

CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE FIELD INVENTORY REPORT
(Attach 4" x 5" Black and White Photograph)

245H340

REGION RMRO PARK/AREA NAME GLACIER NATIONAL PARK PARK NUMBER 1430

STRUCTURE NAME ANTON SCHOENBERGER HOMESTEAD STRUCTURE NUMBER HS-1250

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE NORTH FORK STUDY AREA PARK LOCATION CODE GLAC

NATIONAL REGISTER _____ DATE: _____ MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: (A) (B) (C) (D)

NPS LEGAL INTEREST NPS Ownership MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT: _____

Check all of the following categories for which NPS has treatment responsibility:

Stabilization() Cyclic Maintenance() Routine Maintenance() Approved Ultimate Treatment()

(ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION USE ONLY)

APPROVED ULTIMATE TREATMENT OR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN, CULTURAL COMPONENT DESIGNATION:

Preservation	(PP)	Restoration	(RR)	Reconstruction	(CC)
Adaptive Preservation	(AP)	Adaptive Restoration	(AR)	Adaptive Reconstruction	(AC)
Neglect	(NG)	Remove	(RM)	No Approved Treatment	(NO)

Approval Document _____ () Document Date: / /

Estimated Treatment Costs _____

Stabilization:	\$ _____	Date: <u> / /</u>	Level of Estimate:	(A) (B) (C)
Approved Treatment:	\$ _____	Date: <u> / /</u>	Estimator:	(Region) (DSC) (A&E)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Date of Construction: 1909 Date of Alterations: ca.1920
 Architect/Designer: Anton Schoenberger Historical Theme(s): Homesteading
 History of Structure: _____

---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

Evaluation of Structure: Historic Theme Contributing X Non-Contributing _____
 National Register Criteria: AX B C D (Include integrity statement)

---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

Bibliography: ---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

Representation in Other Surveys: Historical Research Associates, 1982.

If structure has been removed, how? n/a Date: _____

Report prepared by: Patricia L. Bick, Historian Date: 10/01/86

Condition:
 Documentation:
 Significance:
 Internal Impacts:
 External Impacts:

LOCATION: Section 10 State MONTANA USE: CURRENT INTERIOR USE (NPS 28 CODE)
 Township 35N County FLATHEAD Original Use HOMESTEAD
 Range 21W Intermediate Uses HOMESTEAD
 PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION (NPS 28 CODE) _____

OWNERSHIP: Present Owner: NPS DRAWING NO. n/a
 Original Owner: Anton Schoenberger NEGATIVE NO. Roll NF#1, frames 32-37
 Intermediate Owner(s): Minnie Schoenberger NF#2, frames 1-5; frames 19-20

*****PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION*****

TYPE OF STRUCTURE (NPS 28 CODE): _____ CHIMNEYS:
 ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER (STYLE): _____
 SITE (INCLUDE ORIENTATION OF STRUCTURE): _____ PORCHES: _____
 OVERALL BUILDING PLAN (FOOTPRINT): _____ WINDOWS: _____
 OVERALL DIMENSIONS: _____ DOORS: _____
 COMPOSITION (NPS 28 CODE): _____ ADDITIONS: _____
 STORIES: _____
 FOUNDATION: _____
 WALLS: _____ ---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---
 ROOF: _____ INTERIOR PLAN: _____
 INTERIOR FINISHES: _____

SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES (INCLUDING INTERIOR AND SETTING) FOR PARK PLANNING PURPOSES:

---SEE ATTACHED SITE FORM---

JUN 13 1999

Historic Name: ANTON SCHOENBERGER HOMESTEAD
(SCOTTY BEATON PLACE)

HS-1250

Location: T35N; R21W; NE 1/4, NE 1/4, SW 1/2, Section 10.

UTM Reference: 11/5409600/698850

Acreage: approximately 7 acres

Ownership : National Park Service.

Access: Located along a historic roadway, marked as a "pack trail" on 1966 USGS map, on Akokala Creek, about 1 1/2 miles north of where Glacier Route 7 intersects the creek. The pack trail is overgrown and difficult to follow.

