The Alpine Architectural Heritage of the Four Mountain Parks
An Historical Review and Assessment

by Graham A. MacDonald

1994
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Of The Four Mountain Parks

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Alberta Regional Office
Parks Canada.
Canadian Department of Heritage

Graham A. MacDonald
Historical Services
1994
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Among the western Indians there is a legend of Ah-ka-noosta, mightiest of warriors, who in spite of the passing of many winters, grew not old. Each spring he would disappear from the tribe, returning in the autumn with renewed vigour as if he had recovered the spirit of his youth. At last his brothers wondering, begged him to tell what secret magic he had discovered. Ah-ka-noosta however, declared he had no magic; he had only been away in the mountains, living like the wild goat and the eagle among the high peaks, sleeping in the tepee of the pine forest and drinking the clear waters of the mountain springs. His brothers, still incredulous at so simple an explanation, did not believe him and a legend grew up among them that Ah-ka-noosta had discovered in the mountains a magic lake whose waters were the Elixir of Life.

-J.B. Harkin,
Through the Heart of the Rockies and Selkirks.
2nd ed. 1924
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Introduction

Defining the nature of the relationship between landscape and its appropriate architectural response was an important aspect of the early history of the mountain parks of the Canadian West.\(^1\) It can be argued that the character of this relationship was seen to be one of great importance in the first decades of National Park development up to World War II.\(^2\) Architecture in the parks since World War II has given way to a landscape architecture, reflecting the requirements of mass automobile tourism supplemented by regional and trans-oceanic flight-based tourism. Destinations have become more generalized in the wake of such time-efficient travel for 'abiding is nowhere.' To release travellers from the relatively fixed regime of railway transportation, with its quite limited number of hotel destinations and mountain retreats, was to encourage development of a more subdued and egalitarian series of architectural forms. Between the establishment of the first Banff Springs Hotel in 1886 and the post-World War II 'auto-bungalow' camps a far-reaching social revolution had transpired in which large numbers of the middle and working classes gained a more regular place in the recreational sun. The all-pervasiveness of this revolution in North America led the historian Arthur Lower (invoking ancient middle-eastern images) to speak of the rise of the great god, CAR.\(^3\)

The attempt to define a relationship between architecture and landscape required a substantial leap of the imagination in the earliest days of National Park development, for it was considered appropriate to try and impose, partially at least, some kind of antique alpine style on these newly explored and thinly inhabited mountains.\(^4\) The immediate vicinity accessed by the railway was often less than a complementary inspiration owing to the local ravages of fire and timber clearing. The contrast provided by means of a comparison of landscape painting of the day with the evidence of the camera is striking in all respects.\(^5\) E.J. Hart has noticed the effort that went into the 'selling' of an image of the new Canadian parks at home and abroad.\(^6\) By the early 1930s there was a concerted effort by such as Sir Norman Watson, to recreate 'St Moritz in the Rockies.'\(^7\)

Since 1945 the pace of change has accelerated in the National Parks of Canada generally and in the Mountain parks in particular. If the pace seems rapid, to us in the late twentieth century, the actual forces of change may be seen to have roots which extend back as early as World War I. A desire to alter Banff from a seasonal to a year round recreational community was manifested as early as 1910 when the first active suggestions were made towards establishment of a Banff
Winter Carnival. Since that time, the main mode of park access has certainly shifted from rail to automobile and bus, much of this traffic linked in the post-war period to global flight opportunities. The result has been to produce a steadily increasing visitation. Since the 1970s an alteration of the visitor season to virtually a year-round cycle has been accomplished. The parks have undergone localized urbanization in many instances, particularly at Banff, while the demands of international tourism have worked to impose urban-style commercial expectations on visitor and entrepreneur alike.

The most consistent force driving the trend towards an extended tourist season has been the post-1960 rise in demand for ski tourism. W.B. Yeo reports that by the early 1990s, ski visitation in the Lake Louise area alone had reached over 400,000 per year. Such a number far surpasses what annual rates of visitation for the park as a whole were in the pre-war years. Specialized tourism of this type has produced a parallel demand for commercial accommodation and raised expectations that other supporting entertainment facilities will be of a very high standard. The rise of the 'packaged tour' and the 'tailored ski slope' have essentially put strong development pressures on front country alpine corridors accessed by the Trans-Canada Highway. (Plate 1) The most dramatic instance of this dynamic has centred on the Sunshine Ski area, northwest of Banff townsite. The backcountry zone has remained largely the province of the hiker and wildlife enthusiast, but the sheer net increase in numbers of visitors in the region has put these areas under stress as well. Conserving wildlife habitat, accommodating their patterns of movement, and reducing conflicts with human visitors, have become major themes of policy deliberation since the 1960s. The severity of the conflicts may be gauged by the large public expenditures made in recent years in protective wildlife fencing along the Trans-Canada Highway corridor in the park territories. The question of protective fencing has not issued out of park-user-wildlife conflicts alone, but much more significantly from the mere utilization of the parks as a national transportation corridor, a conflict of some antiquity which goes back to the very origins of the western parks.

With such considerations in mind, it became a matter of policy, adopted during the Four Mountain Park Planning initiative of the 1980s, to curtail future development of backcountry commercial lodges, and to put in place guidelines concerning the future expansion of existing lodges. The architectural legacy of the mountain parks nevertheless, remains an important aspect of the Canadian heritage, despite the pressures currently being placed on lodger owners to retrofit and expand existing facilities and to take due cognizance of environmental protection guidelines.
Plate 1

The romantic image of the Rocky Mountain Ranges: 1880s.

Plate 2

The burnt-over reality along the Canadian Pacific Route in the mountains. c. 1900.
Plate 3

Skiing at Sunshine. c. 1945
Courtesy E.J. Hart.

1990's Ski Development In the Banff Corridor.

Plate 4
When J.B. Harkin was appointed as the first Commissioner of National Parks in 1911, he had to consider the question of how to finance the existing parks and those of the future. Tourism had driven the railway builders to take an interest in park establishment for purposes of supporting the scenic requirements of a limited number of great hotels and lodges. The steady rise in popularity of the automobile after 1911 involved a prospective rise in park use and demand for facilities. Tourism remained the obvious focus for revenue generation, since tourists left a great deal of money in their wake and did not take significant resources away with them. The example of the Radium Hot Springs is a good example of shifting 1920s attitudes towards tourism in which the interests of the automobile traveller started to carve out a place beside those visitors who arrived by train. The Kootenay National Park was established in 1920 as a direct consequence of a road rather than a rail initiative. The subsequent expropriation of the privately-owned hot springs site by the Parks Branch then led very quickly to a lease-out policy of these same resources back to commercial interests for what were perceived to be purposes in the public interest.

What might be called the 'philosophy of roads' continued to guide park access policy during the 1930s and 1940s but at a much reduced pace both in terms of improvements and in terms of visitor use. A significant innovation was introduced by Order in Council in 1932 which allowed bungalow camps to be developed along new park roads. This was a departure from previous policy which, from a public transportation point of view, had favoured such developments on railway lands, as with the Lake Louise Ski Lodge (today’s Post Hotel). The twin evils of economic depression and war kept park visitation at a quite manageable level between 1930 and 1950, and much in favour of those with some disposable income and the leisure to exercise it. The main benefits to the parks in this period came about through the creation of infrastructure improvement programs, a by-product of unemployment relief projects and to a lesser degree, of World War II prisoner of war camps. Some very good public architecture was designed and placed in the National Parks in this period, and the developments took place within a framework of aesthetic design consciously adapted by National Parks Architects anxious to both set a tone for the parks and to clear out certain pockets of unsightly development.

An important force in this movement was W.D. Cromarty, a talented architect with the internal unit developed at National Park Headquarters in 1921 known as the Town Planning Division. In one of its early projects, Cromarty was assigned to Waterton Lakes National Park in 1924 as superintendent in order to oversee the development of a town plan. During his tenure from 1924 to 1930 some attractive buildings were placed and a framework was developed which proved suitable for absorbing the public relief improvements of the 1930s.
the strong movement towards a general 'rustification' of park architecture, a movement which remained in force until the 1950s. At Banff, population pressures developed quite early. A population of 900 in 1910 increased to 2,100 by 1945. In the World War I period, the well known landscape architect Thomas Mawson, the designer of Stanley Park, and of an unimplemented plan for the City of Calgary, was hired to prepare a concept plan. His 'Artistic Layout of Banff' plan has shaped much of the town's contemporary character. While in the 1990s there is within Parks Canada a certain pre-occupation with establishing architectural motifs and guidelines, the nature of Mawson's plan was one which endorsed 'no single architectural style, rather an architecture of uniform proportion and balance' which accounts for the present 'diversity of styles.'

The decades of the 1950s and 1960s experienced a great growth in park development and facilities, driven by that great economic prosperity which by 1954 was well underway in North America. Functional architecture of many kinds came to dominate much of that development. By the 1970s, Parks Canada once again sponsored a revival of interest in the general architectural images being presented in the parks and townsites. This revival was subsumed under a larger enquiry which sought to give greater protection to cultural resources generally. It was also in line with a much wider movement which encouraged recognition of important landscapes and cultural features, the crowning achievement of which was the signing of the World Heritage Convention in 1972 under the auspices of UNESCO. Within the National Parks this has lead to an increased interest in regaining some control on general design parameters, in establishing zoning and control on development, and in re-thinking the conditions of lease and tenure in the parks. In seeking to establish the content of such guidelines, there has also been a proper recourse to the past, in order to assess what the general character of park architecture has been. The following study reviews the specific achievements and survivals associated with the outlying, which is to say non-townsite, commercial accommodation facilities in the four mountain parks.
Endnotes


9. Ibid., p. 93 f.

10. Ibid., p. 95

11. Ibid., p. 95 and Cf. the extensive files and specialized planning reports which have accumulated in the Western Regional Office of Parks Canada, Calgary, and the extensive literature on this site promoted by various conservation organizations such as the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

13. See *In Trust For Tomorrow: A Management Framework for Mountain Parks.* (Ottawa; Parks Canada: 1986), and the individual park plans subsequently issued for Banff, Yoho, Jasper and Kootenay; and *Four Mountain Parks: Outlying Commercial Accommodation Redevelopment Guidelines.* (Calgary: Environment Canada, Parks, Western Region. 1988)

14. See Chapter Five


20. Ibid.

21. Ibid.

22. UNESCO.*The World Heritage Convention.* (Madrid. 1987)
Chapter One

Architecture in the Four Mountain Parks:
Aspects of an Alpine Style

The opening of the Canadian Rockies to the North American and international tourist trade in the late nineteenth century, coincided with a maturing of European interest in mountaineering and with a certain desire on the part of experienced mountaineers from the continent to seek out new ranges abroad. Post-1880 railway expansion in western North America also helped to introduce large numbers of novice mountaineers to these relatively unknown peaks. Mixed in with these two classes of mountaineer were others of more modest ambition, those quite satisfied to view the mountain wonders from a railcar or who wished to sample alpine climbing only at the fringe. In response to these varied clientele, two architectural styles, one romantically sublime, and the other of a more rustic nature, quickly came to settle themselves upon the Rocky Mountain and Selkirk Ranges. These tended to appear along, or at not too great a distance from, the Canadian Pacific Railway route, although with the passage of time, a series of alpine huts and utilitarian interior cabins came to be placed for the purpose of accommodating more adventurous hikers and public game wardens.

Architecture in the Mountain Parks

Some recent studies have attempted to characterize the general trends in National Park architectural history in the alpine zone. The authors of a 1988 study concluded that there were four essential aspects to post-1880 development. The first was inspired by ‘Ancient vernacular traditions using local materials of log and stone.’ Hence the earliest establishments at Banff built in association with the natural hot springs, and the early chalet at Lake Louise. The second consisted of the ‘domestic industrial architecture’ associated with mining sites such as Anthracite and the ‘domestic styles characteristic of contemporary towns outside of the park.’ These late Victorian and Edwardian styles contributed to and helped create ‘the common architecture of the park townsites.’ Third may be noticed the adoption of ‘distinctive styles considered appropriate to the mountain setting’ inspired by the Loire Chateau/Scottish Baronial styles of Europe, and by the Swiss Chalet style. The author contends that this phase ‘drew inspiration from the European and North American Arts and Crafts movement, with its Picturesque approach to building and landscape’ Finally, a fourth post-1945 phase is recognized in which modernism had its influence, one in which,
characteristically, reference ‘to historic styles was rejected absolutely.’ In this period ‘Horizontal or mono-pitch flat roofs and large plate glass windows represented the pursuit of economy, efficiency and, too often, complete insensitivity to the surroundings.’ The author of this report points to a fifth ongoing phase in which ‘a reaction to the ahistoricism and general dullness of most of the architecture of the fourth phase has introduced new variety into design.’ This includes a cautious ‘reintroduction of standardized and simplified historic forms or discrete references to an earlier regional architecture’ and ‘a much freer and inventive use of colour.’

Edward Mills in a study of selected buildings in the Mountain Parks has paid close attention to the early indigenous forms employed after 1880 associated with the first ‘vernacular’ tradition mentioned above, and has noted the development of a ‘rustic aesthetic’ in which there were two main types: first, that of the rough and practical log cabin structure which pre-dated the appearance of any of the commercial hotels; and second, a somewhat more self-conscious type of structure, emulating Swiss styles, but also drawing on local materials of wood and stone for its construction. The first of these rustic traditions, the ruder and distinctly more utilitarian variety, certainly drew upon some of the representative pioneer architecture of eastern Canada, including fur trade and lumber camp adaptations, along with early Northwest Mounted Police architecture on the prairies. Indeed, some of the early outfitters and guides in Banff had first come west in the service of the new police force. The second main aspect of the ‘rustic’ - that partially inspired by Swiss models - was represented in some of the early chalet architecture; park structures built for the public, such as the Banff Hot Springs; park employee residences; and early railway station buildings.

The second major theme, that inspired by regional domestic and industrial architecture, occupies a rather minor place with respect to backcountry park buildings. Its most obvious manifestation may be in some of the high alpine huts which were stark but strongly built, (often in stone) in order to withstand the elements. Some of these tend to resemble a standard powder magazine, and they are generally free of architectural frills.

The third identified major architectural theme, that of the Loire Chateau/Scottish Baronial style, was reviewed some years ago by Harold Kalman who assessed the development of the great railway hotels in their broader Canadian context. More focused accounts of some of the hotels have also appeared which give solid background on their development and architectural characters. The most striking aspects of the history of these early great hotels is either their complete disappearance or their subsequent rise to municipal
Plate 1-1  Early example of Rocky Mountain Sublime: The First Banff Springs Hotel. c. 1912.

Plate 1-2  Early Rustic Architecture in the Rocky Mountains National Park: The Banff Station, c. 1900.
Plate 1-3  The Abbot Pass Hut between Lake O’Hara and Lake Louise
Photo: Harry Laparskas

The Loire/Chateau- Scottish/Baronial: The Second Banff Springs Hotel c. 1928
Photo: CPR
Plate 1-5  The Post-1945 Modern at Elk Island National Park: Astotin Lake Beach Facilities

Plate 1-6  The Restored Station at Lake Louise. 1992
Plate 1-7

The Roger's Pass Centre. Glacier National Park: 1980s

Plate 1-8

Trial Riders approaching the Elizabeth Parker Hut. Lake O'Hara. Yoho National Park c. 1958. Photo: Rhonda Rouse
dominance in the post-war world of the automobile. Two of their early site characteristics, servicing by rail and grand isolation as major castle-variants in the wilderness, are elements which have largely disappeared, recalled now only by photographs, art work and reminiscence.

The fourth theme, that of post-world War II modernism and functionalism, has many extant examples. Many of these structures remain concealed from public view, and take the form of construction and service compounds, often associated with post-1970 centralized warden operations. Others took the form of rather bland visitor service centres, information kiosks, administration buildings and staff residences. With the turning of the 1970s, the National Parks administration started to reconsider various aspects of the architectural heritage within both townsites and the more secluded sections of the parks. Indeed, through the work of the Architectural History Branch, much valuable information was gathered of a comparative nature, detailing structures not within the public domain. The outcome was the re-birth of an official interest in conserving older park buildings and in promoting architectural and design guidelines for new buildings, more in keeping with pre-war aesthetics. Modern materials were by no means forbidden, but some concessions to the rustic were encouraged or towards designs which appeared to complement historical or landscape features. One of the finest examples of this revival is the Roger’s Pass Visitor Centre in Glacier National Park which opened in 1982.

