
5. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

Noncontributing

Category of Property: building

4 building(s)Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register: na sites11 structures objects

Name of related multiple property listing:

Glacier National Park

51 TOTAL

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/Camp

DOMESTIC/Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Materials:

Other: Rustic Craftsman

foundation: Concrete

walls: Logs

roof: Asphalt

other: Brick

Narrative Description

The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge is the nucleus of a family camp located at the base of Mount Stanton at the head of Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park. The property is near the Upper Lake McDonald Ranger Station and about one-half mile west of Going-to-the-Sun Highway.

The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge fronts on the upper (north) end of Lake McDonald. The site is lightly timbered and grassy and slopes gently to the lake. The main house is approximately 60 feet from the top of a short flat-stoned beach. A stand of pine trees near the shore shields the cabin from the lake. An engine house and combination woodshed/icehouse are behind the lodge. On a slight elevation farther to the north are two other cabins and a garage constructed in 1947. An eight-foot-high chain link fence, constructed in 1930-32, surrounds three sides of the property. A road, built and maintained by the National Park Service, runs behind the lodge several hundred feet to the north; it provides access to the Lake McDonald Ranger Station, about 500 yards away, to five other groups of family cabins and to the Kelly Homestead which lies approximately 1¾ miles to the west.

Lodge (1910, contributing building)

The Thoms J. Walsh Lodge is a one-and-one-half story log building designed in the Rustic Craftsman style. Ed Cruger, a local carpenter, constructed the building. It is rectangular with a side-gabled roof and prominent front-facing dormer. The wide, full-length front porch is placed beneath the roof of the lodge. A partial width, shed-roofed, screened porch projects from the rear of the Lodge. Concrete piers (date unknown) at each corner support the log walls. At the center of the rear of the Lodge, a wire-struck brick chimney tops a native stone fireplace (date unknown).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 7

Walsh, Thomas J., Lodge
Flathead County, Montana

Page 1

Unpeeled cedar logs make up the walls of the cabin. The logs are hewn on the interior side and laid in a saddle notch with minimal projecting butts. The logs extend below the floor line and into the gables. Closely space log purlins project from the gable ends.

Unadorned log posts support the roof at the front and rear porches. Most first floor windows in the Lodge are double-hung sash divided in a 1/3:2/3 ratio. This ratio matches the design of the porch which is unusually tall; the logs supporting the porch roof are above the second floor level. Second floor windows are divided equally. All side windows have six-over one sash. The cedar shake sided front gable houses a pair of nine-light windows. Opening onto the front porch are three windows. Only one of these retains its original sash configuration; it is divided eight-over-one. The two other window openings are original, but the sash have been replaced with one single sheet of glass. The rear of the lodge has a six-over-one double hung-sash and paired six pane rectangular sash flank the fireplace. The front door has a one-half light window with two horizontal panels below. The back door is a five horizontal panel door.

All interior walls are stained, hewn logs. The partitions are vertically-placed double-beaded board. The central living space is open to the roof. A native stone fireplace is centered in the rear of the living room wall. An open stairway with a log balustrade accesses a balcony overlooking the living room. Three bedrooms are on the second floor.

Wood shed/Ice House (c. 1910, contributing structure)

The woodshed/ice house is a rectangular structure measuring 8-feet by 21 feet. The ice house portion of the structure is constructed of round logs, hewn on the interior side. A single, vertical-board door provides access to the ice house from the gable end. The woodshed half of the building is open, with spaced, doubled two-by-fours supporting the roof. A green, asphalt shingled gable roof covers the structure.

Engine House (date unknown, non-contributing structure)

The construction date of the Engine House is unknown, but it was built to house an electric generator before the availability of commercial electricity in 1947-48. However, the building appears to have been largely rebuilt at a later date. The gable-roofed structure is built into the hill slope behind the lodge. The roof appears older than the rest of the building. It projects forward to protect the front door. The walls of the building are concrete block; a manufactured-log veneer has been attached to the front. A plywood ventilator projects from the peak of the roof.

Parks' House (1947, contributing building)

The Parks' House is typical of the ranch-style houses built by Americans after World War II. It also is similar to designs which began to appear in the National Parks shortly before World War II, signaling the end of the Rustic Style. The rectangular, gable roofed house measures 53 feet by 25 feet (the western portion of the house is an addition of unknown date). It rests on a concrete foundation, which because of the slope, raises the first floor of the house high above the ground. A gable-roofed, screened porch projects from the facade and is accessed by a long, open wooden stairway. The only concessions to the house's environment are the green asphalt roof shingles and the wood wall shingles. The rafter tails are exposed. Windows in the front (lake side) of the house are large picture windows. Other windows are primarily sliding units. Two half-light slab doors on the back of the house are protected by small gable roofs supported by wall brackets.

