

VLR - 6/17/86

NRHP - 9/20/86

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic DOUTHAT STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT (DHL FILE NO. 08-136)

and or common Douthat State Park

2. Location

street & number VA Route 629

N/A not for publication

city, town Millboro

X vicinity of

state Virginia

code 51

county Alleghany & Bath

code 005, 017

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Commonwealth of Virginia, Dept. of Conservation & Historic Resources  
Division of Parks & Recreation

street & number 1201 Washington Building, Capitol Square

city, town Richmond

N/A vicinity of

state VA 23219

5. Location of Legal Description (See Continuation Sheet #1)

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Circuit Court Office, Bath County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Warm Springs

state VA 24484

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Division of Historic Landmarks  
Survey (File No. 08-136)

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1986

federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Division of Historic Landmarks, 221 Governor Street

city, town Richmond

state VA 23219

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date       N/A      

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

### SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The proposed historic district coincides with the historic boundaries of Douthat State Park and contains a variety of buildings and structures supporting daytime recreational activities and overnight accommodations. Bisected by State Route 629, the district encompasses 4,493 acres including a fifty-acre lake that serves as the focal point of the park's recreational and scenic resources. Among the historic resources of the park are twenty-five cabins and a guest lodge; a restaurant, bathhouse, and boathouse, all placed along the man-made lake, dam, and spillways; one picnic shelter, two picnic-area toilets and one group camping shelter (formerly a stable), all located south of the lake; the park superintendent's residence and garage; a free-standing chimney remaining from a former work camp; an information center/office with adjoining blacksmith shop; a group of six maintenance and storage buildings; and a fire lookout cabin located on Middle Mountain. Between 1933 and 1942, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) constructed all contributing buildings and structures, created the lake by building a dam and spillway on Wilson Creek, and executed the park's landscaping, which includes forty miles of hiking trails surrounding the developed area. All contributing buildings, structures, and sites in the district are related to a single theme -- the culmination of the national movement in the Progressive and New Deal eras to create state parks and the accompanying rise of rustic architecture. Through a combination of quality craftsmanship and careful consideration of the relationship between architectural and landscape design, the district has maintained the spirit and character in which the park was originally conceived and built. The district includes forty-two contributing buildings, one contributing structure, two contributing sites and fourteen noncontributing buildings.

### ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

Douthat State Park is a product of the coordinated efforts of the National Park Service's Branch of Planning and State Cooperation, the Virginia Commission on Conservation and Development under the Virginia Division of Parks, and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Working between 1933 and 1942, three camps of CCC men constructed twenty-five cabins, a guest lodge, superintendent's residence, office, service buildings, picnic and camping shelters, toilet facilities, bathing and boating facilities, concessions buildings, a fire lookout cabin, the dam and spillways of Douthat Lake, and minor roads, paths, and trails throughout the park. The CCC era buildings in the developed area are grouped according to function:

1. Overnight accommodations, in the higher elevations east of Route 629 at the northern end of the district;
2. Daytime recreational facilities, centered around Douthat Lake; and
3. Park office/service buildings, located at the southern approach to the developed area in the district.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
			<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1933-1942      **Builder/Architect** Various employees of the National Park Service and Virginia Division of Parks-Recreation

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**  
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Representative of movements at the state and federal level in the early decades of the 20th century on behalf of improved recreational facilities for citizens of moderate income, Douthat State Park is culturally significant for its exemplary rustic architecture, harmonious landscaping and sympathetic park design. Located approximately four miles east of Clifton Forge between Bear and Middle mountains in Alleghany and Bath counties, the park is historically important as Virginia's first recreational park and the first of six state parks established in Virginia by the Civilian Conservation Corps from 1933 to 1942. Associated with the nationwide public works programs of the New Deal era, Douthat State Park offered 600 men of CCC companies 1386, 1373, and 1374 gainful employment during the nine years of the development of the park and the existence of the CCC program. The purpose of the program was to conserve natural and scenic resources while providing a healthy retreat for Virginians and tourists. Architectural and engineering highlights of the park are the distinctive man-made lake, dam and spillway, as well as a picturesque Guest Lodge and cabins, that served as published models of rustic park structures. Maintaining the spirit and character of its original plan and park architecture, Douthat continues to serve overnight and day-use visitors with boating, swimming, fishing and hiking facilities.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The boom of state park development in the 1930s was preceded by a nationwide awakening of interest in state parks in the previous decade. The first annual National Conference on State Parks, initiated by Stephen Mather, first Director of the National Park Service, was held in Des Moines, Iowa in 1921. Mather promoted state park systems in order to "alleviate excessive pressure "on the national park system, which had become immensely popular since the founding of the National Park Service in 1916. Conservation of natural and scenic resources was a dominant theme of these annual gatherings of park authorities, but satisfying the growing need for recreational facilities became an increasing concern throughout the era of Republican ascendancy.