These four overlapping styles produced, in the pre-1960 context, something of a patchwork in central places providing hotels, lodges, administrative centres, and supporting commercial operations. The central commercial establishments were often linked to local networks, consisting of smaller facilities strategically placed on road accesses, trails and peaks. These systems were partially defined by the administrative requirements of the Rocky Mountains National Park and its successor park units, by the requirements of organized tourist outfitters, and by the needs of certain non-profit associations such as the Alpine Club of Canada and the Skyline Hikers of the Canadian Rockies Association. In the post-1960 context, the service and access requirements of motorists and bus tours using the new Trans-Canada Highway started to drive development decisions with great force and rapidity. Banff, Kootenay, Yoho and Jasper were quickly enfolded into the world tourism system, with consequences for planning and park administration which are still being explored.


3. Ibid., pp. 25-6

4. Ibid., p. 26


6. For excellent photographic representation of some of the earliest rustic architecture in the four mountain park area, interiors and exteriors, see Edward Cavell, A Delicate Wilderness: The Photography of Elliot Barnes, 1905-1914. 2nd ed. (Banff: Altitude Publishing, n.d.)

7. On the career of Tom Wilson of Banff, see E.J.Hart, Diamond Hitch: The early outfitters and guides of Banff and Jasper. (Banff: Summerthought, 1979), Ch. 1

8. Mills (1992), Pt. 2. A rich source for visual and architectural research on the backcountry lodges and cabins of the 1920s and 1930s are the membership journals published by the Canadian Trail Riders Association and the Skyline Hikers of the Canadian Rockies, as well as the Canadian Alpine Journal.

9. A thorough visual and historical treatment of alpine huts in the Canadian Rockies may be found in Herb and Pat Kariel, Alpine Huts in the Rockies, Selkirk and Purcells (Banff: Alpine Club of Canada, 1986).


Chapter Two

A Review of Commercial Lodge Development Policy in the Mountain Parks

A certain amount of controversy has surrounded the leasing of land and the granting of special rights to individuals and groups from the very beginning of the National Park system. The first level of controversy can be discussed in relation to those who, during the preparation of the Rocky Mountains Park Act of 1886, claimed proprietary rights and discovery rights for such sites as the Cave and Basin Hot Springs, or for natural resource rights previously granted under the Dominion Lands Act. A second level of controversy developed out of the proposed conditions for holding future leases of occupation in the new park. Under the proposed regulations which were included in the new bill, the Minister would have the authority to lease selected park lands for purposes of dwelling construction or commercial purposes. The proposals drew criticism from the Sir Richard Cartwright, who suggested that a time limit should be fixed for any such leases. Prime Minister Macdonald countered that a twenty-one year time limit was too short to induce the construction of buildings of good quality, and that a forty-two year lease with provisions for renewal would be required, if the correct architectural tone was to be set in the parks. According to Lothian:

Regulations subsequently made did limit the terms of leases to 42 years, but also provided for renewals which, in accordance with the terms of the leases, were self-perpetuating. In years to come this feature proved to be a source of embarrassment to future Ministers responsible for the administration of parks.

The ‘embarrassment’ grew out of an inability for the parks branch to exercise long-term repatriation of lease sites. An attempt to gain greater flexibility and control over longstanding leases was a feature of park policy in the 1970s and 1980s when revised leasing rules were introduced accompanied by a concerted effort to repatriate certain in-park lease-holds. This met with some success, but some lease-holders resisted the policy, often with success, on the basis of past precedents.

By 1960, headquarters directors were well aware that previous leasing policy had to be reviewed owing to the new post-war prosperity and the running
The proliferation of backcountry ‘camps’ in the 1920s

Source: Sky Line Trail. 1926
out of many old leases. The rate of post-1960 development generally, and the implications of proposals for increased townsite and backcountry development, particularly at Banff, surfaced as political issues amongst conservationists by the late 1960s. Park planning became a major initiative in Banff and in the other mountain parks during the next two decades and by the mid-1980s this interest had produced plans for the four mountain parks as an integrated unit. One element of the general park planning programme addressed the general nature of cultural resource policy in the parks. The objectives for the Four Mountain Park plan initiative contained the following statements of intent:

- a) To protect, preserve, recognize, or restore in an appropriate manner, human heritage resources of Banff Jasper, Kootenay and Yoho National Parks

- b) To give the highest level of attention to those resources which are:
  - i) nationally significant
  - ii) good examples of man's interaction with the landscape of the Canadian Rocky Mountains

One theme which emerged out of this growing interest in 'cultural resource management' was that of park architecture. While a wide number and type of structures had come and gone in the parks since 1885, some well-known forms were still familiar, in particular those of the backcountry lodge and the great hotel. Many examples of these structures still survived, although some had been transformed over time with respect to their size and surroundings.

'Cultural resource management' with respect to park architecture has various distinct aspects in the Mountain Parks. First, it may be conceived as a process which seeks to deal either with the various conservation requirements of townsite structures or backcountry structures; secondly, it may be considered with reference to structures owned either by the Federal Government or those which are privately owned. In all cases, the land-base involved is normally considered to be property of the crown with the exception of any cases which might arise on railway property or unrepatriated private landholdings in the park. In the situation dealing with railway stations, the rules involved changed considerably with the passage of the Railway Stations Heritage Act in 1988. Such properties on railway land are now considered to be a responsibility of the Railway companies. Other private in-park holdings in the National Park system are now few.
The initiation of the four mountain park planning initiative helped gain recognition for the block of parks as a world heritage site by UNESCO in 1984. Together, these achievements produced expectations for further specialized planning. More disciplined attention was given to issues surrounding the continued operation of buildings in the backcountry and the need to define policy with respect to structures providing commercial lodge accommodation. As a result, in 1986 a provisional set of guidelines was published by the Western Regional Office of Parks Canada. These were reinforced by a planning statement *In Trust For Tomorrow*, released in the same year by Ottawa Headquarters. The latter contained a strong direction statement that no further outlying commercial accommodation initiatives would be allowed in the non-townsite portions of the four mountain parks. This policy was reaffirmed in the final version of the *Outlying Commercial Accommodations Redevelopment Guidelines*, released in 1988. Certain park areas were excluded from the guidelines, these being covered by other specific plan documents.

The guiding principles behind the adoption of guidelines for future development of outlying commercial accommodation issued out of some general conditions prevalent in the four mountain parks in the 1980s. In particular, managers and planners had noticed that most commercial accommodation was 'highly visible from main park highways' The guidelines provided direction for the level of development and design for expanded accommodation with a view to allowing facilities to 'fit in well with nature.' Commercial lodges, it was held, 'are the place for sensitive building design, unobtrusive development, careful preservation and enhancement of the natural environment.' Two basic principles were adopted for purposes of review of redevelopment proposals:

**Use:** The intended use must be acceptable from a visitor and land use perspective. Uses permitted on the OCA sites will be at the discretion of Environment Canada-Parks.

**Design:** Buildings will be introduced into national park environments in a manner which is least obtrusive, and environmentally least disruptive. Environment Canada-Park's objectives, particularly outside of the townsites are: a lower scale of development, informal layouts, and the use of materials and forms compatible with the national park environment.
Map 2-2

Distribution of Backcountry Lodges in the Four Mountain Parks: 1990

Campgrounds
(not including Group Camps and Peak Period Campgrounds)

1. Two Jack Lakeside
2. Two Jack Main
3. Tunnel Mountain Village II
4. Tunnel Mountain Trailer Court
5. Johnston Canyon
6. Castle Mountain
7. Castle Mountain
8. Johnston Canyon
9. Lake Louise Parking
10. Lake Louise Trailer
11. Mosquito Creek
12. Waterfall Lake
13. Rampart Creek
14. Cirrus Mountain
15. Wicaco Creek
16. Columbia Icefield
17. Jonas Creek
18. Honeymoon Lake
19. Mt. Kenai
20. Wabasso
21. Wapiti
22. Whistlers
23. Smarng
24. Pocahontas
25. Takakkaw Falls
26. Kicking Horse
27. Hoodoo Creek
28. Chancellor Creek
29. Marble Canyon
30. McLeod Meadows
31. Redstreak

Hostels

32. Spray River
33. Banff
34. Castle Mountain
35. Corral Creek
36. Takakkaw Falls
37. Mosquito Creek
38. Ramparts
39. Hida Creek
40. Beauty Creek
41. Athabasca Falls
42. Edith Cavell
43. Whistlers
44. Maligne Canyon
45. Timberline Hotel
46. Johnston Canyon Bungalows
47. Castle Edithcove Chalets
48. Sierram Mountain Lodge
49. Baker Creek Bungalows
50. Maligne Lake Lodge
51. West Louise (Wapta) Lodge
52. Cathedral Mountain Chalets
53. Emerald Lake Chalets
54. Num-ir-jah Lodge
55. Parkway Lodge
56. Columbia Icefield Chalet
57. Sunwapta Falls Bungalows
58. Becker’s Bungalows
59. Jasper House Bungalows
60. Alpine Village
61. Tetanna Reson
62. Pine Bungalows
63. Patricia Lake Bungalows
64. Pyramid Lake Bungalows
65. Pocahontas Bungalows
66. Miette Hot Springs Bungalows
67. Vermilion Crossing Bungalows
68. Addison’s
69. Brandy’s Bungalows
70. Mt Farhang Bungalows
71. Radium Hot Springs Lodge
72. Paradise Bungalows
73. Rocky Mountain Resort
At the time of the adoption of the guidelines, twenty-nine established outlying commercial accommodation establishments were recognized. (See Appendix I)

There were some arbitrary aspects to the new guidelines, as derived from the *In Trust for Tomorrow* plan. While seeking to limit new expansion into the backcountry, it was nevertheless considered appropriate for expansion to take place under certain conditions: 'Because a sizeable increase in accommodation can be provided by expanding existing OCAs, new ones will not be permitted. There is an adequate number of OCAs in the Four Mountain Parks and new land outside the towns should not be disturbed for this purpose.'\(^{15}\) The arbitrariness arose out of the suggestion that if expansion was to take place it should do so only at already existing centres of development. This policy statement, in fact, precluded future considerations of specific proposals for small scale development in the backcountry where it might have been useful, and tended to reinforce the existing trends towards townsite expansion.
Endnotes


2. Ibid. p. 26

3. See Chapter Three, Num Ti Ja Lodge.

4. Cf. The Institute of Local Government, Queen’s University, Kingston. ‘Length of Leases: A Supplement to the Report Prepared for the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources’ (Kingston: 1960)


6. The main recommendations which emerged from the Four Mountain Park planning exercise are reproduced in *Trust For Tomorrow* (1986) and in the specific management plans for each park.


12. Redevelopment of commercial accommodation on Tunnel Mountain was addressed in the *Redevelopment Guidelines for Tunnel Mountain*, (July, 1980). Also, the Upper Sulphur Mountain was considered in the *Redevelopment Guidelines for the Sulphur Mountain Upper Hot Springs Area*. Pinewoods Motel was considered as part of the Banff townsite plan. In Jasper the Palisades Centre was also excluded. *Trust for Tomorrow* (1986), p. 56

14. Ibid.

15. In Trust or Tomorrow (1986), p. 56
Chapter Three

Banff.

Banff National Park retains much of the land which earlier had constituted the Rocky Mountains Park, established in 1887. The main focus of the park has remained the townsite of Banff along with the smaller community at Lake Louise. With the gradual addition of a transcontinental vehicle corridor through the Rockies after World War I, the initial imprint of a through-park transportation corridor has remained a significant part of park identity and an on-going focus of policy. The two townsites have always represented destinations for park users, and with the historic pattern of increased ease of access, development pressures have been strongest in these two centres. Unlike many of the access routes into the Alps in Europe, the major corridors into the Canadian Rockies represent major routes of Canadian commerce, with all of the attendant pressures for efficiency and building standards. For these reasons it has been difficult to maintain a sense of developmental scale appropriate to a sensitive environment and the requirements of migrating wildlife. A major initiative of the 1980s concerned the separation of wildlife from the Trans-Canada Highway by means of fencing. Under such circumstances the overall image of the built heritage in Banff National Park is by no means uniform and reflects a post-war utilitarianism catering to various local and national agendas. Nevertheless, considerable progress has been achieved in attempting to impose certain design guidelines and architectural motifs on new development. Since the establishment of Banff Townsite as a municipal corporation in 1990 there has also been an attempt to utilize provincial as well as federal heritage legislation as planning tools.

The following sections describe the essential features of commercial accommodations which lie outside of the main townsite areas in Banff, although some of them, such as the Timberline, enjoy a strong symbiotic relationship with the older commercial establishments in Banff Townsite and Lake Louise Village.
Baker Creek Bungalows

Construction History

The first establishment at this site, was lies along the Bow Valley Parkway, west of Castle Mountain, was constructed in 1948 by George W. Camp, following a tender call by the National Parks Branch in 1947. Three double cabins and one central building were ready for the season of 1950. A site plan prepared in 1950 indicated fourteen structures. By 1951 the facilities had been expanded through the addition of nine single cabins. The central building also served as accommodation and as a tea room.

Lease history and status

In 1953 the Camps assigned the lease to E.E. Wagner who obtained a twenty-one year lease from 1953 to 1974. In 1962 this lease was changed to a forty-two year term, terminating in 2004. In 1973 the leases was held by Mrs. J.M. (Wagner) Melton, and she assigned it to Michael Dzivinski in that year. In 1978 the resort was assigned to Baker Creek Holdings Ltd. The current Lease Expiry date is June 20, 2025.

Development History

Between 1978 and 1980 a number of old cabins were relocated to the site from Swiss Village Bungalows and from Hidden Ridge. The resort commenced a major modernization program in 1986, the details of which were summarized in an expansion proposal submitted to Parks Canada in 1987. This proposal called for the demolition of the old lodge and construction of a new one; demolition of some of the older cabins; and for much revamping of others. The site occupies about .93 ha. (2.3 acres.)

Social History

Baker Creek and Lake were named for a prospector of that name who was active in the area after 1882, during the rise of the Silver City mining community. Since World War II it has become a significant visual landmark for travellers on the Bow Valley Parkway.
Statement of significance.

Local.

The site, while of an appropriate rustic character, is essentially of recent vintage. In the fullness of time, the visual and heritage qualities of this site will probably take on increased historic interest.

Environmental Setting

The irregular layout of the older cabins blends with the natural setting in a better fashion than the new duplex units. Previous assessments noted numerous conflicts on the site, including declining ground cover associated with parking requirements.
Figure 1.

Development at Baker Creek, Banff National Park.

1950.
Figure 2.
Development at Baker Creek, Banff National Park.
1985
Castle Mountain Village.

Construction History

The village is about 29 km. northwest of Banff along the Bow Valley Parkway, and it commands an excellent view of one of the most famous peaks in the Rockies. Following upon tender calls for a bungalow camp made in 1937 and 1940, the first two buildings at Castle Mountain Village were erected in 1941 by Winslow Yerxa, the sole party to submit a statement of interest. In 1941 the camp went by the title of Mount Castle Junction Auto Court. By 1942 the site consisted of one central building, nine cabins, a power shed and a fuel cabin. Owing to war rationing, the operation was closed during 1943 and 1944.

Lease History and Status

Mr. Yerxa died in 1944 and the site was closed until 1945. When it reopened in 1946, the name was changed to the Mount Eisenhower Bungalows. Following the death of Mr. Yerxa, the lease was transferred to Ada H. Yerxa through McColl-Frontenac Oil Company. In 1949 the ownership changed along with the name, and became Castle Eisenhower Bungalows. Further name changes took place before the present one, Castle Mountain Village was adopted. A lease was issued in 1962 for forty-two years providing for a bungalow camp, service station, store and restaurant. This lease was assigned to McWar Holdings Ltd. in 1976 which took the name Silvertip Holdings in 1977. The current lease expires on June 30, 2004 and contains a 21 Year Renewal Clause.