Guest Cabin (1947, contributing building)

The Guest Cabin is similar in design to the Parks' House. The cabin is 18 feet square. It has a green asphalt shingled roof with exposed rafter tails. The walls are wood shingles, and the foundation is concrete. A gable-roofed porch supported by wall brackets protects the concrete entrance stoop. A large picture window faces the lake; sliding unit windows are located on the east and north sides.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7

Walsh, Thomas J., Lodge
Flathead County, Montana

Page 2

Garage (1947, contributing building)

The Garage is at the north end of the property, behind the Parks' House. It is a gable-roofed building measuring 23 feet by 14 feet six inches. The materials and design are similar to the Parks' House. The roof, with exposed rafter tails, is covered with green asphalt shingles. A single, wood paneled overhead garage door is located in the east gable end. Each of the other sides had a twelve-light window. The walls are clad with wood shingles and the building rests on a concrete foundation.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, B, and C

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE;
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION;
EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT;
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Period(s) of Significance: 1910-1948

Significant Person(s): Thomas Jefferson Walsh

Significant Dates: 1910; 1947

Cultural Affiliation: European-American

Architect/Builder: Unknown/Eddie Cruger

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing established the significance of "Summer Homes" under Criterion A for their association with pre-park settlement and development. The subdivision of early homesteads around Lake McDonald resulting in small, private cabin sites for summer residents was an important early pattern. Walsh purchased his cabin site from Frank Geduhn, a homesteader at the head of the Lake, and thus the lodge is associated with this pattern of development.

Under the Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing, the Walsh Lodge also is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The building is representative of vernacular, rustic-designed architecture developed outside the purview of the National Park Service's Landscape Division. The MPD found summer homes eligible for listing under Criterion C if they retain those architectural features that display rustic architectural design developed outside the NPS's purview and they retain the scenic vistas and access routes that determined a resource's historic siting. The Walsh Lodge meets these registration requirements.

The Walsh Lodge also is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B for its association with Thomas J. Walsh. Montana first sent Thomas J. Walsh to the U.S. Senate in 1912. He rose to national prominence during the early 1920s for exposing the "Teapot Dome Scandal." Walsh used his background in constitutional law to fight against corruption and monopoly. Franklin Roosevelt chose Walsh as his Attorney General in 1933, but he died before taking the post.

Historical Background

Settlers began filing homesteads on the shore of Lake McDonald in the early 1890s. These settlers soon discovered that the growing public interest in the natural wonders of the area provided a more profitable business opportunity than trying to raise crops in the short growing season. George Snyder opened a small wood-frame hotel on the lake in 1895, and other homesteaders, including Frank Geduhn at the head of the Lake, rented out cabins and provided other tourist services. A growing demand for private cabin sites resulted in a number of homesteads being subdivided.

Thomas Walsh first vacationed in the Lake McDonald area in 1899, returning in 1900 with his family. That year, they rented a cabin from Frank Geduhn. The Walsh's began annual trips to the lake, and in 1909 purchased a small cabin site from Geduhn. The annual summer trip to the Lake required three modes of travel. First, the family boarded a train in Helena. At Belton, the family transferred to a horse-drawn stage for Apgar, and then made the final leg of their journey by boat up the Lake.

In 1910, Walsh contracted with Eddie Cruger to build a lodge. Walsh's daughter, Genevieve Walsh Gudger, remembered Cruger "literally handpicked every log which went into the house." Cruger's mother and stepfather provided horses and guides to the summer tourists. He endeared himself to the young Genevieve Walsh on some of these trips, teaching her outdoor survival skills and botany. Besides the Walsh Lodge, Crueger built many buildings in the Park. John Lewis employed Cruger from 1905 through 1917 building cabins at his hotel (now Lake McDonald Lodge). He later went to work as a carpenter for the National Park Service, retiring in 1951.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 8

Walsh, Thomas J., Lodge
Flathead County, Montana

Page 1

Thomas Jefferson Walsh

Thomas Jefferson Walsh received a public-school education in Wisconsin, taught there, and earned a law degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1884. He moved to Helena in 1890 and engaged in mining litigation; his reputation solidified as a Constitutional lawyer. Walsh's brooding appearance and carefully researched, but humorless speeches, did not make for a popular politician. Nevertheless, the man's deep loyalty and integrity earned him an unshakable following. After two early defeats, he was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1912.

Politically, a Democrat, Walsh championed such progressive issues as woman's suffrage, child-labor protection, workmen's compensation, and civil rights. On international affairs, he followed Woodrow Wilson's lead in advocating the League of Nations, the Treaty of Versailles, and the World Court. In the 1930s, he became a non-aggressionist. A constant in his life was his fear of the growing power of private corporations in public affairs.

Thomas J. Walsh's senatorial career (1912-33) pivots around his masterful job in breaking the 1923-24 "Teapot Dome Scandal." His role in uncovering the scandal catapulted him into national fame. Walsh's pursuit wrong doing won a conviction against Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall. In any discussion of Walsh's legislative accomplishments, the scandal is the focus. His work on this project falls within his greater interest in fighting monopoly and corruption; it is the same umbrella that covers his early legislative work (based in his Montana-Progressive heritage) to regulate railroads and other public-service utilities.

As a legal specialist in the U.S. Senate, Walsh knew few peers. The most effective legislation that he created involved public-land policy: Forest Reserves; the creation of the National Park Service (1916); laws to regulate use of the National Forests for timber harvest, grazing, and recreation. When private companies misused the public domain, Walsh could combine his anti-trust bent with his expertise on public lands, and the opponents did not have a prayer of escaping some regulation.

