NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

APR 04 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fure's Cabin

other names/site number Roy Fure's Trapping Cabin

2. Location

street & number Katmai National Park & Preserve ☐ not for publication

city, town King Salmon ☒ vicinity

state Alaska code AK county Bristol Bay Div. code 060 zip code 99613

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
☐ private	☒ building(s)	1	____ buildings
☐ public-local	☐ district	____	____ sites
☐ public-State	☐ site	3	____ structures
☒ public-Federal	☐ structure	____	____ objects
	☐ object	4	____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: ____

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 5

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:) ____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Camp : Seasonal Residence

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Work in Progress

Vacant : Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Other

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Wood , Log

walls Wood, Log

roof Metal, Tin

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

[X] See continuation sheet

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Description:

Roy Fure's trapping cabin sits 115' above shore line on a narrow isthmus between Naknek Lake's Bay of Islands and Lake Grosvenor in Katmai National Park and Preserve. Situated at the head of the Portage Trail to Lake Grosvenor, the cabin is nestled in a stand of birch trees on the edge of a clearing that extends to the water line. Constructed c.1926 of hand-hewn logs with double dovetail joints, the cabin illustrates excellent craftsmanship. The cabin site includes an outhouse, a shed, and a windmill tower, construction dates unknown.

Constructed of local hand hewn logs, Fure's one-room cabin measures 15' x 20'. The walls were hand hewn on two sides to a consistent dimension of 8" thick with a vertical height of 10" to 18". A lateral grove in the underside of each log insured a snugly fitting union. The chinking material in the horizontal log joints appears to have been moss and used clothing except for a small area near the door where Russian newspapers were used. Vertical logs located at all door and window jams were channeled to receive wall logs. Maps and flattened cardboard boxes covered the interior walls. The floor was constructed of 3" by 12" planks averaging 8' long butted to a beam that runs the length of the cabin. The roof was constructed of 4" by 12" planks 10' long laid from the exterior walls to a 6" by 6" ridge beam. The butt ends of the dovetail wall joints and the lower one foot of the roof planks were treated with red paint apparently as a regular maintenance procedure adhered to by Fure. In the 1930's corrugated metal replaced the original sod roof. There is a window in each wall of the cabin. The windows in the north and south walls are screened with exterior shutters added at a later date. The east window is fixed pane two-over-two light sashes while the west window is fixed pane three-over-three light sashes. Furnished with only the bare necessities, the cabin contained a metal frame bed and built in wood shelves. Due to deterioration of the sill logs and roofing planks, restoration work began on the cabin in 1986 and was completed in the summer of 1988.

Constructed of planed lumber, the windmill tower is located 30' west of the cabin. The tower rises 27' above ground level with approximately four feet buried in the ground for stability.

The base of the tower, which measures 12' square, incorporates a storage area constructed of planed lumber and covered with corrugated metal. The windmill itself is gone. The outhouse, a log framework sheathed with Blazo cans, is located 100' from the cabin. Situated 50' south of the cabin is a 4' x 15' x 4' foot high storage shed constructed of milled lumber with a low gable roof covered by flattened Blazo cans.

Statement of Significance:

Alaska's early trappers created a bridge between two worlds that transported Alaska into the 20th century. Heralded as pioneering heroes or condemned as social misfits, these men and women created a viable way of life that integrated their individual heritage, modern technology and traditional rural Alaskan values. Roy Fure, a Lithuanian immigrant, was one of these individuals. Fure's cabin on the Bay of Islands in Katmai National Park and Preserve is the physical embodiment of this synthesis and the resulting conflict.

Fure's cabin illustrates the synthesis of his European heritage, modern technology and self-sufficiency. It also depicts the clash between modern concepts of ownership and resource management, strictly regulated by laws and dependent on legal documents and the traditional rural interpretation defined by usage and need. Roy Fure upheld the traditional interpretation of ownership and resource management, while the National Park Service enforced the modern standard. This conflict created a struggle that would continue long after Fure passed on.

Historical Context:

Katmai National Park and Preserve encompasses a scenic region on the Alaska Peninsula in southwestern of Alaska. Although traversed by 18th century Russian explorers and 19th century prospectors, the area was virtually undocumented until the eruption of Mt. Novarupta in 1912 brought the region to the attention of the scientific community. In 1918, as the result of extensive exploration by the National Geographic Society, President Woodrow Wilson by virtue of the power vested in him by the 1906 Antiquities Act set aside 1700 acres of land filled with volcanoes and fumaroles as a national monument. In 1931 and 1978 the monument was expanded in an effort to protect and preserve the historical and scientific features of the region as well as the bountiful wildlife.[1]