A second major impetus to the development of state park systems was the rise of automobility. Autocamping had been popular during the first two decades of the 20th century, either in the form of free municipal camps or in the custom of setting up a tent and stove along the road. By the 1930s it became apparent that both of these practices were inappropriate. The quality of the municipal camps, founded by town fathers to generate local revenue, had greatly deteriorated and they were shut down. Roadside camping, the illegality of squatting on private property and the ongoing rise of auto traffic, left this gypsy-like tradition equally unsavory. The solution found by touring motorists was state and national forests.

A 1937 article by William E. Carson, first director of the Virginia Commission on

(See Continuation Sheet #15)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

(See Continuation Sheet #27)

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 4,493 acres

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Quadrangle name Clifton Forge, VA 1962 (PR 1979)

UTM References Healing Springs, VA 1966 (PR 1983)

A	1,7	6,0,7	1,9,0	4,1,9,6	9,3,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		

B	1,7	6,0,7	2,6,0	4,1,9,5	9,0,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		

C	1,7	6,0,6	2,6,0	4,1,9,2	8,2,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		

D	1,7	6,0,4	9,0,0	4,1,9,2	7,3,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		

E	1,7	6,0,4	3,4,0	4,1,9,0	3,1,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		

F	1,7	6,0,3	9,8,0	4,1,9,0	9,7,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		

G	1,7	6,0,3	7,8,0	4,1,9,1	7,8,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		

H	1,7	6,0,4	6,4,0	4,1,9,2	9,2,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		

(See Continuation Sheet #29)

### Verbal boundary description and justification

(See Continuation Sheet #29)

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state VA code 51 county Alleghany code 005

state VA code 51 county Bath code 017

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sara Amy Leach & Kathleen Anne Kelly, Historic Preservation Consultants  
Dept. of Conservation & Historic Resources

organization Div. of Parks & Recreation date 1986

street & number 1201 Washington Bldg., Capitol Square telephone (804) 786-2132

city or town Richmond state VA 23219

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

H. Bryan Mitchell, Director  
title Division of Historic Landmarks

date July 28, 1986

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

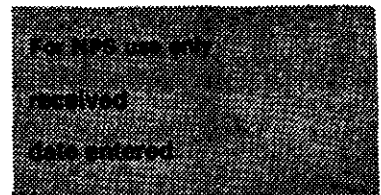
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DOUTHAT STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT, ALLEGHANY & BATH COUNTIES, VA

Continuation sheet 1

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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

Circuit Court Office  
Alleghany County Courthouse  
P.O. Box 670  
Covington, Virginia 24426

7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (continued)

This plan encouraged maximum protection of existing natural elements by identifying specific areas of development and containing them both physically and visually. Stylistically, the majority of contributing buildings in the district are of log construction, though a few, particularly the restaurant and bathhouse, are wood frame and reflect a later trend toward greater simplicity and less romanticism in rustic park architecture.