Walsh appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine (May 4, 1925) and his name regularly surfaced in speculation regarding open Supreme Court seats. Walsh served as a delegate to every Democratic National Convention from 1908 to 1932, and he was chosen permanent chairman of the Convention in 1924 and again in 1932. Walsh entertained Presidential aspirations in 1928. Franklin Roosevelt selected Walsh as his attorney general in 1933, but the statesman died several days before taking office.

Franklin Roosevelt, just inaugurated as President, attended the state funeral held in the U.S. Senate chambers. The national press commented liberally on Walsh's death, by all accounts agreeing that the loss was a national catastrophe. The *Detroit Daily* called his death "a serious misfortune to the nation." The *Baltimore Daily Sun* lamented the loss of a man with such courage as "little short of a public calamity," and the *San Francisco Chronicle* proclaimed "the Montana senator . . . eminently fitted for the post President Roosevelt invited him to occupy." Walsh's body lay in state in the Montana Capitol, where more than 10,000 people passed in honor. On that occasion, Senator Burton K. Wheeler eulogized Walsh as "the most distinguished citizen Montana has ever developed."

Architectural Significance

The Walsh Lodge meets the Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing's registration requirements for summer homes. It is an example of the vernacular, Rustic Style summer homes built in Glacier National Park until 1945. The design of the Walsh Lodge more accurately falls within the Rustic Craftsman Style promoted by Gustav Stickley. In his 1909 book, *Craftsman Homes*, Stickley advocated the bungalow for rural settings because of its broad, low lines and lack of ornamentation. These characteristics permitted it to "sink into and blend with any landscape." The use of local materials, like the cedar logs at the Walsh Lodge, further added to "a beauty of fitness." The logs with the bark still on them could be accomplished only with cedar. Other species of trees were susceptible to rot beneath the bark and a haven to wood-boring insects.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8

Walsh, Thomas J., Lodge
Flathead County, Montana

Page 2

Craftsman designers used porches and dormers as honest ways to add design interest to simply designed houses. The unusually wide depth of the Walsh Lodge porch suggests its planned use for outdoor living and dining activities; its location beneath the main roof of the house gives it the look of an extension of the enclosed rooms. Rustic-style furniture, hammocks, and carpets would have provided comfortable "open-air life."

Craftsman ideals extend to the interior of the Lodge. Exposure of the structural system ornaments the two-story living room. The closely spaced purlins supporting the roof, the hewn log walls, the river rock fireplace, and the open stairway and balustrade railings add warmth and interest and eliminate the need for dust collecting furniture and knickknacks. The Walsh Lodge was designed to free the owners to enjoy their stay at the Lake without time-consuming housekeeping chores.

The 1947 cabins and garage also are significant architecturally as examples of post-Rustic Style design. Beginning just before World War II, a new generation of architects in the National Park Service's Landscape Division initiated a movement away from the "affected" Rustic Style, and introduced more modern design concepts of efficiency and functionalism. The later buildings at the Walsh Lodge are similar in design to those that came out of the Landscape Division in the early 1940s for Kings Canyon National Park. These designs "symbolized the end of the rustic architecture movement in the national parks."

Other Properties

The National Register requires that properties associated with an important person be compared with other properties associated with that person. One other house owned and occupied by Thomas J. Walsh is known to exist.

343 Clark Street, Helena, Montana - This grand Queen Anne style house is within the boundaries of the Helena Historic District. The house, constructed at the height of Thomas J. Walsh's career in Montana, is best representative of that period of his life.

The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge is significant for its representation of Walsh's western view of public land laws. Walsh fought "big government" as strongly as he opposed corporate monopolies. While he denounced corporate plunder of the public lands as a "national vice," he opposed charging the "little man" grazing fees in the national forests. He recognized the national interest of conserving natural resources, but exhorted state approval for public land withdrawals. He promoted hydroelectric dam construction, even within the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park, while ensuring corporate leases were periodically renewable, thus providing opportunity for public ownership. The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge, constructed the same year Glacier National Park was created, is a potent symbol of this particular brand of western thought.

Walsh, Thomas J., Lodge
Name of Property

Flathead County, Montana
County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

See continuation sheet

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
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other -- Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property: 1.03 acres

| UTM References: | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|-----------------|------|---------|----------|
| | A 12 | 289600 | 5391120 |

Legal Location (Township, Range & Section(s)): Section 11, T33N, R18W, MPM

Verbal Boundary Description

Two parcels of land within Glacier National Park being Glacier National Park Parcel Number 06104 containing .17 acres and Glacier National Park Parcel Number 06105 containing .86 acres, for a total of 1.03 acres.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn, based on legally recorded boundary lines, to include the land surrounding the building that has been historically associated with the building and conveys the property's historic setting.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Dave Walter and Lon Johnson
organization: Montana Historical Society
street & number: 225 North Roberts
city or town: Helena

date: July 1998
telephone: 406-444-7742
state: MT zip code: 59620

Property Owner

name/title: Dana P. Wright and Glen C. MacArthur
street & number: 5552 Caminito Herminia
city or town: La Jolla

c/o Mrs. James N. Parks
telephone: 619-483-2884
state: CA zip code: 92037

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9

Walsh, Thomas J., Lodge
Flathead County, Montana

Page 1

Bibliography

Richard B. Roeder. "Thomas Walsh, Helena Lawyer," in *More From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch*. Vol. II. Helena: Independent Record, 1996.