Fure's cabin on the Bay of Islands tells the story of his life that written materials fail to provide. Situated on a narrow isthmus between Naknek Lake and Lake Grosvenor, the site provided access to the bountiful natural resources that supplied Fure with food and

a cash income. The site consists of a small 20' x 15' one-room cabin, a woodshed, an outhouse and a windmill tower. Furnished with spartan simplicity, the cabin reflects the ingenuity and the creativity that enabled Fure to succeed in rural Alaska. The single metal bed, hand-built wooden shelves, traps used for procuring furs, fishing gear for acquiring food, skis and boat for transportation, all speak of a simple life. The lamp shade crafted from birch bark and the old bacon can masquerading as a shower head, illustrate Fure's creativity. Fure's ingenuity can be seen in the outhouse covered with flattened gas cans and the walls covered with old maps and cardboard boxes. The kerosene lantern and the electric light bulb, the wood cook stove and the kerosene stove illustrate the integration of the modern world and the subsistence lifestyle.

Born on January 1,1885, Roy Fure arrived in Sandpoint, Alaska on August 30,1912 from Vladivostok, Siberia aboard Ivanoff. There is some confusion as to Fure's birthplace. On a 1938 Alien Registration form, Fure listed his place of birth as Kiniki, Lithuania. On papers filed with the Immigration and Naturalization Service in 1947, Fure stated that he was born in the area of Alaska known now as Fairbanks to Lithuanian parents who took him back to Lithuania in the summer of 1886. In 1947 immigration officials accepted Fure's statements and declared him a citizen of the United States by birth.[2] This position served to complicate the conflict between the National Park Service and Fure.

Fure spent the first two years after his return to Alaska on Unga Island and the southern end of the Alaska Peninsula. In 1914 Fure traveled north to the Naknek Lake region witnessing first hand the devastation caused by the eruption of Mt. Novarupta just two years earlier.[3] He spent the winter of 1914-1915 in the Naknek Lake region, but the exact location of where he did so is unknown.[4]

Although Fure listed his occupation as "prospector" on immigration documents, no evidence exists to support this statement. Personal papers, including work receipts, found in Fure's cabin at the Bay of Islands and immigration records, indicate that Fure trapped or fished as the season dictated. Fure held an alien trapping license from the inception of the Alaska Game Commission in 1925 until at least 1938, but trapping is a seasonal occupation best pursued during the winter months when animals' pelts are in peak

condition.[5] Commercial salmon fishing, another seasonal activity, is the mainstay of Bristol Bay economy. Like many early residents, Fure was involved in both activities. Beginning in 1917 he worked as a seasonal cannery worker for various canneries on the Alaska Peninsula. It is not known if Fure fished for the canneries or was involved with the canning process. In later years Fure worked on a fishing boat and operated a set net site in addition to being employed by the canneries as night watchman and a maintenance worker.[6]

In 1919 while working for Alaska Packers Association in Ugashik, Alaska, Fure met and married Anna Johnson, a Native woman from Bethel. After the fishing season, Fure and his wife made their home in the Naknek region. Roy and Anna Fure had their first child, a son named Joseph on 10/7/21. The second son, "Roy or Ray" was born on 11/17/22. In March 1924 both children died and were buried near the family residence on Smelt Creek up river from the village of Naknek. This cabin lay outside the boundaries of Katmai National Monument. Later the same year, 10/8/24, a third son, Alexander James, was born to the couple in a small cabin outside monument boundaries near the Naknek River rapids.[7] A commercial fisherman and World War II veteran, Alexander worked briefly for the Alaska Railroad and the Alaska Native Service hospital in Anchorage. Alexander drowned in Becharof Lake an August 6, 1968 and was buried in Egigik, Alaska.[8]

The year 1926 marked the birth of another child and the construction of a new home, the cabin at the Bay of Islands that still stands sixty years later. On 1/5/26 a daughter, Marian May, was born at the Bay of Islands cabin. The details of Marian's life are unknown. Neither Marian nor her brother Alexander attended the territorial schools in Naknek. In 1929 Anna Johnson Fure died and Fure married seventeen-year-old Fanny Olson, an Aleut woman from Naknek. In 1930 Roy and Fanny had a daughter, Nola Lillian, at Kanatak near Becharof Lake.[9] In 1980 Nola passed away leaving no heirs. Although Nola eventually inherited her father's property, the record of Nola's life is unknown.

In 1931, when President Herbert Hoover extended the boundaries of Katmai National Monument, Fure's cabin on the Bay of Islands lay within the new monument boundaries.[10] Thus began the clash between two concepts of ownership and resource management. In 1937 S.M.