All overnight accommodations that contribute to the district are log buildings which exemplify rustic architecture at its best. The men of CCC Company 1374, Camp Douthat, built the cabins and lodge on the east side of Route 629 in two phases: cabins No. 1 through No. 9, No. 19 through No. 21, and the lodge (completed in 1935); and cabins No. 10 through No. 18 and No. 22 through No. 25 (completed in 1936). Each cabin is of log construction with cement chinking, resting on a stone foundation, one story high with a gable (in some instances a cross gable) roof and a front porch. (Fig. 1) Log buildings throughout the complex are painted brown and cream, though originally they were simply coated with creosote, a clear finish used as a wood preservative. Cabin plans and exterior designs, especially porches, vary to such an extent that few are exactly alike. Most common are the cabins of horizontal log in either the full-log (round log) style, or the hewn-log style, especially evident in the later cabins of the 1936 phase. (Fig. 2) Cabin Nos. 1, 9, and 13 are vertical log cabins, in which full logs form walls of closely spaced posts with chinking between them. (Fig. 3) The rustic feeling created by the combination of natural materials and colors on the cabin exteriors is continued indoors, in the log partition walls (Fig. 4) and stone fireplaces, for example. (Fig. 5) Albert Good, editor of the National Park Service (NPS) 1935 publication, Park Structures and Facilities, commented on this rusticity in his discussion of cabin No. 19:

A fine example of vacation cabin, content to follow externally the simple log prototypes of the Frontier Era without apparent aspiration to be bigger and better and gaudier. Inside it slyly incorporates a modern bathroom just to prove that it is not the venerable relic it appears. The squared logs with hewn surfaces and the simple fenestration contribute greatly to the look of authenticity.

Cabin No. 19 was one of four Douthat buildings eventually included in this NPS book, which served as a reference book and training manual for men assigned construction jobs in national and state parks.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

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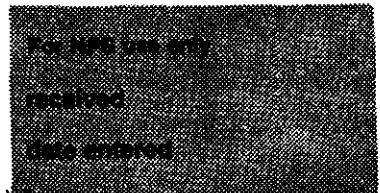
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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (continued)

Cabin plans range from an "efficiency-type" cabin with dual living-bedroom space, to two bedrooms, in addition to the bathroom, kitchen, and living areas. Generally, all cabins are in good condition. Improvements to cabin interiors are currently under way, with interior and exterior alterations to improve convenience and safety of the accommodations for overnight visitors. Alterations directly affecting cabin exteriors are primarily confined to window replacements and the conversion of a few doors to windows. These changes have only minimally affected the integrity of the original state of the cabins.

The guest lodge (Fig. 6) stands on a knoll above the cabin area, commanding an impressive view of the surrounding forest and Douthat Lake. The purpose of building the guest lodge was to house overnight visitors only spending a short time in the park, since at that time the cabins were available only to those who wished to stay a minimum of one week.<sup>2</sup> With its six bedrooms and three stone terraces, the lodge displays the same rustic character of the cabins, but on a grander and more picturesque scale. (Fig. 7) The lodge may be considered a craftsman's masterpiece, from the hand-wrought hardware on shutters, doors, (Fig. 8) and beams; to the construction of the living room ceiling with its five-arch support of exposed beams; and the pleasing harmony of wood and stone, as in the fireplace area. The building is in very good condition; current repairs and improvements such as bathroom and kitchen renovations have had no effect on the overall visual quality of the exterior, which has remained intact since its completion in 1935. Albert Good noted in the 1938 reissue of Park Structures and Facilities, then called Park and Recreation Structures: "[the guest lodge] establishes, in concert with the custodian's dwelling and many of the cabins in this park, a well-unified structural theme."<sup>3</sup>

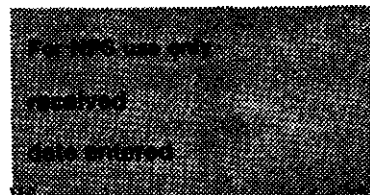
The district contains one other log residence, the superintendent's residence (formerly known as the custodian's cabin), east of Route 629 and south of the cabin area. (Fig. 9) This house rivals the guest lodge in its size, construction, craftsmanship, and present-day good condition. The residence's quality design was recognized in the 1935 version of Albert Good's "textbook":

Here is proof that a log structure can be varied and exciting without breaking with tradition. A stickler for perfection might wish for a shaggier roof, closer joints between logs, and a less pronounced terrace line, but he would be a stickler indeed in the face of such high merit in other essentials.<sup>4</sup>

Plans for this building date as early as August 1934, and a photograph of the completed exterior appeared in Park Structures and Facilities in 1935; the residence was not completed, however, until 1937.