Evaluation of Significance and Architectural Integrity: The Anton Schoenberger homestead is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A as a well preserved, representative example of a historic homestead complex. The property gains significance from its association with the early settlement of the North Fork and with the locally prominent Schoenberger family. Anton Schoenberger initially settled the site, but his daughter Minnie and her husband Scotty Beaton, a popular North Fork character who worked for almost 30 years as the lookout on Numa Ridge, occupied the property from the mid-teens until the late 1940s.

Historical Information: Anton Schoenberger, at the urging of his son Charlie, established residency at his Akokala (Indian) Creek homestead in a tent during the summer of 1909 and moved into his completed cabin in December of that year.¹ Anton was 70 years old when he came up to the North Fork. Born in Wurtemberg, Germany in 1839, he emigrated to the United States at age 21 to avoid the German draft. Ironically, he enlisted in the U.S. Army 2 years later, joining the Union forces in New York. After his discharge in 1865, he signed up for the U.S. Cavalry and headed west, serving two hitches as a teamster. He married Carolyn Louis Neilson in 1871 at Fort Union, New Mexico, and they settled in Illinois with their nine children.²

Anton Schoenberger kept an American flag flying at his home in the North Fork³ and carried a sabre by his side.⁴ He spent most of his Montana winters at the Montana Veteran's Home in Columbia Falls, returning to the North Fork to visit his children during the summer.

¹National Archives, Case file #324962, Testimony of Claimant.

²Columbian, Obituary, April 2, 1922.

³Case file #324962.

⁴Interview with Dan Sullivan by Susan Buchel, July 10, 1975.

His daughter Minnie and her second husband Scotty Beaton took over Anton's homestead claim. Beaton was a professional cook⁵ and found occasional work cooking for road and trail crews and packing outfits. Scotty began working for the Park as the Indian Ridge lookout about 1916.⁶ He was able to bushwhack home occasionally, a distance of about 6 miles, from the lookout point above the foot of Bowman Lake to the homestead place. His lookout station was moved to a higher elevation on Numa Ridge during the 1930s.⁷ As Minnie was often left alone at the forested homestead site, Charlie and Mary Schoenberger built a cabin just to the north of their place in Big Prairie for her to use while Scotty was away. Minnie's mental health failed, however, and she spent frequent periods at the Warm Springs State Mental Asylum. After Minnie was taken away by the county sheriff for the final time, Scotty continued to live on the Akokala Creek property until the late 1940s. Both the Forest Service and the National Park Service rangers recognized Scotty Beaton as an valuable lookout with a thorough knowledge of the country. He died of pneumonia in 1950.⁸

Chain of Title:

Anton Schoenberger: final certificate 1911

Minnie Schoenberger: (NW 1/4 of SW 1/4) 1919

U.S. Government: 1971

Note: Other portions of the original homestead claim were divided into 40-acre parcels among John Schoenberger (1927), E.G. Schoenberger (1927), Anna Marshall (1919), and Lillie Graybill (1927).

Physical Description: The channel of Akokala Creek was altered as a result of the 1964 flood. Consequently, the creek now runs very close to the Anton Schoenberger place, and dense stands of alder and willow have grown up to the immediate west of the homestead complex. Anton Schoenberger likely chose this site due to its proximity to a good spring, which is now virtually on the creek bank. The historic springhouse no longer exists. Remains of an old telephone line, insulators, and poles are found along the historic road leading to the property. The trail to Charlie Schoenberger's place on Big Prairie was washed out in the 1964 flood. Trees have also crashed upon some of the buildings.

⁵Interview with Dan Sullivan.

⁶Interviews with Ralph Thayer by Cindy Mish, July 1975.

⁷Interview with Hugh Buchanan by Cindy Mish, August 30, 1975. The Black CCC crew stationed at Bowman Lake built the trail to the new Numa Ridge lookout.

⁸Ed Ohlmstead, personal communication, October 4, 1986.

The site consists of four standing structures, three collapsed buildings and a dog house. The boundaries are drawn to include the lower overgrown meadow where the house stands and a portion of the upper ridge where the small log barn is located. The grounds are overgrown with young trees, Sweet William survives in the meadow grasses, and hops climb on the privy.