Bates, J. Leonard. "Thomas J. Walsh: His 'Genius for Controversy,'" *Montana: The Magazine of Western History* 19 (October 1969).

Montana (Butte) Standard. March 3 through March 7, 1933. Extensive coverage of Thomas Walsh's death.

Pupils of Apgar School, comp. "History of Apgar." no publisher, ca. 1950.

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. "National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942," by William C. Tweed, Laura E. Soulliere, and Henry G. Law. February 1977.

Walsh, Thomas. "Power," in *Democracy at the Crossroads: A Symposium*. New York: Brewer, Warren & Putman, 1932.

Walsh, Thomas. Vertical file at Glacier National Park. Includes interview with Mrs. Genevieve Gudger, Walsh's daughter.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 10

Walsh, Thomas J., Lodge
Flathead County, Montana

Page 1

Photographs

Photographer and
Negatives:

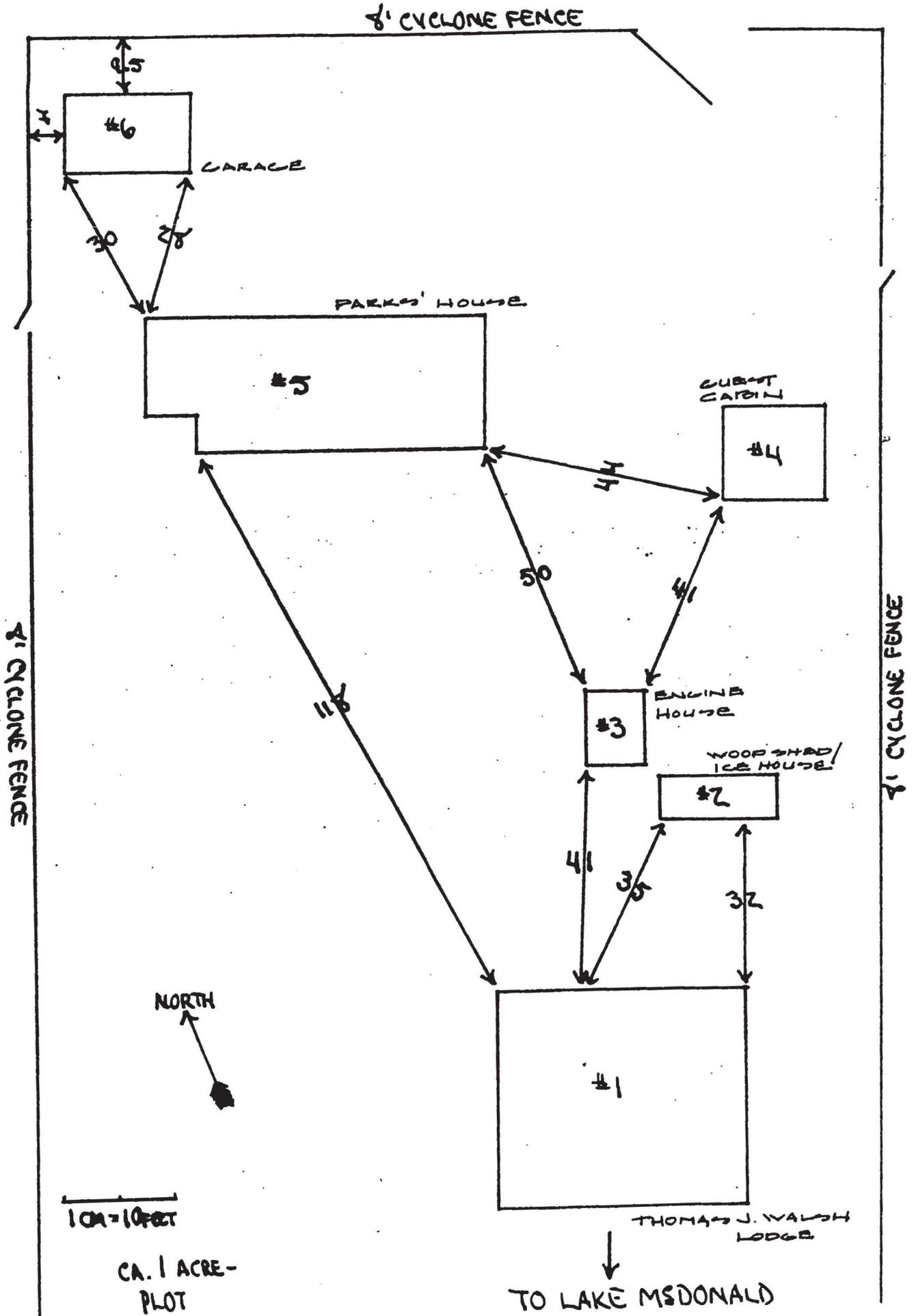
Dave Walter
922 Choteau
Helena, Montana

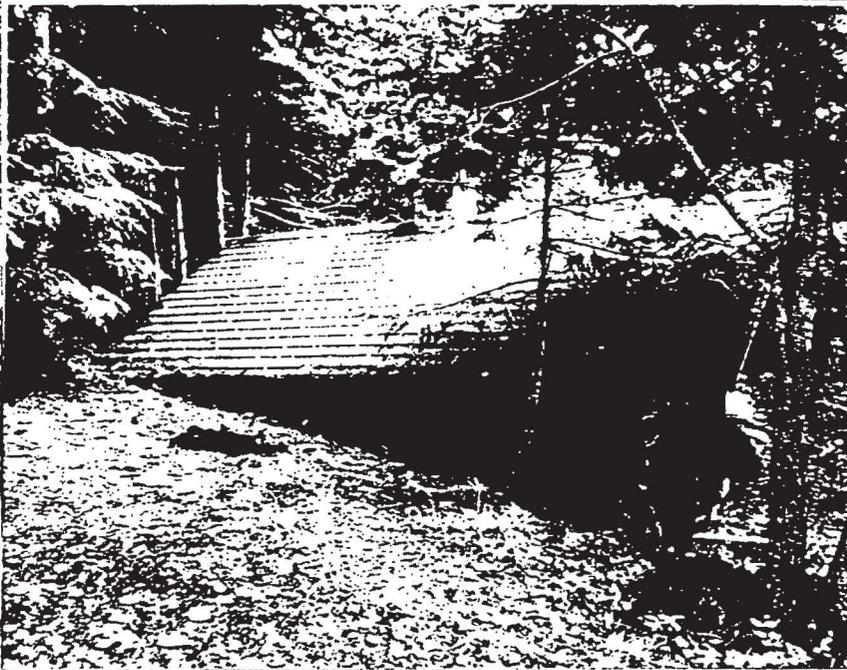
Date:

