

Final Inventory & Evaluation Report

Glacier National Park

North Fork Homestead Archeological Project

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Abstract

The goal of the University of Montana's (UM) North Fork Homestead Archeological project was to relocate, record, assess conditions, identify possible threats, and make National Register of Historic Places eligibility recommendations regarding Glacier National Park's (GNP) historic North Fork of the Flathead River (North Fork) homesteads. The North Fork area saw the highest concentration of homestead settlement prior to GNP's creation in 1910. Thirty-six of the 48 homestead patents issued within the park were in this area. Another nine homestead claims were relinquished prior to patent. A survey of the North Fork homesteads, completed in 1986, resulted in a report documenting the social and economic life of the early settlers, and architectural construction materials and methods. It focused on homesteads with standing buildings, and resulted in seven homesteads being listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Three of these subsequently burned in a 1988 wildland fire. Historic archeological remains were not documented during the 1986 study.

During the current project, the University of Montana (UM) conducted archeological survey of thirty-six (36) historic homesteads in the North Fork area of Glacier National Park. Of the 36 originally-recorded homesteads, the UM team was successful in relocating 25 sites. This survey took place intermittently between June and August 2008 and covered an area of approximately 1300 acres. In addition to the survey of these homesteads, archaeological excavations were conducted at three homesteads to evaluate the presence or absence of sub-surface archeological deposits.

Overall, 17 of the 25 homestead archeological sites in the North Fork are recommended to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under various criteria, including A, C, and/or D, as discussed herein. These sites maintain their integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and assocation. A multiple-property listing is recommended due to the significance of the homesteads to the history of the North Fork valley and their potential to yield important information. Overall, while many of the homesteads have vanished, several of the the archeological sites associated with the homesteads appear to be in good condition. Monitoring of site conditions is recommended on a periodic basis, but none of the 17 eligible sites is in imminent danger of integrity loss.

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I. Project Description and Summary

The University of Montana attempted to relocate and conduct archeological survey of thirty-six (36) historic homesteads in the North Fork of the Flathead River (North Fork) area of Glacier National Park (GNP). The UM team was successful in relocating 25 of the 36 previously-identified homesteads, as discussed in detail in this report. This survey took place intermittently between June and August 2008 and covered an area approximately 1300 acres in the North Fork area of GNP (Photograph 1; Figure 1). In addition to the survey of these homesteads, excavations were conducted at three homesteads to evaluate the presence or absence of archeological features. These three sites were chosen because they exhibited significant surface deposits and/or because of the historic importance of the property. The goal of the homestead project was to relocate, record, and assess the current conditions, identify possible threats, and make National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) recommendations regarding GNP's historic North Fork homesteads. In addition, data were utilized to provide updated Montana State Historic Preservation Office Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) forms.

Photograph 1. Overview of Project Area near Big Prairie. View West toward 24FH348 (Walsh Homestead).

Archeological information collected from the 2008 homestead survey of the North Fork area was utilized to determine individual or collective homestead site eligibility for listing in the NRHP. Previous archeological research of the homesteading activities of the North Fork produced varying results in NRHP eligibility. These determinations were based upon surface evidence, with no prior

testing conducted at any of the 36 sites assessed in 2008. In addition, the effects of wildland fires compromised the eligibility of several homesteads with standing buildings in 1988. Douglas Scott (1989) addresses the fire's impacts in his report '*Evaluation of Cultural Resources Affected by the Red Bench Fire, Glacier National Park*'. He states, "The North Fork historic sites affected by the Red Bench fire may have lost their architectural integrity, but they either retain or have achieved archeological integrity. The sites represent the full temporal, social, and economic ranges of the North Fork occupation. The sites, except 24FH347 [a moved bulding], appear to have the potential to yield information relevant to the history of the area as identified under Criterion D of the National Register of Historic Places."

In addition to Criterion D considerations, UM considered the eligibility of the homesteads under criterion A. The thematic nomination, "Homesteading on the North Fork in Glacier National Park" (Bick, 1986), establishes the significant role, for criterion A, that homesteaders played in the North Fork area and their effect on the creation and management of Glacier National Park. As stated in the 1997 revised National Register Bulletin, '*How to apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*', considerations under Criterion A are recognized as 'properties associated with... a pattern of events, repeated activities, or historic trends…' As well, these events, or trends, should be seen as 'clearly important' within that associated context, such as settlements and area economics. In all, the properties must retain integrity, as defined in Chapter III of this report. Criterion A is an important consideration when nominating these homestead sites, because they are associated with both a specific event (homesteading practices), as well as having shown a pattern of events, or trends, that were significant to the development of the North Fork community.

Project Area Description

Patricia Bick (1986) defined the homesteading activity area of the North Fork region as running from the Canadian border south to Howe Ridge, and the valley bisected by the North Fork of the Flathead River (Figure 1). Although homesteads existed on both the east and west sides of the North Fork River, the current study, like the Bick study, concentrated on the region of the valley east of the river, lying within GNP's boundary.

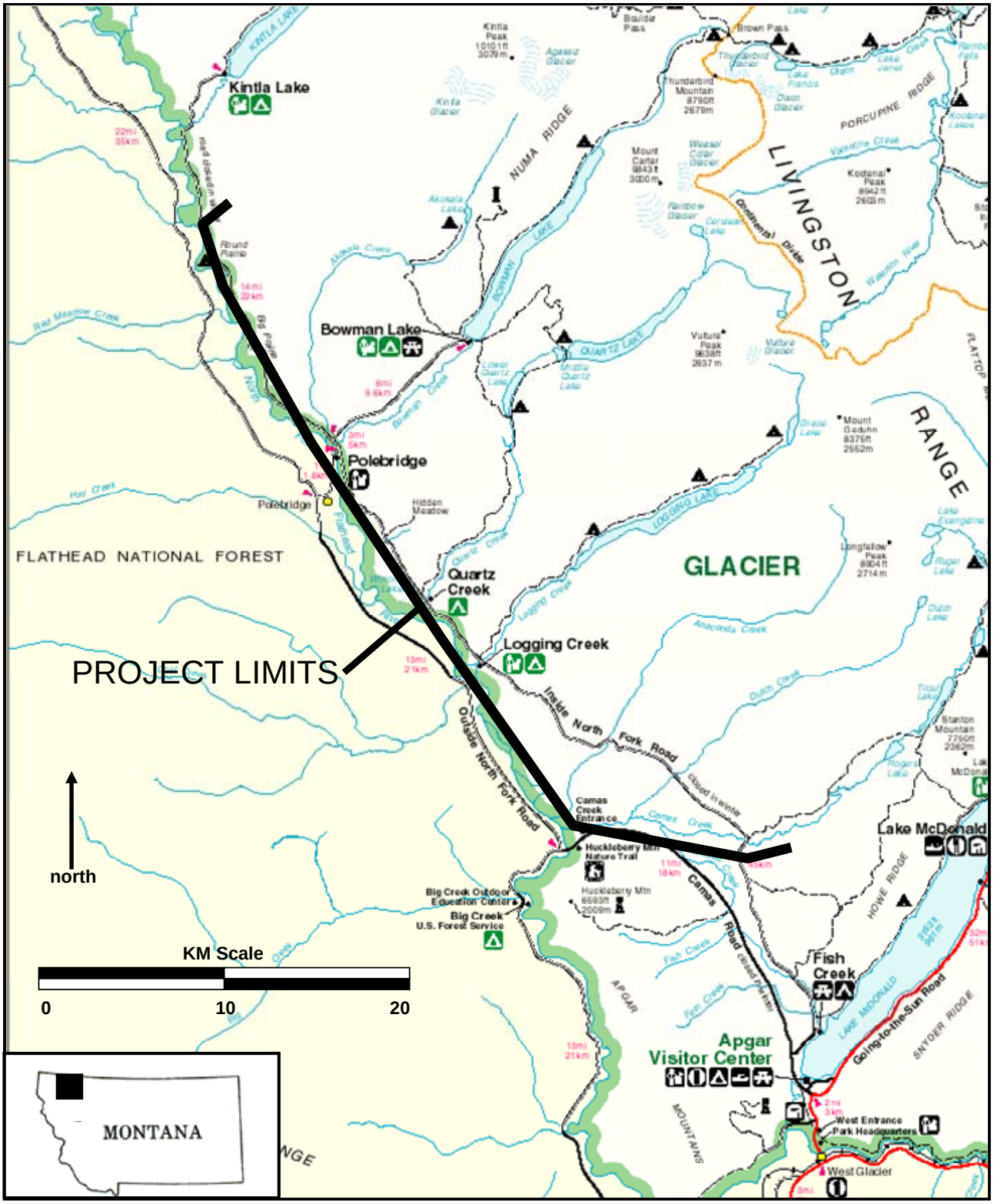

Figure 1. Project Location. Map provided by Glacier National Park.

