

BEAR CREEK, Yukon  
FHBRO Number: **89-08**  
DFRP Number: **20008**  
**Staff House (Building #14)**  
Bear Creek Compound

The Staff House (Building #14) is made up of a one-storey log structure constructed before 1936, and a wood-frame addition that resembles the 1959 section of the General Manager's Residence (Building # 20). It was built by the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation (YCGC) as part of the Bear Creek industrial complex, a service facility for the YCGC's gold mining operations. Operations at the Bear Creek complex ceased in 1966, and the property was acquired by Parks Canada, the present custodian, in 1975. The services of the Staff House have since been updated, and the building now accommodates historic site staff.

### *Reasons for designation*

The Staff House is a "Recognized" Federal Heritage Building because of its historical, architectural, and environmental values:

As part of the Bear Creek complex, the Staff House is associated with the corporate phase of Yukon's gold mining history. It also illustrates the expansion and renewal of the facility in the 1930s, the residential development at the village-like mining service facility, and the adaptation of older structures for new or expanded uses.

The Staff House is simple and functional in design, and exhibits good workmanship and appropriate use of materials. It is irregular in shape, with a one-storey log construction at the front of the building and a two-storey rear addition clad with horizontal wood siding. The roofs of both sections are metal. A small front verandah and the contrasting colour scheme of the dark brown logs and the white trim enhance the front elevation. The irregular interior layout confirms that modifications have been made to accommodate changing needs.

The Staff House reinforces the residential character of this functionally obsolete but remarkably intact village-like mining service facility, with its 80 structures and several landscape features relating to large scale mechanical placer mining. Like the site's other main buildings, it faces the large open yard. It is located at the north-east corner, and enjoys functional and visual links with the Stenographer's House (Building #13) and the V.I.P. Guest House (Building #11).

*Character-defining elements*

The following character-defining elements of the Staff House should be respected:

- The simple and functional nature of its design, and its overall good workmanship and appropriate use of materials.
- The features of its form, construction, and materials that unify it with the site's other building, including the two-storey wood-frame addition, with its metal-covered gable roof and horizontal wood siding.
- The distinctive log construction of its front section, and its contrasting colour scheme.
- Its residential features, including the front verandah and steps, and the arrangement and detailing of its windows and doors.
- Its comfortable relationship – due to its form, materials, detailing, and colour scheme – with the other structures and landscape features of the site, in particular the Stenographer's House (Building #13) and the V.I.P. Guest House (Building #11).

For guidance on interventions, refer to the *FHBRO Code of Practice*. For further information, contact FHBRO.

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