Scott, a fellow trapper within the new monument, wrote to the Honorable Anthony J. Dimond, Alaska Delegate to the U. S. House of Representatives stating that he and other trappers, including Fure, had been ordered to move out of Katmai National Monument.[11] The trappers maintained that they had a valid claim to the land on the basis of prior usage. It was the position of the National Park Service that it would have to be proven that the trappers were bona fide settlers under the settlement laws. In 1938, in the process of investigating these land claims, a Special Agent for the Department of the Interior's Division of Investigations, A.C. Kinsley, discovered that Roy Fure was an alien and therefore not entitled to make entry of a settlement or homestead claim.[12]

In 1940 when the National Park Service began to actively encourage the prohibition of trapping within the monument, Fure was arrested for violation of the game laws. As the result of these two events, Fure constructed a new cabin on American Creek outside the monument boundaries. Fure's compliance with the law appears to have been only superficial. In 1953 Victor Cahalane, a National Park Service biologist doing field work in the Naknek Lake region, frequently visited Fure at both cabins.[13] At the time of his death Fure's personal belongings at the Bay of Islands cabin included a number of traps.

When Roy Fure passed away in October 1962 in Portland, Oregon, he willed his property to his youngest child, Fanny's daughter Nola.[14] In addition to the cabin at the Bay of Islands, Nola's inheritance included the cabin on American Creek and the cabin on Naknek River where Alexander was born. The National Park Service rejected Nola's inheritance claim on the basis that as an alien Fure had not had the right of entry on public lands.[15]

Roy Fure's Cabin in Katmai National Park & Preserve is a physical reminder of Alaska's past and the life of a colorful and unique individual who braved the wilds of the Alaska Bush and survived. A fine craftsman, Fure maintained the Bush traditions of self-sufficiency and occupancy by right of usage. In the final analysis of the struggle between the modern and the traditional, the modern interpretation of ownership would eventually win but not until after Fure had passed on. In 1978 when President Carter expanded the boundaries of Katmai National Park & Preserve, Fure's cabin on American Creek became the property of the National Park Service.

In 1985 the cabin was added to the National Register of Historic Places. Restoration work on the cabin necessitated the Historic American Buildings Survey mitigation.

End Notes

1. Presidential Proclamation # 1487. See Addendum # 1.

2. Keifer L. Gray, District Director, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Anchorage, Ak. to Hon. E.L. Bartlett, U.S. Senate, (File A08-914-030, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S.Department of Justice, San Francisco,Ca.).

3. Wilbur A. Davis and James W. Leach, "Archaeological Investigations of Inland and Coastal Sites of Katmai National Monument, Alaska", (Unpublished Manuscript, National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office, Anchorage, March 4,1954), p. 69.

4. 1947, Application for Registration of An Alien,(File #A08-914-030, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, San Francisco,Ca.)

5. 1938 Application for Alien Special, License,#868, (Park Files, Katmai National Park and Preserve, King Salmon, Ak.).

6. Fure's Personal Papers, (Park Files, Katmai National Park and Preserve, King Salmon, Ak.).

7. Apparently constructed by Fure, this cabin was one of the three cabins that Roy Fure willed to his daughter Nola in 1962.

8. Anchorage Daily Times,

9. 1938 Application for Alien Registration, (File #A08-914-030, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, San Francisco, Ca.).

10. Presidential Proclamation # 1950. See Addendum # 2.

11. Arno B. Cammerer, Director of National Park Service, Department of the Interior to Anthony J. Dimond, House of Representatives, 11/8/39, (Park Files, Katmai National Park and Preserve, King Salmon, Ak.).

12. A.C. Kinsley, Special Agent, Division of Investigations, National Park Service to Commissioner, General land Office, Washington, D.C., 1/18/40,(Park Files, Katmai National Park and Preserve, King Salmon, Ak.).

13. Victor H. Cahalane, Field Notes of Katmai National Monument. 1954.

14. Roy Fure, letter "To whom it may concern", September 4,1962 (Park Files, Katmai National Park and Preserve, King Salmon, Alaska).

15. Jerrol G. Coates, Acting Superintendent, Mt. McKinley National Park, National Park Service, November 29, 1962 to Nola L. Hoffman, (Park Files, Katmai National Park and Preserve, King Salmon, Ak.).

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8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Social History	1926-1962	1926

Cultural Affiliation

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

Roy Fure

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

[X] See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- [ ] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- [X] previously listed in the National Register
- [X] previously determined eligible by the National Register
- [ ] designated a National Historic Landmark
- [X] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # Ak-18
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- [ ] State historic preservation office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [X] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Specify repository: Katmai National Park And Preserve, King Salmon, Ak.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 2.4

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	05	359047	6505070
B			
C			
D			

[ ] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description The site is a 2.4 acre area located at approximately 58 40' 13"N, 155 25' 50"E, on the north shore of the Bay of Islands. Boundaries are commencing at a point (approximate UTM Coordinates: 6505670 N, 359250 E), at mean high water 115 feet N 55 00' E, from the start of the Portage Trail from the Bay of Islands to Grosvenor Lake thence 240 feet N 20 00' W, thence 240 feet S 70 00' W, (roughly parallel to the shore), thence 440 feet S 20 00' W, to a point approximately 110 feet from the shore, thence thence 425' N 55 00' E (along the shoreline) to the point of begining. (See attached map and drawing.)