The overall project area, thus, is along the eastern side of the North Fork of the Flathead River, approximately between 5 miles north of West Glacier and 5 miles south of Kintla Lake The North Fork area is dominated by three major geographic features: the north fork of the Flathead River, the glacially carved Livingston Range to the east, and the Whitefish Range to the west (Boberg 1984) (Photograph 2). These three features are responsible for the creation of, and continuation of secondary features consisting of river tributaries, Pleistocene-age river terraces, and ridgelines. Local flora consists of montane forests and open grasslands. Ponderosa pine, fir, spruce, cottonwood, and lodgepole pine dominate the area. Numerous wildflowers, grasses, and shrubs complete the floral assemblage.

Photograph 2. Typical Setting of North Fork Project Area. View Northwest.

The project area consists of open grassland terrain interspersed with thick boreal forest and marshy wetlands. Elevations in the project area range from a low of ca. 3,600 ft. above mean sea level (amsl) at Sullivan Meadow in the southern portion of the project area to a high of approximately 3,700 ft. amsl at Big Prairie on the northern edge of the project area. The southern portion of the project area was best accessed through West Glacier, while the northern portion of the project area was accessed via Polebridge. During the project, the UM crew resided at the Bowman Lake Campground, seven miles north-northeast of Polebridge.

The 2008 North Fork Homestead Archeological (North Fork) project studied all federally-owned homestead sites lying north of, within, and in immediate proximity of the Big Prairie, Akokala Creek, Bowman Creek, Quartz Creek, Sullivan Meadows, Anaconda Creek, Dutch Creek, Camas Creek, and McGee Meadows. All of the homesteading sites in the study area are accessible from the Inside North Fork (INF) road, either directly, or along secondary INF roads or trails. A few of the sites are distant from the road and require traversing open meadows or woods which lack obvious trails. Surveyed areas are within the confines of known and recorded historic property boundaries. For the most part, these boundaries appear to have been defined and claimed based on the availability of meadowlands.

Report Organization

This report is divided into seven study areas (Table 1; Figures 2-4), including (from north to south): Area 1—Upper Big Prairie; Area 2—Lower Big Prairie (Akokala and Bowman Creek drainages); Area 3—Quartz Creek and Hidden Meadow; Area 4—Sullivan Meadows; Area 5—Anaconda and Dutch creeks; Area 6—Upper Camas Creek; and Area 7—Lower Camas Creek. Each of these project areas and surveyed sites is shown in Figures 2-4 below. As shown in the maps and in Table 1, the most densely occupied areas of the North Fork were in Areas 1 and 2, Upper and Lower Big Prairie, which contained 17 homestead sites, of which 13 were relocated during the current survey. As discussed in detail in Chapter IV, there were various causes of failure to relocate sites, including flooding along creeks and thick vegetative overgrowth.

This report discusses results of archeological survey and evaluation in each of these seven areas, from north to south. It provides brief descriptions of the prehistory and history of the project area and vicinity to provide a context (Chapter II), Research Design and Methods (Chapter III), and Survey & Evaluation Results (Chapter IV). The final chapter (V) provides Summary and Recommendations, including site condition assessments and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility recommendations.

Acknowledgements

The UM team would like to thank Glacier National Park Key Official, Cultural Resource Specialist/Historical Architect Lon Johnson, Glacier National Park Curator Deirdre Shaw, the many Park Rangers who ensured our safety, the camp hosts at Bowman Lake Campground, and all other park staff for making this a wonderful work experience.

Under the supervision of Principal Investigator Douglas H. MacDonald, Ph.D., RPA (Assistant Professor, UM Department of Anthropology), the field crew of University of Montana students included Lester Maas (Crew Chief), Mike Livers, Robert Peltier, and Justin Ferryman. 2008 seasonal archeologist for Glacier National Park—John Kinsner, M.A. (second author of this report)—also facilitated successful completion of the fieldwork and site forms. The crew's hard work was instrumental in completing the field work in a timely manner.

The background research and prehistoric/historic context of the report was written by Kinsner, while MacDonald wrote the research design and conclusion. Kinsner and MacDonald were co-authors of the remaining portions of the report, including site results and conclusions. Kinsner and volunteers in the cultural resource office at GNP also conducted background research that facilitated a better understanding of site histories. Michael Livers completed several of the figures included in this report, while David Dick photographed and analyzed the small assemblage of historic artifacts collected for the project.

II. Background Research & Prehistoric/Historic Contexts

In order to provide an historic context for project findings, this report utilizes three main reports—Reeves (2003), Bick (1986), and Scott (1989)—in addressing the prehistoric and historic contexts of the North Fork's past. In addition, assorted archival and library research findings contribute to the historic synthesis.

Prehistoric Context

The current report is focused on the results of survey of historic archeological sites; however, two sites—24FH348 (Walsh Homestead) and 24FH214 (Covey/Bemis Homestead)—yielded artifacts of Native American origin. Walsh yielded four lithic debitage from stone tool manufacture and the Covey/Bemis Homestead contains culturally-scarred trees. Although these are not discussed at length in this historic archeological report, we nevertheless provide a brief prehistoric contextual statement below. This context addresses the prehistoric human presence in GNP and particularly the North Fork region of the park in three periods as represented by diagnostic tool types and temporal application. These three periods of land use by prehistoric peoples are described as early, middle, and late periods and are represented by three tool technologies, specifically projectile points, and their associated complexes, as defined by Reeves (1993) and Frison (1991) for GNP. Early period tool assemblages are represented diagnostically as the temporal markers for thrusting or throwing instruments such as hafted spears. The middle period is represented by the introduction of the atlatl projectile system. And finally, the late period addresses the period from the advent of the bow and its arrow projectile to the historic period.

Archeological evidence within GNP dates back in time to approximately 10,000 years ago as evidenced by the discovery of a lithic bifacial fragment associated with the Clovis tradition in the Belly River drainage. It may be likely that early period human occupation or use of the North Fork area may date back to this time period as well, due to other paleo-land use archeological evidence found nearer to and within the North Fork area. This evidence is represented by other lithic materials located in the area, as well as the presence of a heavily used lithic source in the valley. This source has yet to be

studied in detail, and evidence of paleo-Indian use may be represented in non-temporally diagnostic tools.

The middle period is represented within GNP by several spear points found mainly along and east of the continental divide. In closer proximity to this project, numerous bifacial knives have been discovered along the Lake McDonald creek drainage and their age has been speculated from between 9000 and 7000 years old. Middle period diagnostic artifacts consist of volcanic materials such as mesocrystalline basalts and obsidian. Obsidian sources have not been discovered within GNP boundaries, however, numerous artifacts of this lithic structure have been sourced to other geological occurrences such as Obsidian Cliff in Yellowstone National Park and Bear Gulch in Idaho. Basalt occurs naturally in GNP as represented by the Purcell basalt outcrops most notable along the continental divide.

Late period artifacts are numerous within GNP. Both side and corner-notched points have been discovered, and represent the majority of diagnostic temporal prehistoric evidence in the park. These points represent numerous lithic source materials from sources both inside and outside GNP. Chert (both local and transported), basalt, obsidian, and others are represented. These points have been attributed to the prehistoric activities of the Blackfeet, Cree, Kootenai, Salish, Pend Orielle and other tribal nations existing today. Of these, the Kootenai oral traditions in particular, describe extensive use of the North Fork region. In addition to lithic assemblages, culturally scarred trees that exhibit the acquisition of the inner cambium bark layers as a food resource also represent prehistoric use of the North Fork. Many of these trees continue to stand today.

Photograph 3. Culturally Scarred Tree along Bowman Creek near the Covey/Bemis Homestead. View West.

Numerous other modern aboriginal nations also have recorded use in and around GNP. These nations include Absarokee (Crow), Haninin (Gros Ventre), Mandan, Assiniboine and Nakota Sioux, and Chippewa. Archeologically, native use of GNP by these nations is limited, however, both oral traditions and witness accounts provide evidence of their presence.

Brian O.K. Reeves 2003 report entitled *Mistakis: the Archeology of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park* gives a more detailed prehistory of GNP. His work divides prehistoric native use of GNP into these three overviewed periods and recognizes two distinct patterns he terms 'valley' and 'alpine'. Reeves further divides his three periods into distinct complexes and sub-phases and the archeological evidence of each. Native American usage of the North Fork area and GNP has continued throughout the historic period, with activities that continue today.

