

FHBRO Number 97-85

Jasper National Park, Alberta

**Adolphus Warden Patrol Cabin**

North Boundary Trail

The Adolphus Warden Patrol Cabin was constructed in 1957. The design follows the Standard Plan of 1918 by the National Parks Branch. The building was constructed by Art Allen who built several cabins in the Park. The original use continues. Alterations have included installing a concrete block foundation, plywood flooring, and metal roofing as well as replacing the front window. Parks Canada is the custodian. See FHBRO Case File No. 97-85.

**Reasons for Designation**

The Adolphus Warden Patrol Cabin on the North Boundary Trail was designated Recognized because of its environmental significance as well as its architectural design and historical associations.

The cabin is sited in a meadow ringed by coniferous forest in the shadow of Mount Robson. It contributes to the character of its natural setting through its form and materials. The cabin is a destination for travelers along the North Boundary Trail.

The building has simple details and is carefully executed. Its functional plan, craftsmanship and materials respect the long-standing prescription for a rustic architectural imagery within national parks.

Historically, the Warden Patrol Cabin is associated with the park program of constructing a series of outposts for boundary patrols of the Warden Service, to control poaching and visitor activities. It is also linked to historic travel routes and to the intersection of important trails through the park.

**Character Defining Elements**

The Adolphus Warden Patrol Cabin's heritage value resides in its form, materials, construction techniques and setting.

The Warden Patrol Cabin exhibits simple massing, with its modest single storey, rectangular plan and gabled roof. The log-framed open porch, with rafter supports and posts at the gable end, contributes to the rustic character. The three windows and the door are made of simple wood components, and their arrangement is function-driven. The shutters are functioning features. The building's simplicity of form and massing should be respected in future developments.

The Warden Patrol Cabin is of good quality construction. Its walls are made of peeled

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8-10" diameter logs, horizontally laid and saddle notched at the corners. The peeled logs and simple door and window trim create a simple, rustic character which should be preserved by repairing in kind, with emphasis on maximum retention of original material. The logs' brown stain finish reflects a functional approach to maintenance, which should not be altered without a careful understanding of the potential impact on patina and performance.

The concrete block foundation at the front deck may have been preceded by stone piers and logs, which would have contributed to the rustic character of the building. When foundation repairs at the porch are required, the design of supports and framing should be considered.

The roof is finished with a utilitarian ribbed metal roofing but may have had wood shingles or roll roofing originally. Wood shingles or roll roofing would have contributed to the rustic character of the building. When replacement is again required, consideration should be given to the appropriateness of the choice of covering. The multi-paned wood sash windows appear to be original, as does the plank door. The fine-scale details of the windows and doors contribute to the rustic character of the building. The retention and ongoing maintenance of these features should be ensured.

The rustic character continues at the interior of the building, with exposed natural-finish log walls and roof decking. The original flooring may have been wood planking with a natural finish, contributing to the rustic character. When re-flooring is required, consideration should be given to the appropriateness of the flooring and finish. Some of the furnishings may merit conservation because of their relationship to a nearby chalet, and should be assessed and recorded.

The relationship of the structure to the meadow, to the surrounding forest, and to the mountains in the distance should be protected. The surrounding ground plane is most appropriately maintained as simple grassed meadow.

For further guidance, please refer to the *FHBRO Code of Practice*.

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