[ ] See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

[ ] See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bonnie Stevens Houston, Historian

organization National Park Service date November 21, 1988

street & number 2525 Gambell Rm. 204 telephone 907 - 257-2542

city or town Anchorage state Alaska zip code 99503-2892

Major Bibliographical References

Anchorage Times. August 10, 1968.

Cahalane, Victor H.. Field Notes of Katmai National Monument; Summer, 1954.

Capps, Stephen R. Field Notes # 473, Branch of Alaskan Geology, Department of Interior, Anchorage, Alaska, 1921.

Davis, Wilbur A. and James W. Leach. Archaeology Investigations of Inland and Coastal Sites of Katmai National Monument, Alaska, Katmai project, National Park Service, Office of Naval Research, Geological Survey Public Health Service, 1954.

Estes, Joaqlin, Harvey M. Shields, and David Snow. Fure's Cabin, Bay of Islands Naknek Lake Historic Structures Report, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Branch of Cultural Resources; Alaska Regional Office, US Department of Interior, Anchorage, Alaska.

Griggs, Robert F.. Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes, National Geographic Society, 1922.

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Immigration and Naturalization Service. File A08-914-030, U.S. Department of Justice, San Francisco, Ca.

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Washington, 1958.

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Smith, Walter R.. "Cold Bay - Katmai District"; in Brooks, A. H. and others, Mineral Resources of Alaska, Report on Progress of Investigations, 1923, US Geological Survey Bulletin # 773, Washington, 1923.

Smith, Walter R.. Field Notes # 480, US Geological Survey, Branch of Alaskan Geology, US Department of Interior, Anchorage, Alaska, 1921.

----------. Field Notes #481, US Geological Survey, Branch of Alaskan Geology, US Department of Interior, Anchorage, Alaska, 1922.

----------. Field Notes #482, US Geological Survey, Branch of Alaskan Geology, US Department of Interior, Anchorage, Alaska, 1923.

----------. Field Notes #549, US Geological Survey, Branch of Alaskan Geology, US Department of Interior, Anchorage, Alaska, 1924.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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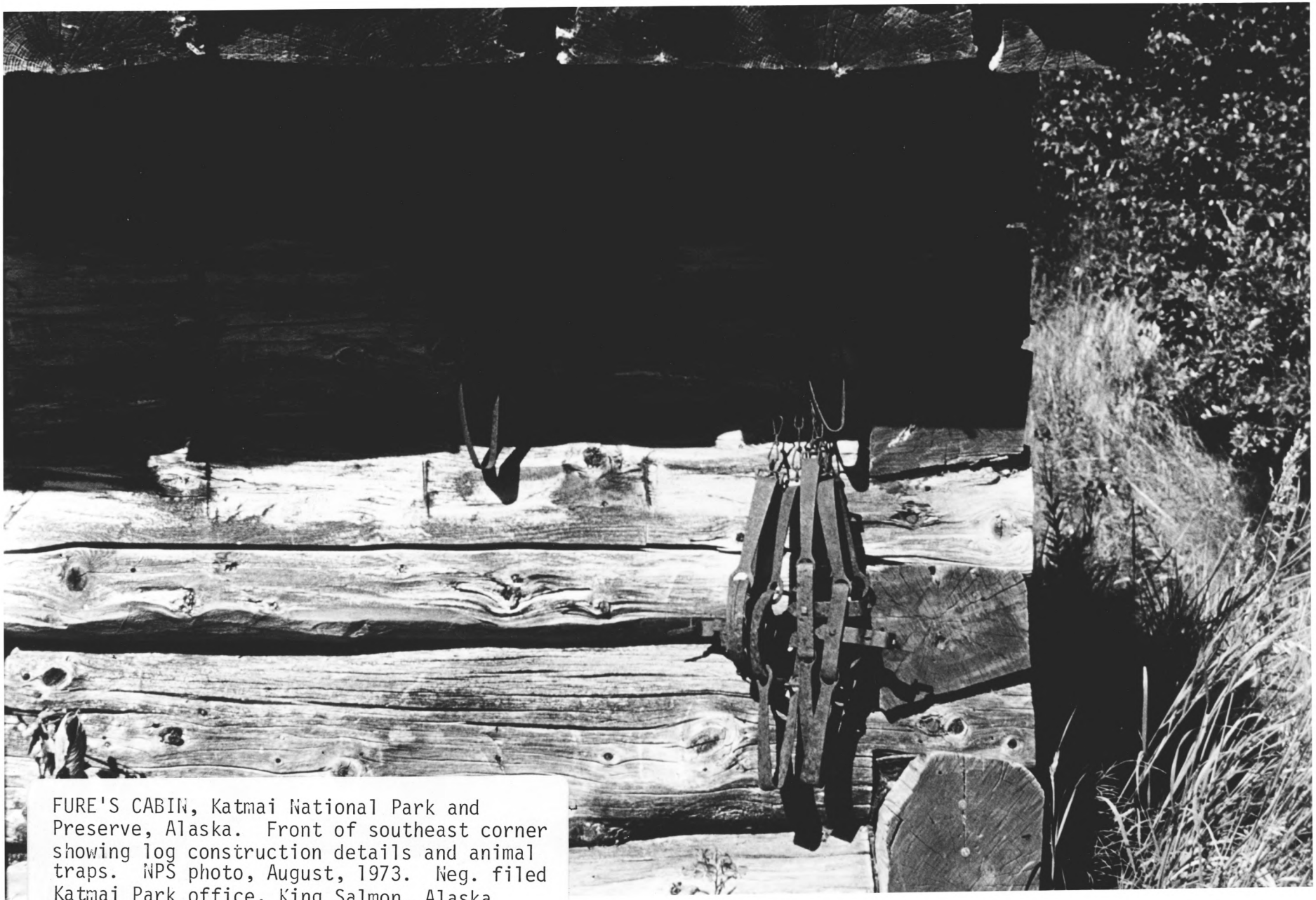
Section number _____ Page _____