Historic Context

Historic European-American use of the Glacier National Park area began with the introduction of the fur trade to western North America. In 1670 the Hudson Bay Company was formed by the British Royal Charter and given control of all waterways draining into the Hudson Bay, including portions of what would later become GNP. The formation of this company brought the first non-natives to the region, exploring the resources of the area. In 1783 or 1784 the Northwest Company was formed, based out of Oregon, and was the first major company to conduct business in the Rocky Mountain interior and other regions of the Northwest.

The first well-documented exploration of the area was in 1805 when Meriwether Lewis and a few members of the Lewis and Clark's expedition came within 50 miles of what was later to become GNP. Their endeavors took them to the Marias River drainage at Camp Disappointment. In 1821 the Hudson Bay Company and the Northwest Company merged, holding the name of the older of the two companies.

Between 1820 and 1840, free trappers, unassociated with organized trapping, roamed western North America. This was the period when beaver harvesting peaked. It is estimated that approximately 3000 of these mountain men sought their 'plues' in the fur-rich western half of North America. In the 1830's the Hudson Bay Company made an attempt to eliminate the American fur trade

competition by lowering the prices of their trade goods. In the 1840s they were successful in driving the free trappers and other fur companies into the Rocky Mountains to seek fur. This act, along with a change in fashion, became the demise of the stereotypical Mountain Man and eventually the fur trade itself.

In 1862 President Abraham Lincoln signed the Homestead Act into law. It allowed for claims of 160 to 640 acres if one were to file an application, improve the land, and finally, file the deed. This decreased the number of homestead claims previously made under the Preemptive Act, which allowed a 'squatter' to purchase land claims up to 160 acres if the claimant 'squatted' on the land for a period of at least fourteen months. This purchase was usually at the price of $1.25 per acre.

The first homestead patents issued within the future GNP were issued to Louis Sommers and Frederick Schultz in 1898 (Karzmizki 1997) Marcus Daly, the Butte "Copper King," sponsored an exploration expedition into the northern regions of Montana in the mid-1880s. The intent of the expedition was to locate and claim as much of the coal reserves as could be located. Patrick Walsh, father of a future North Fork claimant Johnnie Walsh, led this endeavor.

In 1891 the Great Northern railway was completed across Marias Pass. Numerous area towns sprang up around this time, including Belton and Columbia Falls, and mineral and timber interests in the North Fork increased. In 1893 land claims became legal when the government land survey was completed for two North Fork townships.

The first claims made after the surveys were made in the Sullivan Meadow area to take advantage of the old-growth yellow pine timber. Coal deposits were located and claimed on the west side of the North Fork. However, transporting coal and timber to the railroad proved nearly impossible, and with the collapse of the metals market in 1893, investors decided to wait for a speculated railway spur up into the North Fork. Cut timber from Sullivan meadow was reported to have been left rotting on skids due to transportation limitations, poor sale pricing in Colombia Falls, and lack of local demand.

Even though the first legal claims were made in 1893, European-American habitation of the North Fork region may have preceded 1885. It was in this year that early trapper Fred Bowman left Wyoming to trap in the GNP region. A cabin at the foot of Bowman Lake may have belonged to the

trapper himself, and was noted in the 1898-1899, U.S.G.S. report on agricultural potential of the North Fork area.

This report also noted that two cabins on Camas Creek appeared to be kept up and may have been seasonally occupied, while two others appeared to be year round residences. These last two were the Bowman Lake cabin and one on the east side of the North Fork of the Flathead River on Coal Creek. Bick (2005) notes that the two Camas Creek cabins, mentioned in 1898-1899 were the homesteads of Josiah Rogers and Ernest Christensen who made filed homestead claims in 1896. In all, the 1898-1899 U.S.G.S. report noted 30 cabins in the North Fork drainage area.

Prospecting in the future GNP began in the late 19th century when a group of Texans drifted north through Colorado, Wyoming and into Montana. After a short stint on St. Mary's Lake, these gentlemen were credited with being the first documented European-Americans to cross what was to later become Logan Pass. From the pass they proceeded down to Lake McDonald and on to Belton, a railroading town that supplied the activities of Lake McDonald and the surrounding area. After securing their own supplies, these men traveled up the North Fork to the Quartz Creek area, and built a cabin on the northeast corner of Quartz Lake. They are reported to have located a 30 oz. nugget of gold in a stream feeding the lake. These men were the first to usher in the mining era of activities that would last until about 1903.

Around the turn of the century, mining prospectors located oil seeping into a small tributary to Kintla Lake. The news of this discovery excited a regional businessman by the name of John O. Bender. He responded by immediately forming the Butte Oil Company in 1900 and set off to locate a road up the North Fork to the Kintla Oil field to haul drilling equipment. Road crews began cutting out a roadway from the foot of Lake McDonald to the oilfield at the upper end of Kintla Lake. This road was little more than a route cut through timber, was never graded, nor did it have any bridges. The completed road was approximately forty miles long, and reached only the foot of Kintla Lake. Machinery could not be hauled to the site until the lake froze over Construction of the well began that same year, and drilling continued for several years, however, no oil was found, and the site was abandoned. A second oil discovery was located in the North Fork valley during the same time frame

and was known as the Upper Kintla well. This well was near the confluence of Kintla Creek with the North Fork River, and much like its 'sister' well, it proved unproductive and was abandoned. The failure of these two wells marked the end of oil development in the North Fork valley, however, oil exploration continued within what would become GNP boundaries on the east side of the continental divide.

The Kintla oil fields were responsible for the initial clearing of vegetation in order to transport supplies into the North Fork region, however, it would be another fourteen years before a true road was constructed into the valley. This coincided with the formation of GNP in 1910 and a 'hard surface' road was constructed from Belton to the proposed Ranger Station at Fish Creek which was completed in 1913. By 1915 the outside North Fork road was completed as far north into the North Fork valley as the town of Polebridge.

On the creation of GNP in 1910, thousands of acres of private and state lands were included in the park's boundary The legislation establishing the park recognized the rights of private ownership and the private landholders as long as use fit within park regulations. Among the private property, homesteads and mining claims made up the majority. In the North Fork valley, most of the private land belonged to homesteaders, while the bulk of mining activities took place on the east side of the continental divide, outside of the valley. The park service began a policy of purchasing these lands, as they became available, in order to extinguish private land holding issues. However, as the values of these lands increased, the government found it harder and harder to acquire these lands through purchase, and numerous private claims remain. Private funding endeavors were undertaken to address the lack of purchasing capital, and they continue to operate through private donations. By 1910, forty-four homestead claims had been filed in the North Fork area, within the current GNP boundaries. Of these, nine were either relinquished or cancelled (Bick 1986). The homesteaders perceived the formation of the park as a major disadvantage in commercial enterprises and voiced their opposition for the park's formation vehemently. Of particular concern was the unimproved road to the valley, which they argued limited their opportunities. They also believed it to be insufficient for the development of coalfields in Canada, which they hoped would attract the construction of a railway spur to the area.

In 1912, homesteaders petitioned the Secretary of the Interior to remove the east side of the North Fork from within park boundaries. The homesteaders claimed that they had not benefited from the tax dollars they had paid due to their location within GNP and outside of State and county jurisdictions. Again, the issue of road development was brought forward as an example. Around 1914, a second petition was filed, by the North Fork residents within GNP, to withdraw a ”strip” of land on the valley’s east side. They argued that there were no scenic attractions or glacial views in the area. However, donated funds and local labor saw the development of a ‘new’ road around McGee meadow. In 1916 an official postal route was created that ran up the North Fork road and additional improvements to the road were requested.

Minor improvements to the road continued to be made until 1918 when a ‘west-side’ road, running from Columbia Falls to the Canadian border was completed. The superiority of this new road saw a population shift from the east side of the river within GNP’s boundary to the west side of the river. Over the years the remaining “east-side” settlers consisted mainly of bachelors who were either to move on, having been preceded by the others who’d sold their lands, or left to join the first World War. A few newcomers moved in during the early 1920s, but the demise of the east-side community was well under way.

Some homestead properties within GNP have remained occupied. Initially year around residents were the norm on these properties. The only major population increase was during the Great Depression, when some families of land holders returned to try to eke out a living. This was short lived, and interest turned to summer and vacation property. Jesse Bemis, the last of the original homesteaders remained on his claim until his death in 1951.

Prior Archeological and Historical Research in the North Fork Valley

The goal of the current study is to document the archeological remains of the homesteads in the Glacier National Park portion of the North Fork. However, this study is not the first to attempt to document the history of homesteading in the valley. Prior studies of the area have been conducted by Bick (1986), Scott (1989), Karsmiski (1997), and Riley (2003). Each of these studies entailed historic and/or archeological survey and inventory in response to requests by Glacier National Park.