Development History

The site occupies about 1.5 ha. (3.7 acres). Plans were submitted in 1980 to replace many buildings, including the main lodge, and to increase the total ‘pillow count’ from 97 to 184. Twenty one chalets were in place at that time. A 1984 review of the on-going redevelopment suggested that the irregular layout of the older cabins blended in with the natural setting in a better manner than the new duplex units. Plans were submitted in 1984 for the next phase.
Plate 3-3  Castle Mountain Village. Chalet 1992

Plate 3-4  Castle Mountain Village. Chalet 1992
Social History

The complex is at the southwestern foot of one of the most prominent and well-known Mountain peaks in the rockies, Castle Mountain. This was the traditional name for the peak prior to World War II. Following the visit of General Dwight D. Eisenhower to Canada after the war in 1946, the mountain was renamed in his honour. Eventually, public pressure was brought to bear on the Canadian Government to restore the original name which took place in 1979. As a diplomatic gesture however, one of the peaks on Castle Mountain was named Eisenhower Peak.12

Mable Williams described the mountain as a ‘natural fortress with walls a mile high on a foundation eight miles long, complete with turrets, bastions and battlements.’13 According to Williams, the mountain also had its place in Indian legend. It was said that the mountain was the ‘home of the Chinook Wind, the little daughter of the South wind, who was blinded in a fierce encounter between the jealous North wind and the strong young West wind who flew to her rescue.’ On occasion ‘she has been seen stealing down from the mountain to the prairies, seeking her lost mother and leaving Spring wherever her feet have trod.’14

Statement of significance.

Local

The redevelopment of the site in the 1980s had provided for a resort of recent vintage. The significance of the site tends to be through its close physical association with Castle Mountain. This is reflected in near-by on-site interpretive signage provided by Banff National Park.
Johnston Canyon Bungalows.

Construction History

The Johnston Canyon Bungalows are located about twenty-one km. north-west of Banff townsite along the Bow Valley Parkway in Twp. 23-26-14 W.5. The site was first leased to Lorne C. Orr in 1919 for purposes of running a tea room. In 1932, following the sale of the Tea Room to Walter L. Camp of Calgary, tenders were called for a bungalow camp operation, and Mr. Camp was the successful bidder. Between 1932 and 1934 Mr. Camp added cabins and facilities to the previously existing stock. In 1934 a service station was incorporated into the site. The site covers about two ha. (4.98 acres).

Lease History and Status

The Lease expiry date is December 31, 2004, with a twenty-one year renewal agreement.

Development history

Between 1947 and 1949, fifteen new cabins were added, and according to an inspection report of those years, the cabins were described as 'fully modern four room cottages and not the usual cabin structures.' A later report suggested that these cabins were 'the largest, most complete units encountered in the Park...these units are more like small houses than cabins and contain 700 square feet.' The size and number of facilities resulted in fairly high maintenance costs to the proprietors. As of 1985 the complex included 35 cabins, five of which had been duplexed in 1957, a store, a dining room, office, laundry and residence, a service building, a store house and a gas station.
Plate 3-5

Pilot Mountain
Vacinity of Johnston Canyon.
c. 1925

Plate 3-6

Johnston Canyon Bungalows: 1930s.
Plate 3-7

Johnston Canyon.

Plate 3-7

Johnston Canyon Bungalows  1993
Social History

The prospector after whom Johnston canyon was named worked in the area in 1882. As one approaches the area of the resort from the east, Pilot Mountain comes into view ‘so called because its curious thumb-like peak’ was recognized as ‘a landmark for miles in all directions.’ According to Mable Williams it was ‘the guide to many an early traveller in the days before the railroad.’ Pilot Mountain lies directly south of the mouth of Johnston Creek.

Statement of Significance.

Regional

This site has become a familiar landmark on the Bow Valley Parkway route, and represents one of the older bungalow camps in the Rockies. While much of the development is post-war, a few buildings date from the 1930s.
Moraine Lake Lodge.

Construction History

The current Moraine Lake Lodge site was originally developed as a Tea House by the CPR around 1922. This facility had been built as part of the response to the Lake Louise Chalet, and a felt need for short exploration routes from Lake Louise. James Outram noted that in 1902 a trail had been opened up from Lake Louise to Moraine Lake.\textsuperscript{18} Lillian Gest suggested that there may have been accommodation at Moraine Lake as early as 1908.\textsuperscript{19} To improve the route a carriage road was completed in 1911 linking Lake Louise with Moraine Lake.\textsuperscript{20} The distance was about nine miles.

Lease History and Status.

The CPR as the original lessee, was granted a twenty-one year lease in 1922 for purposes of continued operation of a tea house. In 1923 a new lease was granted for purposes of conducting a tourist camp. A twenty one year lease was granted again in 1945 and a ten year lease in 1956. In 1959 the CPR assigned the lease to Brewster Transportation Co. Ltd., which in turn sub-leased the property to John A. and Barbara A. Smyth. In 1972 the resort was assigned to Jack Dzivinski who incorporated Moraine Lake Lodge and Motel Ltd.\textsuperscript{21} The current lease expiry date is February 3, 2027.

Development

It was reported in 1972 that the site included fifteen buildings of frame construction. Included were the main lodge, an office building, four double cabins, three single cabins, two staff quarter buildings, a power house, laundry and a storage building and woodshed.\textsuperscript{22} In an evaluation carried out in the late 1980s, it was observed however that the ‘high scenic values of the setting is not complemented by the present facilities which are a jumble of architectural styles with no clear definition between public day use area and overnight user area.’\textsuperscript{23} In 1988 a conceptual plan for redevelopment of the site was submitted to Parks Canada by Arthur Erickson, Architects, on behalf of Banff Park Resorts.
Plate 3-9  Moraine Lake Tea Room  c. 1922
Photo: CPR.

Plate 3-10  The Valley of the Ten Peaks  c. 1922
Photo: CPR
Social History

In 1924 Mable Williams described the Moraine Lake Chalet as follows: ‘There is a tiny chalet at the lake where luncheon or afternoon tea may be obtained as well as limited sleeping accommodation.’ She added that ‘This is an excellent centre from which to explore the rich surrounding district, but as the list of applicants often exceeds the accommodation it is well to make reservations in advance.’ The scenic qualities of the area were recognized by the Canadian Mint which, in the 1970s, featured Moraine Lake and the Valley of the Ten Peaks on the reverse side of the $20 Canadian note.

Significance.

Regional

The Moraine Lake Lodge is of modern vintage, but of pleasing rustic qualities. Of the buildings on site, interest may attach to one of the duplex cabins which was illustrated in a 1946 CPR pamphlet. The site has historical and natural history associations of considerable interest, including excellent views of The Valley of the Ten Peaks. It represents the site of one of the early CPR bungalow camps in the Rocky Mountains, dating from the mid-1920s.

In a review of heritage significance of the site in the late 1980s, the Western Regional Office Historic Resources Committee reported as follows:

There are two types of buildings of significance on the site. The first is the remains of what was the tea-house developed on the site in the 20s. The original building has been added on to and modified over the years in an unsympathetic manner and little remains of the tea-house except for the interior high vaulted ‘fireplace’ room, some of the enclosed ‘porch’ and remnants of the exterior finishes and details.

The second is two duplex cabins built in 1946 with Swiss alpine architectural elements. Both of these buildings have been well maintained and appear to be basically unaltered.
The historical relationship between the original tea-house and its immediate surroundings have been significantly altered to the point where there is little evidence of the original building. The duplex bungalows however, remain basically as they were originally constructed.

Of the two cabins mentioned above, built in 1946, one may date from as early as 1939.28

Owing to the diminished architectural heritage values, the recommendations in this report, made in response to the conceptual development proposal of 1988, favoured paying greater attention to the preservation of visual and natural history values associated with the Moraine Lake Lodge site. With the passage of time, it is likely that the current buildings will take on increased heritage value in their own right.
Num Ti Jah Lodge

Jimmy Simpson’s interest in a development at Bow Lake can be traced back to 1898. During the course of a guiding expedition he stated that ‘I’ll build a shack here sometime.’\(^{29}\) It was some time before he took up his early promise to himself but in 1919 he entered into discussions with J.B. Harkin of the National Parks Branch for purposes of taking out a lease in the vicinity of one of his favourite camping sites on Bow Lake. With the Parks rapidly curtailing traditional hunting and trapping practices in the parks, but open to tourism development, Simpson made an appropriate proposal.\(^{30}\) His first attempt dates to 1920 when he submitted a plan to the Park administration for a lodge building ‘that was somewhat larger than the original octagonal cabin actually built.’\(^{31}\) The terms agreed to were that when Simpson had improved the four acre-plus lease area to the value of $5000 a twenty-one year lease agreement would be entertained by the Branch. By 1925 Simpson had put in place, to the satisfaction of park authorities, the required improvements. A lease agreement was then executed for the property which was in the NE 1/4 of section 22, Twp. 31 West of the Fifth Meridian.\(^{32}\) The first Simpson building was known as Simpson’s Chalet/Num-ti-jah Lodge. In the mid-1920s it consisted of a residence, three log and frame cabins, a laundry, a lighting plant and an ice house. Construction of the lodge known today as Num-ti-jah, was not started until late 1938 or 1939. It was completed in 1942, but with regular improvements and expansions taking place over the next ten years.\(^{33}\)

Lease History and Status

The initial lease to Jimmy Simpson was made in 1921. The lease has remained in the Simpson family.\(^{34}\) The current lease was executed in 1984 with an expiry date of August 31, 2001. It includes a 21 year renewal provision.

Development History

Following the lapse of a lease in the 1960s, Simpson and the National Park entered into protracted negotiations over terms of sale, renewal, expansion and the conditions of “sever and remove.”\(^{35}\) When a new lease was finally signed in 1984 it did contain a “sever and remove” provision, although this was contrary to the direction which Parks Canada had been following for some time.\(^{36}\)
Plate 3-13 Original Simpson Cabin at Bow Lake. 1992

Plate 3-14 The Bow Lake Setting. 1980s
Plate 3-15

Jimmy Simpson. 1960s
Courtesy: Whyte Archives of the Rockies

Plate 3-16

Num Ti Jah Lodge addition construction. 1949.
Courtesy Whyte Archives of the Rockies
Plate 3-17  Num Ti Jah Lodge  1980s
Social History

The early history of Num-ti-jah Lodge is synonymous with the life and times of Jimmy Simpson, a man who has taken on a certain legendary status in the Banff country. In 1974 an official ceremony took place at Bow Lake in recognition of the achievements of the pioneering mountain man. A 9,700 foot peak visible from Bow Lake, was named in his honour. Author Marjorie Wilkins Campbell offered her impressions of the lodge in the following passage:

When you first entered the old Num-Ti-Gah Lodge at Bow lake smoke got in your eyes, faint, pleasant wood smoke. In no time you were accustomed to it. In no time, too, you felt at home in the warmth of the greeting of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Simpson and their family. Four footed logs crackled in the stone fireplace. Superb heads of mountain goats and sheep, bear, deer, moose, and other animals adorned the peeled log walls, animals shot by Jim Simpson during his fifty years’ hunting in the valleys and slopes about the sources of the Saskatchewan.

Statement of significance.

Regional

The career of Jimmy Simpson, a folk-builder and guide, is of considerable interest in terms of Rocky Mountain Parks and Tourism Development. The lodge itself is one of the oldest lodges in the four mountain parks. Based on a formal assessment by the Regional Historical Resources Committee of Parks Canada, the lodge is considered to be of regional rather than national significance.
Paradise bungalows.

Construction History

In July, 1934, tenders were advertised for the establishment of a bungalow camp in the vicinity of Lake Louise. Alfred Cooper was successful with his application and his enterprise was known first as the Lake Louise Auto Bungalow Camp. In the first year, Cooper built his main office and lodge and six cabins. The camp was 3 km. from Lake Louise Townsite towards the Chateau.

Lease History and Status.

Alfred Cooper held a lease until 1940 when he assigned it to Paradise Camps Ltd. The current lease was signed in 1968 for 42 years, and expires on the 30 of June, 2004.

Development history

By 1940 the site included another fourteen cabins, and other support facilities which generally possessed good rustic qualities. The site was located on 1.35 ha. (3.34 acres.) By 1985 the resort consisted of an office/gift shop/guest room and a staff accommodation building, twenty-one guest cabins, and two staff residence/laundry and storage buildings.
Plate 3-18  
Former Lake Louise Auto Bungalow Camp.  
Built c. 1935

Plate 3-19  
Social history

The establishment of resorts around Lake Louise is related initially to the career of a former CPR route surveyor, Tom Wilson. While camped near Lake Louise, Wilson heard thunder, and his Indian guide informed him that it was ‘the Great Spirit who speaks at the Lake of the Little Fishes.’ Following Wilson’s 1882 exploration of Lake Louise, (which he had called Emerald Lake), the CPR began to make use of the valley around the present site of the old station, as a work depot, in preparation for the great task of building the railway down the ‘big hill’ of the Kicking Horse River. The years of CPR construction in the vicinity brought considerable exploitation of the landscape. By 1883 something of a sawmill boomtown developed at Holt City, or Laggan, (as Lake Louise Station was soon called), in response to the great need for tie wood and fuel for the trains. By 1887 Tom Wilson had blazed trials up to Lake Louise proper, and the first small cabins were built. Until 1913 a good deal of logging and guiding took place in the region, after which time the influence of the National Park establishment was more strongly exercised.

Statement of significance.

Local.
Construction History

A tender call for the construction of an automobile bungalow camp at Saskatchewan River Crossing was advertised in July, 1939, the successful bid being made by Ralph Henry. Between 1939 and 1942 Henry constructed a two-story central building which accommodated staff on the second floor, two one-bedroom log cabins, eight frame cabins and a log gasoline station. For many years the establishment was known as Saskatchewan River Crossing Bungalows.

Lease History and Status

The initial building permit and lease was to Ralph S. Harvey, who was associated with George O. Brewster. A twenty-one year lease was issued in April, 1940. Ownership of the lease was sold to G.O. Brewster in June of 1942 and upon the death of Brewster, the lease passed to Barbara Brewster and Edward Collier who took out a new 42 year lease in 1962. In 1967 the lease was assigned to Wapta and Yoho Lodges Ltd. from the Brewster Estate, and a new forty two year lease signed. In 1970 the resort had been leased to Saskatchewan River Bungalows Ltd. and in 1975 sub-leased to Pacific Petroleum Ltd. and Keswick Holdings Ltd. In 1980 resort operated under the name of Parkway Lodge. The current lease expiry is in March 16, 2009.

Development History

The site is at the junction of the David Thompson Highway and the old Banff-Jasper Highway. When improvements were made to the Banff-Jasper Road in 1960 the site had to be moved, and the original cabins were relocated. The original lodge (Mount Wilson Lodge) was also moved in 1961 and it was then used for staff quarters. New main facilities were built at this time as well. When a new long-term lease was let in 1962, the document provided for a bungalow camp, service station and tea room. In 1979 the site underwent major expansion after approval was granted for the expansion of the restaurant to 290 seats, and the construction of five fourteen-unit modules to the rear of the main lodge. By the end of the year 68 new units of accommodation had been added. Older cabins were given over to staff use. Important complications with the sewage system
Plate 3-20

Plate 3-21
Saskatchewan River Bungalows Ltd. 1980s.
were identified by Environment Canada officials in 1979 necessitating a lengthy review of the facility. By late 1980, the design problems had been resolved. By 1983 the resort was being advertised as ‘The Crossing.’ It consisted of fifteen cabins, a staff house and a power house. Visual conflicts were considerable at that time.

Social History

The interest of this site derives from its locale at a geographic crossroads of great utility to some of the early fur traders and explorers, along to many generations of Native peoples who utilized the Howse Pass to cross from the interior mountains to the plains. David Thompson was at the forks of the North Saskatchewan and the Howse Rivers in June of 1807. He then sought to utilize the pass as a way to the trans-mountain Kutenai Indians, an initiative quickly frustrated by the Blackfoot and their allies who closed the pass down in response. James Hector explored the local area as well during the years of the Palliser Expedition in the late 1850s when potential trans-mountain transportation routes were being sought.

Statement of significance.

Local

The Mount Wilson Lodge is of some historical interest, despite the relocation of buildings in 1961 and the redesignation of its purpose.
Shadow Lake Cabin.

