



MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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March 27, 2007

LON JOHNSON
 CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST
 GLACIER NATIONAL PARK
 WEST GLACIER, MT 59936

Dear Lon,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the National Register of Historic Places nomination form for the **Headquarters Historic District (Boundary Increase I)**. The State Historic Preservation Review Board and I enjoyed touring the increase area last summer. Our office concurs that **Glacier National Park Residences 41, 77, and 80**, which comprise the boundary increase, are eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria A and C.

The Montana State Historic Preservation Office concurs that **Logan Pass Visitor Center** is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and C.

This office also concurs that **Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites HD, Alice Beck Cabin, Blair's Cottage Sites HD, Glacier Park Villas Sites HD, Greve's Tourist Cabins HD, Head of the Lake HD, Howes' Lake McDonald Cottage Sites HD, Kelly's Camp HD, Lewis' Cabin Lots HD, Sherwood Lodge, and Wheeler Camp** are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under the contexts outlined in the **Recreation Camps on Lake McDonald Multiple Properties Documentation Form**.

Finally, we would like to confirm that on August 8, 2005, Josef Warhank of this office concurred that **Porcupine Fire Lookout (Smithsonian Number 24GL1114)** is eligible for listing in the National Register under the contexts identified in the Glacier National Park Multiple Properties Documentation Form.

Thank you again for your documentation of and dedication to these outstanding places. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kate Hampton
 National Register Historian and
 Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

*Only 1-life
estate*

1. Name of Property

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

other name/site number:

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2. Location

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

city/town: West Glacier

not for publication:
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

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; Public-federal	Number of Resources within Property 9		
Category of Property: District	Contributing	Non-contributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 2	9	2	building(s) site(s)
		1	structure(s) objects(s)
Name of related multiple property listing: Recreational camps on Lake McDonald, 1892-1970	9	3	TOTAL

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:	Current Function:
DOMESTIC: Camp	DOMESTIC: Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:	MATERIALS:
OTHER: Mid-Century Modern Style	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 Association, 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):	Primary Location of Additional Data:
<input type="checkbox"/> preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.	<input type="checkbox"/> State Historic Preservation Office
<input type="checkbox"/> previously listed in the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Other State agency
<input type="checkbox"/> previously determined eligible by the National Register	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal agency: Glacier National Park Archives
<input type="checkbox"/> designated a National Historic Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/> Local government
<input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> University
<input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other – National Archives, Denver

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 7.5-7.75 acres

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
Point A – NW corner Lot 9, Block 1	12	278839	5380006
Point B – NE corner Lot 9, Block 1	12	278907	5380001
Point C – SE corner Lot 4, Block 2	12	278793	5379563
Point D – SW corner Lot 4, Block 2	12	278706	5379570

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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 West, Range 19 North.

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

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

Lots 9 and 10, Block 1

name/title: James & Helen Atheam, Trustees
street & number: P.O. Box 123
city or town: West Glacier

telephone:
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

telephone:
state: CA zip code: 92118

Lots 11 through 28, Block 1;

name/title: Superintendent, Glacier National Park
street & number:
city or town: West Glacier

telephone:
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

telephone:
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

telephone:
state: MT zip code: 59401

Lots 3 and 4, Block 2

name/title: Richard Alderson
street & number: 3000 Duncan Drive
city or town: Missoula

telephone:
state: MT zip code: 59802

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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 Falls²): 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

² Information provided by Helen Athearn, Interview with author, 21 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.

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narrow stream coursed into the lake just north side of the house. This is crossed by a narrow bridge with a rustic railing.

Main cabin (1962, contributing; Architect: Brinkman and Lennon, Kalispell; Builder: Erickson, Kalispell³): 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, non-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.1906, contributing): See National Register Nomination for building description.

Bull Head Lodge Studio

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 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

³ Information provided by Robert C. Lundgren, Interview with author, 28 July 2006, taped for GNPA.

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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.

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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.¹ 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.² 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).³ 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.⁴ 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.⁵ 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 1912.⁶ 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 1908.⁷ 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 \$2,500.⁸ Twenty days later, on the 22nd of October, Frank and Emmeline Haworth Kelly sold the entire property back to H.D. Apgar for \$2,500.⁹ 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 1917.¹⁰ Based on architectural evidence, the main cabin was added onto twice in the 1910s and 1920s.

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.

¹ Vaught, *History of Glacier* (Unpublished manuscript n.d.): 444. (GNPA). No copy of this map has been located.

² Eddie Cruger, *History of Apgar*, [n.p., n.d.]: 36-37.

³ Helen Haworth, Historical Interview, 20 February 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.

⁴ Edward Neitzling, Historical Interview, 12 October 1976. (GNPA)

⁵ 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.

⁶ 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.

⁷ *Book of Deeds 84/334*. County Clerk and Recorders Office, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana.

⁸ *Book of Deeds 109/384*. County Clerk and Recorders Office, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana.

⁹ *Book of Deeds 109/385*. County Clerk and Recorders Office, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana.

¹⁰ "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.

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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 1917.¹¹ 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 1917.¹²

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 1920.¹³ 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.¹⁴ The Coulters built a cabin.¹⁵ 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.¹⁶ 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 Bellefleurs¹⁷, 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 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

¹¹ *Subdivision Book "A."*, Apgar's Glacier Park Cottage Sites. (Plat Room, Flathead County, Kalispell, Montana)

¹² *Subdivision Book "A."*

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ *Subdivision Book "A."*

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ 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.

¹⁷ *History of Apgar*, XX.

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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 husband¹⁸, filed their deed for Lots 13 and 14 bought from James Sherwood's widow, Mabel, in 1951.¹⁹ 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.²⁰

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.

In 1945, Leonard and Olga Storm bought the Russells' Bullhead Lodge property from Nancy Russell's estate.²¹ 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

¹⁸ Bob Lundgren, Interview with author, 31 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.

¹⁹ *Subdivision Book "A."*

²⁰ Mary Grace Galvin, e-mail to author, 16 January 2006.

²¹ *Subdivision Book "A."*

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1953, they built a new, more accessible, cabin at the water's edge.²² 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 1972.²³ 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.²⁴

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 1946²⁵, which they transferred to the federal government when they acquired the lakefront parcel.²⁶ 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 area²⁷, Waldo Y. (1905-1995) and Isabel "Babe" Q. Moberly filed a deed transferring the property to their names.²⁸ 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 1980.²⁹ 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.³⁰

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

²² Robert Lundgren, Interview with author, 20 June 2005.

²³ Robert Lundgren, Interview with author, 20 June 2005.

²⁴ Roberth Lundgren, Interview with author, 31 July 2006. Taped for GNPA,

²⁵ James Grist, e-mail to author, January 2006.

²⁶ *Subdivision Book "A."*

²⁷ Robert Lundgren, Interview with author, 31 July 2006.

²⁸ *Subdivision Book "A."*

²⁹ <http://data.opi.state.mt.us/bills/1997/Journals/SJ0077%20Apr%2011.htm>.

³⁰ Robert Lundgren, Interview with author, 20 June 2005.

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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 Carolina³¹, 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 1925.³² 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,³³ so the Athearns build anew using a design by a Kalispell architect called Lennon, who may also have designed the Moberly House.³⁴ 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.

³¹ Richard Slater, e-mail to author, 5 August 2005.

³² Helen Athearn, Interview with author, 25 July 2006. Taped for GNPA.

³³ Richard Slater, e-mail to author, 10 November 2005.

³⁴ The Athearn family have a partial set of plans for their cabin, but the drawings are not stamped or signed.