Bick's (1986) study, entitled *Homesteading on the North Fork in Glacier National Park*, is an excellent contextual document. Her study provides historic architectural and homestead layout summaries of 34 homesteads in the study area, all of which UM attempted to relocate for the current study. Bick's (1986) study effectively documented the state of each homestead prior to the 1988 Red Bench fire that swept through the area, destroying portions of some homesteads and making others invisible to the archeological record. As such, her study is crucial to a better understanding of homesteading in the North Fork. Chapter V of this report provides results of that archeological survey which serves as an update of her study, assessing the effects of the 1988 fire.

Of additional import, Bick's study provides a baseline of historic contextual information by which to better understand the history of use of each of the individual homesteads. Her document provides outstanding coverage, of which some is repeated in each of the site summaries in Chapter V. Additional contextual information (not repeated herein) is present in Bick's report that would be useful to the reader.

The first attempt at documenting the effects of the Red Bench Fire of 1988 on the North Fork homesteads was conducted by Douglas D. Scott in his 1989 document entitled *Evaluation of Cultural Resources Affected by the Red Bench Fire*. His study contains coverage of only 10 of the homesteads in the North Fork valley, however, including Covey (24FH061), Walsh (24FH216), Henthorn (24FH325), Kickbusch (24FH328), McCarthy (24FH330), Myers (24FH334), Raftery (24FH336), Reuter (24FH338), Charles Schoenberger (24FH341), and the Walsh Guest Lodge (24FH347). Each of these homesteads is in the fairly open and easily accessible northern portion of the study area within the Big Prairie and vicinity. Scott's study did not attempt to relocate or document the effects of the 1988 fire on any of the homesteads south of the Polebridge entrance station.

Based on his reconnaissance survey, Scott (1989:16) found that the 10 historic sites were "totally archeological in context…[and have] significant and potentially important in situ features and artifact distributions that may yield information important to further understanding the history and development of the area." Scott (1989:16) goes on to state that: "The North Fork historic sites affected by the Red Bench fire may have lost their architectural integrity, but they either retain or have achieved

archeological integrity. The sites represent the full temporal, social, and economic ranges of the North Fork occupation. The sites, except [the Walsh Guest Lodge], appear to have the potential to yield information relevant to the history of the area as identified under Criterion D of the National Register of Historic Places."

In 1995, Glacier hired Montana State University to compile historical data regarding the settlement and land-use history within the present boundaries of Glacier National Park. Karsmizki's (1997) report provides useful information regarding homestead histories, and identifies potential historic archeological site locations not found in Bick's report. For those interested in historic land use Karsmizki's 1997 report is an excellent record.

Finally, Leslie Riley conducted a cultural resource survey of the Big Prairie while she was employed as an archaeological technician for GNP in 2003. In addition to documenting three locations with culturally-scarred trees, Riley also documented the Lee, Miller, and Doverspike homesteads, with some of her results reviewed in each of those three homestead surveys in Chapter V of this report.

In her study, Riley (2003:9) recommends that the Lee Homestead is eligible for listing under Criterion A and D. The Montana State Historic Preservation Office concurred in the site's eligibility (Wilmoth, 2/17/2004). Riley also states that her study of the Doverspike Homestead provided insufficient information for an eligibility recommendation (an assessment reiterated by the current study) and recommended testing; the Miller Homestead was listed in the National Register of Historic Places prior to her study.

The current project attempted to find and document 36 North Fork homesteads, including the 34 originally studied by Bick in 1986. The next chapter (Chapter III) provides a research design and National Register of Historic Places criteria considerations for the homesteads, followed by results of archeological inventory and evaluation. Additional contextual details regarding the individual histories of specific homesteads are included from the studies by Bick (1986), Scott (1989), and Karsmizki (1997), as well as in Chapter V of this report.

III. Research Design & NRHP Eligibility Considerations

The goal of the Glacier Homestead project was to inventory 36 homestead sites and seven sites identified on the Government Land Office surveys within the North Fork area of Glacier National Park. The scope of work called for completion of Montana Cultural Resources Information System Forms (CRIS) for all sites, including UTM coordinates, site sketch maps, USGS maps, National Register eligibility recommendations, National Register boundaries, and photographs (minimum of two per site and one per contributing feature); Intermountain Region Archeological Site Status Evaluation forms for all sites; minimal documentation on newly-discovered sites; ten test excavations, and a final inventory report. The inventory was to provide accurate site descriptions, condition assessments, identify threats and determine possible treatment, and provide National Register of Historic Places evaluations. Information in the current report also will be used for interpretive programs and to educate law enforcement rangers to reduce visitor impacts to and prevent looting of sites. This chapter provides an overview of the research design and methods utilized by The University of Montana team during the 2008 field season within the North Fork Valley in Glacier National Park. We also provide a full description of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility and integrity considerations which will be utilized in the analysis of each homestead in Chapter V and VI.

Research Design

As detailed in the original task order, the University of Montana North Fork Homestead archeological inventory involved eight main steps:

1. Meeting with NPS contact; collecting and reviewing existing information held by Glacier National Park, including, but not limited to, historic photographs, maps, administrative correspondence, and previous historic research. Undertaking additional primary research, as identified, to develop a historic context for homesteading in the area, including research in *The Columbian* newspaper.
2. Field inventory of approximately 40 homestead and related sites in the North Fork of the Flathead area of Glacier National Park.

3. Completion of Montana Cultural Resources Information System Forms (CRIS) for all sites.
4. Completion of the Intermountain Region Archeological Site Status Evaluation form in the field for each site.
5. Minimal documentation of newly identified historic and prehistoric sites discovered during the field work .
6. In consultation with the NPS Key Official, and based upon information obtained during the field inventory, evaluation of two homestead sites for their eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) through excavation of 10 1x1-m test units.
7. Collection of diagnostic historic artifacts if they appeared likely to be the subject of illegal collecting. Cataloging and labeling all collected artifacts using the NPS ANCS+ catalog program.
8. Preparation of a final inventory report complying with the Montana State Historic Preservation Office guidelines and procedures in Consulting with the Montana SHPO. Guidelines and procedures for Cultural Resource Review and Consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act (1966) and the Montana State Antiquities Act.

NRHP Eligibility & Integrity Considerations

Prior to conducting the archeological survey of the North Fork homesteads, UM and GNP defined NRHP eligibility and integrity considerations. The UM research team intended to survey, inventory, and evaluate each of the homesteads to determine if they contained information useful in better understanding the early history of homesteading in the North Fork valley. The UM team considered the eligibility of each site for listing under the four NRHP criteria, but especially Criteria A, B, and D, as defined in National Register Bulletin (NRB) 15 and summarized below (NRHP 2002). In turn, each of the sites was evaluated as to the seven aspects of integrity defined in NRB 15.

NRHP Criterion A: Association with a Significant Historic Event

The UM team evaluated each of the surveyed homesteads against NRHP Criterion A, association with significant historic events. In order to determine eligibility under Criterion A, the UM team relied

primarily upon the Bick thematic study. As reviewed in the previous chapter, the North Fork of the Flathead River area of Glacier National Park saw the highest concentration of homestead settlement prior to the park's creation in 1910. Thirty-six of the 48 homestead patents issued were in this area. Another nine homestead claims were relinquished prior to patent. Bick's study in 1986, resulted in a report documenting the social and economic life of the early settlers, and architectural construction materials and methods. It focused on homesteads with standing buildings, and resulted in seven homesteads being listed in the National Register of Historic Places. (Three of these subsequently burned in a 1988 wildland fire.)

While Bick's (1986) study focused on standing structures, the UM team evaluated the historic association of each of the homesteads based on archeological observations. To be considered eligible for listing under Criterion A (association with historic events), each homestead must be found significant for its association with Bick's (1986) thematic nomination, "Homesteading on the North Fork in Glacier National Park." The nomination establishes the significant role that homesteaders played in the North Fork area and their impact on the creation and management of Glacier National Park. To be found eligible under Criterion A, one or more of the following questions must be answered from investigation of the homestead site:

- Did the homestead play a significant role in the early Euro-American settlement of the North Fork Valley?
- Did the homestead play an important role in the history of Glacier National Park?
- Did the homestead play an important role in the early use of the North Fork valley for tourism purposes? This latter category is only briefly considered in the current report due to the lack of a contextual document regarding early tourism in the park. Such a document would be useful in evaluating dude ranches in the North Fork Valley, including the Kickbusch Dude Ranch, Quarter Circle MC Dude Ranch, and the John Slifer ranch studied herein.