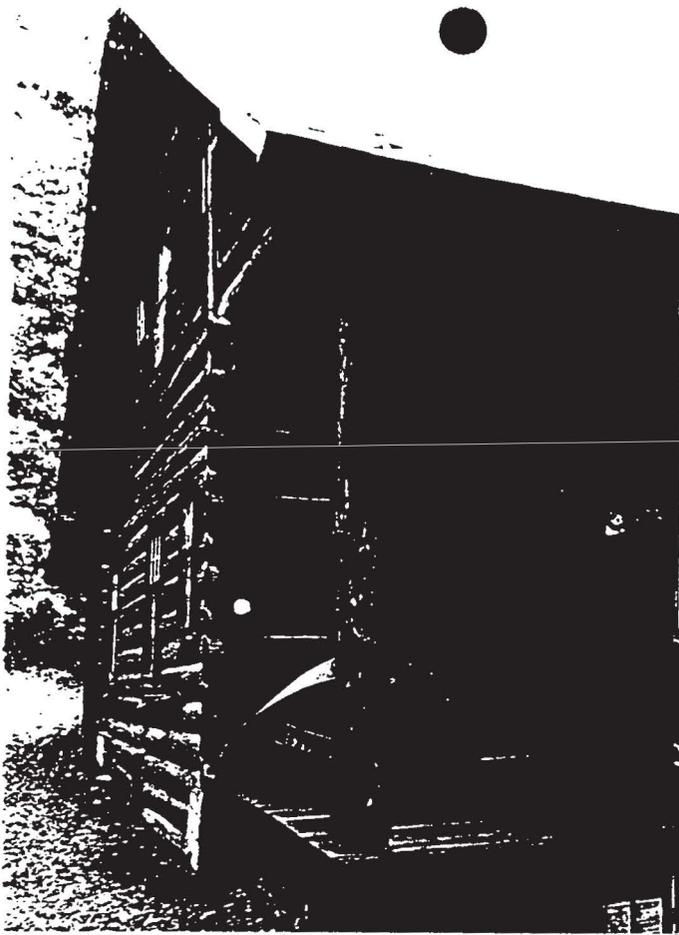
September 1997

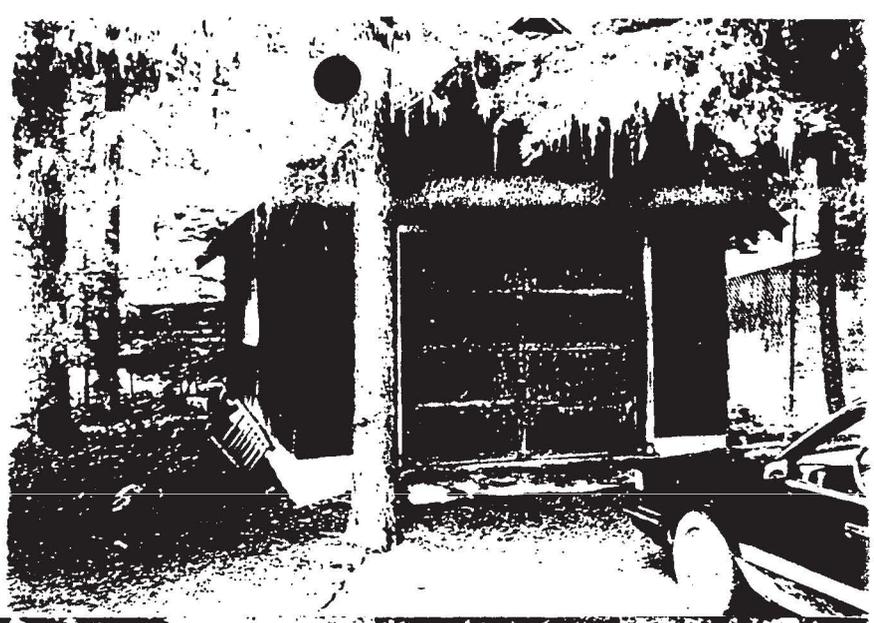
- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Photograph No. 1 | Lake McDonald from Lodge. View to south. |
| Photograph No. 2 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. Front (south) elevation. View to north. |
| Photograph No. 3 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. Front (south) elevation. View to east-northeast. |
| Photograph No. 4 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. West elevation. View to north-northwest. |
| Photograph No. 5 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. East elevation. View to south-southwest. |
| Photograph No. 6 | Thomas J. Walsh Lodge. Rear elevation. View to southwest. |
| Photograph No. 7 | Woodshed/Icehouse. View to northwest. |
| Photograph No. 8 | Engine House. View to northeast. |
| Photograph No. 9 | Parks' House. Partial South Elevation. View to northwest. |
| Photograph No. 10 | Parks' House. Partial South Elevation. View to northwest. |
| Photograph No. 11 | Guest Cabin. View to northeast. |
| Photograph No. 12 | Garage. View to west. |