Construction History

The original structure was built in 1929 by the CPR, one-half mile east of Shadow Lake. The original intent was to provide a stopping place for people en route from the Castle Mountain bungalow camp and Banff townsite. Easiest access was up Red Earth Creek but guests also arrived from Storm Mountain via Gibbon Pass and from Healy Pass.52

Lease History and Status

The original CPR five year licence of occupation lapsed in 1934. The parks branch demonstrated some interest in obtaining the site from the CPR for purposes of fire patrol, but did not follow through and the cabin was assigned to James Brewster in 1938.53 In 1939 the property was re-assigned to the Brewster Transportation Company. The cabin was then purchased by Claude B. Brewster in 1954 and retained under five year licenses of occupation until 1969.54 At that time the National Parks Branch terminated the licence of occupation, with instructions that Mr. Brewster would sever and remove all structures by 1970. As of 1980 this had not been done and Mr. Brewster was attempting to promote an expanded development on the site.55 As of 1988 the suggestion of an attempt to expand this site under the Four Mountain Park Policy applied to ‘Redevelopment’ had fostered some critical comment from the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, which took the view that the historic function of the Shadow Lake cabin was not that of a back country commercial lodge.56 There is a large backlog of park files and correspondence suggesting that many previous park administrators were and remain in basic agreement with that contention.57 The Lease has expired. A Forty-two year lease is pending to expire c. 2034.
Plate 3-22  Shadow Lake Cabin.  1930s

Plate 3-23  Shadow Lake Cabin.  1993.
Development History.

A proposal for redevelopment of the site caused the building to be submitted to the Federal Heritage Building Review Office. A prepared statement of heritage character noted that 'the Shadow Lake Rest House is a simple, two-room log cabin. It is a very good example of mountain vernacular building, influenced to some extent by European examples, and has successfully met the needs of back-country travellers for nearly sixty years.' Proposals for redevelopment in the late 1980s drew these observations from the Chief of Historic Resource Conservation, following a review of the submitted statements on historical significance.

Development, as proposed would lead to:

a) degradation of the natural setting through construction of a number of new buildings in the meadow.

b) moving the cabin or lodge from its original location will remove it from its historic location and place within the environment,

c) unsympathetic additions to the lodge will destroy, or least significantly alter its historic character.

Social History.

When built by the CPR it constituted part of the network of trails and rest-houses used by The Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies, an organization established in 1923 with the support of the CPR. Considerable documentation on the activities of the Trail Riders exists through their journal and records.
Statement of Significance

Regional.

The Western Region Historic Resources Committee in a statement of heritage character observed that 'The use of a cantilevered roof extension over the front of the cabin and the dry-stone foundation, are good technical solutions to the problems of heavy snowfall and poor ground drainage. These techniques while traditional and widely used, are well executed in this case, as is the reverse-tapering of the saddle-notched wall logs.' The broader thematic significance of the site was considered in a Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office Report of 1987, which found the site significant in terms of its relationship to the development of rail tourism in the west, particularly with respect to the activities of the Trail Riders of Canadian Rockies, and the Brewster family. Joanna H. Doherty concluded in that report that cabins associated with early CPR developments are now rare in the mountains and 'the Shadow Lake one is the only remaining building associated with the early history of the Trail Riders in Banff National Park.'
Map 3-1


This map shows the links between Banff and Castle Mountain via Shadow Lake and the Redearth Pass.
The pattern of visitor access and use today is similar to that of the 1930s, but park facilities such as campgrounds have been added, some in the vicinity of the original lodges, along with Warden cabins. The Sunshine Ski Area is the main departure in terms of scale.
Map 3-3

Trail and Lodge Connections in the Banff-Yoho Boundary Area: 1930s

Sky Line Trail 1933

Actual Route of the Inaugural Sky Line Trail Hike—August 4-7, 1933
Skoki Lodge

Construction History

The first lodge was built of local logs in 1930 for the Mount Norquay Ski Lodge, and received guests for the first time in the spring of 1931. In that year a one-storey kitchen wing was added. A series of other additions were completed by Jim Boyce in 1935 and 1936, presumably concerned with the upper floor and gables. By 1940 there were, besides the lodge, four log cabins, a tent frame, a log wash-house with showers and three toilet buildings. Accommodation was provided for forty-five persons.

Lease History and Status.

The initial five year lease was transferred to the Ski Club of the Canadian Rockies Ltd. The Ski Club obtained a five year lease in 1935 for Skoki and two other properties related to it: Mount Temple and the Halfway Hut. In 1947 a new lease was issued to The Ski Club of the Canadian Rockies (1947) Ltd. and a twenty-one year lease was given to the club again in 1951. In 1958 the name changed once again to The Ski Club of the Canadian Rockies. In 1971 the lease was assigned to Village Lake Louise Ltd. A series of five year leases have been granted since 1980. The current lease expiry date is September 30, 1995.

Social History

According to Graeme Pole ‘In 1911, a group of American mountaineers climbed in the area, naming many of the features, including the Skoki Valley. Skoki (Skowe-key) is a Native word meaning “marsh.” Edward Mills stated that Skoki Lodge was ‘the first facility built to cater to ski-tourists on a commercial basis in Canada and possibly in North America.’ The first lodge was built by Cyril Paris and Clifford White, two skiing enthusiasts from Banff in the fall of 1930. The following year, after the formation of the Ski Club of the Canadian Rockies, the operation of the cabin was taken over by this new organization. Sir Norman Watson became one of several active share-holders and by 1936 he controlled the majority interest in the lodge. In that same year he undertook to expand the main building. Watson went on to become an important financial source for ski development in the surrounding area. In
Plate 3-24  Skiing at Skoki, 1932
Photo: Byron Harmon

Plate 3-25  Sir Norman Watson
A Portrait at the Post Hotel

Plate 3-26  
Skoki Lodge: Building of Addition, 1936
Graeme Pole (1991)
Plate 3-27  
Skoki Lodge. 1992

Plate 3-28  
Skoki Lodge Outbuilding. 1992
addition to developing Skoki Lodge and associated cabins, he also undertook construction of the Half-Way Hut, Temple Lodge and the Lake Louise Ski Lodge the present Post Hotel.67

In 1943 Skoki Lodge was taken over by one of the most engaging of twentieth century Rocky Mountain personalities, the Baroness Elizabeth Von Rummel, (1897-1980) better known to her many friends and associates as 'Lizzie'. Elizabeth Rummel was born in Munich in 1897, the daughter of a German army officer, Baron Gustav von Rummel, and Elisabet Hirth, the latter the offspring of a wealthy publishing family. Elizabeth's mother was married for the third time in 1907 to an Italian, Robert Basalici. In 1911 the family headed for the rocky mountains to take possession of three-quarter sections known as the Gate Ranch, purchased from Louis Taylor who met the family at Priddis. This ranch, some twenty miles to the south-west, was essentially a pleasure ranch, but as the family was in Canada when World War I broke out, it became isolated, incapable of getting funds out of Germany. The Gate ranch had suddenly to become a working ranch.68 From that date onward, Lizzie Rummel's life became firmly identified with the backcountry of the Skoki region and Mount Assiniboine.69 Something of the flavour of activities at Skoki can be gleaned from various journal reports of the times.

Significance.

National (Recognized)

Mills has argued that 'Unlike most other backcountry facilities of this type, Skoki Lodge has remained essentially unchanged in function and appearance since the 1930s.' The combined factors of age, function, and a setting accessible only by trail, helps distinguish Skoki from other lodge sites.70 The site has been designated a National Historic Site by the National Historic Sites and Monuments Board.
Storm Mountain Lodge.

Construction History

Basil Gardom, the CPR’s superintendent for construction of western hotels, was successful in obtaining permission from the National Parks Branch to build a camp at Storm Mountain in 1923. The site selected was about five kilometres south of Castle Mountain along the route of the new Banff-Windermere Highway (no. 93) and was located on a fine promontory looking towards Storm Mountain. Mills has described the original lodge as constructed of saddle notch logs with a cantilevered verandah supported by brackets and log corbels. A massive stone chimney dominated the lodge. In addition, six cabins were constructed, each with stone fireplace and verandah. The lodge is located about five km. south of Castle Junction along Highway 93.

Lease History and Status

The initial twenty-one year lease was granted to the CPR in 1929 and in 1939 the lease was assigned to Harry Pollard of Calgary, who changed the name to Castle Mountain Bungalow Camp. The Lodge was assigned and re-named on a number of occasions between 1946 and 1976 when the Lodge was known as Storm Mountain Lodge Ltd. The most recent lease expired in 1992. A 42 year lease to 2034 is pending.

Development History

An advertising pamphlet from 1925 described the resort as consisting of a large main building constructed of log with a broad verandah and containing a combination dining/lounging room with open fireplace and six log bungalows. There was a public bath house as well. In 1929, six cabins were added, relocated from the somewhat unsuccessful enterprise at Vermilion River Crossing. By 1946 the site included the lodge, 14 cabins, 2 bathhouses, a stores building and a tea room. A 1971 appraisal carried out in favour of an anticipated purchase by Parks Canada confirmed a similar arrangement of buildings, an inventory which had only changed little as of 1985.
Plate 3-29  Storm Mountain Lodge. 1994
Coutesy: Storm Mountain Lodge

Plate 3-30  Storm Mountain Lodge. Cabin 1994
Coutesy: Storm Mountain Lodge
Social History

A considerable amount of information on the activities at Storm Mountain Lodge can be found in the historical record from journals and the holdings of the Whtye Archives of the Canadian Rockies, Banff.

Statement of significance.

Regional

The Storm Mountain complex represents one of the earliest and most coherent survivals of the lodges and bungalow camps built specifically to cater to developing automobile tourism of the 1920s. The CPR developed a number of plan-types for their bungalow camps, and the Storm Mountain buildings are typical of these models. Mills has observed that the sleeping cabins bear a close resemblance to the standard plans for warden patrol cabins common in that period.
Timberline Hotel.

Construction History

The Timberline was built in 1956 on a site of about two ha. (five acres) above the present Trans-Canada Highway at the Mount Norquay turnoff in the SW 1/4, S.3 Twp. 26, R. 12, W of 5. The main lodge was built in a style reminiscent of the Prairie School of architecture. An attractive staff quarters was also built in an attractive rustic design.

Lease History and Status

The initial lease was signed in 1957 and was for twenty one years, covering the years 1956 to 1977. The current lease expiry date is in September, 1998 and is renewable.

Development history

As of 1977 there were two main structures: a lodge and a staff quarters building. The lodge was two storey frame with a partial penthouse. Included within were forty-nine guest rooms, a conference room for 160, a second conference room for twenty, a fifty-seat cocktail lounge, a one hundred-seat dining room, and a three bedroom apartment in penthouse. Development proposals for a swimming pool and facility expansion were submitted in the late 1980s and environmental assessments, particularly with respect to archaeological resources, were initiated in response. Internal discussion about the appropriateness of the O.C.A. Guidelines for the Timberline, in such close proximity to Banff Townsite, were also on-going. Some additional chalets have been added since 1977 in the vicinity of the original staff quarters building. Infrastructure improvements in the early 1990s led to archaeological assessments of portions of this site, which has been of some interest as a prehistoric site since investigations were first conducted in 1969.
Plate 3-31  Timberline Lodge 1980s

Plate 3-32  Chalet At Timberline Lodge. 1993
Statement of significance.

Local

Non-architectural elements of the local landscape must be considered to be of archaeological significance. Work has been conducted at the site in the context of Environmental assessment since 1969. Tools found have included some similar to Plains Besant projectile points along with extensive lithic remains. Salvage Archaeologists concluded in 1990 that 'Site 98R represents a sensitive, highly significant archaeological resource. If threatened, this prehistoric campsite will require detailed archaeological assessment studies.'
Endnotes


5. Ibid.


10. Ibid.


14. Ibid.


16. Ibid.


20. Ibid.

21. Friesen (1985), *Moraine Lake Lodge*, p. 4

22. Ibid., p. 4


25. Ibid.


28. Moraine Lake Lodge. Notes. WRO. Historical Services Division. n.d. and *Skyline Trails*, II (No. 27) (June, 1940), 12-15


30. Ibid., p. 125


32. Ibid., p. 129

34. Ibid.


40. Friesen (1985), Paradise Lodge and Bungalows, Banff. p. 3

41. Ibid.

42. Ibid.


45. Friesen (1985), Parkway Lodge. p. 6

46. Ibid. Parkway Lodge. p. 5


51. See Esther Fraser, *The Canadian Rockies: Early Travels and Explorations* (Edmonton:

53. WRO. File C8590/B2-107; and WRO. Realty files. Y16-112.

54. Ibid.


57. See endnote 45

58. WRO. File C8590/B2-107; and WRO. Realty files. Y16-112.


64. Friesen (1985), Skoki Lodge, p. 2; WRO Realty Files, 1994.


66. Ibid.


70. Mills (1992), I.b.10. Skoki Ski Lodge.


73. Friesen (1985), Storm Mountain Lodge. p. 5


75. Ibid.

76. Ibid.


78. Ibid.


Chapter Four

Jasper

The Jasper National Park was established in 1907, in response to the completion of a second continental railway running through Edmonton and the Athabasca Pass. The preparations for this second route had been underway since 1902 when the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway was incorporated to facilitate an agreement with the federal government which would provide a new rail route between Moncton, New Brunswick and Prince Rupert, British Columbia.\(^1\) The establishment of a major public reserve around the scenic lands flanking the new railway was brought on by similar motives as those which had produced the Rocky Mountain National Park in 1887: the need to provide protective controls over both recreation and resource lands in a large area suddenly thrown open to mass transit and access. Work on the western portions off the new line started in 1905 at Carberry, Manitoba. On September 14, 1907, the federal government established Jasper Forest Park, about 5,000 square miles in extent. The final rail route selection through the park turned out to be that which had originally been proposed for the CPR, before the Kicking Horse Pass route was selected. Owing to the recent passage of the \textit{Province of Alberta Act} (1905) it was found that the Jasper Park could not be legislated strictly on the legal model of the Rocky Mountain Parks Act. Hence, the new reservation was made under the authority of the \textit{Dominion Lands Act}.. The park was temporarily reduced in size to a corridor comprising about a thousand square miles in 1911, but by 1914 it had been adjusted upward again to about 4,400 square miles.\(^2\) In 1927 lands comprising about 980 square miles were added south of Sunwapta Pass embracing some of the Columbia Icefield and ‘some of the highest mountains in the Canadian Rockies.’ Opposition to these changes was mounted by outfitters in Banff who had been accustomed to making their living by leading trips into this area. With negotiations currently being conducted between the province and the federal government, preliminary to the transfer of natural resources administration to the province, a compromise was achieved by means of the recommendations of a Boundary Commission. In February, 1929 the disputed area was added to the Rocky Mountains Park while areas to the north and east of Jasper were added to that park. Following the consolidation of park legislation in 1930, Jasper contained about 4,200 square miles of land.\(^3\)
Map 4-1

Jasper National Park: Distribution of Lodges, c. 1990

Parks Canada

Roofed Accommodation

OCAs
1. Pocahontas Bungalows
2. Miette Hot Springs Bungalows
3. Pine Bungalows
4. Pyramid Lake Bungalows
5. Patricia Lake Bungalows
6. Tewarra Lodge
7. Alpine Village
8. Jasper House Bungalows
9. Becker's Roaring River Chalets
10. Sunwapta Falls Bungalows
11. Columbia Icefield Chalet

Hostels
12. Maligne Canyon
13. The Whistlers
14. Athabasca Falls
15. Mount Edith Cavell
16. Beauty Creek

Others
Δ Jasper Park Lodge
As in Banff, a visitor reception and administrative zone first took the form of a railway town. By 1913 some semblance of a townsite was in place following upon an official survey by H. Matheson, D.L.S. By 1914 the first application for lots in the town were being accepted. Jasper did not experience particularly strong pressures for development until after World War II, in the wake of road improvements west of Edmonton and between Banff and Jasper Townsites. Some important tourism facilities quickly appeared in the townsite such as the Jasper Park Lodge. Over time however, and with the rise of the automobile, a wide variety of front and backcountry facilities developed in Jasper Park. Some of the more important outlying accommodation facilities are reviewed below.
Construction History

The Alpine Village is located two and a half kilometres south of the Town of Jasper on Highway 93 and commands a view over the Athabasca River. A tender was advertised in 1939 for the establishment of a bungalow camp and Curtis R. Kiefer was the successful bidder. He completed construction of a series of cabins by mid-1940. Kiefer’s Kozy Kabins were described in a memo of that year as ‘nicely and neatly constructed and completed inside with a sitting room, 2 cubicles used as bedrooms and a toilet and shower room.’

Development History

The resort is located on 4.5 ha. (11.2 acres). Many of the original buildings were remodelled in 1951. This resulted in a resort with twenty-five units with log exteriors and some stone fireplaces. A corral Site was included and an old barn retained.