NRHP Criterion B: Association with a Significant Historic Person

The UM team evaluated each of the surveyed homesteads against NRHP Criterion B, association with significant historic individuals. To be found eligible under Criterion B, one or more of the following questions must be answered from investigation of the homestead site:

- Was the homestead occupied by an individual that played an important role in the broad history of the North Fork valley, Glacier National Park, or the State of Montana ?

None of the homestead sites have been found to be eligible under this criterion and it is not further discussed in this report.

NRHP Criterion C: Significant Architecture

Since most of the standing structures have been removed from the North Fork homesteads, most of the resources discussed in this report are not eligible for listing under Criterion C, significant architecture. Of those sites still retaining buildings, the Miller and McCarthy homesteads are currently listed in the NRHP under Criterion A and C, and the Matejka has been determined eligible for listing

To be considered eligible under Criterion C, according to NRB 15, a resource must "embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction."

Since the current report focuses on the archeological remains of the homesteads, we do not consider the eligibility of the homesteads under Criterion C. We refer the reader to Bick's (1986) study which considers the eligibility of several of the homesteads under this NRHP criterion.

NRHP Criterion D: Information Potential

While Bick's (1986) study determined the eligibility of homesteads for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A and C, she did not assess their eligibility to contribute important archeological information useful in understanding early homesteading (Criterion D). As such, the main goal of the current project

was to assess the eligibility of each site for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D (information potential), as defined by NRB 15. In order to be determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D, each homestead must possess information useful in interpreting the early history of the North Fork valley. In addition that information must be considered important in prehistory or history. For example, information is considered "important" when it is shown to have a significant bearing on a research design that addresses such areas as current data gaps or alternative theories that challenge existing ones. If any or all of the following questions can be answered by the collection of information from the sites, then they would be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D:

- Do the sites provide archeological data by which GNP could better understand historic European-American use of the northwest portion of GNP? In particular, do the sites contain artifacts and/or features representative of the period of occupation that would provide new insight into early rural life in the North Fork, above and beyond that which can be known through historical documentation?
- Are historic archeological artifacts present that will allow researchers to better understand domestic life in the early days of settlement in the area? In particular, do the artifacts at the site provide new insight into the social, economic, and subsistence practices of the site occupants? How do these data compare to those in the historical record?
- Are there historic archeological features present that will allow researchers to better interpret the nature of the historic use of the homesteads? In particular, is the layout of the homestead intact in the form of archeological features, such as basements, privies, root cellars, outbuildings, dumps, wells, roads, irrigation ditches, and similar features? If so, could these features themselves provide insight into the construction methods of early homesteaders in the North Fork?
- Does the site have the potential to yield information about its evolution, abandonment, and the natural processes or deliberate park policies that resulted in it becoming a site. How did these processes affect archeological deposits?

The ultimate goal of the UM research plan was to evaluate the potential of each site to contribute information by which each of these questions could be answered regarding the historic archeological potential of the homestead remains. If any or all of these questions can be answered through archeological study, then the site is considered eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

NRHP Integrity Considerations

As discussed above, few of the homestead sites in the North Fork Valley retain standing architectural structures, leading to the assumption possibly that the sites contain little information and/or are in such poor condition that they are of a low utility in the understanding and interpretation of the historic use of the area. However, the current study's goal was to assess the historic archeological integrity of each site. While structures are no longer extant at most of the sites and, thus maintain little integrity of materials or workmanship, it is possible that the homesteads maintain other aspects of integrity, such as integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association, as defined below and in NRB 15.

National Register Bulletin 15 (NRHP 2002) defines seven aspects of integrity to be considered prior to nomination of properties for listing on the NRHP: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Each of the seven aspects of integrity is discussed below in relation to their pertinence to the current study of homesteads in the North Fork valley:

- **As defined by NRB 15 (NRHP 2002): "Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.** The relationship between the property and its location is often important to understanding why the property was created or why something happened. The actual location of a historic property, complemented by its setting, is particularly important in recapturing the sense of historic events and persons. Except in rare cases, the relationship between a property and its historic associations is destroyed if the property is moved."
    - To maintain integrity of location for the North Fork homestead project, the homestead must maintain original standing structures and/or identifiable historic

archeological features at the location of original use. If no such structures and/or features are present, integrity of location is lost and the property cannot be determined eligible for listing on the NRHP.

  - The lack of these features and/or structures would prevent recognition of the homestead location. In the current study, we were unable to locate 15 of the homesteads, raising issues regarding integrity of location. Future work is recommended to better determine the locations of these 15 sites.

- **As defined by NRB 15 (NRHP 2002): "Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.** It results from conscious decisions made during the original conception and planning of a property (or its significant alteration) and applies to activities as diverse as community planning, engineering, architecture, and landscape architecture. Design includes such elements as organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials."

- To maintain integrity of design for the North Fork homestead project, the homestead must maintain historic archeological features and/or standing structures that reflect their original design and construction of the homestead, including methods of construction, building style, intra-site patterns, and/or landscape design. If such features can be discerned, the site will have retained its integrity of design**.**

- **As defined by NRB 15 (NRHP 2002): "Setting is the physical environment of a historic property.** Whereas location refers to the specific place where a *property w*as built or an event occurred, setting refers to the *character* of the place *in* which the property played its historical role. It involves *how*, not just where, the property is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space."

  - To maintain integrity of setting for the North Fork homestead project, the overall character of the location must resemble the period of occupation. If the setting does not resemble the period of occupation (due to modern intrusions for example), the

site will have lost its integrity of setting and will not be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

- **As defined by NRB 15 (NRHP 2002): "Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.** The choice and combination of materials reveal the preferences of those who created the property and indicate the availability of particular types of materials and technologies. Indigenous materials are often the focus of regional building traditions and thereby help define an area's sense of time and place."
    - Since many of the actual historic structures have been removed from the project area, integrity of materials is largely not pertinent to the current study. However, in the rare case that portions of structures or foundations are present, they must have original materials and not have been rehabilitated using modern or unoriginal materials.
    - Because of the archeological—not architectural—nature of the current study, integrity of materials is not considered in this document. However, it is likely that additional archeology would contribute information regarding integrity of materials at the sites with foundation remains, as identified in Chapter V.
- **As defined by NRB 15 (NRHP 2002): "Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.** It is the evidence of artisans' labor and skill in constructing or altering a building, structure, object, or site. Workmanship can apply to the property as a whole or to its individual components. It can be expressed in vernacular methods of construction and plain finishes or in highly sophisticated configurations and ornamental detailing. It can be based on common traditions or innovative period techniques."
    - Since many of the actual historic structures have been removed from the project area, integrity of workmanship is largely not pertinent to the current study. However,

in the rare case that portions of structures or foundations are present, they must have evidence of original workmanship and not have been rehabilitated using modern methods.

  - Because of the archeological—not architectural—nature of the current study, integrity of workmanship is not considered in this document. However, it is likely that additional archeology would contribute information regarding integrity of workmanship at the sites with foundation remains, as identified in Chapter V.

- **As defined by NRB 15 (NRHP 2002): "Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.** It results from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey the property's historic character. For example, a rural historic district retaining original design, materials, workmanship, and setting will relate the feeling of agricultural life in the 19th century."

  - To maintain integrity of feeling for the North Fork homestead project, the overall environment, as well as the homestead's design and setting, must resemble the period of occupation. If the feeling does not resemble the period of occupation (due to modern intrusions for example), the site will have lost its integrity of feeling and will not be considered eligible for listing on the NRHP.

- **As defined by NRB 15 (NRHP 2002): "Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.** A property retains association if it is the place where the event or activity occurred and is sufficiently intact to convey that relationship to an observer. Like feeling, association requires the presence of physical features that convey a property's historic character."

  - For the current project, by maintaining integrity of association, the homestead sites will contain evidence of historic archeological features and/or artifacts, which would provide information regarding the historic use of the homesteads. Historic archeologists could, thus, excavate the sites and glean information regarding the

domestic lifeways of early European occupants of the homesteads. Integrity of association would be present at the sites if they contain intact features—such as basements, privies, wells, springhouses, or other structural features—that would allow archeologists to reconstruct daily activities at the homesteads. In addition, the sites might contain archeological materials, or artifacts, representative of the period of occupation and the nature of those daily activities at the sites.

- If the sites maintain either features and/or artifacts of the kind described above, they would maintain integrity of association. If so, the sites would also provide important information regarding the early settlement of the North Fork Valley and would likely be eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D and possibly Criterion A, given their association with the important early homesteading of the area.

Using archeological survey and excavation methods defined in the next chapter, each of the homesteads in the North Fork valley was evaluated against these four NRHP Criteria and seven aspects of integrity. Final eligibility and integrity recommendations for each homestead are included in the conclusion (Chapter VI), with details of individual homesteads in Chapter V. The next chapter provides an overview of UM's methods of archeological survey, testing, and research.