FURE'S CABIN

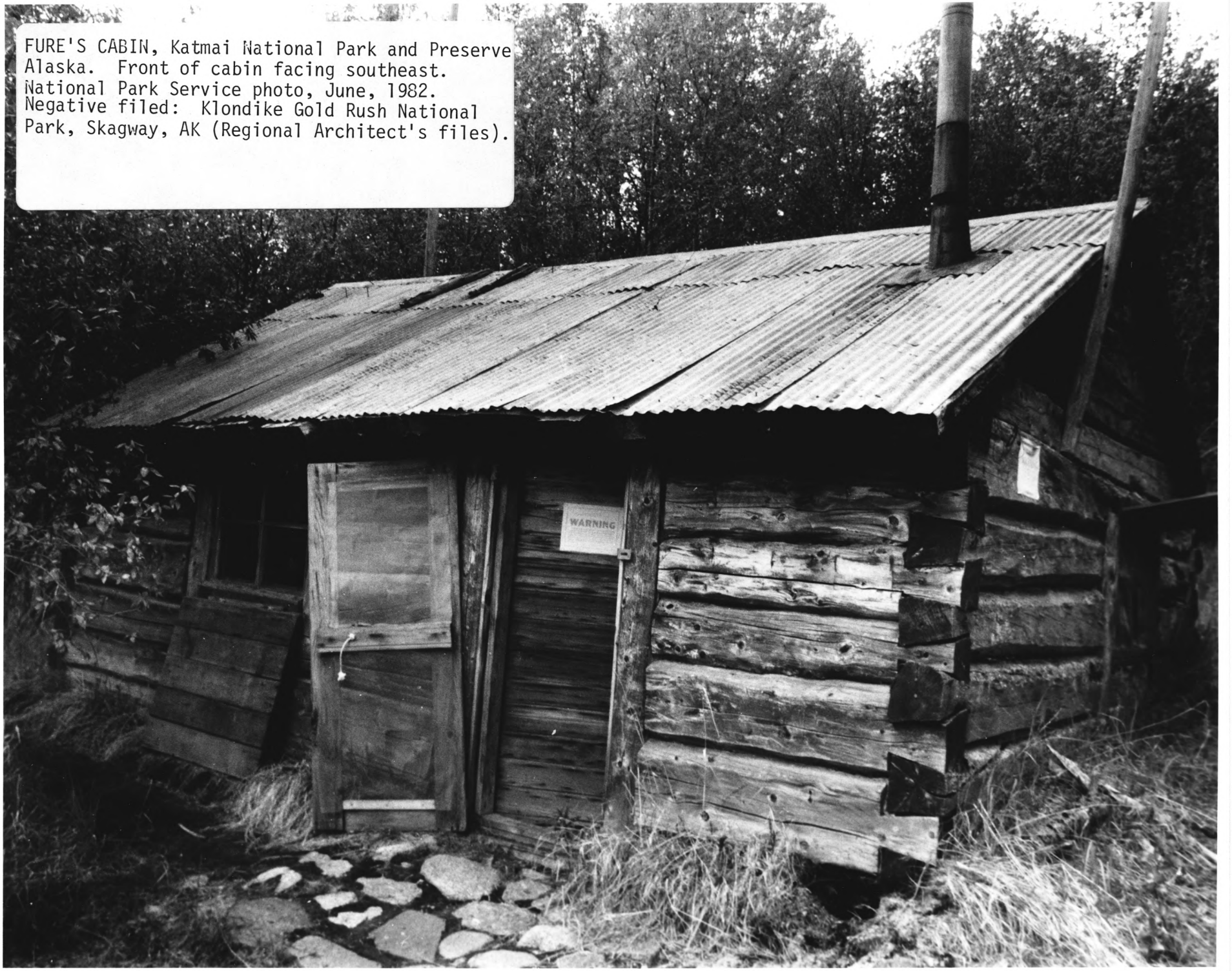
INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

Katmai National Park & Preserve, Alaska. National Park Service photographs, 1983, Negatives filed: Alaska Regional Office, Anchorage, Alaska.