Three other log buildings round out the group of "exaggerated rustic" buildings at Douthat: Picnic Shelter No. 2 and two picnic toilets (or comfort stations, as such buildings were originally called). The completed Picnic Shelter No. 2 (Figs. 10 and 11) appeared in Park Structures and Facilities in 1935. In plan and elevation, the shelter is of a type widespread throughout state and national parks. Good noted that this type of

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (continued)

building, "with two fire places, enclosed ends and open sides, ... is a very practical shelter arrangement."<sup>5</sup> The picnic toilets (1936) display a log design not seen elsewhere in the district, namely, the use of horizontal round logs which become progressively shorter as the walls grow taller; these logs also have pointed, rather than flat, ends. (Fig. 12) The result is a building with a tapered profile.

The picnic area buildings are part of the daytime recreational group, which divides into categories: concessions and water recreation, for which the lake provides a focus; and picnic (just described) and camping activities, dispersed through the woodland areas south of the lake to either side of Route 629. CCC Company 1373, Camp Carson, began work on the earth fill dam and masonry spillways (Fig. 13) the day after they set up camp at Douthat on July 16, 1933. According to an undated cover sheet for the dam's plans (ca. 1933-1934), the design for Douthat's dam was also used at Hungry Mother and Fairy Stone state parks. Lee H. Williamson was designing engineer, working under the supervision of the Virginia State Commission on Conservation and Development, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of National Park Service Buildings and Reservations, State Park Emergency Conservation Work (ECW). Dam construction resulted in the creation of Douthat Lake with a bathing area on the east side.

A large borrow pit was necessary along the lake shore to secure material for the dam. A bathing area with a bath house was deemed advisable, in connection with the lake, and the pit was selected as a suitable location, at the same time obliterating the scar.

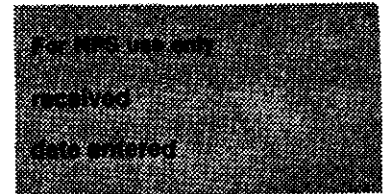
The dam was completed in July 1935; the placement of additional masonry at the mouth of the spillway to prevent erosion was completed October 11, 1935. Dam construction, including supervision, supplies, materials, and equipment operation, cost \$325,044.03. Included in the total figure was \$179,397.50 paid to CCC laborers; this figure works out to a total of 71,751 man days at \$2.50 per man per day.<sup>6</sup> The dam itself is approximately 600 feet long; the spillways are faced with stone quarried within park boundaries. The resulting freshwater lake comprises roughly fifty acres and is stocked with trout routinely through the spring and summer months.

A wood-frame boathouse (1934) is strategically located in the docking area of the lake at the bottom of a footpath leading from the road above. (Fig. 14) Its counterpart across the cove is a bathhouse completed in 1938. (Fig. 15) This building is in some ways unique in the district. As a traditional element between a road/parking level above and the beach below, the bathhouse is the only two-story building in the entire park. The stone foundations seen on other park buildings here rise to a full story on the lower level, with a wood-frame upper story clad alternately with board and batten and rough-board. A viewing deck and walkway on the beach-side, upper story offer sweeping views of the beach and lake. Below, wood walls erected between stone piers create additional enclosed spaces and constitute the only significant recent change in the bathhouse's original design. Plans for the bathhouse date as early as 1935; the building was complete by 1938, though a concessions addition was made to the parking-level breezeway in 1941.