IV. Archeological Field Methods

The goal of UM's North Fork homestead archeological survey was to collect information by which to evaluate the NRHP eligibility and integrity of each homestead, as defined in the previous chapter. In order to collect appropriate information, The University of Montana established a sound methodology of archeological survey and testing, including: 1) background research; 2) pre-field reconnaissance and GPS mapping; 3) site identification via systematic surface survey; and 4) archeological testing.

Background Research. Prior to and during fieldwork, the second report author (Kinsner) conducted background research at various repositories to establish historic contexts for the project area and vicinity. Research was conducted at the University of Montana Mansfield Library and at Glacier National Park in West Glacier. Both facilities have a plethora of documents useful in establishing historic contexts of the project area. Additional research was conducted by GNP staff and volunteers who utilized the park archives as well as the Columbia Falls library, and its historic "Columbian" newspaper microfiche. With this being said, this report was unsuccessful in identifying new historical background research beyond that previously collected by prior studies, including Bick (1986), Karsmizki (1997), Riley (2003), Reeves (2003), and Scott (1989).

The goal of background research was to establish a baseline of information by which to compare archeological data recovered during the present study. Without proper context, archeological data can be quite meaningless; thus, background research will supply prehistoric and historic context by which to interpret project data.

Field Survey & Excavation Methods

Project Area Mapping. During all tasks of the field effort, a detailed project map was kept using GPS technology. Locations of single artifacts, as well as sites, were recorded initially with a Garmin GPSmap 60CSx handheld geographic positioning system (GPS) unit. Additional GPS data were taken by the lead author using a Trimble CT with accuracy of less than a meter. A map was generated using Maptech software which used the GPS coordinates to place the locations of recorded objects/excavations on 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle maps.

Reconnaissance. The initial field task was a characterization of the geomorphology and overall setting of the project landforms. The second report author (Kinsner), the Principal Investigator (MacDonald) and crew initially walked and drove much of the project area to characterize and become familiar with its setting. Initial reconnaissance and analysis of geologic and soils maps indicates a complex land formation system. Landforms appear to be affected by alluvial and colluvial processes.

The ultimate goal of the geomorphological reconnaissance task was to describe project landforms and evaluate their formation. Such information is crucial during the interpretation of formation patterns at archeological sites.

Site Identification via Systematic Surface Survey. After reconnaissance, The University of Montana archeological team conducted a systematic surface survey of the project area. One team of 4-6 individuals worked together during this task. The team oriented itself relative to the known homestead site locations and walked the area looking for archeological site signatures, including house features and associated artifacts. Individuals were spaced approximately 5 ft. (3 m) apart and walked slowly across the project area to observe artifacts and features on the ground surface. When artifacts and/or homestead features were identified, the team assembled to conduct a detailed examination of the ground surface around the find spot. All additional artifacts were temporarily marked with pin flags. A field map of the site in relation to major landforms was recorded by field personnel. Subsequent to discovery, each artifact and/or homestead feature was identified on the ground surface and was mapped by field personnel under the direction of the Principal Investigator and/or the Field Director. All cultural features (former building remains, foundations, wooden structures, etc…) identified during survey were numbered, photographed, and mapped. Field observations for features were recorded in crew notes. Attributes such as artifact type, dimensions, color, and raw material were recorded for these surface-identified artifacts, especially for those that were not collected (e.g., prehistoric lithic artifacts).

Only a handful of historic artifacts, in danger of being looted, were collected for curation at Glacier National. No prehistoric artifacts were collected during the survey, but five were observed during fieldwork (discussed more in the results chapter). Each diagnostic historic artifact collected in the field

was identified by a unique field specimen (FS) number linked to its provenience within the site and overall project grid. This information was recorded in an FS log and upon the plastic collection bag for each artifact. Upon project completion (circa May, 2009), these historic artifacts will be curated at Glacier National Park under Accession Number GLAC-1205.

The entire project area was surveyed using this systematic surface survey methodology. After site identification, an Intermountain Region Archeological Site Status and Evaluation form was completed in the field. Subsequently, a Montana Cultural Resource Inventory Site (CRIS) form was completed in the office for relocated sites. Collected information on site condition was provided to the NPS Key Official and subsequently added to the Archeological Sites Management Information System (ASMIS) maintained by the National Park. Archeological site (CRIS) forms were submitted to the NPS Key Official who will submit them to the Montana SHPO.

Archeological Test Excavations. After identification and delineation, three archeological sites with research potential were subjected to test unit excavation. In particular, the team focused on three historic homestead sites (24FH214, 24FH329, and 24FH348) which were thought to contain intact subsurface archeological remains. Test units consisted of 1x1-m squares and were excavated stratigraphically within natural and cultural soil horizons, using trowels and shovels. Quantities of test units excavated at the respective sites were determined based on their overall dimensions and research potential.

During site evaluations, each archeological item or excavation location was mapped in relation to an established site grid oriented to magnetic north. The detailed project area map was created using handheld GPS technology owned by The University of Montana and GNP and operated by the GNP archeologist, Principal Investigator, Field Director, and/or crew. In addition to the electronic mapping using the GPS, planviews and profiles were also hand-sketched of each site and test unit to provide a realistic perspective that is sometimes lost in electronic mapping. Maps generated for the project generally utilize measurements taken with the gps in consort with the hand-drawn field maps.

Within strata containing cultural materials, excavations proceeded within 5-10 cm levels and diagnostic and select additional artifacts were point provenienced whenever possible to provide for precise vertical and horizontal artifact control. Within recognized subsoil strata (with no cultural material), excavations proceeded within 10-cm levels. In non-feature contexts, sediment was screened through 6-mm (0.25-inch) hardware cloth for systematic artifact recovery. Within identified features, sediment was screened through 3-mm (0.12-inch) hardware cloth to increase recovery of small artifacts, including faunal and botanical remains, among other items (e.g., charcoal, etc…).

Cultural features associated with the early homesteads were numbered, photographed, mapped, excavated and profiled, as appropriate. Perimeters of pit and basin-shaped features will be defined in planview, with a subsequent cross-section to provide a feature profile. Features were excavated in 5-cm levels within test units to increase provenience accuracy. As discussed above, feature sediment was screened through 3-mm (0.12-inch) hardware cloth. Field observations and excavation data for features and test units were recorded on standardized forms developed by The University of Montana.

During all field tasks, the UM team complied with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards for excavation and all lands were restored to the park archeologist's satisfaction. While the project did not encounter human remains, investigators were prepared to immediately notify the park manager and park archeologists if such remains were identified.

The ultimate goal of test unit excavation was to collect data by which to characterize each site's age and function, as they relate to the research issues discussed above. The field methods described above yielded outstanding data by which to interpret each site's prehistoric and/or historic site use patterns. While the defined methods generally sufficed for all identified sites, individual sites required slight alterations in field procedures to maximize research potential. Any changes in field plans were discussed with GNP archeologists prior to implementation and are discussed for particular sites in the next two chapters.

Survey and excavation personnel included: Dr. Douglas MacDonald, Ph.D., RPA (Principal Investigator), John Kinsner (Glacier National Park Seasonal Archeologist), Lester Maas (Field

Director), Michael Livers, Robert Peltier, and Justin Ferryman. The team was based at the Bowman Lake Campground located near Polebridge, Montana, within GNP.

Additional equipment utilized for site documentation included two Nikon Coolpix six megapixel digital cameras and two Canon EOS rebel K2 35 mm cameras. At least two photos of the site and/or each contributing feature were taken in digital format. Sketches of artifacts and features were also made in the field. All digital photos will be provided to Glacier National Park upon project completion.

Artifact Analysis Methods

It was expected that three main artifact types would be recovered during the 2008 field season, including flaked stone artifacts, historic artifacts, and faunal remains. However, while five lithic artifacts were observed during the project, they were not collected for analysis; only historic artifacts were collected during the North Fork archeological survey. This section summarizes the basic methodology to be utilized in analysis of these types of artifacts.

Lithic Analysis. While no lithic artifacts were collected during fieldwork, several were observed during the project and basic information was recorded for them upon observation. Five basic categories of information can be derived from flaked stone artifacts: depositional, temporal/stylistic, functional, technological, and raw material. Each of these aspects of the lithic record is interrelated and cannot be completed divorced from one another. Raw material analysis identifies the lithic materials that were exploited; this information permits inferences to be made about procurement strategies and the related issues of exchange and settlement mobility. Technological analysis examines tool design and methods of production, maintenance, and recycling; this information helps to document the organization of technology and to address issues such as site function. Functional analysis determines the tasks in which tools were employed; this information also helps to document the organization of technology and site function. Temporal/stylistic analysis provides chronological as well as other cultural information; typically, however, only the most formalized stone tools are usually diagnostic (e.g., projectile points), and even these items tend to be less sensitive to temporal change or regional styles than are ceramics.