SITE PLAN
WALSH, THOMAS J., LODGE
FLATHEAD COUNTY
MONTANA



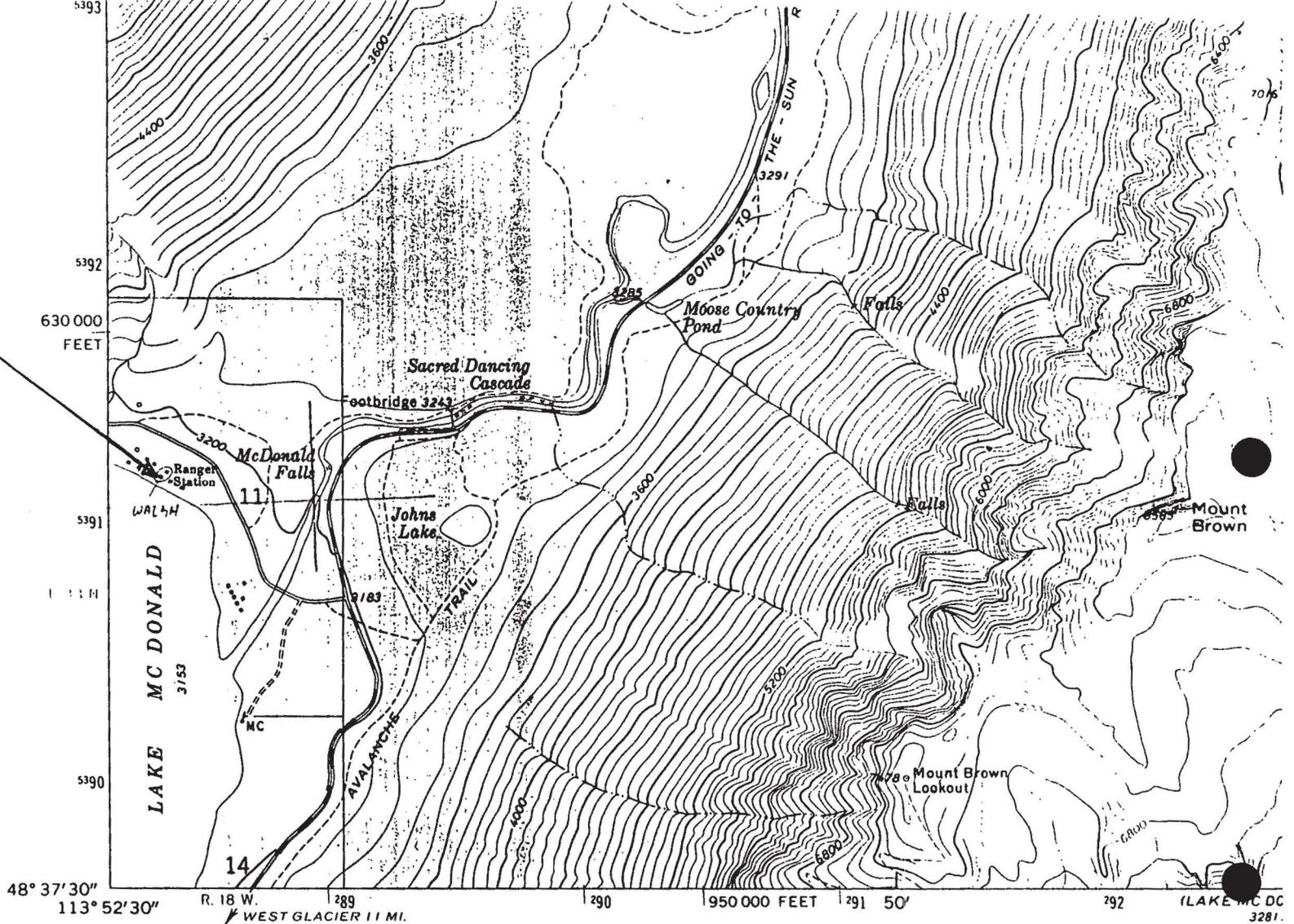






THOMAS J WALSH LODGE
 FLATHEAD COUNTY
 MONTANA

UTM REFERENCES
 12/289600/5391120



(LAKE MC DONALD WEST)
 3281 111 SW

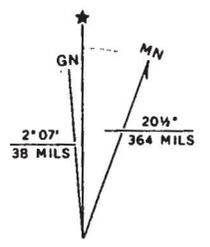
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

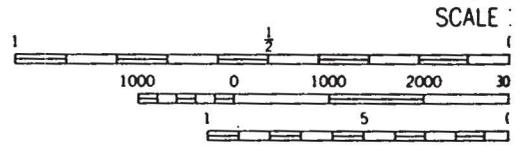
