John Shean and E A Wheeler

From the book:

Moose Creek Ranger District

Historical Information

Inventory and Review

Nez Perce National Forest

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On his first trip to Three Forks\*, (Adolph) Weholt\*\* and the men arrived at the flat after dark. He awoke the next morning to discover he had comfortably spent the night between two graves. The story was that John Shean, Will Blair (alias Jack Craig) and E. A. Wheeler were trapping the forks the winter of 1894-1895. Shean and Wheeler got scurvy and died. Blair buried them, left the wilderness, and told the authorities in Hamilton, (Montana) about the deaths. They got suspicious, went in, dug up the bodies, found no evidence of foul play, and reburied the bodies. The “Scurvy Cabin” on Dead Man Flat, known also as the “Old Shissler Cabin” acquired with Weholt’s visit a new identity as Three Forks Ranger Station.

\*Spring of 1909

\*\*Forest Ranger

Editor’s note: These graves are located behind an old cabin site which was barely visible in 2000. They are fairly close to the bank of the North Fork of Moose Creek, which runs into Moose Creek and that into the Selway River. The site is two miles north of Moose Creek Landing Field or Airstrip which is located in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness Area.