

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

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File No.: 3130-1R NPS
3330-6 CCC ^{Mess.} Recreation Hall ✓
3330-6N/ CCC Camp Site

September 16, 2003

Paul R. Anderson, Superintendent
Denali National Park and Preserve
Post Office Box 9
Denali Park, Alaska 99755

Subject: CCC Camp and Recreation Hall Determination of Eligibility

Dear Mr. Anderson:

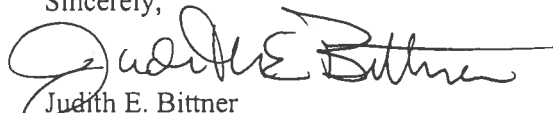
The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office reviewed National Park Service correspondence and attachment – Determination of Eligibility CCC-Camp, NPS; 1938 Park Map, NPS; Project Map C-camp today, NPS; Photograph Recreation Hall ca. 1950, NPS; Photograph Recreation Hall ca. 1938, NPS; and Photographs Recreation Hall ca. 2003 (Five Sheets), NPS; - received September 10, 2003.

The Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer concurs with National Park Service finding the CCC Camp Recreational Hall eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The CCC Camp Site appears to lack sufficient historical integrity. Only the roadway providing access to the site and the CCC Camp Mess Hall – one of six original wood framed buildings – seem to survive to represent structures and buildings dating from the period of significance. All of the dozens of canvas wall tents and wood framed tent platforms that were part of the original camp look to have been demolished and replaced with modern accommodations. No evidence was provided with the evaluation that indicates other features of the CCC Camp Site that date from the camp's period of original construction still exist. The Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer therefore does not concur with National Park Service finding the CCC Camp Site eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Each property evaluated for National Register eligibility needs to have an Alaska Historic Resources Survey number. Alaska Historic Resources Survey numbers are assigned by the Office of History and Archaeology to help locate and track determinations of eligibility and effect findings for properties. Your cultural resource staff should contact Joan Dale (907) 269-8718 and acquire Alaska Historic Resources Survey numbers for these properties. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact James J. Malanaphy AIA (907) 269-8726.

Sincerely,



Judith E. Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer

JEB;jjm



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Denali National Park and Preserve
Post Office Box 9
Denali Park, Alaska 99755

H4217 (DENA-SCR)

September 5, 2003

RECEIVED

SEP 10 2003

OHA

Ms. Judith Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Natural Resources
Office of History and Archaeology
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1310
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565

Dear Ms. Bittner:

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 470f, as amended, 90 Stat. 1320), we are submitting for your review a Determination of Eligibility for the CCC Camp and recreation hall in Denali National Park and Preserve. The Park hopes to rehabilitate the recreational hall so that it meets the need of our seasonal staff.

In 1938 the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) established a camp in Mount McKinley National Park. The camp, located on the north side of the road approximately 3 miles west of the Alaska Railroad Depot, consisted of 54 wall tents, a mess hall, infirmary, shower/laundry house, office, garage and a house for the supervisor. Although the CCC was active at McKinley Park for only two years, 1938 and 1939, much was accomplished during that time and the CCC made a significant contribution to the park.

The CCC Camp site has served as a housing area for Denali's seasonal staff for many years. Park staff finds C-Camp, as it is known today, to be eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A. In terms of historic integrity, the site and the building possess the qualities of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship. Today C-Camp retains the footprint of the original CCC Camp and continues to serve as seasonal housing as it did for the CCC in 1938-39 and construction crews in the 1950s. The driveway into C-Camp, encircling the C-Camp recreation hall, is essentially the same driveway established by the CCC in 1938. The frame cabins of Denali's seasonal employees are situated around this driveway in much the same way as the CCC enrollee's tents encircled it in 1938 and 1939, giving the modern C-Camp an appearance and setting which is similar to that of the original. The C-Camp recreation hall is the only remaining building dating to the CCC in the C-Camp area. Although the building was modified

with the removal of the south wing, it remains in its original location, setting, and retains much of its original material.