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1968

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Montana coordinate system, north zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 12, shown in blue

Where omitted, land lines have not been established



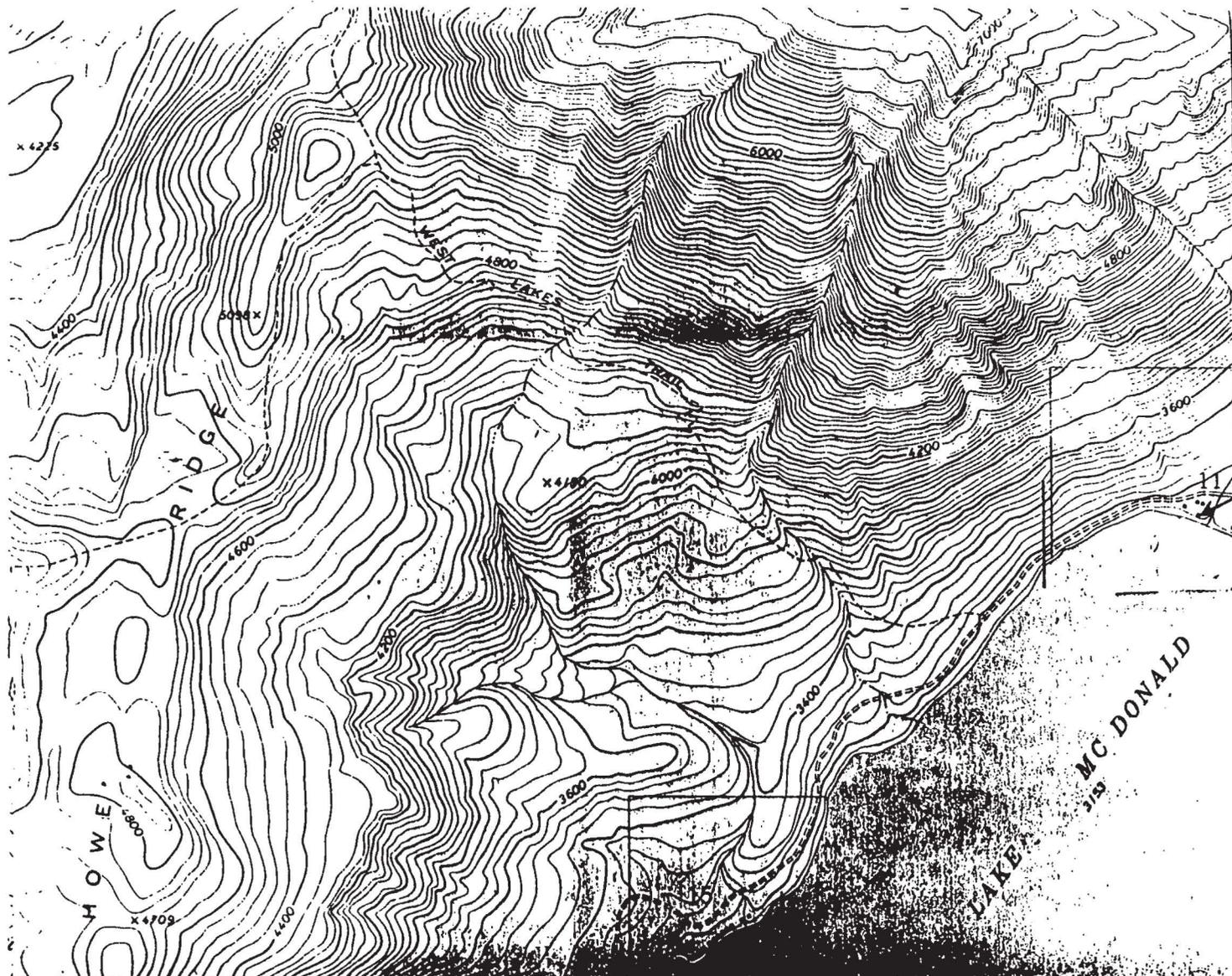
UTM GRID AND 1968 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



