

William Allen White Cabins
(Main Cabin)
Rocky Mountain National Park
Estes Park Vicinity
Larimer County
Colorado

HABS No. CO-63-A

HABS
COLO,
35-ESPK.V,
2A-

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20240

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS...

Addendum to
William Allen White Cabins,
Main Cabin
Bear Lake Road
Rocky Mountain National Park
Vicinity Estes Park, Larimer County
Colorado

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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ADDENDUM TO:
WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE CABINS, MAIN CABIN

HABS NO. CO-63-A

This report is an addendum to two drawings previously transmitted to the Library of Congress.

Location: Bear Lake Road, Moraine Park, Rocky Mountain National Park, Vicinity Estes Park, Larimer County, Colorado

Significance: This cabin is typical of structures built by turn of the century settlers. It is also important due to its association with William Allen White, a noted writer, Pulitzer prize winner, and advisor to many political figures.

Description:

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Information - William Allen White Cabin

Architectural Merit and Interest: This cabin is representative of the era when private summer homes were scattered throughout Rocky Mountain National Park. It is also important for its association with William Allen White, a noted novelist, editor, and national political advisor. The cabin is typical of structures built by turn of the century settlers.

Condition of Fabric: Fair.

Summary Description: This building is basically of a gabled rectangular plan, with an enclosed shed addition to the east side which extends around to the north to form an open rear porch. A large covered porch, which was added onto the cabin in 1913, extends along the front, or south facade, and the west end. The house runs roughly east-west. The building itself is frame, but the front porch and front step walls are of cobblestone masonry, as are the pillars which support the shed porch roof.

The interior is composed of one long open living room, a bedroom, a bath, and a kitchen. In the living room there is a stone masonry fireplace at the east end. A large bay window was added at the west end, from which there is an excellent view of the mountains. An open truss system, and board and batten paneling from the floor to mid-wall, give the room a European flavor, as opposed to western rustic. The rear porch, mentioned earlier, is screened in and contains an

enclosed water closet in one corner. The roof has newly-applied cedar shingles.

B. Detailed Description of Exterior

Foundation: Low to high 0'-0" to 5'-0" of uncoursed fieldstone.

Wall Construction: Board and batten.

Structural System: Logs.

Porches, Stoops, Etc.: There is a stone screened porch along the south and west sides. The pattern of the stonework is irregular, resembling cobble stonework. There are stone buttresses and stone columns along the south wall of the porch which carry the structure of the roof. The porch on the north facade is semi-enclosed and may never have had a roof. This porch has board and batten siding and wire screening.

Openings, Doorways, and Windows: There are a total of four doors, the main door being on the south facade. This door is a single white, solid wood panel with four long vertical lights flanked by two eight-light sidelights. The other three are single, brown or white, wood panelled doors, one on the front facade and two on the north side. There are nineteen windows, predominantly horizontal six-light set singly, doubly, and in bands; fixed and sliding. A bay window with six fixed lights is located on the east facade. The frames are rectangular, white wood with flat arches.

Roof - Shape and Covering: The cabin has a gable roof covered with cedar shingles. There are exposed 2" x 4" rafter ends.

C. Detailed Description of Interior

Floor Plans: The floor plan is basically a rectangular plan, with an enclosed shed addition to the east side which extends around to the north to form the rear porch. There is a large covered porch along the front, or south facade, and the west end. The house runs roughly east-west. The interior is composed of one long open living room, a bedroom, a bath, and a kitchen. The overall dimensions are 42'-3" x 30'-0". The cabin is vacant during the winter and used in the summer by those in the Park's visiting artist program.

Stairways: There are no interior stairways. The only stairway is the steps going up to the front porch. The steps

themselves are wooden and are between cheek walls of cobblestone masonry.

Flooring: Tongue and groove wood flooring.

Wall and Ceiling Finishes: The perimeter walls, partition walls, and ceiling are all plaster board, with board and batten on the partition walls. In the living room there is a stone masonry fireplace at the east end. An open truss system, and board and batten paneling from floor to mid-wall give the room a European flavor.

D. Site and Surroundings

The cabin is in an open site with native soils, grasses, and some pines around it. The view to the south and southwest is excellent and includes a number of peaks, among them Longs Peak, the Park's highest mountain. Moraine Park is also fully visible.