If you have any questions during the review process, please contact Ann Kain, Cultural Resource Manager at (907) 683-9607 or at Ann_Kain@NPS.GOV.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul R. Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being the most prominent.

Paul R. Anderson
Superintendent

Enclosure

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY

CCC-CAMP

In 1938 the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) established a camp in Mount McKinley National Park. The camp, located on the north side of the road approximately 3 miles west of the Alaska Railroad Depot, consisted of 54 wall tents, a mess hall, infirmary, shower/laundry house, office, garage and a house for the supervisor. Although the CCC was active at McKinley Park for only two years, 1938 and 1939, much was accomplished during that time and the CCC made a significant contribution to the park. In the headquarters area, the CCC constructed two employee residences in the housing area, several administrative buildings, and the dog kennels. The CCC also built the Wonder Lake Ranger Station. Additional projects included water and sewer lines, landscaping, and telephone line maintenance.

When the CCC left the park at the end of the 1939 season the camp remained as the return of the CCC was expected in 1940. Unfortunately, high costs of transporting a CCC crew to Alaska and maintaining a camp at Mount McKinley National Park proved to be prohibitive and the park's application for a CCC crew was not approved. In September 1940 several CCC crewmen came to the park to pack and load the CCC equipment to ship it to Anchorage and Fairbanks.

With the closing of the camp, the area became a storage area. Over the years all the buildings were moved to other locations except the mess hall. In the early 1950s park staff moved a portion of the mess hall to a utility area, making the once T-shaped building an L-shaped building.

In 1950 six tent cabins were moved from Savage River Camp to the former CCC-Camp to provide housing for a contractor's crew who were constructing employee residences in the headquarters housing area. They also converted the kitchen area of the CCC mess hall into a bathhouse. Now for a second time the site was used to house a temporary workforce.

With the growth of the seasonal workforce at the park in the late 1950s and early 1960s the CCC-Camp became a camp for seasonal employees once again. The CCC-Camp, now called C-Camp, provided wall tents with wood floors for summer housing. Framed cabins eventually replaced these tents. By the 1970s the building underwent another evolution and became the C-Camp recreation hall (rec hall) at one end while the other end served as transient housing.

C-Camp is a significant site under Criteria A of the National Register of Historic Places. In terms of historic integrity, the site and the building possess the qualities of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship. Today C-Camp retains the footprint of the original CCC Camp and continues to serve as seasonal housing as it did for the CCC in 1938-39 and construction crews in the 1950s. The driveway into C-Camp, encircling the C-Camp rec hall, is essentially the same driveway established by the CCC in 1938. The frame cabins of Denali's seasonal employees are situated around this driveway in much the same way as the CCC enrollee's tents encircled it in 1938 and 1939, giving the modern C-Camp an appearance and setting which is similar to that of the original. The C-Camp rec hall is the only remaining building dating to the CCC in the C-Camp area. Although the building was modified with the removal of the south wing, it remains in its original location, setting, and retains much of its original material.

The many accomplishments of the CCC at McKinley Park can still be seen today. Six buildings built during the two years are still in use today and all six are eligible or listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

C-Camp Rec Hall Building Description:

The C-Camp Rec Hall is a 2000 square foot, wood frame structure. The building is L-shaped with two different types of foundations. The north wing, oriented north to south, had the original log post and concrete pad foundation and the west wing, oriented east and west, has a recent continuous concrete perimeter footing and frame pony wall supporting the building.

The floor plan includes a large open recreation space, large gathering or television area, large 3 person bunk room, and a residential dorm style area with four bedrooms, kitchen and living room area. The

residential dorm area is the original kitchen that later became a shower. The high degree of water usage and probable damage helps to explain why the building has two different foundation systems.

The CCC constructed the building with a panel system, measuring at five-foot increments bolted together. The panel system allowed for mass production and quick construction to support camp life and the work the CCC completed at Denali and other parks throughout the nation. The floor and roof panel system used 2x6's and the walls were constructed with 2x4's. The roof structure included the panels and additional bracing at 10' intervals to create an unconventional truss system bolted to the roof panel system. In some areas the builders deviated from the truss design and columns were needed to support the sagging roof. Structural failure is occurring in these areas.

