

Agassiz Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1913

*W. C. Alden photo
courtesy of GNP archives*



2005

*Greg Pederson photo
USGS*

Agassiz Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1943

*M. V. Walker photo
courtesy of GNP archives*



2005

*Greg Pederson photo
USGS*

Blackfoot – Jackson Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT

1914



*E. C. Stebinger photo
courtesy of GNP
archives*

2009



*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*

Blackfoot and Jackson Glaciers

Glacier National Park, MT

1911

*EC Stebinger photo
GNP Archives*



2009

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*



Boulder Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1932

*T. J. Hileman photo
courtesy of GNP archives*



1988

*Jerry DeSanto photo
K. Ross Toole Archives
Mansfield Library, UM*

Boulder Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1932

*T. J. Hileman photo
courtesy of GNP archives*

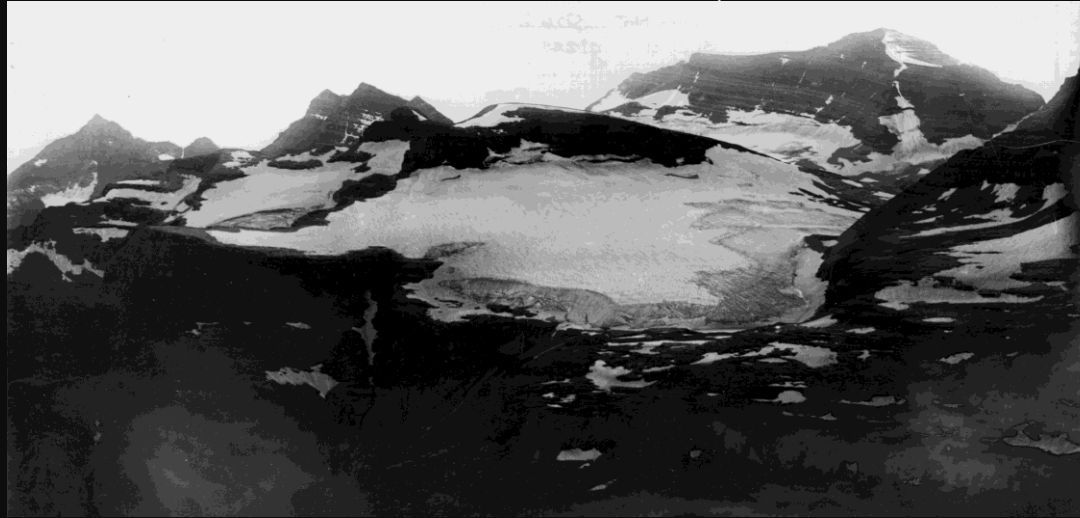


2005

*Greg Pederson photo
USGS*

Boulder Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



circa **1910**

*Morton Elrod photo
courtesy of GNP archives*



2007

*Fagre / Pederson photo
USGS*

Chaney Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1911

M.R. Campbell photo
USGS Photographic Library



2005

Blase Reardon photo
USGS

Chaney Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1911

M.R. Campbell photo
USGS Photographic Library



2005

Blase Reardon photo
USGS

Clements Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1914

Elrod photo
GNP Archives



2010

Ralph Thornton photo
USGS

Clements Glacier displayed crevasses in 1914, but in 2010 it is merely a perennial ice mass. Each summer, thousands of visitors pass by the steep moraines sculpted by this glacier as they hike from Logan Pass to Hidden Lake Overlook. The trail is visible along the left side of the 2010 photo.

Grant Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1902

*Morton Elrod photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



1998

*Karen Holzer photo
USGS*

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1900

*F. E. Matthes photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



2008

Lisa McKeon photo, USGS

In 1900 Grinnell Glacier's mass filled the cirque basin. This early photo shows the glacier's height along the headwall and how it was once joined the upper ice portion, now called The Salamander.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1910

*Fred Kiser photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



2008

Lisa McKeon photo, USGS

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1911

*Stanton photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



2008

Lisa McKeon photo, USGS

Nearly a century after Stanton's photograph was taken, Grinnell Glacier has receded into its cirque basin and is no longer visible from the trail above Grinnell Lake.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1887

*Lieutenant Beacon
courtesy of GNP Archives*



2008

Lisa McKeon photo, USGS

Among the earliest photos of Grinnell Glacier, this 1887 image shows the immense extent and depth of the glacier at the turn of the 20th century. The glacier has responded to temperature and precipitation in the past 100 years, resulting in its obvious reduction in size.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



circa **1920**

*T. J. Hileman photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



2008

Lisa McKeon photo, USGS

In addition to the change in the size of Grinnell Glacier, there is obvious change in the foreground streamside vegetation between these two images.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1914