1. Front of cabin looking southeast.
2. South end of cabin.
3. Corner detail of front of cabin.
4. Windmill tower.
5. Storage area in windmill tower.
6. Storage shed.
7. Outhouse.



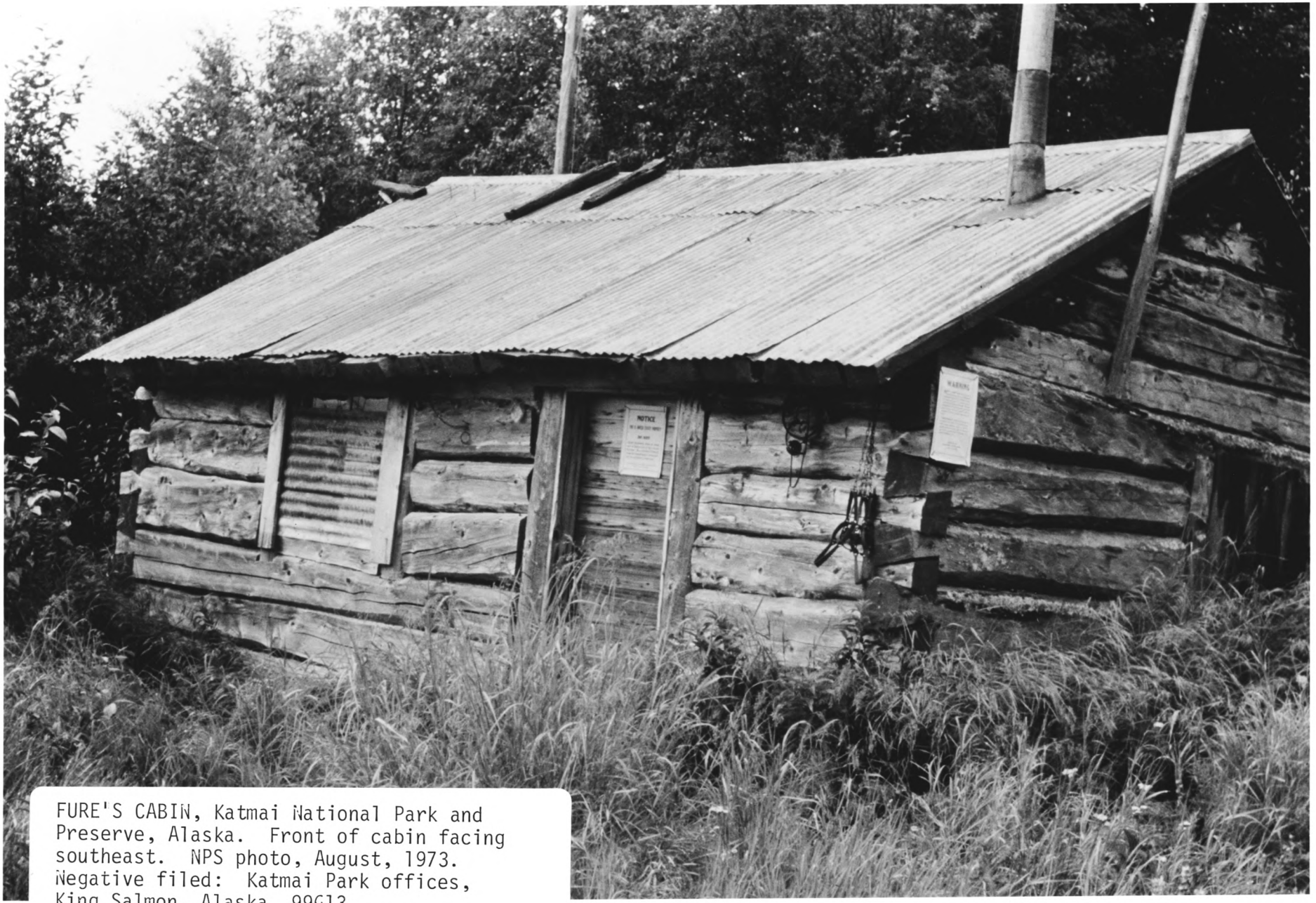
FURE'S CABIN, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alaska. Front of southeast corner showing log construction details and animal traps. NPS photo, August, 1973. Neg. filed Katmai Park office, King Salmon, Alaska 99613.