Because the building is designed for summer use only, the walls are not insulated. Currently there is insulation in the ceiling of the entire building and only in the floor space of the east to west wing of the building.

The exterior walls are sheathed with shiplap siding and painted mahogany brown. The roof has several layers of roofing, the most recent a green metal roof. The original roof covering would have been roofing paper or rolled asphalt roofing.

There are 16 original windows located in the north/south wing. None of the windows in the west wing are original and should be replaced with appropriate windows to match.

None of the 5 exterior doors and 8 interior doors are original. All need to be replaced to match the original 5-panel doors.

The interior walls are covered with non-historic paneling. Most of the historic interior wall boards were removed from the west wing but is probably in tact in the north wing.

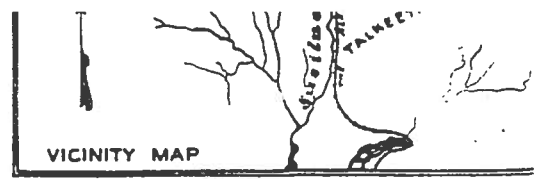
The floors in the north wing are 3 ½ inch douglas fir and plywood decking in the west wing.

The ceiling is non-historic acoustic panels and fluorescent lighting. It is believed the ceiling had been open, exposing the underside of the roof deck and rafters.

The mechanical system is a forced air system with ducting in the attic space. The fuel source is an above ground diesel tank located in the northwest corner of the building. The electrical system is new in the west wing and surface mounted in the north wing.

Recommended Treatment:

New foundation, insulate walls, replace roof, install storm windows, and replace non-historic exterior siding. Reconfigure non-historic interior walls to create better interior areas. Winterize some of building to support the parks housing needs. Raise finished floor two feet to re-establish historic relationship between building and ground level. Install continuous log retaining walls to mimic historic retaining walls and to screen the foundation. Re-grade the site to prevent water from draining into the north door.

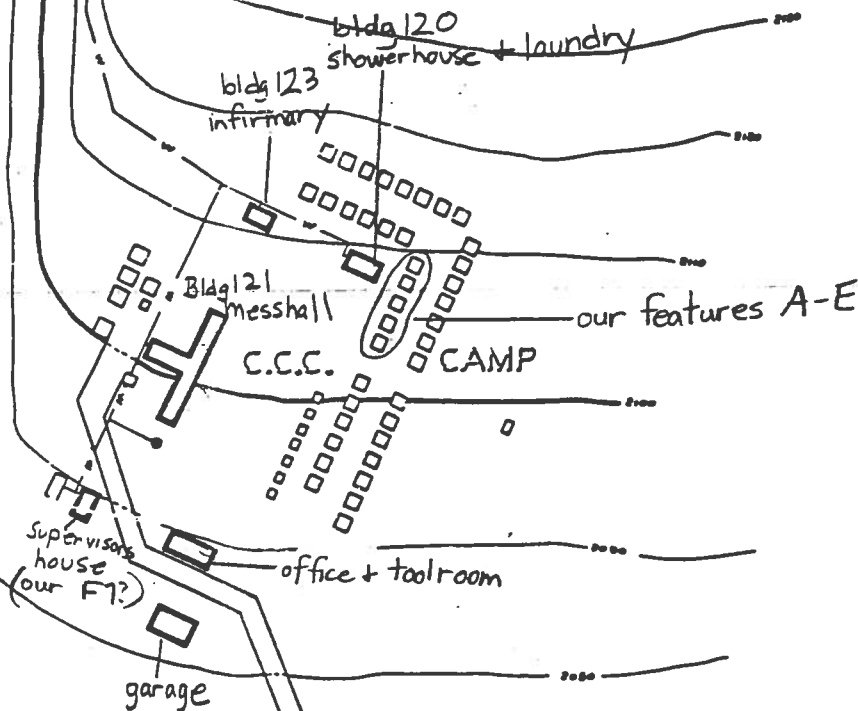


ATTACHMENT #2

LEGEND

	Graded Road
	Building
	Water Line
	Power Line (Overhead)
	Telephone Line (Overhead)
	Sewer Line
	Ditch

