

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

LISTED ON:
VLR 09/18/2008
NRHP 10/31/2012

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Holliday Lake State Park

other names/site number Holiday Lake State Park; Holiday Lake Recreational Area; VDHR No. 006-0051

2. Location

street & number 2759 State Park Road not for publication

city or town Appomattox vicinity

state Virginia code VA county Appomattox code 011 zip code 24522

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

[Signature] 9/6/12
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	16	buildings
1	1	sites
8	2	structures
0	0	objects
10	19	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Virginia State Parks Built by New Deal Programs, Including CCC and WPA

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor recreation

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE/Park

LANDSCAPE/Park

TRANSPORTATION/Road-related

TRANSPORTATION/Road-related

TRANSPORTATION/Pedestrian-related

TRANSPORTATION/Pedestrian-related

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/

Waterworks

Waterworks

DOMESTIC/Camp

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/ Rustic

foundation: CONCRETE

OTHER/ Post-Modern

walls: BRICK; WOOD

roof: ASPHALT

other: _____

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

A winding dirt and gravel road from Virginia State Route 15 leads to Holliday Lake State Park, located near the center of the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest. The park encompasses almost 255 acres, the center of which is the 150-acre manmade lake, one of the largest in the area. In addition to the lake, the park's resources include a 30-site campground, a large shaded picnic area, two picnic shelters, two playgrounds, a boat ramp, a seasonal full-service concession stand, restroom facilities, a camp store, and boat houses/sheds for canoe, rowboat and paddle boat rentals. Trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding cut through the park. The lake and adjoining beach area offers swimming and fishing. In addition, the park includes a single cabin used for Young Women's Christian Council activities, two residences for park rangers, a park office, two maintenance sheds, and a well house. Additional structures contained within the park include bridges, a dam, and a spillway.

The park was one of four recreational development areas (RDAs) developed by the Virginia Division of Forestry (now the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation) working in conjunction with New Deal organizations, including the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) during the Great Depression. While built during the same period as many of the National Park Service's state parks, Holliday Lake was not held to the same strict design standards. Still, the influence of the National Park Service's design and layout can be seen at Holliday Lake State Park.

Narrative Description

The topography of the park consists largely of gently sloping hills and some low-lying areas around the lake and beach. In general the layout of the park creates discrete areas for particular activities. Recreational activities such as swimming, boating, and fishing are concentrated around the lake area and campgrounds. The major unifying elements at Holliday Lake as well as the other recreational demonstration areas were similar to those at the six CCC state parks created from 1933 to 1936. For Holliday Lake, the major park components consist of the vehicular and pedestrian circulation systems, the beach and swimming areas, the picnic areas, the dam and spillway, and the campgrounds.

The vehicular circulation system was designed in such a manner as to carefully follow the contours of the land, using a minimum amount of cut and fill. The circulation system was also designed to take the maximum advantage of possible views. In keeping with the overall design of the other state parks, a main road with a long entry drive that passes through extensive and undeveloped park land leads directly from the entrance of the park to the center of the park activity, that is the beach/swimming area at Holliday Lake. From the park's main road branched a series of secondary and tertiary loop roads that pass through the campground and maintenance areas. This system allowed daytime park visitors to travel directly to the day use area. With the addition of the campground area by 1972, the road system provided campers with greater privacy and quiet. All of the major roads as well as the minor ones with severe slopes were lined with stone culverts, of which one survives today, as well as coursed rubble-constructed retaining walls.

Right before entering the main recreational area of the park, located at the top of a slightly sloping hill is the park office. Built c.1980, the one-story, four-bay, frame and vinyl-sided building rests on a concrete block foundation. The side-gable roof has a raking cornice and slightly overhanging eaves; a small square metal vent is located in the gable ends. The off-center entrance door on the southeast corner of the south wall consists of a single-leaf wood paneled door with nine-lights. A similar door is located to the west of the main entrance. Window openings consist of long single vertical lights. To the west of the park office is one of the few historic buildings in the park: a one-story, one-bay, well house built in 1939. Constructed of brick laid in stretcher bond and resting on a low concrete foundation, the building has a front-gable roof covered with slate shingles, slightly overhanging eaves, a raking cornice and exposed rafter tails. The slightly inset, off-center entrance consists of a wood, single-leaf door with two raised panels and six-lights. A single four-over-four wood sash window with a rowlock brick sill is located on the east wall.