Akokala Creek serves as the western boundary. From a point of beginning at the NW corner of the NE 1/4 NE 1/4 SW 1/4 of section 10; T35N;R21W, thence approximately 400 feet west-northwest, thence 400 feet east-northeast, thence 425 feet north-northeast, thence 250 feet east along the quarter section line, thence 550 feet south, thence 200 feet west-southwest, thence 200 feet south-southwest to the point of beginning.

1. LOG RESIDENCE (constructed 1909, addition ca.1920).
Contributing.

This structure consists of two separate, one-story log buildings set approximately 3 feet apart. The rear portion was constructed by Anton Schoenberger in 1909, the front by Scotty Beaton ca. 1920. The space between the two structures was framed in, covered with long split shakes, and was used as storage. Split shakes also cover major portions of the exterior walls with tarpaper sheathing underneath. Unpeeled logs were used in the construction of both sections with lap notch corner timbering. The roofs of both parts are low pitched gables, tied together, and covered with long split shakes. Two large trees have fallen across the roof but have not broken the log purlins. The roof overhangs approximately 6 feet at the front and a small, lean-to, shake-covered addition was built to the east side of this porch. Another small, frame addition was built to the rear of the building. The windows are 2-over-2 double-hung sash placed upright, sideways, or as single sash with casement hinging. Nail bear boards are secured beneath each window on the exterior.

The interior of the building is two rooms with the central, connecting storage space. Tongue and groove floorboards were used throughout. The walls are covered with cardboard and wallpaper. A fair amount of domestic paraphernalia remains. Handmade furniture is present (chairs, shelves, tables, etc.), fashioned from willow branches and small pine poles. Some 1919 newspapers were used as insulation. There is no evidence of a foundation, other than the sill logs.

2. LOG PRIVY (constructed 1910). Contributing.

This substantial, two-seater log privy with lap notch corner timbering has been crushed by a tree, but remains basically intact. The gable roof is supported by lodgepole purlins and is covered with split shakes. Hops vines cover the building.

3. LOG BARN (constructed 1912). Contributing.

Located in the wooded area up on the ridge to the east of the primary complex of buildings is this 12-by 15-foot saddle notched log barn, oriented toward the west and Akokala Creek. Although the barn lists slightly to the south, it is in good condition. The building has a gable roof supported by log purlins, log work in the gable end, and is covered with long split shakes. The roof overhangs approximately 3 feet in the front and this area has been partially enclosed. Some mud chinking is evident on the exterior and quarter sawn poles were used as weatherproofing on the interior. Much debris is strewn about the unfinished interior, including glass jars with screw tops, coffee and kerosene cans, newspapers (1938), magazines (1946), etc.

4. SUMMER KITCHEN (constructed ca. 1940). Non-contributing.

The summer kitchen is of split log framing covered with long split shakes. The enclosed east side of the building houses the cook stove and has plank flooring and shelving, and one small casement window. The west side is open on two sides and was used as a dining area. Handmade furniture consists of a large bench with seat and back made of split shakes, a pine branch armchair, and a handmade table with pine branch legs and plank top. The shed roof of the summer kitchen is supported on the northwestern corner by a live fir tree.

5. ROOT CELLAR (constructed ca. 1915). Non-contributing.

The saddle notched, log root cellar exhibits typical double wall construction with dirt infill and a sod covered gable roof, which has collapsed into the center of the structure.

6. COLLAPSED WOOD SHED (constructed ca. 1940).
Non-contributing.

Appended to the east end of the summer kitchen are the collapsed remains of a large woodshed that appears to have been of split log framing covered with split shakes. This structure lies beneath a large dead tree.

7. COLLAPSED STRUCTURE (constructed ca. 1920).
Non-contributing.

This small (10- by 10-foot) building appears to have been of vertical pole construction with a split shake roof, and it has fallen victim to deadfall.