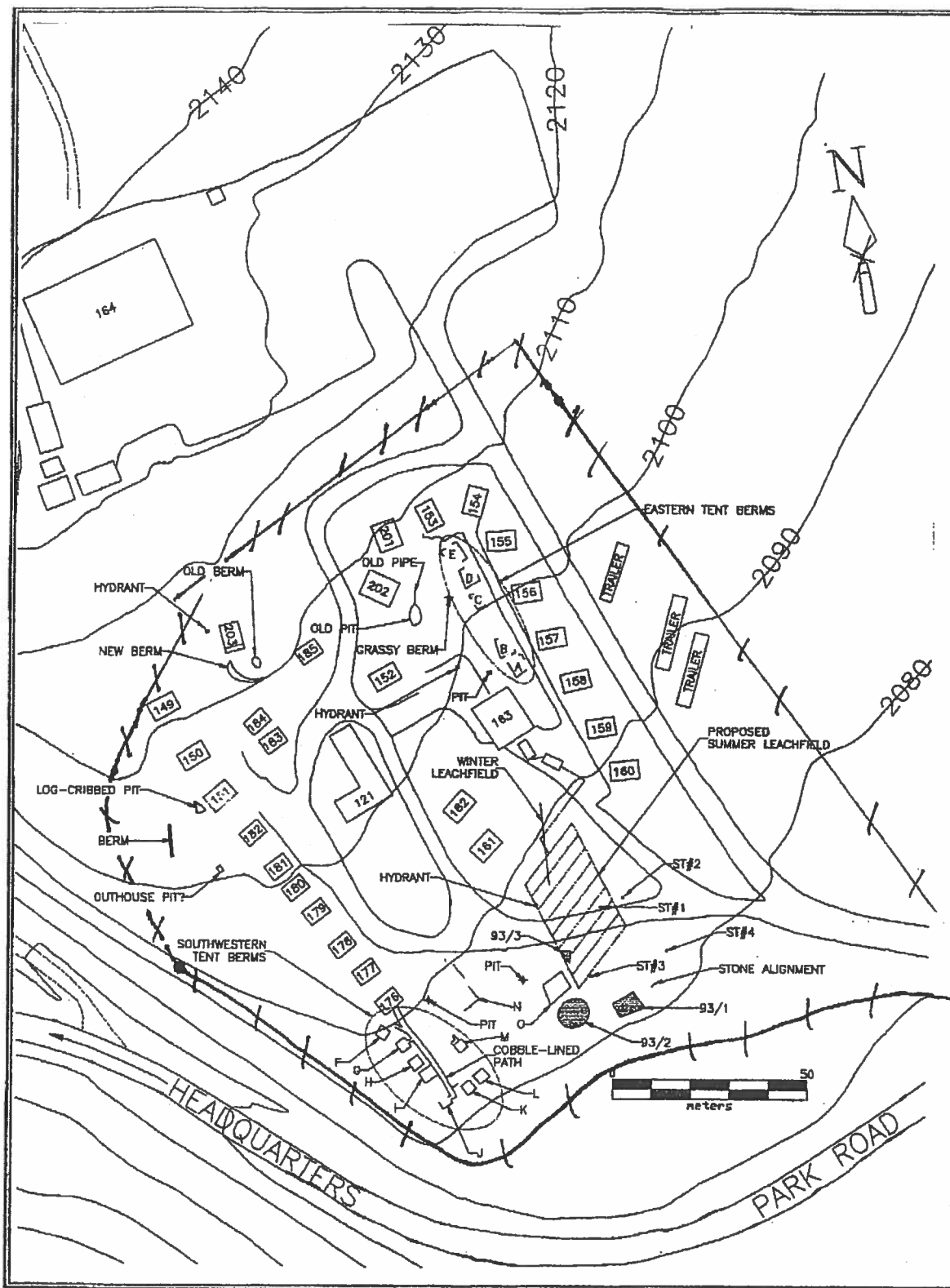
This is part of a
1938 park map.
I have made
notes of building
±Ds Karlene