The central water feature at Holliday Lake is the 150-acre manmade lake. Like Virginia's other New Deal-era state parks, the central water feature played an important role as an organizing element in the overall design. Since the beach area was planned to be the focus of park activity, the main park road and many of the paths and trails were designed to lead directly to the water,

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providing alluring glimpses of it along the way. The picnic areas at all of the parks were also located directly on the water but often away from the central swimming area, providing the opportunity to see a different view of the water feature. The basic components of the Holliday Lake beach area include a guarded swimming area and a central concession and bathhouse located in one building. There is also a new dock area with a boathouse and storage buildings nearby. All of these buildings were constructed over a period from the 1970s to 2007.

According to NPS park designs, picnic areas were to be sited near the water, to take advantage of both views and cool breezes. The focal point of the picnic areas at all the RDAs was the picnic shelter. The typical picnic shelter was an open, side-gable-roofed structure built of rough-hewn timbers, with a built-in seating area at both ends, and a slate stone floor. There are two picnic shelters at Holliday Lake. Shelter #1 was constructed in the Rustic style. This style stressed simplicity in design, use of native building materials, and avoidance of overly perfect construction lines to evoke a look not unlike something built by a pioneer craftsman. The building is constructed of heavy, hewn, undressed rounded logs, using mortise and tenon construction, heavy nails and wood pegs. The side-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has overhanging eaves, a raking cornice, and rounded exposed rafter tails. The roof's interior features exposed beam construction with heavy log king trusses in the gable ends. Small log braces are found at each corner of the structure, and the corner posts are connected by a simple log railing. The interior of the picnic shelter includes built-in wood benches, a heavy slate floor, and a small grouping of picnic tables. Shelter #2, built sometime during the 1970s, is a simple, one-story, side-gable-roofed picnic shelter constructed of large square wood posts with simple wood braces. The side-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has overhanging eaves, a raking cornice and exposed rafter tails. The gable ends are covered with vertical boards. The shelter rests on a concrete slab foundation. Free-standing stone fireplaces for cookouts were often provided, as well as matching stone incinerators for safe and convenient ash and trash disposal.

In 1972, the park added a campground area and became the Holliday Lake State Park. In creating the campground area, the park followed previous design plans that placed the campground area off the main road, removed from the activity and noise of the day use areas of the park. Initially, tent and trailer camping areas were situated in separate but adjacent locations; however, later park designs have both tents and trailers sharing the same area.

Maintenance areas at all state parks were separated from the central recreational area. Maintenance yards at most parks included a garage, shop, storage buildings, boathouse or blacksmith shop, oil house, water tower, filtration building, net house, and pump house. Typically, these buildings were placed in a rectangular arrangement around an open work yard accessible to both cars and larger trucks. Maintenance structures in the Virginia state parks were characteristically modest, gable-roofed, board-and-batten structures painted a dull tan color, with a minimal number of doors and windows. At Holliday Lake, however, the maintenance area is much smaller, consisting of only two garage/shop buildings that were built during the 1970s.

Dwellings were constructed at all of the parks for the superintendent, assistant superintendent, and park rangers. The chief ranger's house and the rangers' bunkhouse were typically located immediately adjacent to the maintenance area. At Holliday Lake, the chief ranger's house is found directly to the north of the maintenance area. The dwelling, a c. 1939 bungalow-styled building, was originally located much closer to the lake area. The building was moved to its current site sometime during the 1970s. The superintendent's residence, built during the 1990s, lies to the north of this dwelling, located not far from the main park entrance. Both dwellings are far removed from the center of park activity.

Inventory of Resources:

The following inventory of resources was conducted in 2008 and reflects resources that are contributing and non-contributing to the historic district based on the period of significance and the integrity of the resources.