SCALE

CONTOUR INTERVAL IS METERS

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS

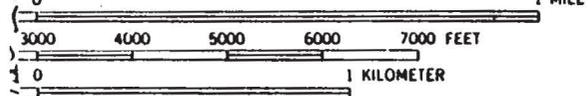


WHEELER LAKE
FLATHEAD COUNTY
MONTANA

UTM REFERENCE:
12/207530/E2-1127

MC DONALD WEST 1/4 SW

1:24000



VERTICAL INTERVAL 40 FEET
MEAN SEA LEVEL

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. - 1071
287000m. E.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface _____
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather. -----



48° 37' 30"

113° 52' 30"

(LAKE MC DONALD EAST)
3281 III SE

Author: Bruce Fladmark at NP-GLAC
Date: 06/09/1999 3:40 PM
Priority: Normal
TO: Dawn Bunyak at NP-DENVER
Subject: Re: Historic Structure Numbers

Dawn - I question whether these ought to be on our LCS list.

The Walsh cabin is entirely privately owned within the boundaries of the park - an "inholding". We have nothing to do with it. For much of its history park personnel haven't been welcome on the property although I think that is changing. To dare to assign a government inventory number to their building in the past would have been a matter for litigation or shooting.

The Wheeler property is government owned, but on a life-estate lease which allows the Wheeler family to occupy and use the property until the last Wheeler child dies - probably sometime before 2010, but still, we have nothing to do with the buildings right now. Never have had. They aren't part of our maintenance workload. We did assign inventory numbers in the 1980's, though, because we "owned" them. The "Wheeler Cabin" is #1463 and is the only structure listed on the National Register. The other (noncontributing) buildings include a boathouse #1459, 3 sleeping cabins 1461-2-3, and a laundry cabin #1464.

So none of the Walsh buildings have Glacier National Park government structure inventory numbers, which we also use as historic structure (HS) numbers.

As you probably already know, that structure numbering system is something all parks did at one time to aid in inventory. Glacier has structures numbering from "1" into the "1800's" I think. Not all are still extant. Of those extant, not all are historic. The "HS" prefix was a partially successful addition in the 1980's to aid in inventory of historic structures, but it doesn't really work without explanation.

And the numbering system is for Glacier National Park structures. Yellowstone, for example, may also have a building #1. or a #213. or....

So if you really want numbers, we can probably assign them, but I don't think we've ever gone out of our way to count buildings we don't own as being in our inventory of buildings. And since we don't maintain any of them or exercise any control or responsibility over any of them (Wheeler too), I think it might be a mistake to add them to the LCS. Right? Isn't the LCS to document OUR structures and OUR maintenance workload?

The question mark at the end of the last paragraph means I really don't know if you knew what I just told you, and knowing that now, if you really still want to add them to the LCS. I don't mean to be uncooperative or argue about it. If you still want Glacier structure inventory numbers for Walsh we will talk about it here.

Please do let me know if you go ahead with listing any of these on the LCS.

Bruce

*No LCS #'s were assigned.
Dawn Bunyak 6/10/99*

Reply Separator

Subject: Historic Structure Numbers

Author: Dawn Bunyak at NP-DENVER

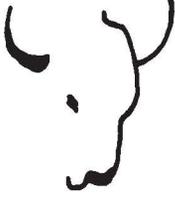
Date: 6/9/99 1:22 PM

Bruce:

I understand that the park establishes the Historic Structure numbers for their resources. Recently, the Montana Historical Society SHPO designated Burton K. Wheeler Cabin and the Thomas J. Walsh Lodge as National Register properties. Now that I have received all the necessary information, I am making the additions to the List of Classified Structures database and need HS numbers.

If you are not the person who does this designation or know this information, would you please forward my request? Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Dawn



Dawn

Montana Historical Society

Historic Preservation Office

1410 8th Avenue • PO Box 201202 • Helena, MT 59620-1202 • (406) 444-7715 • FAX (406) 444-6575

November 30, 1998

Ms. Christine Whitacre, Historian
NPS Denver
POB 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Ms. Whitacre: *CHRIS*

Good news!

The Thomas J. Walsh Lodge, Glacier National Park, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 12, 1998.

The National Register is the nation's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register is an honor that provides wider recognition of a property's historic values, and assists in preserving Montana's heritage. Certain benefits are available to the owners of National Register properties through the Montana Historic Preservation Office. These benefits include economic tax incentives for the rehabilitation of commercial or residential rental historic properties, very limited grant funding (when made available by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior), and technical assistance provided by the Preservation Office staff.

Montana properties listed in the National Register also qualify for our Historic Places Sign Program. Owners of listed properties receive financial assistance for the production of signs to identify NRHP properties.

We thank you for your interest in Montana's heritage, and hope you will join us in supporting the protection and preservation of Montana's historic places. If you have questions about the National Register program or are in need of technical preservation assistance, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely,

Lon Johnson, Coordinator
National Register of Historic Places

www.his.state.mt.us