FURE'S CABIN, Katmai National Park and Preserve Alaska. Front of cabin facing southeast. National Park Service photo, June, 1982. Negative filed: Klondike Gold Rush National Park, Skagway, AK (Regional Architect's files).

Fure's Cabin, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alaska. NW view of storage shed for lumber. NPS photo, Sept. 1983. Negative filed at Alaska Regional Office, NPS, Anchorage, Alaska. J. Estus.

Fure's Cabin, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alaska. Remains of dory on sandy beach west of the cabin itself. NPS photo. Sept. 1983. Neg. filed Alaska Regional Office, Anchorage, Alaska. J. Estus

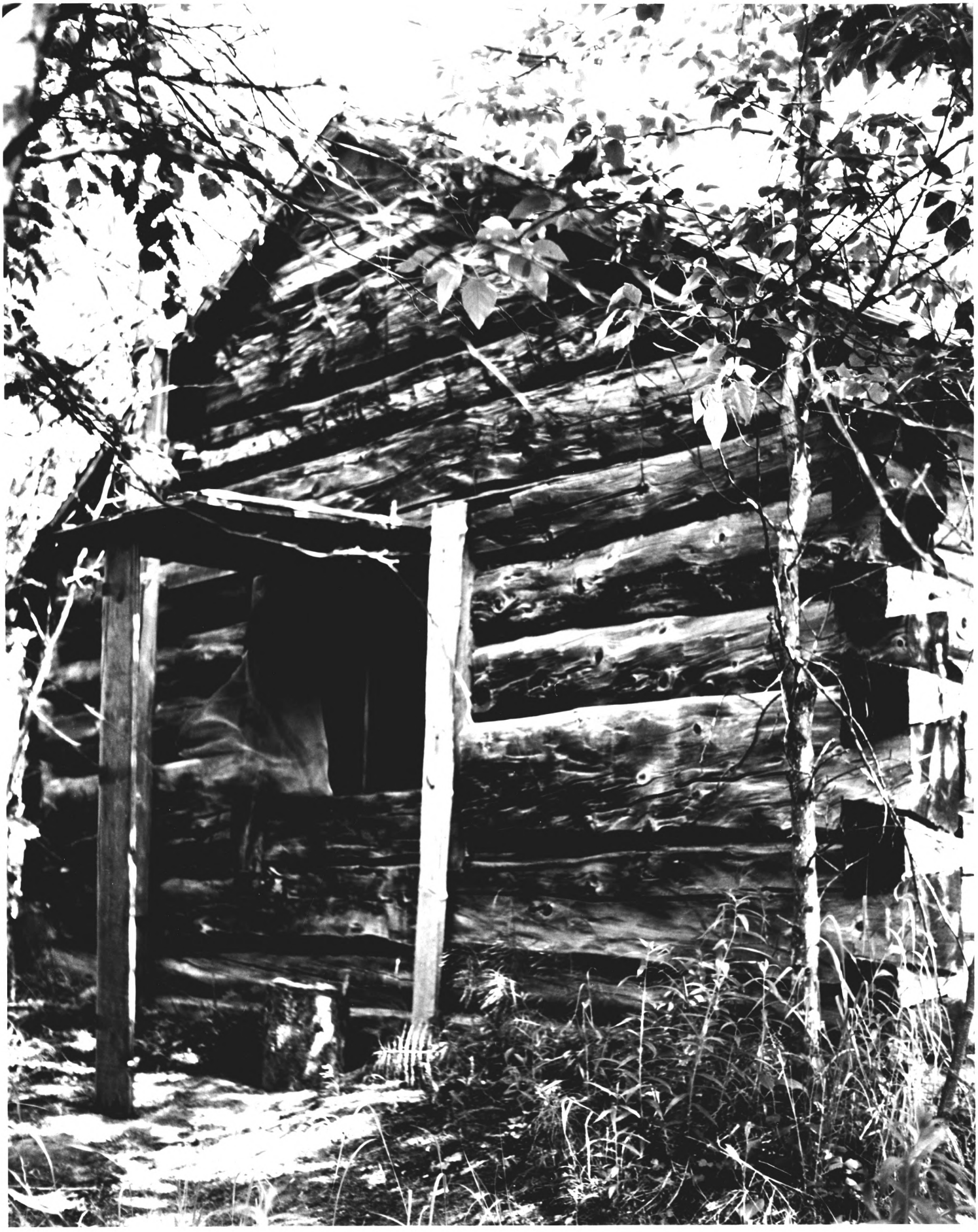


FURE'S CABIN, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alaska. Front of cabin facing southeast. NPS photo, August, 1973. Negative filed: Katmai Park offices, King Salmon, Alaska 99613