Picnic Shelter #1, DHR # 006-0051-0001

Contributing (1-Structure)

This small, one-story, 1930s picnic shelter is a vernacular interpretation of the Rustic style. It is constructed of heavy, hewn, undressed rounded logs, using mortise and tenon construction, heavy nails and wood pegs. The side-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles has overhanging eaves, a raking cornice, and rounded exposed rafter tails. The roof's interior features exposed beam construction with heavy log king trusses in the gable ends; small log braces are found at each corner of the structure; the corner posts are connected by a simple log railing. The interior of the picnic shelter includes wood, built-in benches, a heavy slate floor and a small grouping of picnic tables.

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Picnic Shelter #2, DHR # 006-0051-0002

NC (1-Structure)

This c.1970 simple one-story, side-gabled picnic shelter is constructed of large square wood posts with simple wood braces. The side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has overhanging eaves, a raking cornice and exposed rafter tails. The gable ends are covered with vertical boards. The shelter rests on a concrete slab foundation.

Wellhouse, DHR # 006-0051-0003

Contributing (1-Building)

This c. 1939, one-story, one-bay well house is constructed of brick laid in stretcher bond and rests on a low concrete foundation. The front-gabled roof is covered with slate shingles, and has slightly overhanging eaves, a raking cornice and exposed rafter tails. The slightly inset, off-center entrance consists of a wood, single-leaf door with two raised panels and six lights. A single four-over-four wood sash window with a rowlock brick sill is located on the east wall.

Dam/Spillway/Bridge/Lake, DHR # 006-0051-0004

Contributing (3-Structure, 1-Site)

The bridge, dam and spillway are one of the three contributing elements that helped create the central water feature of the Holliday Lake State Park. The bridge, along with the dam and spillway, was an important element in the overall park design of which the water feature, in this case the manmade lake, provided the central focus. The dam and bridge are of concrete construction.

Observation Deck, DHR # 006-0051-0005

NC (1-Structure)

Overlooking the lake is a large, rectangular observation deck constructed of recycled wood. A simple square wood railing encloses the deck.

Boathouse, DHR # 006-0051-0006

NC (3-Building)

Part of a small grouping of marine-related buildings is this one-story, one-bay, frame boat house, sheathed in vinyl "novelty" siding. The side-gabled roof has overhanging eaves and is covered with asphalt shingles; a small ventilator is found on the north slope of the roof. A single-leaf modern metal door with nine-lights is located on the north wall; small one-over-one vinyl sash windows are located on the west wall. A small enclosed shed addition is attached to the south wall of the building with a sliding window. To the east of the boathouse are a frame shed and a frame, gable-front roof storage building. Both buildings are clad in the same type of vinyl siding. All were constructed c. 2005.

Concession Building, DHR # 006-0051-0007

NC (1-Building)

This c.1972, large, one-story, L-shaped, frame building is covered with vinyl "novelty" siding and rests on a low, slab concrete foundation. The shed roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A shed-roofed pent marks concession windows; the slightly inset entrance has double-leaf commercial metal and glass doors.

Restroom, DHR # 006-0051-0008

NC (1-Building)

This c.1972, one-story, two-bay, frame, vinyl-sided building rests on a low concrete slab foundation. The side-gabled roof features a slight pent on either gable end. Two privacy fences mark the single-leaf metal entrance doors on the north and south walls of the building. On the west wall are two window openings.

Park Office, DHR # 006-0051-0009

NC (1-Building)

This main office, built c.1979, is a one-story, four-bay, frame, vinyl-sided building resting on a concrete block foundation. The side-gabled roof has a raking cornice and slightly overhanging eaves; a small square metal vent is located in the gable ends. The off-center entrance door on the southeast corner of the south wall consists of a single-leaf wood paneled door with nine-lights. A similar door is located to the west of the main entrance. Window openings consist of long single vertical lights.

Drainage Culvert, DHR # 006-0051-0010

Contributing (2-Structure)

One of the few surviving road-related historic resources in the park are slate drainage culverts. They are one example of

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the type of internal improvements and construction employed by the CCC/WPA in building the state parks' circulation systems in Virginia during the Great Depression. There are two culverts that remain at the property. Both are located under State Park Road, and consist of a corrugated metal pipe surrounded on three sides by rocks.

Retaining Wall, DHR # 006-0051-0011

Contributing (1-Structure)

This random rubble rock retaining wall is located underneath the west side of the main park road.