Lease History and Status

The Original Lease was for 21 years signed in 1940. The resort has remained in the Kiefer family and a 42 year lease was signed in 1962. In 1986 the lease was assigned from Alpine Village Ltd. to Alpine Village (1986) Ltd. Current lease expiry date: June 30, 2004. It contains a 21 Year renewal clause.

Social History

Significance:

Local
Plate 4-1  Alpine Village, 1992

Plate 4-2  Alpine Village, 1992.
Becker’s Roaring River Chalets

Construction History

The site is located five kilometres south of Jasper townsite on the east side of Highway 93 and on north shore of Athabasca River. The Beckers were among the first people to operate commercial accommodation in Jasper. Their first establishment was at the Miette Hot Springs. W. Fay Becker was given a concession in September, 1939 based on his record at the Miette Hot Springs where he was already operating a camp. In his first year of ownership nine cabins were either built or in progress.7

Development history

By 1985 48 cabins had been put in place. Numbers 1-33 have deep red wood siding exteriors with green asphalt shingles roofs and a fireplace. Numbers 34-49 have wood exteriors and brown asphalt shingles. There is a Dining Hall with cedar shake exterior walls and a stone entrance. The vegetation cover comprises pine and spruce, with the ground cover mainly destroyed owing to a lack of defined pathways. Some conflict arises from noise from the highway for some cabins.

Lease History and Status

The original lease was to the W. Fay Becker and in 1940 a twenty-one year lease was let to W. Fay Becker and Company Ltd. The Beckers were granted a new forty-two year lease in 1962. In 1973 the original lease holders assigned the resort to Becker’s Bungalows (1973) Ltd. In 1978 it was assigned to Claudio and Bruno Holdings and in that same year the resort was renamed Becker’s Roaring River Chalets.8 The current lease expiry date is June, 2004 with a twenty-one year renewal clause.

Statement of significance.

Local.
Plate 4-3  Becker's Roaring River Chalets.
  Main Lodge. 1992

Plate 4-4  Becker's Roaring River Chalets.
  Cabin. 1992
Columbia Icefield Chalet

Construction history

The Chalet is across Highway 93 from the Athabasca Glacier, 125 kilometres north of Lake Louise and 105 miles south of the Jasper Townsite. In response to a tender call made in 1938 for a chalet, James I. Brewster made a successful proposal. The building was completed by mid-1939 and an inspector’s report from 1940 noted that it ‘was well built’ and ‘nicely finished.’ The complex also included a lighting plant, water supply and septic tank system, the entire site heated by a steam plant.9

Development history

Building materials and conditions of chalet, as of 1986 were poor. No separation between chalet and parking area. It was suggested at that time that limitations should be placed on further development. Between 1973 and 1991 a number of issues concerning water quality, provision of washroom facilities to the travelling public, and conceptual planning for replacement and expansion of facilities were dealt with.10 A Columbia Icefields Area Plan was completed in the 1980s and development proposals were assessed in the context of that plan.11 By 1991 conceptual approval for improvements and expansion had been granted.12

Lease History and Status

An initial 21 year lease was granted in 1939 to Brewster Transportation Co. Ltd. A new forty-two year lease was issued in 1966 for a chalet-hotel, service station and staff quarters.13 The current lease expiry date is September 20, 2008, with a twenty-one year renewal clause.

Significance

Local
Jasper House bungalows

Construction History

This resort is about 3.5 miles south of Jasper Townsite on Highway 93. A tender call for construction of an auto bungalow camp was made in 1956 and a two-year license of occupation was awarded to D.M. McFarlane, J. Woolwich and B. S. Taylor in June, 1957. The original proposal was for a central building to be used partially as a tea room and office, and to provide ten double cabins and a pumphouse.14

Development History

A report prepared in 1957 noted that the resort was very attractive and that there was ‘a sense of spaciousness and comfort which is quite distinct.’ The construction work was described as ‘superior’ and the furnishings and fixtures as ‘definitely above average.’15 Cabins 30-43 were constructed in 1980.

Lease History and Status

An initial license was granted in 1957. A ten year lease was then executed in 1962. The lease was assigned to MacFarlane and Woolwich and a new forty-two year lease signed in 1964. This called for provision of a bungalow camp and restaurant. In 1977 the lease was assigned to John and Josina Forobosca. The current lease expiry is in 2006 with no renewal clause.

Social History

Limited.

Statement of significance.

Local
Jasper House Bungalows. 1992

Plate 4-7

Plate 4-8

Jasper House Bungalows. 1992
Environment and Setting

The vegetation cover consists of pine, spruce and poplar. Little understorey was present as of 1984 and there was an impression of over-paving on the site. There are some noise constraints on the cottages.
Patricia Lake Bungalows

Construction History

The bungalows are about 4.8 km northwest of Jasper Townsite. They were built in 1954 following the issue of an interim licence of occupation to C. V. Cunningham and T.H. Houg. The two men incorporated as Patricia Lake Cabins Limited in 1954.\textsuperscript{16} Twenty cabins were in use in 1954.

Development History

By 1984 the site included thirty units, including twenty-five cabins, a manager’s quarters and office, a mechanical equipment building and living quarters for a caretaker. The log cabins are of interest and there is good proximity to the lake.

Lease History and Status

In December of 1967 the resort was assigned to Patricia Lake Bungalows Ltd.\textsuperscript{17} The current lease expiry date is January 25, 2009.

Social History

Scuba diving is popular, partially owing to the presence of The Habbakuk, a World War II experimental ship, which sank just west of the resort.

Statement of Significance.

Local
Pine Bungalows

Construction history

The site is two kilometres east of Jasper Townsite on the Athabasca River. Tenders were called for establishment of a bungalow camp at Cottonwood Creek in 1931. T.J.K. Walkenden was successful and his camp became known as Cottonwood Creek. By 1936 he had completed twenty-five cabins, a manager’s office and quarters.¹⁸

Development History.

Between 1936 and 1944 Walkenden added another 25 cabins for a total of fifty, which remained the number in 1985. These are dark brown stained with green asphalt or cedar shingle roofs. The vegetation cover consists of lodgepole pine, spruce and popular, with understorey present in most locations. There are good scenic qualities but the cabins sites are too close together. It has been recommended in the past that no new development take place owing to wildlife requirements, although five cabins were built in 1990.

Lease History and Status

An initial license was granted in 1935 to T.J. Walkenden. A twenty-one year lease was then granted in 1940 for a bungalow camp, store and tea-room. Walkenden and his wife became co-holders of the lease in 1942 and in 1958 they incorporated as Pine Bungalows Ltd. In 1964 the lease was assigned to Pine Bungalows (Jasper) Ltd. and a forty-two year lease was granted, terminating in 2008. In 1974 the lease was assigned to Pine Bungalows Management Ltd. in the name of Victor and Constance Wasiuta.¹⁹ The current lease expires on March 31, 2008.

Social History

The personality and working relationships of Walkenden were identified by Friesen as a story of interest.
Plate 4-11  
Pine Bungalows, 1992

Plate 4-12  
Pine Bungalows  1992
Statement of Significance

Regional

The original Cottonwood Bungalow site represents one the earliest camps in Jasper. The Area surrounding is used by Elk and is located in a AT1 Ecosite, identified in Banff-Jasper Biophysical Study. The area is important for predators as well. A corridor for Elk movement needs to be maintained.
Pyramid Lake Motel.

Construction History

This resort is located some 5.6 kilometres northwest of the Jasper Townsite on the southeast shore of Pyramid Lake. The first development at the site dates from 1928 when Jack Brewster built a dance hall, an establishment which survived into the 1960s. Commercial lodge development dates from the mid-1950s when Henry Bokenfohr was successful in a tender call. A number of cabins and related structures were built between 1958 and 1965. He incorporated some of the existing buildings into his operation.\(^{20}\)

Development History

The developer made use of buildings on the site such as a former cottage/rooming house which he converted into staff quarters. Between 1958 and 1965 Bokenfohr erected five double cabins and an office-residence building. The old dance hall was used as a dining room until its demolition in 1967. The old Hotel and many cabins were totally revamped in 1990.

Lease History and Status

Henry Bokenfohr was given a short term licence of occupation in 1957 and in 1959 was awarded a ten year lease. In 1962 a new lease for 42 years was granted, terminating in 2004. Upon Mr. Bokenfohr’s death in 1964 the lease was assigned to his widow. In 1968 she married J.E. Braeckman and in 1969 the lease was assigned to Mr and Mrs. Ken McIlmoyle. In 1975 the lease was assigned to Gingera Investments Ltd.\(^{21}\)

Social History

While no longer extant, the history of the dance hall building (1928-67) is a story of some local interest.

Significance: Local

Environment and Setting

While there is good topographic variety the linear arrangement of the buildings is less satisfactory. There are day-use and overnight-use conflicts owing to a wide variety of recreational uses on Pyramid Lake.
Sunwapta Falls Bungalows.

Construction History

The National Parks Branch advertised a concession for a bungalow camp and gas station in November, 1939. Eventually, an agreement was reached with William Hayhurst who had a camp in operation by June, 1941. No lease was actually granted until 1950, when a series of two-year leases were issued. In 1973 Kevin Birkett-Roberts and William Gillis purchased the development. In 1976 the site was purchased by Paul Corlett.22

Development History

Six cabins and a central building with a tea room were originally constructed in 1941. The central building became units 7 and 8 when a new central building was constructed in 1947. Two new cabins were added in 1953. Unites 11 and 12 were then added in 1956, followed by a double-cabin, units 13 and 14, in 1957. A number of development proposals were made in the 1970s and 1980s, which were turned down by the Parks Branch which at that time expressed an interest in phasing out the site and relocating it.23 In 1983, all one-room units were demolished and replaced by 5 new duplex cabins. In 1988 a redevelopment proposal was tabled which included additions to the main lodge.24

Lease History and Status.

The original series of leases were issued to William Heyhurst, in 1950, although his tender had been accepted as early as 1941. A long-term lease was issued only in 1963, when a 42 year lease was issued, terminating in 2004.25

Social History

The main point of historical interest of this lodge appears to be local mythology surrounding a visit of Marilyn Monroe to Jasper Park. (See Plate 4-14b)
Plate 4-14a
Sunwapta Falls Lodge. 1992

Plate 4-14b
The ‘Marilyn Monroe’ Cabin.
Sunwapta Falls. 1992
Tekarra Lodge.

Construction History

The Tekarra Lodge is located on Highway 93 about two kilometres south of the town of Jasper at the junction of the Athabasca and Miette Rivers. A tender to provide an automobile bungalow camp was advertised in late 1946 and awarded to Gerda Zeidler and Victor Trudell. A twenty-one year lease was granted which included provision of a tea room and store. Between 1946 and 1948, 12 single cabins and ten double cabins were constructed, along with the main chalet, manager's residence, administrative and staff buildings.26

Lease History and Status

In 1963 Resorts Limited was sold to Albert J. Knebel and Mitchell Pecket. In turn, Knebel and Pecket assigned the lease to Tekarra Lodge Ltd. and this firm was granted a 42 year lease terminating in 2114. In 1974 Tekarra Lodge Ltd. became Tekarra Resort Ltd. The current lease expires on June 30th, 2014 and contains a ten year renewal clause.27

Development History

In 1951 the corporate name Resorts Limited was adopted. In that same year five new double unit cabins were added along with a staff quarters. By 1985 the resort included 43 cabins. The property underwent redevelopment in the early 1990s.28

Local vegetation consists of pine, spruce, and douglas fir. A Nature Trail follows the Athabasca River to the Old Fort Pointe Road and interpretive signs. Good views are provided over the rivers. Visual conflicts on site are several, often associated with service requirements such as propane tanks.

Social history

Limited

Statement of significance.

Local
Endnotes

2. Ibid., pp. 52-3
3. Ibid., p. 54
4. Ibid., p. 53
6. WRO. File C8595/J1-100
7. Friesen (1985), Becker’s Roaring River Chalets, p. 5
8. WRO-R. File J16-112-3
12. Ibid., K. Shepherd, Jasper, to A. Whittick, (Brewster’s), Jan 10, 1991.
13. Ibid.
14. Friesen (1985), Jasper House Bungalows, p. 4
15. Ibid.
16. Friesen (1985), Patricia Lake Bungalows, p. 3
17. WRO-R File J16-112-11
18. Friesen (1985), Pine Bungalows, p. 6
20. Friesen (1985), Pyramid Lake Motel. p.3

21. Ibid.


23. Friesen (1985), Sunwapta Falls, pp. 1-6


25. Friesen (1985), Sunwapta Lodge. p. 6


27. Ibid,

28. WRO. File C8595/J1-112
The development of lodges and tourism in this park was largely brought on by the completion of the Banff-Windermere Highway after 1919. This was not the absolute case however. Prior to the Federal-Provincial agreement which allowed for the establishment of Kootenay National Park, development had already commenced around Sinclair Canyon and the Radium Hot Springs, some three miles up Sinclair Creek from the Columbia Highway.

The first commercial enterprise at Radium Hot Springs was undertaken by Roland Stuart of Victoria, who paid the crown $160.00 for a grant of 160 acres which incorporated the springs. Stuart operated a very minimal kind of facility between 1890 and 1911 at which time a bath-house was constructed and an improved pool. The hot-springs facilities were rehabilitated in 1922 after the National Parks expropriated the site. This facility operated until 1927, at which time a new two-storey bath-house was erected and the original concrete pool lengthened.

Roland Stuart made his purchase initially with an eye to selling the water in bottled form rather than in its recreational context. He obtained the mineral rights to the water as well as the water power potential contained in the Sinclair Canyon. A man of diverse commercial interests, Stuart did not develop the site significantly over the next two decades, although a certain amount of casual use of the springs took place. He did keep an eye on public perceptions of the site and on what science had to offer. In 1911 the British medical journal, Lancet, published an article dealing with an analysis of the springs on his property which concluded that the waters might be higher in radium content than many other famous springs such as Bath, England.

This suggestion that the waters at Radium might be rich in therapeutic value coincided with initiatives being taken by individuals in south-eastern B.C. and south-western Alberta to promote a road link through Banff to the Columbia River Valley. Such a road would be a first, and would help open up the agricultural potential of the Columbia, linking that part of the world with markets on the prairies, lower mainland B.C. and the American Northwest. Theirs was a vision of a new Okanagan!
Plate 5-1 The Gateway Building to the Radium Hot Springs. c. 1925. This building was later demolished.

Plate 5-2 The Radium Hot Springs Bath House, built 1928. This building replaced the earlier log bath house, but burned down in 1948.
persons anxious to bring it through the Vermilion Pass, (that long-neglected route first advocated as a sound trans-mountain route by James Hector in 1858) and hence right past the springs owned by Stuart. It is likely that the location of the springs and Stuart’s advocacy led to this final route selection, when other passes such as the Luxor and Pedly were also possible for giving access to the Windermere country.

In 1913 Stuart formed the Radium Natural Springs Syndicate Ltd. in order to create a focus for needed investment capital. The cause of development was furthered through the investment of St. John Harmsworth, an invalid millionaire who personally came from England to test the curative powers of the springs, and with some success. Stuart undertook preliminary development before World War I started, but he then spent the war years in England. When he returned to the springs in 1920, much had changed.

Randolph Bruce of Invermere, (a Scottish-born engineer rich in contacts with CPR officials), along with various associates, convinced the British Columbia Government, the CPR, and the Federal Government that they should jointly complete a road from Banff to the Columbia River. Between 1910 and 1914 the federal government completed its share from Calgary to the Great Divide. British Columbia on the other hand, had run out of funds in 1913, and work was suspended on the B.C. side during the war. Bruce gave further thought to how the project might be completed, and considered a scheme involving National Park expansion. In 1919 Canada and British Columbia entered into a new agreement by which the federal government would complete the remaining fifty-three miles in exchange for a grant of land from B.C. which would be converted into a National Park bordering the highway. Thus, on April 21, 1920, Kootenay National Park was formally established. This was the context of land and development to which Roland Stuart returned in 1920.

In order to rationalize the new National Park, the Parks Branch began to explore the possibility of purchasing Stuart’s holding which now lay within the new park. The Golden-based resident manager for Stuart, E.J. Scovill, had attempted to contact Stuart in England about this prospect, but then commenced to work against his employer in the interests of the park. In a communication to the Superintendent of the Rocky Mountains Park in Banff he suggested expropriation proceedings be started. This was done, but not without a strong fight from Stuart who accused the government of “secret hurry and unlawful course.” The proceedings worked in favour of the Government who eventually provided Stuart with about $40,000 for his property in 1927, following appeal proceedings.
Map 5-1

Distribution of Historic and Pre-Historic Sites in Kootenay National Park. 1974

Sites tend to reflect activity along what have remained the main transportation Routes.
Map 5-2
Kootenay: Distribution of Lodges and Camps: 1930s
Sky Line Trail.

