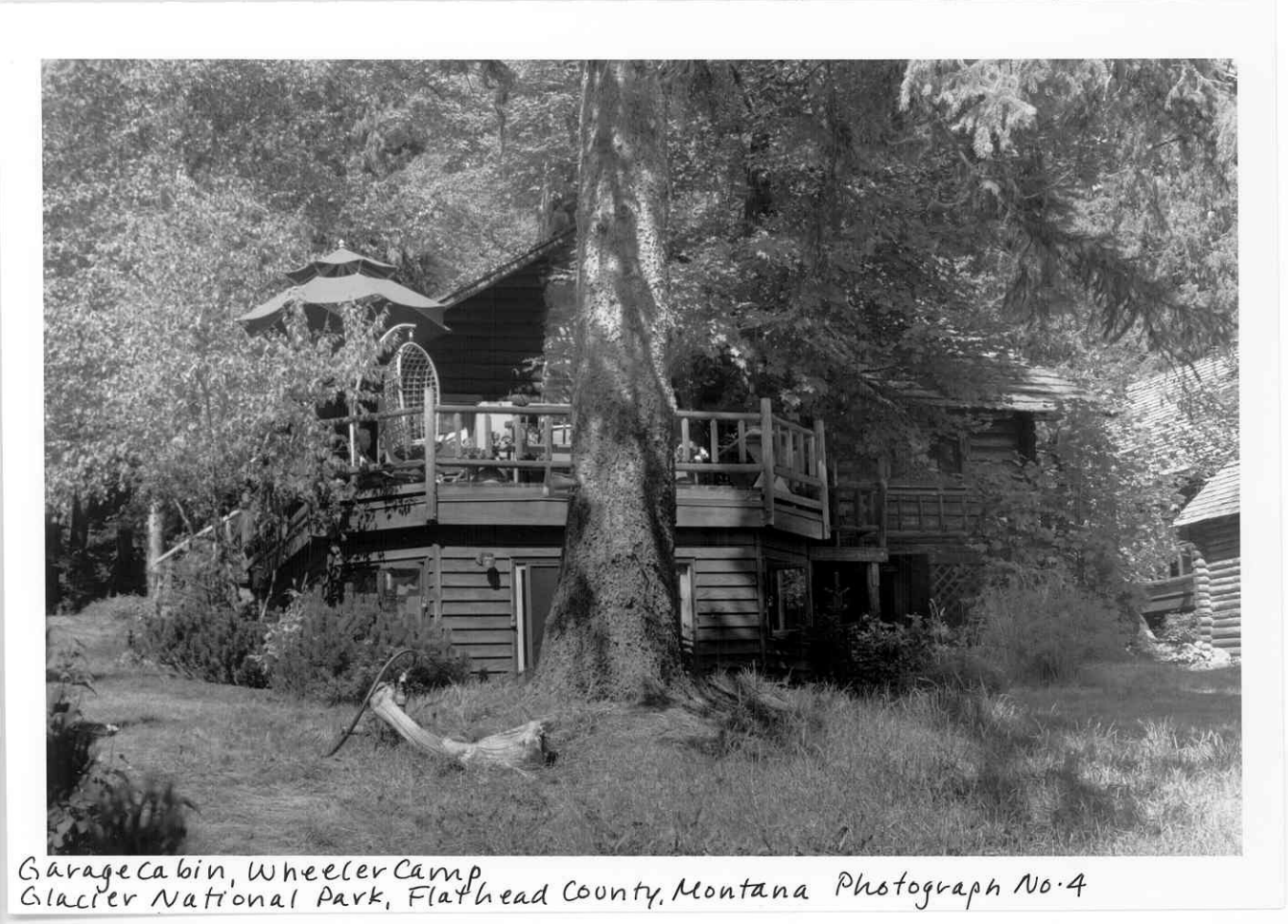
Burton K. and Lulu Wheeler Cabin (main cabin)
View of north (front) and east sides of main cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.1



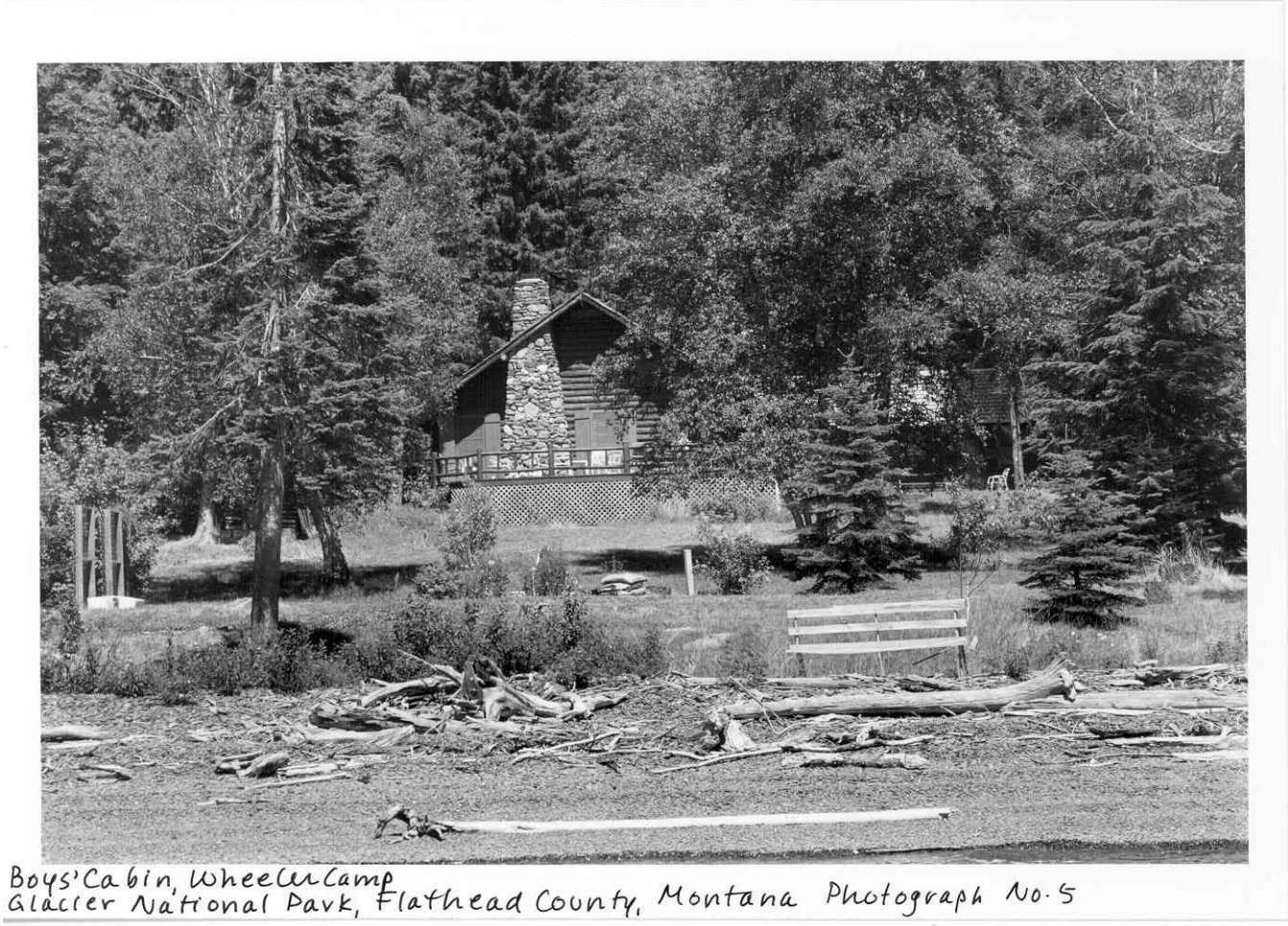
Boathouse