#NP-McK
5308

HALF-SIZE REPRODUCTION

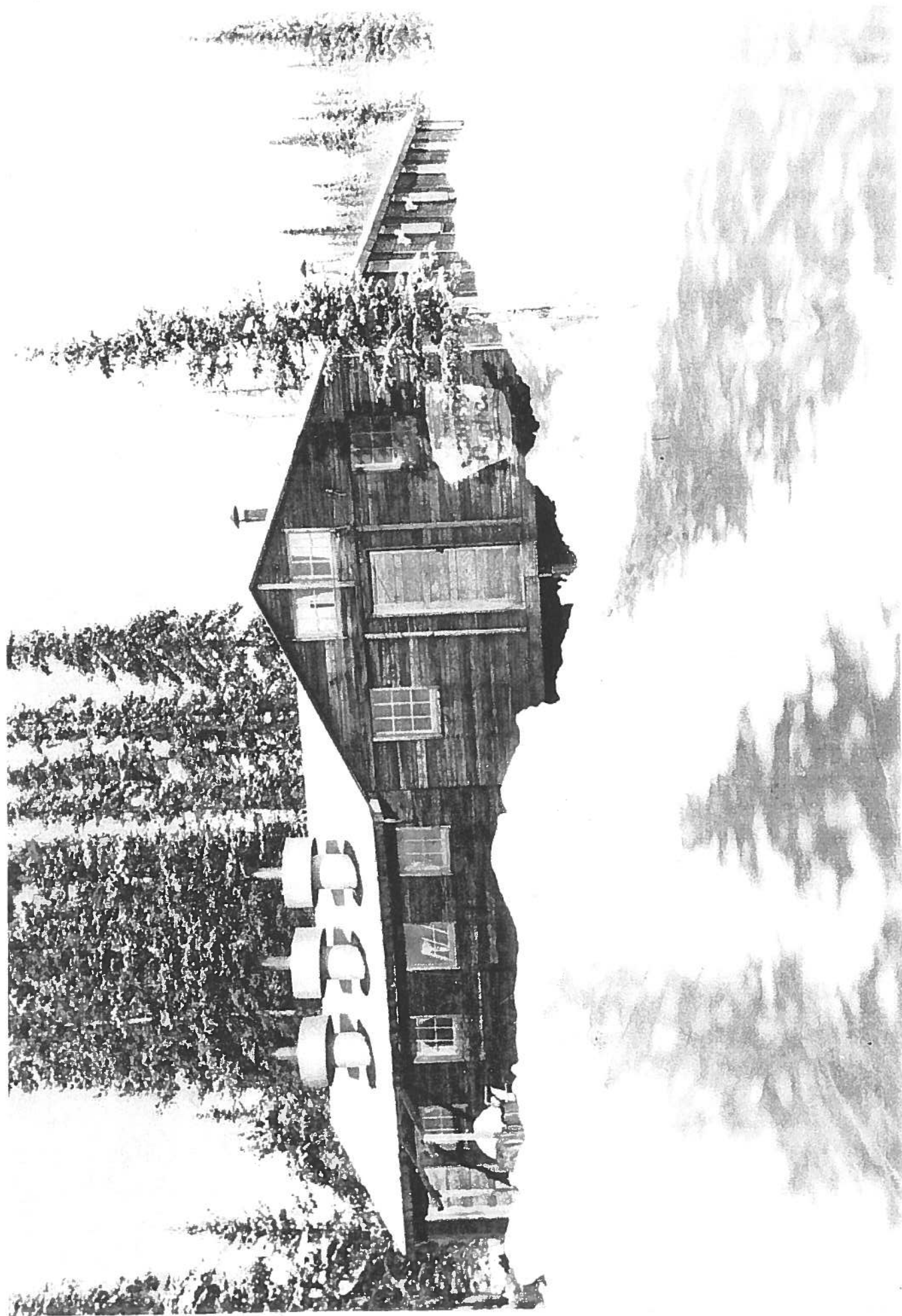
ATTACHMENT #3