Cabin, DHR # 006-0051-0012

NC (4-Buildings)

This c. 2007, one-story, three-bay single-wide trailer is covered with a wood log-type veneer. The side-gabled roof has slightly overhanging eaves, a raking cornice and is covered with standing seam metal. The slightly off-center entrance door on the west wall consists of a single-leaf wood paneled door. Window openings have vinyl six-over-six sash. Attached to the rear of the cabin is a modern wood deck and stairs. This cabin/bunkhouse is one example of a newly stylized "rustic" style seen in the early twenty-first century state park buildings and structures using single-wide trailers and log veneer. The cabin is the main building in a small compound that includes a frame, side-gabled picnic shelter, a frame, side-gabled bathhouse, and a small frame, gable-front shed.

Restroom, DHR # 006-0051-0013

NC (1-Building)

This c. 1975 one-story, five-bay, frame building is sheathed in vinyl siding and rests on a low slab concrete foundation. The side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingle and has overhanging eaves. A slightly projecting, shed-roofed block with vinyl-covered privacy walls marks the single-leaf metal entrance doors on the east wall. A central single-leaf metal door marks a closet area. On either side of each entrance is a small bank of windows. To the north of the shed-roofed block is another privacy wall that contains a vending machine.

Contact Station, DHR # 006-0051-0014

NC (1-Building)

Marking the formal entrance to the park is this one-story, two-bay frame contact station, sheathed in vinyl siding and resting on a poured concrete slab foundation. The side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a boxed cornice. On the east and west walls are a slightly off-center single-leaf wood entrance door with a sliding glass window to one side.

Maintenance/Shop Sheds, DHR # 006-0051-0015

NC (2-Buildings)

Standing side-by-side are two, one-story, side-gabled machine shops/sheds. The larger of the two is frame, covered with corrugated metal siding; the side-gabled roof is covered with corrugated metal. On the east wall are two large garage door bays. The north wall and the southeast corner of the east wall have sliding glass windows. To the south of this first shed is a frame and corrugated metal shed with one large bay opening. Its side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

Head Ranger House, DHR # 006-0051-0016

NC (1-Building)

This c.1939 one-story, three-bay, frame, single-family bungalow dwelling is covered with vinyl siding and rests on a raised concrete block foundation. The side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles; an interior brick chimney with metal vent is located on the rear east slope of the roof. Located in each gable end is a triangular metal vent. A one-story, shed-roofed porch is supported by square wood posts; the central entrance is marked by a single-leaf wood door. Window openings have vinyl six-over-six sash. Attached to the rear northeast corner of the house is a small shed-roofed addition. A one-story, side-gabled addition is attached to the north wall of the house.

The house has undergone major alteration, as seen in the porch with the addition of a new wood balustrade and handicapped ramp, new windows, and the addition of a rear deck. The house has also been moved from its original location near the lake to its present site.

Park Superintendent House, DHR # 006-0051-0017

NC (1-Building)

This c.2005, one-story, four-bay, frame, vinyl-sided Minimal Traditional dwelling rests on a low concrete block

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foundation. The side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingle and has slightly overhanging eaves; on the north wall is an exterior brick chimney with corbelled cap. A two-bay cut-away engaged porch is supported by square wood posts connected to a simple wood balustrade and is located on the northwest corner of the façade. The off-center entrance has a single-leaf wood paneled door. Window openings consist of single and paired six-over-six vinyl sash.

Cemetery, DHR # 006-0051-0018

NC (1-Site)

Located near the lake and to the west of Picnic Shelter #1 is the Jones family burying ground. The small cemetery consists of six stones marking gravesites dating from the mid- to late-nineteenth century. The cemetery is not associated with Holliday Lake State Park and is a non-contributing resource to the Holliday Lake State Park Historic District.