View of east side and north (back) of boathouse from lawn between main cabin and boathouse
Photograph No.2



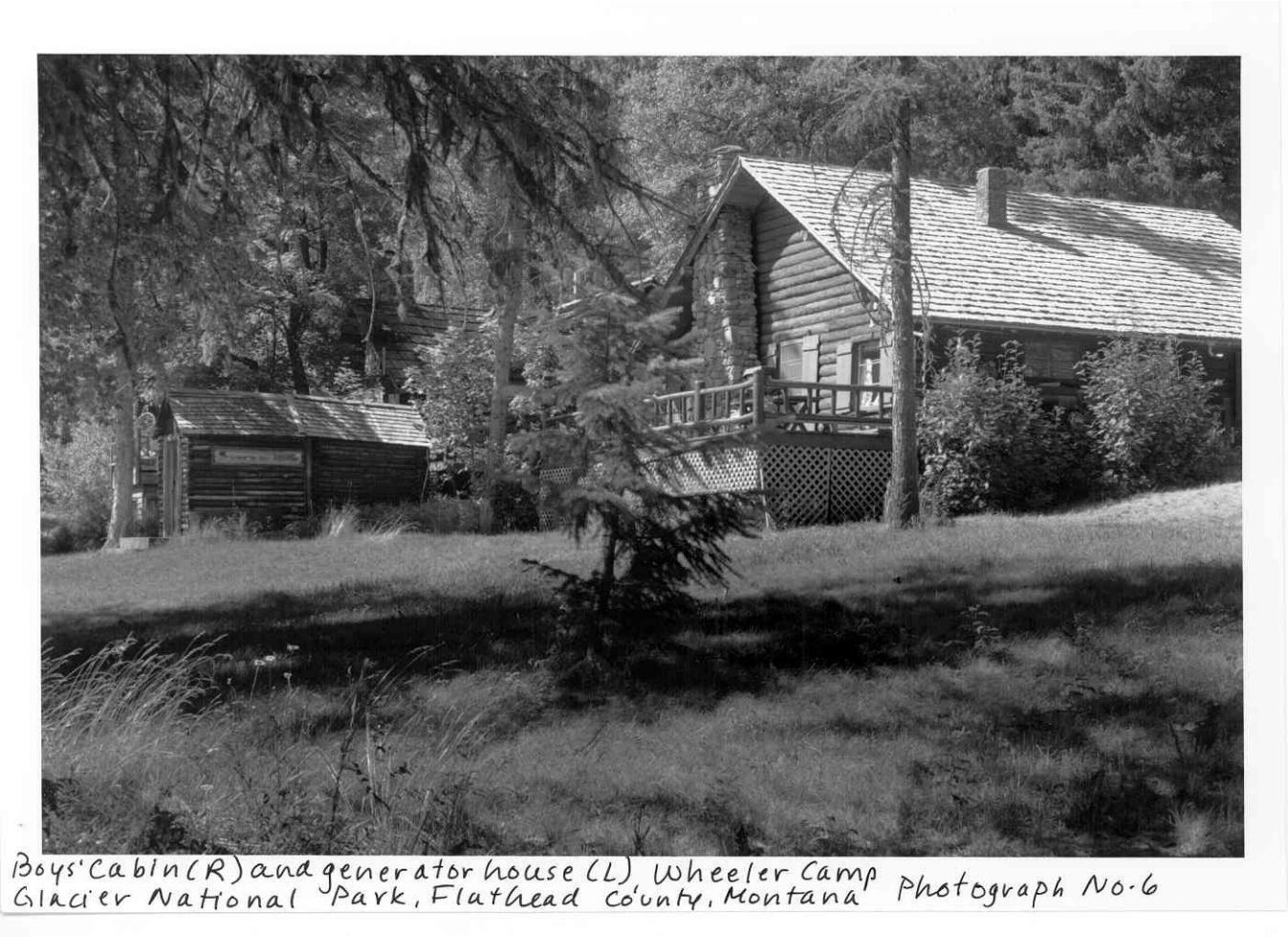
Sleep Cabin
View of south (front) and east sides of Sleep Cabin from lawn behind main cabin
Photograph No.3