FURE'S CABIN, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alaska. Southeastern view of cabin, with windmill tower in background. NPS photo, August 1975. Negative filed Katmai Park office, King Salmon, Alaska 99613

Fure's Cabin, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alaska. Outhouse located about 20' southeast of cabin. NPS photo, June, 1983. Negative filed: Regional Architect's files, Klondike Gold Rush NHP, Skagway, AK. D. Snow

FURE'S CABIN
KATMAI. NATIONAL PARK & Preserve
#1



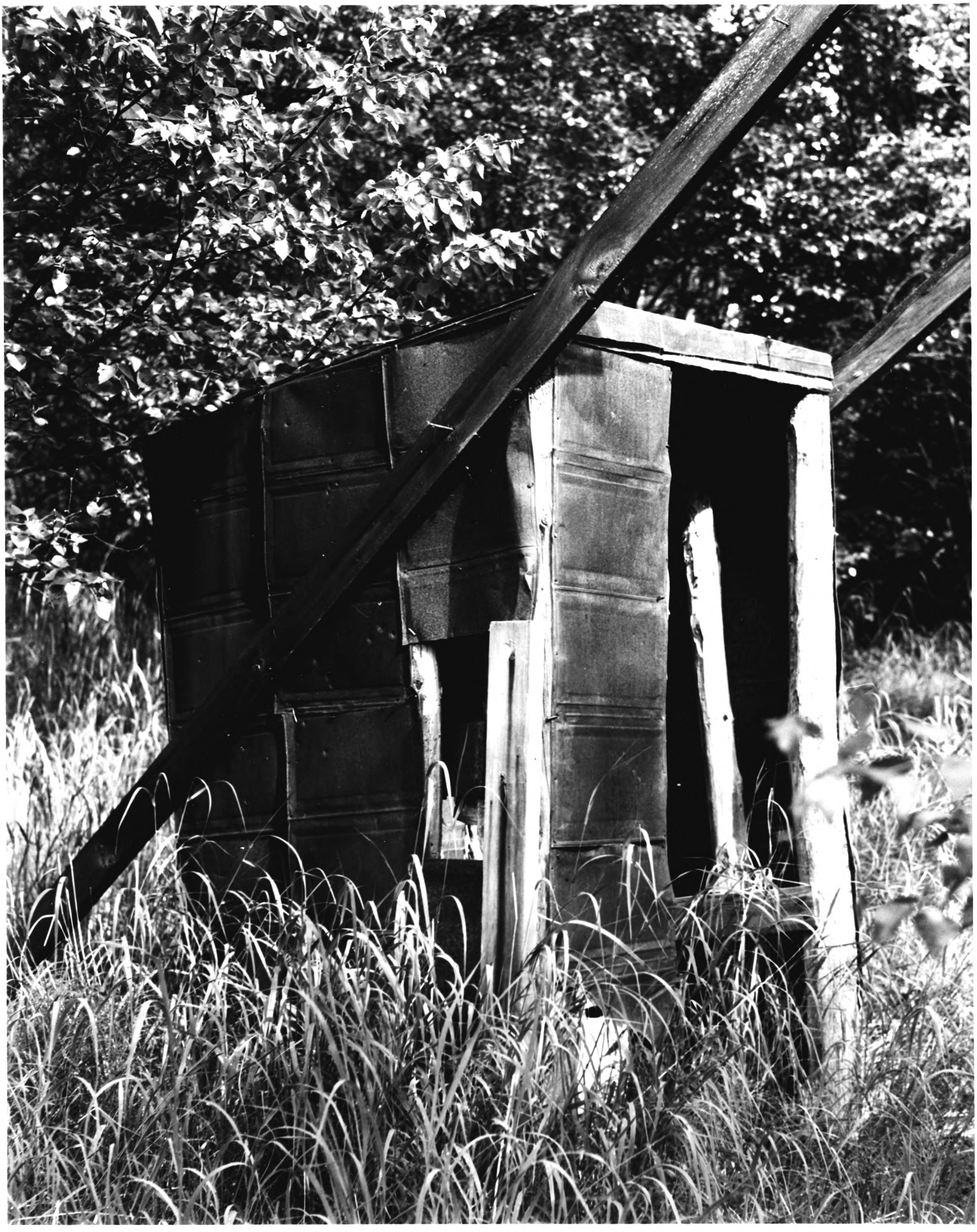
FUREE'S CABIN
KATHAI NATIONAL PARK & PRESERVE
#2

FUREE'S CABIN
KATHAI NATIONAL PARK & RESERVE
#3

Fuee's Cabin; Windmill Tower
Katmai National Park & Preserve
#4

FUREE'S CABIN : Windmill Tower Storage
KATMAI National PARK & Reserve
#5

FUREE'S CABIN : Storage Shed
KATMAI NATIONAL PARK & PRESERVE
#6



Fure's Cabin: Out house

Katmai National Park & Preserve

#7