The only lithics recovered during the project were five flakes. Debitage includes all types of chipped-stone waste that bears no obvious traces of having been utilized or intentionally modified. At the request of Glacier National Park, UM recorded the locations and conducted preliminary field analyses of any prehistoric artifacts; however, the few such artifacts (n=5) were returned in plastic bags into their locations of identification.

Historic Artifact Analysis. Given the known use of the area in the 19th and 20th centuries, historic artifacts were expected in the project area. After processing, historic artifacts were to be subjected to identification and analysis by the project historic archeologist, graduate student David Dick.

Following methods defined by South (1973), the first step of historic artifact analysis included a basic description of artifacts to determine the age and function of deposits and features at the site. Artifact dating was based on the identification of maker's marks, diagnostic-manufacturing methods, such as bottle mold seams, bottle pontil marks, ceramic bodies and glazes, and known dates of production as described below. Various analytical techniques were employed to synthesize artifact data including standard classification typologies.

The ultimate goal of historic artifact analysis is to characterize the activities taking place at the site, as they relate to use patterns. The artifacts are defined by a class, subclass and material source. The majority of historic artifacts discovered are made from glass, ceramic or metal. Often faunal remains, cork and wood are preserved at historic sites as well. More perishable objects such as paper and other organic materials are rare but exist. Context is the most important aspect for analysis. Ddiagnostic markers are the first source for context and therefore the source of further analysis of site function.

Faunal Analysis. In addition to lithic and historic artifacts, the project occasionally encountered faunal remains from historic sites. Faunal remains were noted in the field as to size and described in terms of their body part and, if possible, species. Unfortunately, most faunal remains were heavily weathered and in poor condition and typically were uninformative as to species.

In the next chapter, we provide a summary of field results as encountered during fieldwork within the North Fork Valley between June and August 2008.

V. 2007 University of Montana Archeological Survey Results

This chapter provides a full overview of the results of archeological inventory and evaluation of the homestead archeological sites within the North Fork drainage in Glacier National Park. The UM team relocated 25 homestead locations during the project (Photograph 4; Table 2). Archeological results will focus on the relocated sites, but we also provide details regarding the unsuccessful attempts to find 12 remaining homesteads. UM did not relocate the four other resources identified on GLO maps as well.

As above, the project area is divided into seven segments, including: Area 1—Upper Big Prairie; Area 2—Lower Big Prairie (Akokola and Bowman Creek Drainages); Area 3—Quartz Creek and Hidden Meadow; Area 4—Sullivan Meadows; Area 5—Anaconda and Dutch Creeks; Area 6—Upper Camas Creek; and Area 7—Lower Camas Creek. Table 2 provides a summary of archeological results in each of the seven areas.

The remainder of this chapter provides results of archeological survey and evaluation at the North Fork sites shown in Table 2. We follow the order presented above and in the table, starting in the north (Areas 1 and 2, Upper and Lower Big Prairie) and working southward toward Apgar and West Glacier.

Photograph 4. UM Crew conducting Field Survey at Kickbusch Ranch Site (24FH328). View Northeast.

Table 2. Summary of Archeological Results, North Fork Homestead Archeological Inventory.

HOMESTEAD (Site No.)	Results of Survey
Area 1—Upper Big Prairie (n=9; 7 relocated; 1 excavated)	
Coal Claim (GLO map)	Not Relocated; not surveyed; no additional information provided
Cabin (GLO map)	Not Relocated; not surveyed; no additional information provided
Isaac Chance (24FH315)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Dan Doverspike (24FH320)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Norman Lee (24FH329)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated, Excavated
J.K. Miller (24FH333)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Jack Reuter/Chris Keenan (24FH338)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Charles Buhler (24FH316)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Mark Myers (24FH334)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Area 2—Lower Big Prairie (n=10; 6 relocated; 2 excavated)	
William Raftery (24FH336)	Not Relocated
Charles Schoenberger	Private property, not surveyed
Margaret McCarthy (24FH330)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Ernest Henthorn (24FH324)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Jonnie Walsh (24FH348)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated, Excavated
Anton Schoenberger (24FH340)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Pillsbury Coal Claim (GLO map)	Not Relocated; not surveyed; no additional information provided
Kickbusch Dude Ranch (24FH328)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Paul Schoenberger (24FH342)	Not Relocated
Jessie Bemis/Covey (24FH214)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated, Excavated
Area 3—Quartz Creek Drainage & Hidden Meadow (n=4; 1 relocated)	
George Grubb (24FH323)	Not Relocated
Benard Maes (24FH331)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
William Cummings	Private property, not surveyed
Possible Site (GLO map)	Not Relocated; not surveyed; no additional information provided
Area 4—Sullivan Meadow (n=5; 3 relocated)	
Thomas Jefferson (24FH325)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Chas. Hack claim? (GLO map)	Not Relocated; not surveyed; no additional information provided
Louis Sommers (24FH344)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
William Reed	Not Relocated
Frederick Shultz (24FH343)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Area 5—Dutch and Anaconda Creeks (n=4; 3 relocated)	
Theodore Christensen (24FH318)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Howard Jones (24FH327)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
George Johnson (24FH326, 820 and 821)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Louis Fournier (24FH321)	Not Relocated
Area 6—Upper Camas Creek (n=4; 3 relocated)	
Josiah Rogers (24FH339)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Charles Palmer (24FH335)	Not Relocated
Dennis Sullivan (24FH345)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Ernest Christensen (24FH317)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Area 7—Lower Camas Creek (n=5; 2 relocated)	
Newt Gephardt (24(FH322)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated
Chester Gephardt (24FH322)	Not Relocated
Arthur Tillison (24FH346)	Not Relocated
Ora Reeves (24FH337)	Not Relocated
Rudolf Matejka (24FH332)	Relocated, Surveyed, Mapped, Evaluated

occupation. These eligible properties also contain abundant artifacts which will aid in the understanding of subsistence patterns, as well as the economic and social circumstances of the occupants of the homesteads.

While the current study's limited archeology did not answer these questions, UM conducted enough archeology to test the sites' potential to contribute additional information. Based on our limited excavations at three of the sites, it is clear that additional archeology would be beneficial to a better understanding of various research issues associated with early homesteading in the North Fork.

The following is a list of the 17 properties found to maintain various aspects of integrity—including integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association—and to be eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criteria A, C, and/or D, with the latter category determined by information collected in the current project. Table 26 summarizes these results and provides the Criteria of eligibility:

- Area 1—Upper Big Prairie
    - Isaac Chance (24FH315); Norman Lee (24FH329); J. K. Miller (24FH333); and Mark Myers (24FH334).
- Area 2—Lower Big Prairie
    - Margaret McCarthy (24FH330); Ernest Henthorn (24FH324); Jonnie Walsh (24FH348); Anton Schoenberger (24FH340); Kickbusch Dude Ranch (24FH328); and Jessie Bemis/Covey (24FH214).
- Area 3—Quartz Creek Drainage and Hidden Meadow
    - Benard Maes (24FH331).
- Area 4—Sullivan Meadow
    - Thomas Jefferson (24FH325) and Frederick Shultz (24FH343).
- Area 5—Dutch and Anaconda Creeks
    - George Johnson (24FH326)

- Area 6—Upper Camas Creek
    - Josiah Rogers (24FH339) and Dennis Sullivan (24FH345).
- Area 7—Lower Camas Creek
    - Rudolf Matejka (24FH332).

Properties within the Upper and Lower Big Prairies appear to have maintained their integrity and archeological potential better than those in the more heavily forested settings, such as Dutch, Camas, and Anaconda Creeks. In all likelihood, the locations of these eligible sites within more open settings allowed them to avoid impacts of the Red Bench Fire, in contrast to those in the more forested settings.

Each of these 17 properties are recommended to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under, minimally, Criterion D. Most are also eligible under Criterion A, while Miller, McCarthey, and Matejka were previously determined eligible under Criterion C by GNP.

In fact, of the 25 surveyed properties, six of them are already listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including McCarthy, Miller, Raftery, Anton Schoenberger, Charles Schoenberger, and Walsh. However, these properties were listed under Criterion C (in addition to A) when their structures remained extant. Despite the removal of the original structures at all but Miller and McCarthy, all but C. Schoenberger remain eligible for listing under Criterion A and D. As discussed below, the Charles Schoenberger property was not relocated for the current study and its NRHP-eligibility status is not updated in the current report.