KEY
TRAILS
RAILWAYS
AUTO ROADS
CAMPS
GREAT DIVIDE
Meanwhile, the new highway had been completed by 1923. The hot-springs facilities were rehabilitated in 1922 after the park-takeover and were operated until 1927, at which time a new two-storey bath-house was erected and the original concrete pool lengthened by 30 feet. In 1948 the structure burned and was replaced in 1950 by the Aquacourt. A number of other renovations and improvements were made in the late 1960s.

Parallel with the post-1922 development of the site, came the survey of a small townsite on the bench above the hot springs. The park administration was located here along with a number of supporting business establishments and residential dwellings. The CPR established a bungalow camp sub-division as well.

With the completion of the Banff-Windermere Highway in 1923, the prospects for automobile tourism expanded greatly, and with a view to this new trade the CPR established a bungalow camp near the springs in 1923. By 1927 this camp consisted of a main lodge building and nine cabins.9 The main lodge building was of log construction with a broad verandah, and had a capacity to sleep twelve.10 A number of assignments of the lease took place after 1927 and numerous additions and demolitions were executed. In 1944 the complex was being run by Radium Hot Springs Ltd. The site then included a lodge, nine single room cabins, three double room cabins and two four-room cabins.11 In 1965, following upon issue of a new 42 year lease in 1963, plans were made to replace the entire stock of buildings, including the lodge. This was done and none of the pre-1944 buildings are extant, with the possible exception of three double-unit cabins north of the main lodge.12 An official opening for the new Radium Hot Springs Lodge took place in June of 1965. In 1979 the lease was assigned to 122069 projects Ltd. The current lease expiry date is in 2006 with a 21 year renewal clause. The main focus of development remained in the townsite of Radium but other outlying accommodation came into being after 1930, and the following sites represent the principal developments.
Addison’s Bungalows

Tender calls were advertised for a bungalow camp on Highway 93 in April, 1948 and the application of Mr. Addison E. Scratch was accepted. The first series of cabins was built between 1948 and 1950. In 1949 a communication between Scratch and Ottawa Headquarters indicated that 14 bungalows were in place. By 1953 he had added four more cabins and in 1955 another cabin was added for a total of 19. Most cabins had fireplaces, and all contained a bathroom, hot and cold running water, and electricity.

Development History

The site is located on .65 ha (1.62 acres.) In 1973-4 two duplex units were added, and in 1979-80 a six-plex was added along with a new office administration building. By 1985 the site contained thirty one rental units. In 1985 a certain congestion was noted around the cabins with respect to parking space.

Lease History and Status

A.E. Scratch was awarded a twenty-one year lease in 1948. In 1957 he established a limited company, Addison’s Bungalow Camp Ltd. A forty-two year lease was granted which allowed for the camp and a store. The lease expiry date is in 2004 and it contains a twenty-one year renewal clause.

Social History

Limited

Statement of Significance.

Local.
Plate 5-3
Addison’s Bungalows. 1961

Plate 5-4
Addison’s Bungalow Camp Ltd. 1994
Blakley’s Bungalows.

Construction history

This resort is on Highway 93 near the Radium Hot Springs Pools and is about two km. east of the Kootenay Park west gate. The original was built in 1931 by Thomas Alton on .8 ha. (1.95 acres.) and consisted of eight single cabins and one duplex cabin.\textsuperscript{17}

Development History

By 1953, the original 9 cabins had been expanded to seventeen single cabins and two duplex cabins, along with a newly constructed office/residence/rental unit and a private residential building. Valuations were undertaken in 1956 and 1962, the latter with respect to a requirement by the park for some of the property. Cabins nos. 17 to 20 were located on property required for a highway right of way. In 1964 Blakley was granted a new lease and adjusted property, and allowed to relocated the buildings in question.\textsuperscript{18}

Lease History and Status

The property was assigned to J.S. Blakley in 1932. He was granted a twenty-one year lease covering the years 1931 to 1952. A renewal was granted in 1952 for twenty-one years. In 1957 Blakley assigned the property to his son, who was then granted a 42 year lease commencing in 1962. In 1976, Alexander Blakley assigned the property to Price Management and Holdings Ltd. In 1978 it was assigned to Tomyn Enterprises Ltd. In 1981 the property was assigned to Frank and Sarolta Schneider.\textsuperscript{19}
Social history

John Blakley had been involved as a caretaker at the Radium Hot Spring’s Pool between 1914 and 1921. He had property in Lot 10 and in 1923 he commenced providing a tea room service for travellers. This tea room burned down in 1925 but he rebuilt, naming the new facility The Radium Hot Springs Hotel. He obtained a licence of occupation on some additional property adjoining, and built a garage, store and gas station. In 1931, Ron Alton constructed a series of housekeeping cabins on two acres on the slopes above Sinclair Creek. It was this development that Blakley purchased in 1932, and which became Blakley’s Bungalows.20

Significance.

Local
Mount Farnham Bungalows

Construction history

By September of 1954, four cabins had been constructed on this site which is across from the Radium Hot Springs pools on Highway no. 93 twenty-one km. east of Kootenay Park’s west gate and the town of Radium. The conditions of the first licence required construction of ten cabins and an office/staff building. It was originally known as Blakley’s Parcel No. 2, adjoining Parcel No.1 which contained Blakley’s Bungalows, and on which there was no capacity for expansion.21

Development History

In 1956 and 1972, valuations were conducted.22 In 1985 the site still retained the original cabins. The site was reported in 1985 to be in a context of good local forest cover but steep local slopes restricted the development possibilities.23 The proximity to the Hot Springs developments has been a main source of its commercial success.

Lease History and Status

A two year license of occupation was given to J.S. Blakley in 1954. In 1955, Blakley assigned the licence to his son, Blair C. Blakley, at about the same time he assigned the lease for Blakley’s Bungalows to his other son, Herbert A. Blakley.24 In 1965 the lease was assigned to Edward and Olga Forbes and in 1977 it was assigned to Price Management Holdings Ltd. In 1980 it was again re-assigned to Slavko and Gisela Nasic and in 1983 back to Price Management Holdings Ltd.25 The current lease expiry date is 2004 and it contains a twenty-one year lease renewal clause.

Significance.

Local
Plate 5-7
Mount Farnham Bungalows 1972

Plate 5-8
Mount Farnham Bungalows 1994
Vermilion Crossing Bungalows

Construction history

This site is sixty-nine km. south of Banff, and sixty-eight km. north of the Radium Hot Springs on the Banff-Windermere Highway. The lodge at Vermilion Crossing was built by the CPR in 1923. In April of 1924 the CPR filed a proposed plan with the National Parks Branch for further development of the camp. Six cabins were added in 1924.

Development history

By 1929 the CPR was anxious to close down the operation, owing to a poor local water supply, and to remove the cabins to its Castle Camp operation. The cabins were moved and arrangements were made for the lodge to be rented by the RCMP.

Social History

The lodge was historically used as RCMP barracks, initial discussions of which first took place in 1929. The Barracks was threatened by 1939 through lack of use. Senator Horsey wrote arguing for its use by Victor Lord, owner of the tourist camp adjoining. It was proposed to use it as a community hall.

Lease History and Status

In 1931 Victor H. Lord and his wife were granted a bungalow camp concession on the same lot, the couple having operated the camp on a lease from the CPR since 1929. The lease was assigned to Nudd’s Ltd. in 1964. A forty-two year lease was then obtained by Nudd’s in 1965. In 1973 the lease was assigned to W. Richmond, and the name was changed to Vermilion Crossing Bungalows. The current lease expiry date is in 2007 with a twenty-one year. renewal clause.
Plate 5-9  Vermilion Crossing Lodge  c. 1925
Photo: Canadian Pacific Railway

Plate 5-10  Kootenay Park Lodge  1994
Significance.

Regional

Edward Mills has suggested that 'the main lodge displays the high construction standards typical of CPR log resort construction during the 1920s, and remains largely unchanged in appearance.' \(^\text{32}\)
Endnotes


15. *An Evaluation of Outlying Commercial Accommodation in Banff, Jasper, Kootenay and Yoho*

16. Ibid.

17. Freisen (1985), Blakley’s Bungalows, p. 6

18. Ibid. p.6

19. Ibid., p. 5

20. Lothian (1983), p. 68


23. Ibid.

24. Ibid.

25. Freisen (1985) Mount Farnham Bungalows, p.4


29. Courtlandt Starnes, Commissioner, RCMP, Ottawa. to J.B. Harkin, Sept. 17, 1929. (RCMP File G. 1341-7)


Chapter Six

Yoho

Not long after the park reservation was made at the Banff Hot Springs in 1885, interest was shown in the House of Commons with respect to the possible establishment of other reserves along the Canadian Pacific Railway route west of the great divide. In 1886 Mr. A.W. Ross, Member for Lisgar, Manitoba put the question in the House and the eventual result was a memorandum prepared by William Pearce, Commissioner of Mines in Winnipeg, which outlined a number of candidate reservations including one in the Mount Stephen area. The suggestions were passed on to W.C Van Horne, the general manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway, where they were favourably received, and adjusted to some of the proposals which officials in the CPR were simultaneously considering with respect to new park proposals. By October of 1886, an order in council had been passed by the Federal Cabinet establishing four new reservations including ten square miles surrounding the base of Mount Stephen, the nucleus of the future Yoho National Park.1 It was a logical choice owing to the service requirements which the CPR had at the foot of the ‘big hill’ both for passengers and for rolling stock. The history of tourism in Yoho properly begins with the establishment of the Mount Stephen House Hotel at Field in 1886.2

In 1901, the reservation at Mount Stephen was extended to embrace an area of 828 square miles. The new reserve included the Yoho Valley, Emerald Lake, Lake O’Hara and a number of other scenic river corridors.3 Some of these areas became important foci for outstanding commercial accommodation ventures, some of which still operate today. While the Mount Stephen House, in its greatly expanded form, was demolished in the 1950s, some of the existing outlying lodges, sponsored first by the CPR, provide a link to that grand hotel which, for many years, provided the main architectural identity of the town of Field.
Plate 6-1(a) Mount Stephen House. Field. c. 1895.
Vancouver Public Library

Plate 6-1(b) Mount Stephen House. Field c. 1910
CPR Archives
Map 6-1

Map of the 'Bungalow Camp Trial Route' of 1926

Trail Riders Guide, May 1926
Cathedral Mountain Chalets.

Construction History

The site of the chalets lies four kilometres east of the town of Field and is adjacent to the Kicking Horse Campground. Tenders were let in 1931 for a bungalow camp and in April, 1934, a lease was given to Thomas Alton for a period of twenty-one years. The operation traded under the name of Mount Stephen Bungalow Camp. Sixteen cabins were built in that year or shortly thereafter. (Plates 6-1 to 6-3)

Development History

In 1960 the site was purchased by Percy Hein who changed the name to Cathedral Mountain Chalets. His purchase in 1960 gave him a main building which contained a store, office and residence, sixteen cabins, a storage shed, a power shed, a garage, a laundry and shower buildings, and rest rooms.

Lease History and Status

The initial lease period was for twenty-one years, and commenced in 1934. A second twenty-one year lease was issued to Alton in 1955. In 1960 the resort was assigned to Percy Hein. In 1980 a ten year lease was issued. The most recent lease expires in 2035.

Social History

The proximity of the facilities to Kicking Horse River poses a threat of flooding at extreme flood levels. An old mine road and washed away slag are located to the south along the river.

Statement of Significance.

Local.
Mount Stephen Bungalow Camp. c. 1934
N.A. C140124

Plate 6-2
Emerald Lake Chalet

Construction History

The Emerald Lake Chalet is located about 7.5 km. from the Trans Canada Highway along the Emerald Lake Road and on the south shore of Emerald Lake. The original Lodge was built in 1902 by the Canadian Pacific Railway and, according to Edward Mills, it represented 'the first log tourist lodge built by the CPR and marked a departure from the railway's design practice for hotel facilities'. The chalet was built in order to provide a 'rustic' alternative to the more grandiose facilities at Banff and Glacier, and the 1902 plans prepared in the CPR head office clearly indicate a desire to emulate Swiss rustic models. In 1925 additions were made to the lodge and a series of cabins added in response to the increase in automobile use. (Plates 6-4 to 6-6).

Development history

Some new cabins were added in 1958, a year before the CPR decided to sell the resort. A redevelopment approval was granted in 1981. The 1981 proposal called for a total of 43 cabins (single and duplex) and a new night lodge with 38 units and a pool. Some reconstruction was to take place of the existing lodge and a new day lodge was to be added along with a new boat house. According to Mills, in 1981 'all structures on the site apart from the lodge and an early boathouse were demolished. The lodge underwent extensive renovations during the 1980s.'

Lease History and Status

The initial lease to the CPR in 1905, for forty-two years issued and specified the provision of hotel facilities. In 1947 a new twenty-one year lease was issued for provision of Chalet services and a bungalow camp. Another lease was issued for termination in 1989. The current lease expiry is for 2008, with a twenty-one year renewal clause.
Plate 6-4  Emerald Lake Chalet.  c. 1924

Plate 6-5  Emerald Lake Lodge.  1989-90
Courtesy: Ron Ellis.
Social history

The lodge has been the setting for many social functions and tour groups over the years, many of which have been documented in various ways, including paintings and photography. It has remained an important destination for users and is also used as a retreat for business and other corporate meetings. The reputation of the lodge is undoubtedly international.

Significance.

Local.

In light of the post-1981 alterations, Mills concluded that ‘these changes to the lodge and its immediate surroundings compromise its architectural importance.’\textsuperscript{10} Its reputation as a destination undoubtedly remains international.
Lake O’Hara Lodge

The first building at Lake O’Hara was a small log cabin built sometime between 1911 and 1913 in association with the activities of The Alpine Club of Canada.11 This was known as the Wiwaxy Cabin. A second cabin, the Elizabeth Parker Hut, named after one of the original founders of The Alpine Club, was built in 1919.12 These cabins and several others which were added between 1911 and 1925 were in a meadow at some remove from the lake. In 1925 the CPR traded its lease in the meadow for a plot of land on the Lake with a view to construction of a large new facility. The present lodge on the south-western edge of Lake O’Hara, was completed in 1925-6 by the CPR. Most of the log cabins from the original meadow camp were relocated from the meadow and placed along the lakeshore in order to complement the new facility. (Plates 6-7 and 6-8). Only two cabins remained in the meadow, the Elizabeth Parker Hut and Wiwaxy Lodge. Lake O’ Hara Lodge, according to Mills, represented a revival by the CPR of the ‘two-storey chalet form it had used some 20 years earlier for the Emerald Lake Chalet.’13

Development History

Since World War II a number of changes have increased the capacity of the kitchen and dining area. This has largely taken place through ‘infilling’ of the former open verandah and the attachment of a large rear extension. Other alterations have been made in the interests of winter operation, including the addition of two cabins for staff in proximity to the lodge. The eleven log cabins from the post-1911 period moved to the lakeshore remain in place.

Lease History and Status:

The original lease to the CPR dates from 1921. In 1923 a twenty-one year lease was issued, and a second such lease in 1944. In 1957 the CPR sold the rights to Austin H. Ford who commended operations under the name Lake O’Hara Lodge. In 1966 he was granted a new forty-two year lease. The Fords sold the operation to Ekstrand Holdings Ltd. in 1975. The lease was amended in 1981 to allow for part of the winter season. The current lease terminates on Dec. 31, 2007.

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Plate 6-6  Elizabeth Parker Hut and Wiwaxy Cabin.  
Lake O'Hara.  1920s.  
CPR Archives

Plate 6-7  Elizabeth Parker Hut and Wiwaxy.  1992
Social History.

The lodge has a long and rich history associated with the coming of the CPR to the mountains and the early development of The Alpine Club of Canada. Mills has characterized the facility in 1926 as 'the largest and most costly of the rustic tourist facilities built by the CPR during the 1920s. The craftsmanship and detailing reflect the refinements that characterised the railway’s rustic building program during that decade.'

Significance.

