

FHBRO Number 97-85

Jasper National Park, Alberta

Little Heaven Warden Patrol Cabin

North Boundary Trail

The Little Heaven Warden Patrol Cabin was constructed in 1938. The design follows the Standard Plan of 1918 by the National Parks Branch. The cabin was constructed by Bruce Otto. The original use has been maintained. Alterations have included roof and window replacement. Parks Canada is the custodian. See FHBRO Case File No. 97-85.

Reasons for Designation

The Little Heaven 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 Warden Patrol Cabin is sited among coniferous trees at the edge of a clearing overlooking a valley. It contributes to the character of its natural setting through its form and materials. The cabin is a destination point for travelers along the North Boundary Trail.

The cabin's 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 use by 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 Little Heaven Warden Patrol Cabin's heritage value resides in its form, early materials, construction techniques and setting.

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

The cabin is of good quality construction. Its walls are made of peeled 8" -10" 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'

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brown stain finish reflects a functional approach to maintenance, which should not be altered without first carefully analyzing appropriate finishes and patina. The open rafter of the porch may have had a brown stain finish originally, contributing to the rustic character of the building. The white paint finish creates a prominence that may not have been intended. The stone foundation incorporates log support for the front deck which contributes to the rustic character of the building.

The roof, probably wood shingles originally, is now covered with roll roofing. Wood shingles would have contributed to the rustic character of the building. Original windows may have been multi-paned wood sash windows. The fine-scale detail of the windows would have contributed to the rustic character. Replacement windows omit muntin divisions and have larger glazed areas which introduce a modern character. Replacement efforts should be predicated on an understanding of the original character of the building.

The interior, with its exposed natural-finish log walls, roof decking and log purlins, continues the rustic character of the building. The original floor finish may have been a natural finish contributing to the rustic character. The grey-painted wood plank flooring introduces a finished character to the interior.

The relationship of the cabin to the small clearing in the woods is an important feature of the setting. The surrounding ground plane should be maintained as forest understorey and simple grassed meadow.

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

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