Circulation System, DHR # 006-0051-0019

Contributing (1-Structure)

The circulation system at Holliday Lake State Park consists of a main roadway that enters the park and circles around the northernmost edge of Holliday Lake. In addition, running to the west of the main road and contact station is a small series of interconnecting roads for the campsite area. Other resources included within the circulation system include gutters, curbs, and steps. Pedestrian circulation consists of a series of walking trails that run to the east and west of the park's main area, concrete walkways to the concession area and restroom, and a gravel walkway that leads to Picnic Shelter #1.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1937-1942

Significant Dates

1939

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance encompasses the original construction of Holliday Lake as a recreational development area during the New Deal.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The area encompassing Holliday Lake State Park and the surrounding state forest was originally settled and farmed in the early-to-mid-nineteenth century. During the Great Depression of the 1930s, the federal government, through the newly-formed Resettlement Administration, began buying area farms in the hopes of reforesting the land and creating a recreational development area (RDA). Construction of a dam was begun at Fish Pond Creek, then relocated to Holliday Creek where a lake could be developed. Unlike state parks, which were created based on master plans prepared in conjunction with the National Park Service, RDAs such as Holliday Lake were designed and built without formal plans. Both national and state parks employed the style known as Rustic architecture. This style stressed simplicity in design, use of native building materials, and avoidance of overly perfect construction lines to evoke a look not unlike something built by a pioneer craftsman. The end result at informally planned RDAs was a more vernacular expression of the Rustic architecture designs and workmanship than what was seen in the national parks. The efforts of the Forestry Service and the CCC/WPA were focused on clearing and restoring the park lands, resulting in very few buildings and structures at Holliday Lake. Those buildings and structures that still remain from this period, while appearing crudely built, are still excellent examples of Rustic-inspired design and craftsmanship and illustrate the development of Virginia state parks during the Great Depression. The park is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with CCC and WPA park development projects and Criterion C for its park plan. The park retains statewide significance with a period of significance of 1937-1942 and is being listed under the Virginia State Parks Built by New Deal Programs, including CCC and WPA Multiple Property Document.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Formation of Recreational Demonstration Areas and the CCC

By 1933, as the United States grappled with the economic and human toll of the Great Depression, President Franklin D. Roosevelt entertained a number of ideas to offer relief and hope to the American people. The most daunting task facing the president was to create meaningful jobs for the large numbers of unemployed Americans. Of particular concern was the lack of employment opportunities for young men.

On April 17, 1933, Roosevelt implemented one of the most successful programs of his administration: the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Unlike the National Relief Agency (NRA), the CCC did more than offer aid. The CCC provided jobs through a variety of projects that included the rehabilitation and development of national and state parks and other recreation facilities. The impact of these efforts was profound as countless young men helped shape the physical and cultural landscape of the nation's parks.

On May 6, 1935, Roosevelt signed Executive Order No. 734 forming the Works Projects Administration. In 1939 the organization was renamed the Works Progress Administration. The WPA had two functions: to organize small projects with tangible results across the nation, creating work for the unemployed, and to coordinate the Works Program. Unlike the CCC, which employed only men between the ages of 18 and 25, the WPA employed mostly middle aged men, and some women. The WPA workers were typically recruited from nearby locations for specific projects.

The efforts of the Roosevelt administration to deal with parks fell under the auspices of another agency, the Public Works Administration (PWA). In July 1933, a National Planning Board, later called the National Resources Board, was charged with planning "recreational requirements" and "recreational procedures," particularly with regard to national parks. The board also wanted to be as inclusive as possible and, by 1934 and 1935, enlisted the help of states to form their own planning boards to begin creating recreation projects that would, among other things, utilize the CCC and WPA.¹

Recreational demonstration areas (RDAs) were established during President Roosevelt's tenure in addition to the new state parks. These facilities were the brainchild of Roosevelt's Land Planning Committee and the National Park Service. Both agencies agreed that one of the most pressing needs in many urban areas were large natural areas to provide recreational outlets for people,

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particularly those of lower and middle incomes. This need would be filled with the creation of the RDAs, a concept that was enthusiastically supported by the Land Planning Committee. Unlike the state parks, the emphasis of the RDAs was on large group recreational activities, rather than family outings or day trips. Lodges and cabins that could accommodate groups of campers for extended periods were constructed and used by civic or welfare organizations that provided recreation for disadvantaged children. The NPS envisioned the creation of large natural areas ranging in size from 2,000 to 10,000 acres in which low-maintenance camping and picnic facilities would be built.²

