

FEDERAL HERITAGE BUILDINGS REVIEW OFFICE

BUILDING EVALUATION REPORT

File No. 2.5.10

IDENTIFICATION		Ad Hoc	
BUILDING		FHBRC(CDA)	CURRENT PREVIOUS
- City/Prov:	WATERTON LAKES, Alberta	- Meeting:	84-04
- Name:	Registration Building	- Date:	2 Aug. 84
- Address:	Waterton Lakes National Park	- BER No.:	84-03
- Owner:	DOE	- Date:	AUG 09 1984
HERITAGE CHARACTER			
<u>SUMMARY</u>			
<p>Registration buildings (frequently referred to as kiosks) became standard features of national parks as road access improved and automobile traffic increased during the 1920s and 30s. The 1935 example at Waterton Lakes National Park is one of a succession built during the mid-1930s. Its Tudor Revival design typifies the prevailing architectural appearance used during this period to project a distinctive image readily associated with the parks.</p>			
<u>ARCHITECTURE</u>			
<p>The Waterton Lakes Registration Building is a compact one storey structure composed of a front section measuring 24 feet by 16 feet and a rear section, 20 feet by 10 feet. The front section (the registration office) is clad with local fieldstone to the level of the window sills, with half-timbering and stucco infill above. An off-center porch projects from the front facade and is clad in fieldstone to the eaves level. The bell-cast gable roof is repeated on the gable over the front entrance porch. The rear section is clad entirely with fieldstone to the eaves level and is covered with a medium hipped roof which is pierced on all three sides by small gables. The side gables are located above doors on opposite sides of the structure. The rear gable also surmounts a window. All windows in the building contain leaded glass. A fieldstone chimney projects through the hipped roof section. The building has a residential appearance enhanced by the contrasting colours of the pink fieldstone, stucco, timber and roof.</p>			
<u>HISTORY</u>			
<p>The incentive for the construction of the Registration Building appears to have been the park's emergence as a popular destination of motoring tourists and the extensive road building program fostered by the unemployment relief acts of the mid-1930s. Increased annual park attendance reflected a major jump in automobile traffic through the park and likely prompted the construction of both a new Administration Building and the Registration Building. In the immediate context of Waterton Lakes National Park, the building has served as the sole registration facility for almost 50 years.</p>			
<u>ENVIRONMENT</u>			
<p>The Registration Building is sited on a triangular-shaped traffic island formed by the convergence of the three roads leading from Cardston, Pincher Creek and Waterton. This junction point is determined by natural restrictions on the corridor leading to the Waterton townsite, namely the presence of the Waterton River on one side and a low-lying marsh on the other, which confines the road to a relatively narrow rise of land in between. The building's conspicuous and exposed location makes it highly visible to motorists approaching from all directions.</p>			