

FHBRO Number 96-99

Jasper National Park, Alberta

**Jacques Lake Warden Cabin Tack Shed**

South Boundary Trail

The Jacques Lake Warden Cabin Tack Shed was constructed in 1951 by Harvey Crate, but the designer is unknown. The original function of the structure, as a tack shed and storage for grain, has been maintained. Alterations include a new concrete foundation. The asphaltic roll roofing was replaced as part of general maintenance. Parks Canada is the custodian. See FHBRO Building Docket 96-99.

**Reasons for Designation**

The Jacques Lake Warden Cabin Tack Shed on the South Boundary Trail was designated Recognized because of its architectural importance, its environmental significance and its historical associations.

The Tack Shed was designed as a single-room log structure with a gabled roof. The simply detailed building was carefully executed. The long-standing prescription for a rustic architectural imagery within national parks is obvious in the shed's materials and craftsmanship.

The Tack Shed sits on the north side of Jacques Lake, immediately north of the Warden Cabin. The shed's relationship with the cabin and with its immediate surroundings remains largely unchanged. The natural setting is enhanced by the shed's presence. Its site is a destination for travelers. The shed's association with the Warden's Cabin reinforces its familiarity with park visitors traveling along the South Boundary Trail.

The Tack Shed has a secondary function, as a support structure for the Warden Cabin. The shed is also used as a storage facility for the adjacent corral, an important component of the Warden Station's operations. It is a rare example of a structure associated with the horse patrols conducted by the wardens in the national parks.

**Character Defining Elements**

The heritage value of the Jacques Lake Warden Cabin Tack Shed is found in all aspects of its form, materials, construction techniques, fenestration, layout and setting.

The shed has a rectangular plan, and is only one story high, with a gabled roof and chimney. Its modest scale and simple massing are features of the rustic aesthetic. The simplicity of this building's form and massing should not be altered by future developments.

The cabin is of high quality construction. Its walls are constructed with peeled spruce

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logs, horizontally laid without chinking, and are saddle notched at the corners. The logs are evenly extended at the corner joints, as found in other park buildings, with the exception of the entrance gable, where the upper three courses are carried out to support the extension for a small porch overhang. These features further emphasize the building's rustic appearance.

Peeled logs, fascia boards over the exposed log rafter tails and simple half-log door and window trims contribute to the shed's simple, rustic character. The composition of roof, brackets and central doors adds emphasis to the entranceway. These features should be preserved by repairing in kind, and by ensuring the maximum amount of original material is kept.

The logs' stain finish and unusual white-washed log ends, which reflect a functional approach to maintenance that should not be modified before a careful analysis of appropriate finishes and patina determines it acceptable.

The horizontal wood sash windows are located on the building's end facades, roughly across from each other, and all have horizontal plank shutters. Vertical planks also make up the entrance door. Both the windows and the door are features of the building's rustic design.

The shed's interior also keeps with the rustic character of the building. Its single volume, white-painted interior, has a simple, open plan which displays exposed log walls, pole rafters, pole collar ties and plank roof sheathing. The interior is functionally laid out. The various shelves and benches relate to the functionality, but should be investigated to determine their true relationship with the building's use. Appropriate conservation methods should be employed.

The relationship of the Tack Shed to the Warden's Cabin, the privy, and particularly to the day corral, should be protected. The surrounding ground plane cover should not be overly-manicured or allowed to grow to scrub height.

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

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