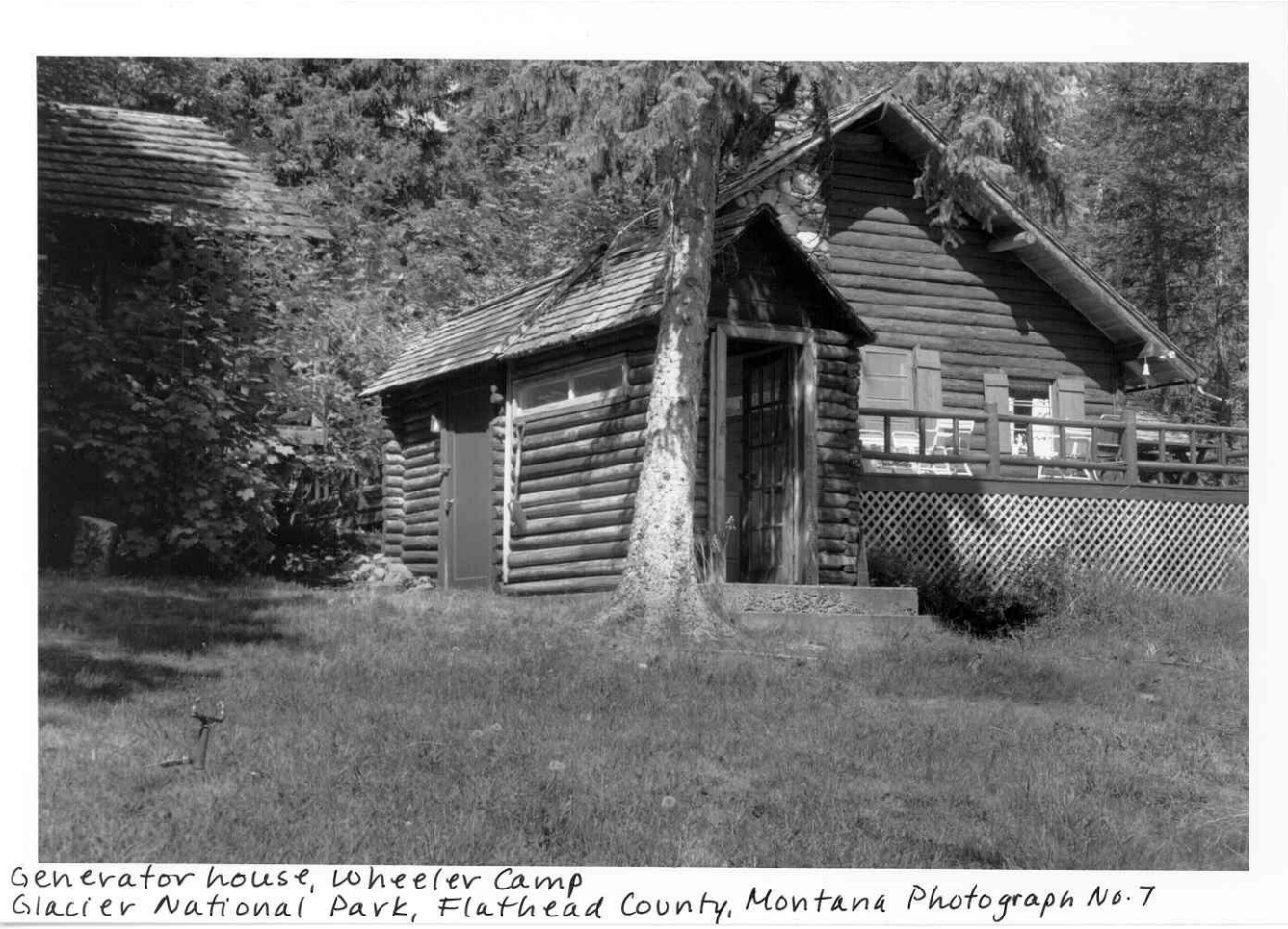
Garage Cabin
View of south (front) of Garage Cabin from lawn behind main cabin
Photograph No.4



Boys Cabin
View of south (front) of Boys Cabin from Lake McDonald
Photograph No.5



Boys Cabin with generator house
View of south (front) and east sides of Boys Cabin with generator house to left
Photograph No.6



Generator house
View of south (front) and west sides generator house with Boys Cabin to right and roof of Garage Cabin to left
Photograph No.7