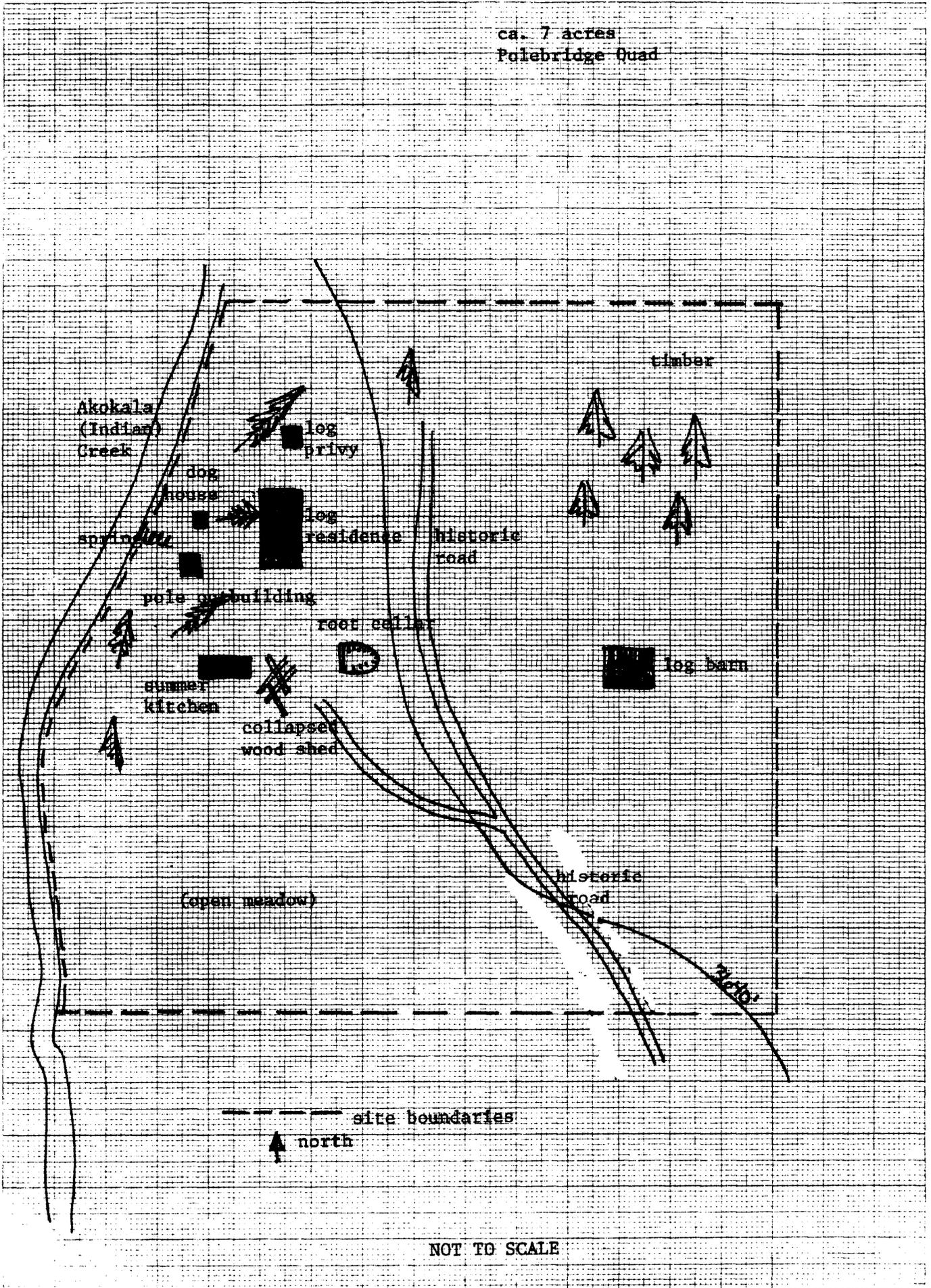
8. DOGHOUSE (constructed ca. 1935). Non-contributing.

This intact, gabled roof doghouse is of pole framing with split shake siding and roof covering. The structure does not possess architectural significance as was probably built outside the period of historical significance.

Form Prepared by: Patricia L. Bick, Historian, October 1986.

ANTON SCHOENBERGER HOMESTEAD
SCOTTY BEATON PLACE

ca. 7 acres
Polebridge Quad



LOWER BIG PRAIRIE AREA

