

FHBRO HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT SCOTCH CAMP WARDEN CABIN, BANFF NATIONAL PARK, AB

FHBRO number:	97-69
DFRP number:	15404
Resource name:	Scotch Camp Warden Cabin
Address:	Banff National Park, Alberta
FHBRO status:	"Recognized" Federal Heritage Building
Construction:	1948
Designer:	Standard plan design attributed to James T. Childe
Original function:	Warden patrol cabin
Current function:	Unchanged
Modifications:	Installation of two steel chimneys; replacement of main door; renovations to interior including new partition (1970s)
Custodian:	Parks Canada

Reasons for Designation

The Scotch Camp Warden Cabin is a "Recognized" Federal Heritage Building because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental values:

Historical value:

The Scotch Camp Warden Cabin is associated with the National Park Warden Service and the enforcement of wildlife and forest protection, as well as the development of tourism in Canada's national parks. Designed to provide overnight accommodation for the warden and his horse, the Scotch Camp Warden Cabin was built along the Cascade Trail Heritage Corridor. This patrol trail formed part of the back-country transportation and communication network established by the National Park Warden Service to enforce fish and game regulations and fight forest fires within the park's boundaries. The Scotch Camp Warden Cabin was constructed in response to the growth in tourism due to the increased number of visitors coming to the park by automobile and bus, and the popularity of the trail as a tourist destination.

Architectural value:

The Scotch Camp Warden Cabin is a simple, well-proportioned, rectangular log structure with a gable roof, deep porch overhang with exposed log rafters and purlins supported on log posts, an asymmetrically placed entrance door flanked by a twelve-light window, two sets of similar windows located on the side elevations, and a back door on the west elevation. Constructed of natural, local materials, the Scotch Camp Warden Cabin is a well-crafted, horizontal log building with saddle-notched corners, and is a good example of the rustic style of architecture.

Environmental value:

The Scotch Camp Warden Cabin is set among a forest of coniferous trees and an open meadow which provides a spectacular view of Mt. White. An integral part of its picturesque surroundings and the principal structure at the camp, the cabin clearly establishes the character of the setting as a warden's camp and is well-known by visitors and park staff.

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Character-Defining Elements

The following character-defining elements of the Scotch Camp Warden Cabin should be respected:

Its role as an illustration of the National Park Warden Service and the enforcement of wildlife and forest protection in an era of patrols made on horseback, as well as the development of tourism in Canada's National Parks is reflected in:

- the building's rustic aesthetic and form which was part of the architectural character of Canada's national park facilities from the 1880s until the end of the Second World War.

Its rustic style, indigenous building methods and local materials as manifested in:

- the simple, well-proportioned rectangular cabin which features a gable roof with exposed log rafter tails, a deep overhang above the cabin entrance with exposed log rafters and purlins and supported on log posts, and horizontal log construction;
- the formal arrangement of the openings such as the asymmetrically placed entrance door flanked by a twelve-light window with shutters, and the paired twelve-light horizontal sliding windows with shutters on both of the side elevations;
- the use of natural, local materials consistent with the principles of rustic architecture such as the consistently sized, horizontally laid peeled log construction and the wood shingle roof; and,
- the well-executed rustic detailing such as the saddle-notched corners, exposed log rafters and purlins, and mortar-type chinking.

The manner in which the building establishes the character of the setting as a warden's camp as evidenced in:

- the retention of its relationship with the site, in particular its location in an open meadow, adjacent to a coniferous forest with a view to Mt. White, and in close proximity to the other camp buildings including a wood shed and horse stable;
- the compatibility of its rustic form, natural materials and rustic detailing with the picturesque wilderness setting;
- the cabin's relationship to the other camp building's and its scale establish it as the focal point of the camp.

For guidance on interventions, please refer to the *FHBRO Code of Practice*. For further information contact FHBRO.

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