National

The authors of a *Heritage Character Statement* prepared in 1988 concluded that the Lodge is ‘a familiar Yoho landmark which establishes the character of the immediate lakeshore setting’ and that while the ‘surrounding landscape has changed since the 1920s’ the lodge’s ‘character is largely unaltered.’ The *Heritage Character Statement* of 1988 concluded that it is ‘one of the two best examples of a significant phase in the development of Yoho national Park as a tourist destination.’ It was further observed that ‘the structure’s heritage character is significant to the history of the park and its basic design characteristics are used in the “Motif Guidelines” for the park.’
Map 6-2  Map of the Lake O'Hara Planning Area. 1992
Parks Canada
Twin Falls Chalet

Construction History

This chalet located in the Upper Yoho Valley, was built in 1922 by the CPR, to serve as a tourist summer camp and teahouse. A 1928 promotional brochure described the “Twin Falls Tea House” as an establishment with sleeping accommodation for five. In the words of Mills, ‘the structure consists of three sections: a two-storey log chalet erected in 1923-1924, a one-storey cabin believed to date from 1908, and a small 1917 addition to the latter.’

Development History

In 1962 Brewster and Ford Mountain Lodges Ltd. took over the facility from the CPR. In 1969 the Parks Branch took the view that the building had fallen into disrepair and should be demolished. Francis Drummond, who operated the lodge on consignment from Brewster and Ford, created a public outcry with the assistance of her clientele and the demolition never took place. The chalet was in poor condition however, and a number of assessment were done subsequently. In 1972, Miss Drummond purchased the lease from Bud Brewster and repairs were undertaken.

Lease History and Status

The initial lease to the CPR was for 11 years. The lease which terminated in 1965 had been for 21 years. In 1962 the CPR assigned its lease to Brewster and Ford Mountain Lodges Ltd. In 1972 the lease was sold to Frances M. Drummond, who has operated the site on the basis of ten years licences since that time. The current lease expires in 1999.

Social History

Mills states that during the 1920s ‘the CPR constructed several small lodges at scenic points along the trails used by hikers and horseback tours. The tea houses were intended either as stopover points for patrons of the railway’s package tours, or as destinations for shorter excursions from CPR hotels and lodges.’
Twin Falls Tea House  c. 1925
CPR Archives

Plate 6-8

Wapta Lodge  c. 1925
CPR Archives

Plate 6-9
Significance

National (Recognized)

Mills states that 'the three sections offer a remarkable display of log construction methods practiced at different periods in the parks' and that in terms of 1920s period CPR tea houses the 'Twin Falls Tea House and the Plain of Six Glaciers Tea House are the only two surviving examples. Both remain unaltered and are outstanding examples of rustic design.'\(^{21}\)
West Louise Lodge (Wapta Lodge)

Construction history

The original lodge was built in 1921 by the Canadian Pacific Railway, one of several built by that company in Yoho in the 1920s.

Development History

The lodge was renovated in 1954 by a new owner. The completion of the Trans-Canada Highway in 1958 separated the lodge from its traditional position fronting the lake. The renovated lodge was gutted by fire in 1960 and a third set of owners then commenced building a new lodge in 1962 on a property consisting of about 5 ha. (12.3 acres). This opened for business in 1963. The appeal of the area is now generally compromised by its proximity to the Trans Canada Highway. In the mid and late 1980s, fire protection, sewage and development proposals were entertained, with considerable confusion arising over the actual nature of the landholding.22

Lease History and Status

The original lease remained with the CPR until 1954, when that company sought to assign the site to Brewster and Ford Mountain Lodges and to C.B. Brewster. ‘A complicated set of financial and legal maneuvers during the following 28 years saw the ownership of this site vested in various groups and companies.’23 It does not appear to have actually ever been owned by the Brewsters. A forty two year lease was granted in 1963 to Wapta and Yoho Lodges Ltd. In 1982 the lease was assigned to Skiing Louise Ltd. from Wapta Lodge (1975), Ltd.24 The current lease expiry date is in 2005 and it contains a twenty-one year renewal clause.
Social history.

A considerable amount of social and recreational history is attached to the early history of the lodge, supported by documentary and visual materials. The complete replacement of the original buildings by post-1960 structures has removed the architectural heritage values of the original site, the location affording instead, opportunities for interpretation rather than in-situ historic resource appreciation.

Statement of significance.

Local.
Whiskey Jack Hostel (Yoho Valley Bungalow Camp and Lodge)

Construction History

This site facing Takakkaw Falls was first developed in 1906 when the Yoho Valley Camp was established by the CPR, essentially a tenting operation. The Yoho Lodge was constructed in 1922. By 1926 other cabins and tenting areas had been added. By 1944 the lodge grounds included, along with the main lodge buildings, 23 cabins, two bathhouses, a staffhouse, storehouse, meat house, public toilet, a wood shed and laundry building.

Lease History and Status.

The lease was assigned by the CPR to Mrs. Pearl B. Moore in 1928. The camp was sold by the CPR to Fred Brewster of Brewster Lodges in 1954. In 1967 the lease reverted to the National Park Service, and the buildings, then known as the Highline Bungalows, were purchased by the crown.

Development History

According to Friesen, in 1952, the Canadian Youth Hostel Association approached the Parks Branch with a proposal to relocate some of their buildings at the Geikie Station Hostel in Jasper to Takakkaw Falls, Yoho. This proposal was accepted in 1953, and by 1960 the Hostel included three frame-construction buildings. In 1968 the facility was expanded in order to provide accommodation for houseparents. A building from the government owned Highline Bungalow Camp (the old Yoho Valley Lodge) was moved to the site at this time. In 1970 the frame structures were condemned and burned. Other buildings from the Highline were then moved to the site for use by the hostel, which was re-named "Whiskey Jack" in 1971. Avalanche activity and decline in building quality since 1974 have caused all buildings to be phased out except the main lodge building.

Significance: Regional

The present Whiskey Jack Hostel was the original staff house of the Yoho Valley Lodge and was likely built in 1932. It is the last feature of a well-known lodge which was rich in recreational and art history.
This represents the last surviving aspect of the old Yoho Bungalow Chalets located opposite the Takakkaw Falls.
Endnotes


2. For additional information on the history of tourism development in Yoho, see Graham A. MacDonald, *Rail and Mountain: A Study in History and Interpretive Planning Opportunities, Yoho National Park*. (Calgary: Canadian Parks Service, Historical Services Division, 1992)


5. Ibid.


7. Ibid.

8. Freisen (1985), Emerald Lake Chalet, p.3


10. Mills (1992), l.b.1


13. Mills (1992), l.b.2

14. Ibid., l.b.2


16. Friesen (1985), Twin Falls Chalet, p.3
17. Mills, (1992), l.b.5

18. Ibid.

19. Ibid.

20. Ibid.

21. Ibid.

22. WRO. File C 8595/Y3-194 (Vol. 6-8)

23. Friesen (1985) West Louise Lodge, p. 4

24. Ibid.


28. Ibid.

29. Parks Canada. Realty Files. Yoho Valley Bungalow Camp, and Whiskey Jack Hostel (Calgary: Alberta Regional Office) Department of Canadian Heritage); Ricketts (1987), p. 84

30. Friesen (1985), Whiskey Jack Hostel, pp. 2-3

Chapter Seven

A Guide to Evaluation Criteria With Illustrations

The following section outlines some of the relevant evaluation criteria currently in use in the Parks Canada system of parks and historic sites. Illustrations are included of representative examples of historic commercial accommodation mentioned in this report, along with historic interior photographs and landscape photographs depicting a variety of historical and environmental situations, values, or conflicts.

Part One.

Designation Criteria

a.

The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada System of Historic Site Designations.

Sites designated by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada achieve recognition as sites of national significance. Sites are recommended for consideration by a citizen, a group, or by the Board on the advice of Parks Canada officials. Following appropriate research into the site proposed, the Board recommends to the Minister responsible for Parks and Historic Sites that the site receive or be denied status as a National Historic Site. Sites so designated are provided with an official plaque. Depending on the nature of the site, funds may be granted towards its upkeep and development, or in some cases the site may achieve status as a National Historic Park, with the requisite provisions and operating considerations sanctioned by Part II of the National Parks Act. Historic Sites may also be designated within existing National Parks, in which case, protection and maintenance considerations are provided as a matter of course. Two backcountry sites in the four mountain park block have received this status: the Skoki Lodge and the Twin Falls Chalet.
b.

Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office Criteria and Designations (FHBRO)

The Federal Heritage Buildings Review and designation is applied against federally-owned buildings which are over forty years old. As a policy, it was first initiated in 1982. Present procedures established by Treasury Board in 1987 provide for the following general process.

1. Review of designation potential
   and
2. Review of proposed interventions

Under the first procedure, federal buildings over forty years of age are considered for designation. This involves a plan exercise which identifies such buildings, evaluates them according to standard criteria, and produces a heritage character statements for each structure. The exercise concludes with registration of the results. The registration will involved classification of each structure as one of the following:

a. classified
b. recognized
c. non-heritage

The criteria employed by screening committees for purposes of classification are displayed in Appendix 2 of this report.

Under the second procedure, that concerning proposed interventions, three main tasks are undertaken by appropriate departmental heritage committees. They review conceptual proposals, design and specifications submitted, and facilitate resolution of any difficulties. In both of the above review processes, the Federal Government of Canada seeks to meet the international standards established by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the Venice Charter.

The philosophy behind the implementation of the policy has been suggested as follows. ‘Canada’s approach relies on screening mechanisms and data bases, and, ultimately, on a multi-disciplinary team making its decisions by consensus.’ The intent is that ‘continuity of use and function for federally-owned heritage buildings’ will be encouraged by policy rather than imposed by strict law.
A form of designation which has been explored by FHBRO officers, and others in the Parks Canada system, is that of the ‘cluster area’ in which a group of buildings, along with essential elements of the host landscape, would be considered as a logical unit for designation, along with appropriate conservation guidelines. This concept, as of this writing, has not been given any official sanction within Parks Canada, but the approach would be useful in the context of commercial accommodation resources which usually define such ‘clusters.’

Through this approach, elements of a given site may be sub-divided further, if of sufficient complexity, in order to establish priorities for conservation and to deal with resources spatially, according to their historical function.
National Park Zoning Provisions for Landscape Designations.

The current procedures for management planning in the national parks of Canada provide for five types of zoning:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Special Preservation</th>
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<tr>
<td>ii</td>
<td>Wilderness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii</td>
<td>Natural Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv</td>
<td>Recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td>v</td>
<td>Park Services</td>
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</tbody>
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Under this scheme there is no exact prescription for how architectural resources should be classed. Archaeological resources are often placed in the Category i Zone, since strict protection and restricted access may be appropriate to their protection requirements. Cultural resources of a less fragile nature, or which have been conserved and displayed for visitor enjoyment, may be zoned under other classes, depending upon circumstances. The guideline provided in the Parks Canada Planning Process Manual states:

> Cultural resources will be zoned according to their preservation requirements, significance in relation to other park values, and capability to sustain use.

This is a reasonable policy with respect to the variety of resources which might fairly be called ‘cultural.’ Embraced by ‘cultural resources’ can be:

- landscapes of a certain special or unique character;
- tangible remains of buildings and other works of human artifice which are unique or representative of significant undertakings;
- subterranean and underwater archaeological remains;
- sites commemorated for their ability to convey awareness of specific human or institutional achievements (including curatorial illustration of such sites);
- heritage resources which serve an on-going ‘living’ function.

Given this broad range of definition, virtually all of the existing park planning zones could be considered as valid choices under which to place certain types of cultural resource, depending upon circumstances.
d.


There are other systems of classification which may come into play in the National Parks and National Historic Parks, although not all of these will be accompanied by firm legislative guidelines. These may derive from (1) international conventions, such as the World Heritage Convention; (2) the application of provincial or municipal statutes on federal land; and (3) the presence of a special commemoration in a park, sponsored by a non-government organization.

The first type of designation above is important in terms of status and broad recognition. It is assumed that the host jurisdiction will undertake to apply appropriate legislative measures in honour of such a commemoration. In the case of the Four Mountain Parks, this block enjoys designation as a World Heritage Site, (or area, in reality) and the assumption can be made that an application of all appropriate legislation capable of maintaining and enhancing such status, is in order. The official nomination paper to UNESCO for the Four Mountain Parks, included the following general significance statement for consideration:

The Canadian Rockies are of outstanding universal value for their exceptional beauty combined with superlative natural resources of heritage and scientific interest.

In practical terms, World Heritage Site status acts as a form of political and managerial moral suasion.

The second type of designation may require government bodies to enter into formal agreement, but such procedures should not pose problems provided the legislation and regulations concerned are not in conflict. This approach has been used more systematically in the Banff Townsite, where planners have made use of the Alberta Heritage Act in the context of the municipal status of the town of Banff.

The third type is subject to considerable review, but has been employed on occasion as in the commemorations put in place at Elk Island National Park, by the Ukrainian Pioneers Association. The tendency within Parks Canada has been to take a critical look at such proposals in order to maintain a commemorative program consistent with heritage values of a national character.
Case Study A: Historic Interiors

The visuals in this section indicate something of the interior character of some of the lodges and cabins in the first half of the twentieth century. These interiors represent, by and large, a vanished resource, but also something of a known template concerning ideas for contemporary interior designs for modern rustic buildings.
Plate a  Frederick Niven in the lounge, Yoho Valley Chalet Bungalow Camp. c. 1935.
Source: *Sky Line Trail*

Plate b  Interior of Jasper Park Lodge. c. 1925
Courtesy: *Jasper Park Lodge*
Plate c
Interior of Cabin
Castle Mountain Bungalow Camp. c. 1935
Source: Sky Line Trail

Plate d
The Living Room, Castle Mountain Bungalow Camp. Main Lodge. c. 1935
Source: Sky Line Trail
Plate e  Enclosed Verandah Restaurant. Castle Mountain Bungalow Camp. Main Lodge. c. 1935
Source: Sky Line Trail

Plate f  Interior of Cabin. Yoho Valley Bungalow Camp  c. 1935
Source: Sky Line Trail

Interior of Cabin at Yoho Chalet Bungalow Camp.
Case Study B: Re-use of Historic Lodge Facilities

The Whiskey Jack Hostel near Takakkaw Falls, operating as a hostel since the 1960s, is an excellent example of a heritage structure which has been adapted for an appropriate re-use. This building used to serve as the staff accommodation building for the old Yoho Bungalow Chalet Camp. It is the only surviving aspect of that large complex of buildings established in the 1920s. By serving as a hostel, it maintains strong continuity with the original function. There are short-comings however. Avalanche risk is considerable at this location. A second smaller building, previously associated with the original Chalets, was destroyed in recent years by an avalanche. The original site decision entailed more risk than would be allowed today in the consideration of new development proposals. The location was its great virtue however, and the lodge attracted a wide range of visitors including artists. (Plates g and h and 6-10)
Plate g  Yoho Bungalow Chalets: 1930s: A Painting by Peter Whyte
Courtesy: Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies

Plate h  A Photo of the Yoho Bungalow Chalets, 1930s, taken from approximately the same location. Avalanche vulnerability is conspicuous.
Courtesy: Sky Line Trail
Case Study C: Landscape and Site Considerations:

The Columbia Icefields Chalet:

This well-known landmark tends to inspire mixed comments with respect to the suitability of its siting. Familiar as a stop-over and tour base since the 1940s, it has nevertheless come to dominate the landscape it wishes to celebrate. The proximity of the developed site to the Columbia Icefield gives it great utilitarian value; however, that same favourable position also encourages expansion proposals which could further erode the mood of tranquility which is an important aspect of the Columbia Icefield setting. The current colour schemes of the resort tend to draw attention to the lodge rather than obscure it. The 1940s structure conformed more to rustic architectural ideals than do the more recent versions of the lodge, and appears to have been much less intrusive on the landscape. (Plate 4-4 and Plates i and j)

Former Yoho Bungalow Chalets

The largely vanished Yoho Bungalow Chalets near Takakkaw Falls provide an interesting contrast with the Columbia Ice Fields Chalet Site. Built at a small scale and with the conservation of a certain amount of ground cover, these buildings afforded a fine view on a spectacular natural phenomenon without themselves getting in the way. The one surviving building from this old complex, the Whiskey Jack Hostel, retains these early site-line virtues within an unobtrusive setting. (Plates k - l; 6-10).
Plate i Columbia Ice Field Chalet from the southwest. 1970s.
Environmental Setting

Plate j Columbia IceFields Chalet. From the Northeast. 1980s.
Environmental Setting.
Plate k

Small scale development with exceptional visual line on scenic grandeur. Yoho Chalet Bungalow Camp. c. 1930

Plate 1

Yoho Chalet Bungalow Camp.
c. 1930
The facilities at Castle Mountain have undergone considerable change and revision over time since their first establishment in 1941. The visuals in this section reveal how modernization, upgrading, and expansion do not necessarily lead to an improvement in appearance. The 1970s version of the main visitor service building, for example, with its gingerbread appearance, presented a much more pleasing sense of line and colour than does the current version. (Plates n and o)
Architectural Devolution at Castle Mountain

Plate n Gingerbread and Gasoline: 1970’s

Plate o Expansion and Stylistic Loss: 1990
Case Study E: Vanished Structures

Marble Canyon Lodge Site

The camp was situated southwest from Castle Mountain, along the Banff-Windermere Highway in the vicinity of the confluence of Tokumm Creek and the Vermilion River. It was developed in the early 1930s.