Acquiring the land for new parks and RDAs initiated a controversial experiment in the relocation of people and the reclamation of land. Carried out under the auspices of the Land Planning Committee (and later the Rural Resettlement Administration), the program would reclaim thousands of acres of land exhausted from ruinous farm practices, particularly in the American South, and that had become a tax burden to the state. Some of these lands were earmarked for recreational demonstration areas, to be absorbed into the state and National Park Systems. Estimates suggest that approximately 100 million acres, on which as many as 650,000 families lived a marginal existence, could be reclaimed for public use. Approximately \$25 million from the Public Works Administration was appropriated for land acquisition.³

In Virginia, government assistance and rural rehabilitation programs under the Resettlement Administration moved hundreds of families off the land. But not everyone found the government's actions laudable. The human cost could be devastating as the programs forced small farmers and their families to seek other kinds of work, which in many cases they were ill-suited or ill-equipped to do. Legal battles lasting for years were frequent, as the state struggled to move reluctant landowners off property now desired by the government. Eventually the state won the authority to condemn occupied land and evict the families living there.⁴

Between 1933 and 1948, four RDAs—Bear Creek Lake, Holliday Lake, Goodwin Lake, and Prince Edward Lake—were developed by the Forest Service and built by the WPA and CCC. Although these sites were not developed within the design framework of the NPS, they share some design features and approaches to planning, including long entry drives, organizing water features, and structures built out of natural materials meant to blend with the landscape.

The design of the four Virginia RDAs was in large part influenced by the conservation guidelines, aesthetics, and planning processes developed by the National Park Service for use in the National Parks and later in Virginia state parks. The NPS park design process, known as the Master Plan process, was developed over the course of several years as a way to accommodate the NPS's dual obligations of conservation of natural resources and provision of those resources for human enjoyment. CCC and WPA personnel and park administrators in Virginia drew on the existing Master Plan process, as well as NPS personnel, to develop master plans for the first six CCC Virginia State Parks. These master plans were then modified and implemented to some degree when the Virginia State Park Service began drawing up plans to create four recreational sites, one of which was Holliday Lake State Park.

The Virginia RDAs have a number of elements and approaches first developed or planned for the national and state parks. Like the parks, the RDAs were to be no more than a day's drive from a major population center. A body of water (in the case of the RDAs, a manmade body of water) provided a central organizing feature as well as the site of several types of recreation. Like the state parks, the RDAs were also discrete in their organization, separating the various uses of the area such as day use, service areas, ranger buildings, active recreational areas, and campsites.

In addition, the landscape and architectural aesthetics of the National Park Service guided the creation of the RDAs in Virginia. These ideas shaped relations between the natural and man-made landscape. Local materials and building traditions, such as rough-hewn log picnic shelters or concrete block buildings, were used. Paths, stairs, trails, and bridges were unobtrusively built into the landscape with local stones. Dams, retaining walls, and spillways suggested natural forms without imitating them. Single entrance points into the parks were along carefully planned curving roads with intermittent views of open landscape. The conformity of the aesthetic and planning principles in the Virginia parks to those of national parks was underscored by the inclusion of buildings from the Virginia parks in the three-volume 1938 edition of Albert H. Good's *Parks and Recreation Structures*.

The CCC in Virginia undertook a massive construction effort in building not only six state parks, but with the WPA also laid the ground work for the four RDAs. Unlike the six state parks that relied heavily on the labor of CCC, the four RDAs had more limited CCC/WPA input. In some cases, the efforts of the CCC/WPA primarily focused on initial construction of the RDA road systems or in clearing or reforesting the land.

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Park Design Concepts and Recreational Area Design

Despite the less grand nature of the Recreational Development Areas, they were still influenced to a great degree by the master plan designs drawn up by the NPS. Although simpler in execution and perhaps even cruder in architectural expression, the RDAs still captured the essence of what the national parks and Virginia state parks were trying to accomplish.

The first impression of the park and its associated buildings and natural areas were important in the planning process. As such, it was important that the road system work successfully in the overall design of the RDAs. The RDAs, like the state parks, had roadways and circulation systems that emphasized and preserved the natural beauty of the area. In addition, the circulation system organized the park and connected the various areas of the RDAs to the main entrance. In general, the impact of the roadways on the surrounding environment was to be minimal and was to blend in with the natural features of the park. The roads were also to have a minimal impact on existing landforms. The RDA road systems were organized into major and minor roadways. The major roadways were comprised to the park's entrance road and roads leading to major recreational features in the park. The minor roads were spurs off the major road, did not connect to other roadways, and terminated at dead ends. These minor roads were also not designed to accommodate heavy traffic. Examples of major roadways are the roads leading to natural areas, to the beach and lake area, and the entrance road. Minor roadways are those leading to camping areas, cabin areas, park residences, and maintenance and shop areas.

