Prince Albert National Park, Saskatchewan
Anahareo’s Cabin
Ajawaan Lake

HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

Anahareo’s Cabin was constructed in 1932 by Park staff. It was extensively reconstructed in 1979. Parks Canada is the custodian. See FHBRO Building Report 85-63.

Reason for Designation

Anahareo’s Cabin was designated Recognized because of its historical associations, its environmental and local significance, and its architectural interest.

Anahareo was the second wife of naturalist Archibald Belaney, who was known as Grey Owl. Grey Owl achieved international fame as a conservationist through his wildlife films, writings and lecture tours. The designation of this upper cabin in memory of Grey Owl’s wife recognizes widespread public fascination with the personal life of Grey Owl.

The cabin is located on a hillside above Grey Owl’s cabin. Together, they are familiar to park visitors. The undeveloped natural setting has been maintained.

Anahareo’s Cabin is an example of rustic construction in the log cabin tradition. The simple form, materials and detailing reflect an economy of design in keeping with that tradition. The use of natural textures and finishes and local materials results in a building that harmonizes with its surroundings.

Character Defining Elements

The heritage character of Anahareo’s Cabin resides in the building’s form, its overall proportions, in its construction materials and details, in its surviving interior layout, and in its relationship to the site and setting.

The cabin is a rectangular one-storey gable-roofed structure. The simple form, footprint and roofline should not be altered, as they are essential to the rustic quality which characterizes the cabin.

The natural materials and textures should be respected, and any new work should be compatible in material, detailing and level of finish. The reconstruction in 1979...
involved replacement of the lower part of the walls and the log footings, and complete replacement of the wood shingle roof in keeping with the earlier configuration. Research is recommended to confirm the color and profile of original log chinking and/or daubing when this work requires renewal. The building materials merit regular inspection and maintenance. Any new work should respect the rustic character of the original construction.

The wood windows and the wood panel door are in keeping with the character of the building and should be maintained. The location of the windows and doors is governed by function, reflecting the informal quality of the cabin’s appearance, and should not be altered.

The natural, undeveloped character of the site and of site access enhances the rustic qualities of the building and should be maintained.

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