*Marble photo
courtesy GNP Archives*



1938

*T. J. Hileman photo
courtesy GNP Archives*



2008

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*

Grinnell Glacier from the shore of Lake Josephine

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT

1938

T. J. Hileman photo
Courtesy of GNP Archives



2009

Lindsey Bengtson photo
USGS



Oblique view of Grinnell Glacier taken from the summit of Mount Gould, Glacier National Park.
The relative sensitivity of glaciers to climate change is illustrated by the dramatic recession of Grinnell Glacier while surrounding vegetation patterns remain stable.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1938

T. J. Hileman photo
Courtesy of GNP Archives



1981

Carl Key photo
USGS



1998

D. Fagre photo
USGS



2009

Lindsey Bengtson photo
USGS

Oblique view of Grinnell Glacier taken from the summit of Mount Gould, Glacier National Park. The relative sensitivity of glaciers to climate change is illustrated by the dramatic recession of Grinnell Glacier while surrounding vegetation patterns remain stable.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



circa **1940**

*Unknown photographer
Courtesy of GNP Archives*



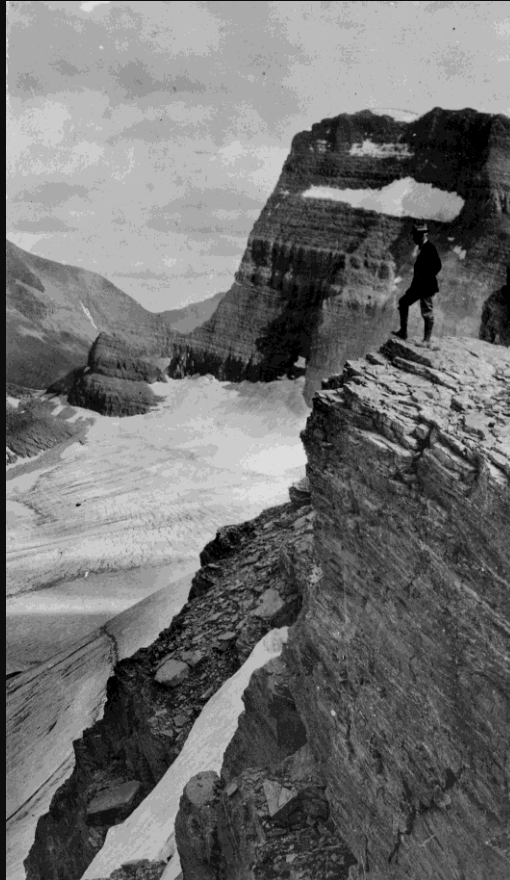
2006

*Karen Holzer photo
USGS*

Grinnell Glacier taken from the Grinnell Glacier Overlook off the Highline Trail, Glacier National Park.
The view of Grinnell Glacier taken circa 1940 shows the early formation of Upper Grinnell Lake, a proglacial lake visible at the terminus of the glacier. The 2006 photo shows a dramatic increase in the size of the lake as a result of melting ice.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1920

*Unknown photographer
Courtesy of NPS Historic
Photograph Collection
Harpers Ferry Center*



2008

*Chris Miller photo
USGS*

The 1920 photo shows National Park Service Director, Steven Mather, on Piatt Path near present day Grinnell Glacier Overlook. Darren Pfeifle strikes a similar pose in the 2008 repeat photograph.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1922

*Morton Elrod photo
K. Ross Toole Archives
Mansfield Library, UM*



2008

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*

View from north moraine of Grinnell Glacier

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1924

*Morton Elrod photo
K. Ross Toole Archives
Mansfield Library, UM*



2008

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*

North moraine of Grinnell Glacier

In 1924 the glacier's ice margin was still in proximity to it's lateral moraine

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1920

W. C. Alden photo
USGS Photographic Library



2008

Chris Miller photo, USGS

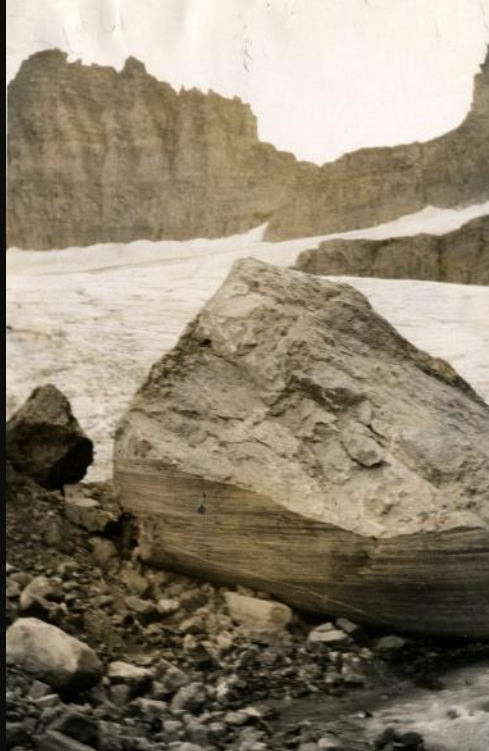
This pair of photographs from Grinnell Glacier's southeast edge shows the dramatic change in the glacier's volume and area. Note the glacier's depth along the headwall and its extent at the terminal moraine in the historic photograph.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT

1924

*Morton Elrod photo
K. Ross Toole Archives
Mansfield Library, UM*



2008

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*



This large boulder was used by Morton Elrod and other scientists as a baseline to measure the retreat of Grinnell Glacier's terminus. It is now referred to as "Elrod's Rock," and the glacier's terminus is no longer visible from this point.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1926

*Morton Elrod photo
K. Ross Toole Archives
Mansfield Library, UM*



2008

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*

This large boulder was used by Morton Elrod and other scientists as a baseline to measure the retreat of Grinnell Glacier's terminus. It is now referred to as "Elrod's Rock," and the glacier's terminus is no longer visible from this point.

Grinnell Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



7-16-1936

*W. C. Alden photo
USGS Photographic Library*



8-26-2010

Dan Fagre photo, USGS

Grinnell, Gem & Salamander Glaciers

Glacier National Park, MT



1910

M. Elrod photo
K. Ross Toole Archives
University of Montana



2012

Dan Fagre photo
USGS

In 1910, Morton Elrod documented how Grinnell Glacier's mass filled the basin and how the glacier was then joined with the ice apron we now call the Salamander (right). Close inspection of Gem Glacier (top-center) reveals a loss of thickness / volume over the past 112 years as well.

Harrison Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1913

W. C. Alden photo, USGS



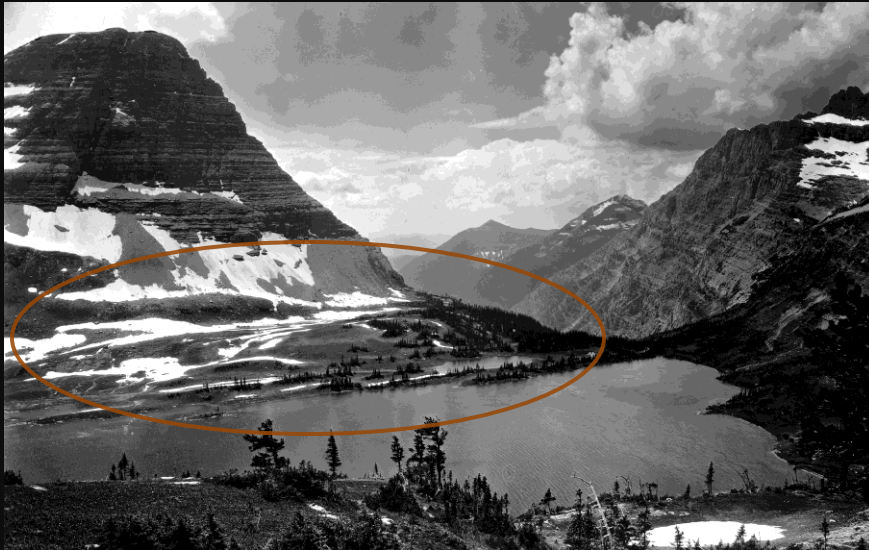
2009

Ralph Thornton, USGS photo

While difficult to quantify, this photo pair of Harrison Glacier exemplifies the loss of glacier volume. Comparison of the ice profile in the foreground of the photos shows a marked thinning of the glacier over the years,. Colorful layers of sedimentary bedrock are being exposed as the glacier recedes from the cliff bands.

Hidden Lake

Glacier National Park, MT



circa **1930**

TJ Hileman photo
GNP Archives



2009

Lisa McKeon photo
USGS

Alpine regions along the shores of Hidden Lake (1943 m) show tremendous expansion of vegetation in these photos, especially at the base of Bearhat Mountain (left).

Hidden Lake

Glacier National Park, MT



circa **1930**

*TJ Hileman photo
GNP Archives*



2009

*Lindsey Bengtson photo
USGS*

Vegetation in-growth on the peninsula and surrounding lakeshore are evident in this pair of photos.

Iceberg Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



circa 1940

*T. J. Hilemen photo
Courtesy of GNP archives*



2008

Lisa McKeon photo USGS

Jackson Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1911

*M. Elrod photo
K. Ross Toole Archives
Mansfield Library, UM*



2009

Lisa McKeon photo, USGS

Logan Pass

Glacier National Park, MT



1957

Unknown photographer
Courtesy of GNP archives



2009

Lisa McKeon photo
USGS

Establishment of new growth and expansion of existing sparse vegetation is obvious along the upper ridge line (center of photo). Persistent snowpack in these alpine regions once deterred profusion of growth, but changing climate conditions have permitted these species to expand their range.