An integral part of the park layout and use was the creation of a trail system, which allowed visitors to view the natural beauty of the park. The main purpose of the park, in addition to providing locations for sleeping, was to provide recreation. The variety of recreation provided depended on the park. As parks were to be planned preferably near a body of water, the park could provide water recreation such as swimming, fishing, and boating. These recreational activities required bath houses and the construction of piers and boat ramps. These buildings and structures were erected based upon the number of visitors expected at the park. The trails were developed based on available land and accessibility for hikers.

The picnic grounds at the recreational areas were all located in shaded locations near the water in order to take advantage of the spectacular views and cool breezes. Facilities at the four recreational areas included picnic shelters, fireplaces, toilets, and some maintenance buildings, though only Prince Edward State Park had the typical CCC design for maintenance areas that included a shop, a garage, and sundry storage buildings.

Perhaps the most important distinction that separated the RDAs from the state parks was that the recreational areas were initially never intended for overnight use. As a result, certain types of buildings, such as ranger's quarters, offices, bathhouses and concessions areas, were never part of the original design plans. Also many of the construction details, such as stone culverts, retaining walls and steps, are sparse or even absent from the recreational areas. In essence, even though the RDAs borrowed many of the basic design elements found in the state parks, the four RDAs tended to be more modest undertakings.

The Formation of Holliday Lake State Park

The area encompassing Holliday Lake State Park and the surrounding state forest was originally settled and farmed in the early to mid-nineteenth century. Little remains of this period except for a small family cemetery, located near the lake and boathouse area. The small enclosed plot contains six stones marking the graves of the William A. Jones family, who came to the area in the 1830s in search of gold. By the beginning of the Depression, the area remained largely agricultural and poor. As part of the ongoing resettlement effort by the federal and state government, area farms were bought or seized in the hopes of reforesting the land and creating a recreational area. The land used to create the Holliday Lake was owned by a local farming family, the Hollidays.

Construction of a 55-foot dam was begun at Fish Pond Creek in 1937, then damming efforts were relocated to Holliday Creek, where a 150-acre manmade lake was completed a year later. Co-sponsoring the dam construction was the United States Navy, which planned to use the area as an inland emergency landing base. However, the original height of the dam was abandoned with the discovery of the Jones family burial ground. Because the owners could not be located to move the graves, the Navy abandoned its original plan and the height of the dam was scaled back. Construction of park facilities was done by local residents

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through the WPA program. A WPA camp, now the site of the Holiday Lake 4-H Camp, located across from the park, housed the workers. The camp included several wood frame cabins and a dining hall.⁵ The WPA camp was slightly less militaristic in its design and function than the CCC camps. The camp also did not provide as much housing because many of the WPA workers commuted from their local residences to build the dam and reforest the land at and near Holliday Lake. In 1942, the Commonwealth of Virginia, through an agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture, received a 99-year lease and took over the management of the recreational area. In 1972, with the addition of campgrounds, the recreational area became Holliday Lake State Park.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Endnotes

¹ Ney C. Landrum, *The State Park Movement in America: A Critical Review* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2004), 143.

² Landrum, 144-145; Land and Community Associates, "Survey of State-Owned Properties: Division of Parks and Recreation" (July 1988), 42-43.

³ Landrum, p. 144; Jennifer Catherine Reut et al., "Virginia State Parks Built by New Deal Programs, including CCC and WPA, 1929-1936," Multiple Property Document Form (2012), 9-11.

⁴ Reut et al., 11.

⁵ National Register Nomination, Holiday Lake 4-H Camp, 2010, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Archives File 006-5009.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Carr, Ethan. "Wilderness By Design: Landscape Architecture and the National Park Service." Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1998.

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Clark, Thomas D. *The Greening of the South: The Recovery of Land and Forest*. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 1984.

Cutler, Phoebe. *The Public Landscape of the New Deal*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985.