Of the 25 surveyed and relocated properties, four failed to provide adequate information by which to evaluate their NRHP eligibility. These four sites include: Dan Doverspike (24FH320), Charles Buhler (24FH316), and Jack Reuter/Chris Keenan (24FH338) in Upper Big Prairie (Area 1); and Newt Gephardt (24FH322) in Lower Camas Creek (Area 7). These properties simply were difficult to relocate due to dense forest and undergrowth. For these four sites, UM recommends additional survey and/or testing to better determine their locations and potential NRHP eligibility. UM also was unsuccessful in relocating the four properties originally identified on GLO maps (see Table 2 in Chapter V).

Finally, of the 25 surveyed and relocated properties, four properties were found to be not eligible for listing on the NRHP for a variety of reasons, typically associated with a lack of integrity of design and association due to a lack of artifacts and/or features. These sites include: Louis Sommers (24FH344) in Sullivan Meadow (Area 4); Ernest Christensen (24FH317) in Upper Camas Creek; as well as two sites in Area 5 (Dutch and Anaconda Creeks), including the homesteads of Theodore Christensen (24FH318) and Howard Jones (24FH327),.

Each of these four ineligible properties was negatively affected by various natural degrading processes with most in the midst of dense new undergrowth and young pines that have obscured their archeological visibility. In particular, properties in the south-central portion of the project area along Dutch and Anaconda Creeks were more likely to be found not eligible likely due to the severe effects of the fire and subsequent regrowth. As discussed above, sites in more open settings appear to have weathered the fire more successfully or simply were easier to relocate. These ineligible properties invariably lack artifacts and features which would help contribute information by which to interpret the homesteads' economy, subsistence, and social realm. No additional work is recommended at these five homesteads (L. Sommers, E. Christensen, T. Christensen, and H. Jones).

For the 17 properties found to be eligible for listing in the survey area, a multiple-property listing is recommended due to the significance of the homesteads to the history of the early use of the North Fork Flathead River Valley. Additional archeology at the 17 NRHP-eligible and/or listed sites is likely to be extremely productive, as indicated by the initial test excavations at three of the sites, including Walsh, Lee, and Covey/Bemis. At each of these sites, foundations were excavated which can contribute information regarding their original construction, while artifacts were recovered that would provide information regarding the social, economic, and subsistence practices of the original homesteaders. While historical documents are useful, they often fail to provide accurate information regarding these aspects of rural life. In fact, it has been previously shown that historic archeology is the lone means by which these important aspects of history can be learned today (South 1973).

Overall, while many of the structural remains of the homesteads have vanished, the archeological sites associated with the homesteads appear to be in good condition, maintaining their integrity of

location, design, setting, feeling, and association. The three sites with extant structures also maintain their integrity of materials and workmanship; additional archeological investigations within structural remains at the other sites lacking standing structures may also provide enough information by which to evaluate these latter two integrity aspects as well. For example, excavation of a single 1x1-m test unit at the Walsh Homestead documented the presence of a previously-unrecognized stair case leading into the basement. Additional work at this feature is likely to yield additional details of construction methodology that will allow a reassessment of the integrity of workmanship and materials for the Walsh Homestead.

Monitoring of site conditions is recommended on a periodic basis at these 17 sites, but none of the sites are in imminent danger of disturbance. Table 26 below provides a summary of UM's survey results, including final NRHP recommendations, condition assessments, as well as page numbers of sites in this report for ease of access.

As summarized above, 15 properties (including 11 homesteads and the four GLO properties) were simply not relocated due to various reasons, including their locations on private property, inadequate preliminary mapping, and/or their locations in difficult to access and/or dense vegetation areas. Along with the four GLO sites that require additional work, we also recommend additional research to relocate the 11 homestead properties. While UM was unsuccessful in relocating them, perhaps additional background research and survey time will allow for their relocation in the future.

The 2008 survey of the North Fork Homestead provided an excellent opportunity for a handful of UM graduate students to gain important archeological survey and testing experience. Their hard work resulted in the identification and survey of 17 NRHP-eligible or listed homesteads, including three of which were excavated for the project. Occasional monitoring and additional excavations are recommended at these 17 sites (especially if GNP notices or plans impacts). Four additional homesteads were surveyed and were found to lack sufficient artifacts and features to be eligible for NRHP-listing. No additional work is recommended at these sites. Finally, 15 sites were either not relocated (n=11 homesteads) or were not surveyed sufficiently (n=4 GLO properties) to determine

NRHP eligibility. Additional survey to relocate and better document these 15 properties is recommended whenever funding permits.

Table 26. Summary of Results and Recommendations, North Fork Homestead Project.

HOMESTEAD (Site No.)	Eligibility (Y/N)/ Criteria	Page Numbers in Report
Area 1—Upper Big Prairie (n=7; 7 relocated; 1 excavated)		
Isaac Chance (24FH315)	Yes; Criteria A & D	39-42
Dan Doverspike (24FH320)	Undetermined; more work	43-44
Norman Lee (24FH329)	Yes; Criteria A & D	44-54
J.K. Miller (24FH333)	Yes; Criteria A, C, & D	54-58
Jack Reuter/Chris Keenan (24FH338)	Undetermined; more work	58-62
Charles Buhler (24FH316)	Undetermined; more work	62-68
Mark Myers (24FH334)	Yes; Criteria A & D	68-72
Area 2—Lower Big Prairie (n=9; 6 relocated; 2 excavated)		
William Raftery (24FH336)	Not Relocated	73-75
Charles Schoenberger	Not Relocated	75
Margaret McCarthy (24FH330)	Yes; Criteria A, C, & D	79-83
Ernest Henthorn (24FH324)	Yes; Criteria A & D	75-79
Jonnie Walsh (24FH348)	Yes; Criteria A & D	83-100
Anton Schoenberger (24FH340)	Yes; Criteria A & D	100-105
Kickbusch Dude Ranch (24FH328)	Yes; Criteria A & D	105-111
Paul Schoenberger (24FH342)	Not Relocated	111-113
Jessie Bemis/Covey (24FH214)	Yes; Criteria A & D	113-125
Area 3—Quartz Creek Drainage & Hidden Meadow (n=3; 1 relocated)		
George Grubb (24FH323)	Not Relocated	126-127
Benard Maes (24FH331)	Yes; Criteria A & D	127-134
William Cummings	Not Relocated	134
Area 4—Sullivan Meadow (n=4; 3 relocated)		
Thomas Jefferson (24FH325)	Yes; Criteria A & D	135-139
Louis Sommers (24FH344)	Not eligible	139-141
William Reed	Not Relocated	141
Frederick Shultz (24FH343)	Yes; Criteria A & D	141-145
Area 5—Dutch and Anaconda Creeks (n=4; 3 relocated)		
Theodore Christensen (24FH318)	Not eligible	145-148
Howard Jones (24FH327)	Not eligible	148-152
George Johnson (24FH326)	Yes; Criteria A & D	152-157
Louis Fournier	Not Relocated	157
Area 6—Upper Camas Creek (n=4; 3 relocated)		
Josiah Rogers (24FH339)	Yes; Criteria A & D	158-163
Charles Palmer (24FH335)	Not Relocated	163-164
Dennis Sullivan (24FH345)	Yes; Criteria A & D	164-169
Ernest Christensen (24FH317)	Not eligible	169-171
Area 7—Lower Camas Creek (n=5; 2 relocated)		
Newt Gephardt (24(FH322)	Undetermined; more work	173-174
Chester Gephardt (24FH322)	Not Relocated	174
Arthur Tillison (24FH346)	Not Relocated	174
Ora Reeves (24FH337)	Not Relocated	175
Rudolf Matejka (24FH332)	Yes; Criteria A, C, & D	176-180

The overall results indicate that, at a minimum, 17 the homesteads can provide abundant information regarding the early homesteading of the region, with a couple also providing information on early tourism in the park. Archeological work at these 17 sites is likely to yield important data regarding the economic, social, architectural and subsistence practices of early homesteaders in the North Fork.

UM additionally recommends that GNP complete a contextual study of tourism at the park, by which these early tourist sites—typically ranches, such as Kickbusch Dude Ranch in the Big Prairie—can be better evaluated for listing on the NRHP. With additional survey, the 15 other sites (11 not relocated and four requiring additional survey) may also provide information useful in understanding a poorly-studied period of Montana history.

UM's Department of Anthropology would like to thank Glacier National Park and the Rocky Mountain Cooperative Ecosystem Study Unit for facilitating our participation in this project and for providing such an outstanding opportunity for graduate students to gain much-needed experience in cultural resource management.

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