The lodge is no longer in existence although a park warden complex and public campground now occupy nearby sites. The sequence of photographs provides an indication of the minimal nature of siting and landscaping considerations which often guided development during the depression and war years. The essential simplicity of auto-bungalow design in the pre-war years is also evident. (Plates p-s)
Landscape and Scale at Marble Canyon: A Vanished Lodge Site: 1954-56

Plate p

The Marble Canyon Bungalow Camp
Kootenay National Park c. 1954
N.A. C140165
Plate q

Marble Canyon Lodge and Cabins  c. 1954.

N.A. C140164
Plate r


N.A. C140169
Plate s

The Vermilion Cabin. Marble Lake Bungalow Camp. c. 1954
N.A. C140166
Case Study F: Conserving Landscapes of Scale

Skoki Lodge: The pre-war skiing landscape

Skoki Lodge today manages to retain aspects of both the architectural qualities and psychological aspects of landscape which first gave it prominence. The first development sponsored by the CPR encouraged quality skiing for a limited number of visitors who wished to experience something of the backcountry, and who were prepared to expend some energy to get to this relatively isolated lodge. The construction of the Half-Way Hut assisted in this provision of back-country skiing (Plates 3-24 and 3-26) Skoki Lodge, as a well-conserved representation of the 1930s, has been granted National Historic Site status.

By limiting access through controlled bus operations, and by expanding public camping in the vicinity of Lake O’Hara, the lodge setting represents a good example of adaptation to conditions of increased public demand, but the avoidance of unsightly and expansionist development. The siting of the lake side cabins was considered environmentally unacceptable, even at the time of their original relocation from the upper meadows by the CPR. They remain somewhat anomalous in this respect, but their small size and rustic nature have contributed to a long term policy accommodation, and great popularity with the users. (Plates t-u)
Plate t

Lake O’Hara Lodge and Cabins. c. 1929. Early Intrusion on the Shoreline.
N.A. C140129
Case Study G. Obtrusiveness in the Landscape

The gradual expansion of the Banff Townsite and Village Lake Louise have naturally put increased emphasis on the development at the old flag-ship hotels of Rocky Mountain tourism, the Banff Springs Hotel and the Chateau Lake Louise. The visually-dominating nature of these two hotels was characteristic from their earliest days of development, but having been placed in advance of the automobile revolution, the pressures for infrastructure additions and road improvements were much lighter in pre-World War II society. The size and demands by visitors for use of these historic facilities today has lead to the paradoxical policy position that such buildings would not now be approved for development. (Plates v-w)

Not nearly as grandiose, and yet significantly more intrusive in comparison with previous developments at the Saskatchewan River Crossing Site, are the buildings of the Saskatchewan River Bungalows Ltd. The actual design qualities are of a satisfactory nature, and the nature of the development is in keeping with the expectations of modern travellers. The scope of the development has been sanctioned partially by the demand occasioned by its placement at a natural stopover point between Jasper Townsite and Banff Townsite. (Plates 3-20 and 3-21)

The Timberline Lodge presents an interesting case of intrusiveness, accompanied by some valuable architecture design qualities reminiscent of the prairie school of Frank Lloyd Wright. The location of the lodge on a bench close to the Trans-Canada Highway represents a convenience to the traveller in terms of visual contact and access. From an actual lodge-user perspective, a site somewhat further removed from the highway might have been preferable. The separate bungalow chalets to the rear of the lodge are of more traditional rustic design and well located with respect to highway noise. (Plates 3-31 and 3-32)

Columbia Icefields Chalet: see Case Study C.
Early Hotel Grandeur: Obtrusive by Standards of the 1990s.

Plate v
Banff Springs Hotel. 1992
Courtesy High Country Colour, Calgary

Plate w
Chateau Lake Louise 1992
Courtesy High Country Colour: Calgary
Case Study H  Unobtrusive Development.

Developments at Emerald Lake remain very sympathetic to the outstanding visual aspects of the setting. The location has inspired many artists and visitors over the years. The retention of tree cover and the sound placement of buildings has helped to screen the development from the local grandeur and to minimize intrusion on the lake. (Plates 6-4 and 6-5; Plates x and y)
Baker Creek Bungalows.

Baker Creek provides a good example of a clustered site of buildings which illustrate a high degree of coherence of architectural style. These are in a geographic setting somewhat, but not totally, removed from intense traffic. The architectural features of this site are of recent vintage, in terms of the FHBRO criteria of forty years. However, it is clear that this kind of site will take on increased historic interest with the passage of time owing to its rustic qualities and generally high standards of craftsmanship. (Plate z)
Plate z  
Baker Creek. Main Lodge. 1993  
Future Historic
Case Study J: Environmental and Land Use Conflict Considerations

Associated Cultural Resources

The Timberline Hotel Site is a good example of one in conflict with archaeological resources. The location of the lodge on a well-defined bench along the Bow River Valley made such conflict fairly predictable, and subsequent archaeological survey, conducted as environmental impact assessments in advance of new development, has confirmed the presence of significant pre-historic resources on this leasehold property. These kinds of considerations often relate to evolving Parks Canada policy, rather than to intentional insensitive location decisions by recreation entrepreneurs. In the case of archaeological resources for example, the first systematic survey work at Banff did not commence until 1969. Before that date, little systematic inventory information was available. (Plate 3-31)

Local Degradation of Environment

Num-Ti-Ja Lodge, owing to the fragile nature of the surrounding setting at Bow Lake, has posed a problem in terms of the maintenance of water quality standards. Similar problems have prevailed at the Columbia Ice Fields Chalet and the Shadow Lake Cabin. (Plate 3-14; Plate 3-23; Plate 3) Post-1960 policies regarding septic field placements and water quality, have lead to more stringent criteria with respect to the siting of facilities, unlike some of the more casual location decisions which were made earlier in the century.
Cabin and Lodge Layout: Local Proximity and Vegetation Cover

There is considerable variation in the four mountain park block with respect to the manner in which cabins and lodges are placed with respect to one another and with respect to clearing of ground cover. With respect to proximity, there is clearly no universal standard to be met and the preferences of the travelling public will vary in this regard. In the same way that some campers may have no objection to being placed in a fairly compact arrangement, others seek a considerable amount of buffering between campsites. Park agencies normally attempt to provide for these varied preferences. In the lodge context, where facilities are larger and more disruptive, there is an argument for buffering on aesthetic, social and environmental grounds, but again, no universal formula can be made to apply owing to the unique design requirements thrown up by virtually every context. The following visuals demonstrate some of the ways in which relative degrees of ground cover have been retained or eliminated, along with spacing considerations. Emphasis here is on the cabins and bungalows. (Plates 7a to 7f.)
7(a)

Well spaced and with maximum vegetation cover

Patricia Lake

Johnston Canyon
Well spaced and with a more open and tailored landscape

Castle Mountain

Alpine Village
Relatively Dense placement with minimum local vegetation cover

Becker's Roaring River Chalets: 1992

Jasper House Bungalows: 1992
Relatively dense placement with maximum local vegetation cover

Shadow Lake. Expansion area. 1992
7(e) Street orientation of cabins with minimum local vegetation cover

Alpine Bungalows. Jasper National Park

7(f)  Street orientation of cabins with maximum local vegetation cover

Pine Bungalows

Moraine Lake Lodge
Endnotes


3. Ibid. p. 3


5. Ibid., p. 4

6. For an applied view of this concept, see G.E. Mills and C.J. Taylor, Jasper Park Lodge: Built Heritage Resource Description and Analysis. (Calgary: Environment Canada, Parks Service, 1992)


Appendix  I

Backcountry Lodges in the Four Mountain Parks

(Outlying Commercial Accommodation)
Master List of Outlying Commercial Accomodation

(1994)

1. Baker Creek Bungalows
2. Castle Eisenhower Chalets
3. Johnston Canyon Bungalows
4. Moraine Lake Lodge
5. Num-ti-jah Lodge
6. Paradise Bungalows
7. Saskatchewan River Crossing
8. Rocky Mountain Resort
9. Storm Mountain Lodge
10. Timberline Hotel
11. Columbia Icefield Chalet
12. Jasper House Bungalows
13. Miette Hot Springs Bungalows
14. Alpine Village
15. Becker’s Bungalows
16. Patricia Lake Bungalows
17. Pine Bungalows
18. Pocohontas Bungalows
19. Pyramid Lake Bungalows
20. Sunwapta Falls Bungalows
21. Tekarra Resort
22. Addison’s Bungalows
23. Blakley’s Bungalows
24. Mt. Farnham Bungalows
25. Radium Hot Springs Lodge
26. Emerald Lake Chalets
27. West Louise Lodge (Old Wapta Lodge)
28. Vermilion Crossing Bungalows
Appendix II

Federal Heritage Building Review Office Evaluation Criteria

(1990)
I HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

These three criteria, "Thematic", "Person/Event" and "Local Development", allow for the evaluation of the associative value of the building.

Thematic

"How well does the building illustrate an important theme in Canadian history?"

The criterion evaluates the building in the context of broad themes of Canadian history. Themes are historical phenomena or processes having both geographical and chronological dimensions, such as development of self-government, exploitation of natural resources, industrialization or creation of national communications systems. Themes identified by the FHBRO should be significant, though not necessarily national in scope. For example, fisheries as a theme is undeniably an important theme in Canadian history although its significance does not apply equally to all provinces. The FHBRO evaluators should be prepared to identify themes with some precision, rather than merely referring to "social history" or "military history".

Person/Event

"What is the level of importance of a directly associated person or event?"

This criterion evaluates the building with respect to its direct association with persons and events. "Directly associated" is defined as ownership or occupancy in the case of a person, or a specific event that took place in the building. In other words, it has a specific sense and does not refer to more general associations. For example, public buildings like post offices, though frequented by many important persons, will seldom merit points under this criterion. "Events" of long duration, such as public works relief projects or production of Victory bonds, are not to be considered under this criterion but rather under "Thematic".

Local Development

"How well does the building illustrate a significant phase in the development of the community, or a major change or turning point in the community's history?"
This criterion evaluates the building as evidence of a significant phase in the community's development or historical evolution. It measures the building's influence over time and in a historical perspective, and should not be confused with its present situation which is assessed under "Setting". While the definition of "community" must be made by the FHBRO, suggested guidelines include the ward of a city, an entire park or the intra-muros space of a penitentiary.

II. ARCHITECTURE

These four criteria, "Aesthetic Design", "Functional Design", "Craftsmanship" and "Designer" are meant to measure the intrinsic value of the physical structure both in design and in execution. The present condition (integrity) of the building should be taken into consideration in the application of these criteria, in the knowledge that inappropriate modifications and deteriorated fabric could weaken the architectural value of the building. These judgements will have to be made by the FHBRO.

Aesthetic Design

"What is the visual quality of the building (proportion, scale, detail) in the context of an architectural style or type?"

This criterion measures the architectural merit of the building, taking into account historical styles and/or building types. A building may deserve high marks if its design is successful and visually attractive, whatever its style or type. Evaluators, because they are rating buildings from a historical perspective as well as design, should attempt to discount their own personal stylistic preferences. The integrity of the building may affect the rating of "Aesthetic Design", since a structure that has suffered severe alterations may be weaker in visual qualities.

Functional Design

"What is the functional quality of the building (effectiveness of materials, layout and method of construction) in the context of engineering history and functional types?"

This criterion evaluates the functional merit of the building, apart from aesthetic considerations. It is intended to provide a means of giving value to our engineering and industrial heritage, where "high-style" solutions are not relevant. It measures how effectively a
particular building programme has been carried out, taking into account available technology and previous solutions to particular functional problems.

Craftsmanship and Materials

"What is the quality of the workmanship and the handling of materials?"

This criterion evaluates the actual execution of the design, with a focus on quality. It takes into consideration both the choice and handling of materials. Knowledge of the historical context may shed light on the quality of craftsmanship and materials. The current physical condition of the building may reveal the strengths and weaknesses of workmanship and materials over time. Good quality should be evident in spite of reversible changes. It is left to the FHBRO to judge whether to apply this criterion to the whole or just part of specific buildings.

Designer

"What is the significance of this building as an illustration of the work of an important designer?"

This criterion evaluates the importance of the building in the designer's career. "Designer" may include architects, builders or engineers, both private and public, both individually or as professional firms. The FHBRO will have to assess whether or not a designer is important (either in Canada or elsewhere) before evaluating the importance of the specific building in the designer's career. While buildings which have been demolished will contribute to the global understanding of a designer's career, evaluators should focus on surviving examples.

III ENVIRONMENT

The three criteria "Site", "Setting" and "Landmark" are intended to measure the present-day role of the building in the community's streetscape.

Site

"What is the integrity of the historical relationship between the building and its associated landscape?"

This criterion measures the degree to which the immediate environment enhances and strengthens the building. The associated landscape is normally that contained within the property lines and over which the owner has control. For some urban buildings, the evaluation may be limited to the
interface between the building and the adjacent sidewalk or public space. Integrity is judged by considering the original or historic treatment in relation to the nature of what exists today.

Setting

"What is the influence of the building on the present character of the area with which it is associated?"

This criterion measures the influence of the building on its streetscape or surroundings, to be interpreted as broader than the limited space referred to under "Site". The "present character of the area" should be considered in an urban design sense, as well as in terms of building types. The character of urban space may be homogeneous or heterogeneous, depending on circumstances. The FHBRO will have to decide, in the case of complexes, how they wish to define "area".

Landmark

"What is the nature of the building's identity within the community?"

This criterion evaluates the importance of a building to the community. While it is partially a matter of physical landmark (i.e. a prominent church spire) it also applies to the symbolic value of a building to the community as a whole.

Approved by the FHBRO
March 26, 1985
### FHDBRO Evaluation Criteria

#### I Historical Associations

**Thematic**

How well does the building illustrate an important theme in Canadian history?

- A. One of best examples
- B. Very good example
- C. Convenient or useful example
- D. Obscure example

**Person/Event**

What is the level of importance of a directly associated person or event?

- A. National/international
- B. Regional
- C. Community
- D. No association

**Local Development**

How well does the building illustrate a significant phase in the development of the community, or a major change or turning point in the community's history?

- A. One of best examples
- B. Very good example
- C. Convenient or useful example
- D. Obscure example

#### II Architecture

**Aesthetic Design**

What is the visual quality of the building (proportion, scale, detail) in the context of an architectural style or type?

- A. Excellent
- B. Very good
- C. Good
- D. Fair or poor

**Functional Design**

What is the functional quality of the building (effectiveness of materials, layout and method of construction) in the context of engineering history and functional types?

- A. Excellent
- B. Very good
- C. Good
- D. Fair or poor

**Craftsmanship and Materials**

What is the quality of the workmanship and the handling of materials?

- A. Excellent
- B. Very good
- C. Good
- D. Fair or poor
Designer

What is the significance of this building as an illustration of the work of an important designer?

A. One of best examples
B. Very good example
C. Known example
D. Designer not identified

III ENVIRONMENT

Site

What is the integrity of the historical relationship between the building and its associated landscape?

A. Unchanged
B. Changed and character retained
C. Changed and character heavily altered
D. Character destroyed

Setting

What is the influence of the building on the present character of the area with which it is associated?

A. Establishes present character
B. Reinforces present character
C. Compatible with present character
D. Negative influence

Landmark

What is the nature of the building's identity within the community?

A. Symbol of city/region
B. Conspicuous or familiar - city/region
C. Conspicuous or familiar - neighbourhood
D. Not conspicuous or familiar
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