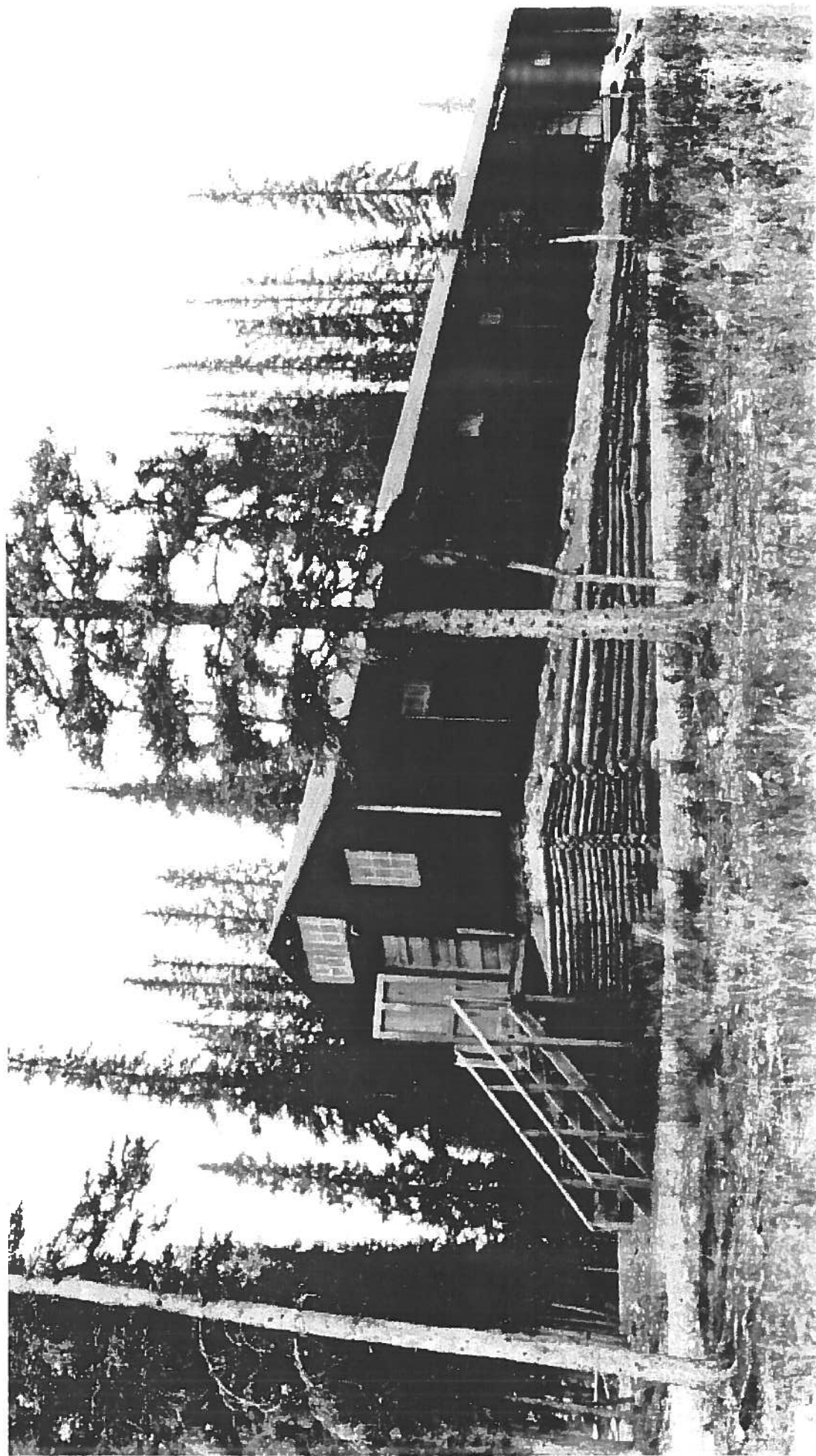
Attachment 2. Project map. C-camp today.