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Reut, Jennifer Catherine, Amy Ross Moses, Lena Sweeten McDonald, Bryan Clark Green, Jean Olstad McRae, and Marc Christian Wagner. Multiple Property Documentation Form, Virginia State Parks Built by New Deal Programs, Including CCC and WPA. 2012. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Archives File 134-5088.

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Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. "Holliday Lake State Park."
http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/hol.shtml.

Wagner, Marc C., and Robert R. Meadows. National Register Nomination, Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center. 2010. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Archives File 006-5009.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): VDHR no. 006-0051

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 255.29 (includes 150-acre lake)
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Datum 27

1	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>708280</u> Easting	<u>4142055</u> Northing	3	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>708960</u> Easting	<u>4142100</u> Northing
2	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>708860</u> Easting	<u>4142110</u> Northing	4	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>709475</u> Easting	<u>4141900</u> Northing
5	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>709535</u> Easting	<u>4141640</u> Northing	7	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>709160</u> Easting	<u>4140650</u> Northing
6	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>709265</u> Easting	<u>4140725</u> Northing	8	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>708835</u> Easting	<u>4140680</u> Northing
9	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>708295</u> Easting	<u>4141680</u> Northing				

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary is shown as 255.29 acres on the scaled survey map from January 9, 1991, as prepared by Charles H. Fleet & Associates, PC, and recorded in the Appomattox County Clerk's Office as Plat Book 9, Page 73. The boundary encompasses all that which is known as Holliday Lake State Park and roughly surrounds Holiday Lake, with most of the eastern edge bounded by Holiday and Forbes Creeks, and the western edge bounded by Sanders Creek

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary for the Holliday Lake State Park is all that which was owned and operated as the Holliday Lake State Park by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation within the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest in Appomattox County, Virginia, along the Buckingham County line at the time the nomination was prepared. The boundary encompasses all of the architecturally and historically significant features and events associated with the Holliday Lake State Park during its period of significance.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Meg Greene Malvasi/ DHR Staff
organization William and Mary Center for Archaeological Research/ August 2008/September 2012
Virginia Department of Historic Resources date _____
street & number 13803 Sterlings Bridge Road/ 2801 Kensington 804-763-3595/ 804-482-6439
Avenue telephone _____
city or town Midlothian/ Richmond VA 23112/
state VA zip code 23221
e-mail _____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

All photographs taken by Meg Greene Malvasi, April 29, 2008
Digital images stored at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources

View: Picnic Shelter #1, East view
Photo: 1 of 15

View: Picnic Shelter #1, Roof detail
Photo: 2 of 15

View: Picnic Shelter #1, Interior detail
Photo: 3 of 15

View: Well House, West view
Photo: 4 of 15

View: Drainage Area, South view
Photo: 5 of 15

View: Retaining Wall, East view

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- Photo: 6 of 15
- View: Contact Station, East elevation
Photo: 7 of 15
- View: Cabin, West elevation
Photo: 8 of 15
- View: Holliday Lake Beach Area and Lake, South view
Photo: 9 of 15
- View: Bridge, South view
Photo: 10 of 15
- View: Picnic Area, Southwest view
Photo: 11 of 15
- View: Concession Building, North elevation
Photo: 12 of 15
- View: Jones Family Cemetery, South view
Photo: 13 of 15
- View: Lake and Dock, South view
Photo: 14 of 15
- View: Park Office, South and west elevations
Photo: 15 of 15

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

street & number 203 Governor Street telephone 800-933-7275

city or town Richmond state VA zip code 23219

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

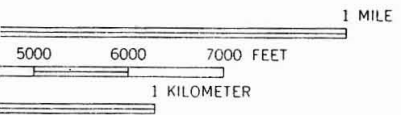


4143
4142
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4139000m.N.

HOLIDAY LAKE
STATE PARK
UTM ZONE 17
DATUM 27
E N
A 708280 4142055
B 708860 4142110
C 708960 4142100
D 709475 4141900
E 709535 4141640
F 709265 4140725
G 709160 4140650
H 708835 4140680
I 708295 4141680

706 40' 707 708

• INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1987
710000m.E. 78°22'30" 78°37'30"



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

○ State Route

(PROSPECT)
5238 / SE