Piegan Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



circa **1930**

*George Ruhle photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



1998

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*

Piegan Glacier appears visibly unchanged in this pair, but the meadow in foreground has undergone significant vegetation change.

Piegan Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1938

*T. J. Hileman photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



1998

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*

View from Mount Siyeh

Piegan Glacier is one of the few glaciers in Glacier National Park that has not significantly changed since photographed in the 1930s.

Red Eagle and Logan Glaciers

Glacier National Park, MT



1914

EC Stebinger photo
GNP Archives



2009

Lisa McKeon photo
USGS

Although the 2009 photo location does not exactly match the historic photo station, a comparison of relative glacial coverage can still be made. Logan Glacier is in the foreground, while Red Eagle Glacier sits beneath the pyramidal peak that bears the same name.

Sexton Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1901

*Matthes photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



1998

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*

Shepard Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1913

*W. C. Alden photo
USGS Photographic Library*



2005

*Blase Reardon photo
USGS*

Sperry Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1913 *W. C. Alden photo, courtesy GNP Archives*



2008 *Lisa McKeon photo, USGS*

In 1913, Sperry Glacier's mass spanned across the entire basin and the glacier's terminus was recorded at over 150 ft. tall. Contemporary images show how the glacier has receded and separated into fragments.

Sperry Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



Circa **1930s**

*Marble photo
K. Ross Toole Archives
University of Montana*



2009

Chris Miller photo, USGS

The expanse of Sperry Glacier that once greeted hikers facing NE on Comeau Pass is in stark contrast to the bedrock and vegetation that has since emerged as the ice retreated. The Marble image, most likely taken in the 1920s or early 1930s, was featured on a postcard with this caption: " Sperry Glacier from the river."

Sperry Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



circa **1930**

*Morton Elrod photo
K. Ross Toole Archives
Mansfield Library, UM*



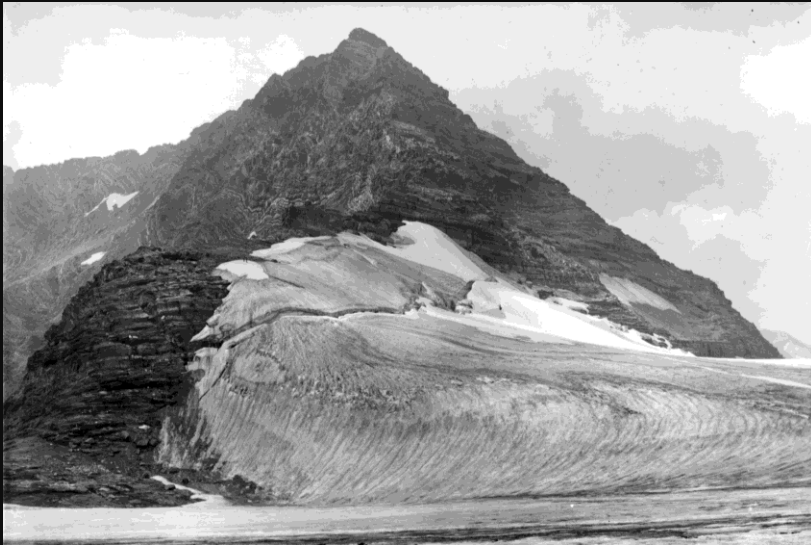
2008

Lisa McKeon photo, USGS

Repeating Elrod's photograph from the same photo point was impossible since he shot from the elevated perspective of the glacier's surface. The terminus of the glacier has retreated beyond the field of view, but these images give a sense of the glacier's extent and mass early in the 20th century.

Sperry Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1907

*Morton Elrod photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



2001

*Lisa McKeon photo
USGS*

*The northwest portion of Sperry Glacier once spanned
Comeau Pass to the base of Edwards Mountain.*

Sperry Glacier – northeast view

Glacier National Park, MT



1913

*Alden photo, courtesy of GNP Archives
Aug. 13, 1913*



2007

*Lisa McKeon photo, USGS
Sept. 15, 2007*

This view of the northeast portion of Sperry Glacier shows evidence of the glacier's recession as well as the advancement of conifer species and other vegetation on the glacial moraines.

Swiftcurrent Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



circa **1900**

*Matthes photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



1998

*Karen Holzer photo
USGS*

Swiftcurrent Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



circa **1930**

*Unknown photographer
courtesy of GNP Archives*



2002

*Karen Holzer photo
USGS*

View from Swiftcurrent Lookout

Thunderbird Glacier

Glacier National Park, MT



1907

*Morton Elrod photo
courtesy of GNP Archives*



2007

*Dan Fagre / Greg Pederson photo
USGS*