Boundary

ATTACHMENT #4

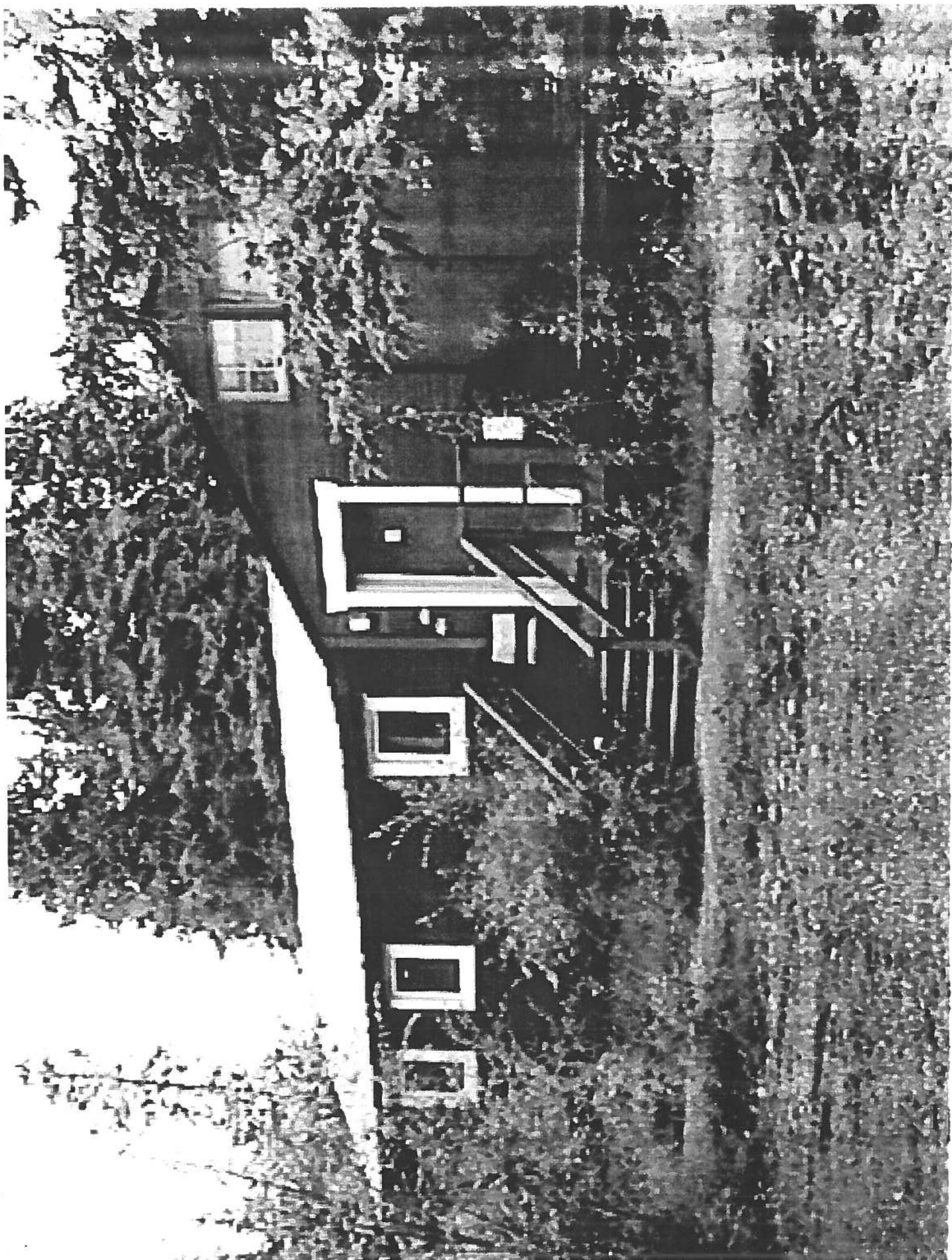


circa 1950



Circa 1938

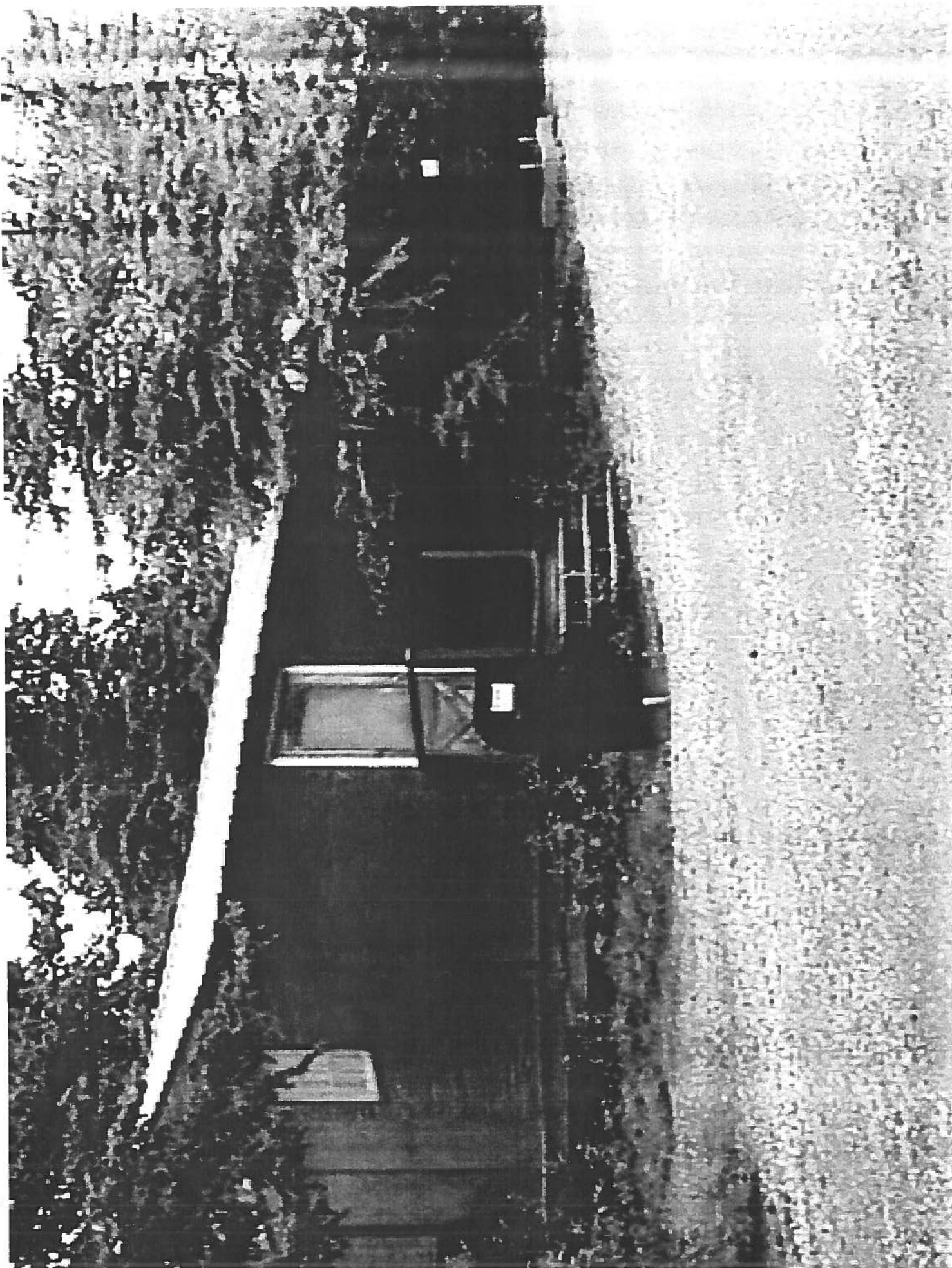
2003
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A black and white photograph of a small, dark-colored house with a gabled roof. The house has several windows, including a large multi-paned window on the right side and smaller windows on the left. A sign is visible on the side of the house. The house is surrounded by trees and foliage, and a paved area is visible in the foreground.

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