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (continued)

The last of the lake-oriented contributing buildings is the restaurant, built overlooking the lake and completed by 1937. (Fig. 16) The 1938 edition of Park and Recreation Structures included a new chapter on camp cooking and dining facilities, indicating the increasing popularity and importance of such facilities in state and national parks at that time. At Douthat, the restaurant incorporated many of the necessary qualities that Good outlined, such as wide and pleasing views from the dining room, ample light and cross ventilation for both dining room and kitchen, a fireplace, and very light construction and large screened openings for the full benefits of view and ventilation, specifically during the summer. The restaurant may have been constructed in stages. A one-story, wood-frame, board and batten wing contains the restaurant, the interior of which bears the same fine detailing as the guest lodge, particularly in its fireplace and open-frame trussed ceiling. (Fig. 17) This portion of the building includes a screened patio on the lake (west) side, also wood-frame but with a stone floor. (Fig. 18) Whether or not this room was at one time an open terrace is not clear. The patio does, however, contain the same wrought-iron light fixtures as in the restaurant, which implies they were built at once or very close together. Other portions of the building to the north, also of wood frame, house the kitchen, storage rooms, and gift shop. The shop, projecting from the main (east) facade, combines weatherboard and board and batten wall treatments with a bay window, which sports a recently stripped, eye-catching copper roof.

The last of the district's wood-frame buildings is the group camping shelter, formerly a stable, constructed ca. 1938-1939. (Fig. 19) Built to replace a ca. 1935 abandoned CCC stable, this weatherboard and board and batten structure of 1½ stories is simplistic from a craftsmanship standpoint, with its exposed interior framing system not duplicated elsewhere in the park. Good suggests two reasons for such a simple design:

First, appealing as the atmosphere may be to the horse lover, to the majority it is not an ornament, has no just claim to be treated as such, and both theoretically and actually is properly retired in location in much the same manner as other service buildings and facilities. Second, riding is a sport participated in by a small minority of the great field of park patrons and calls for a sober and sound economy in approach...

The location of the stable, separated from other buildings by paths and minor roads, kept the horse lovers away from those pursuing more passive recreation, like picnicking. It is not known when the building ceased to function as stables; a park map of 1968 labels it as "stables." This change in function, however, has not affected the appearance of the building.

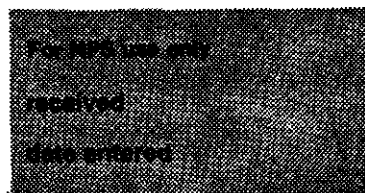
The remaining buildings in the developed area are located in the park office and service area. The information center, (Fig. 20) known in the park's early days as the custodian's office, is a one-story, wood-frame, board and batten building with a standing-seam metal roof. At the south end of the building is a blacksmith shop, complete with stone forge, work benches and tools, as well as its own entrance. Originally the shop

(See Continuation Sheet #5)



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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (continued)

where the CCC men forged hardware and light fixtures for park buildings, it is now a historical display area. The large room between office and shop, now the interpretation center, served at one time as a truck storage space, open on the west and east sides, according to an undated early plan. The building was constructed in 1935; it is not known, however, when the truck storage space was enclosed on its two open sides and whether or not the board and batten cladding was applied around the entire building at that time.

The maintenance group consists of two shops, a woodshed, an equipment shed, a paint shed, (Fig. 21) and a storage building; each is wood frame with vertical roughboard siding. The wood and equipment sheds have open fronts to facilitate the use of equipment and materials; these fronts consist of log posts supporting the roof. Most of the maintenance buildings display the same strap hinges and other door hardware found on buildings throughout the complex. Though the group does not appear on a 1936 park plan, a 1938 plan labels the area "National Park Service service area," and includes the six buildings plus two additional sheds which are no longer extant. The buildings probably date, then, from sometime between 1936 and 1938.

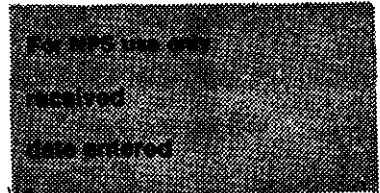
A stone chimney, which may have belonged to a mess or recreation hall, is the only remnant of CCC camp life in the district and stands as a ruin today of Camp Malone (see Site Plan #1). (Fig. 22) Three camps were spread over what is now the developed area: Camp Malone, located east of Wilson Creek and Route 629 near the present maintenance group; Camp Carson, west of Wilson Creek in the vicinity of the stables (group camping ground); and Camp Douthat, west of Route 629 at the northern entrance to the park. All buildings were wood frame, one-story, with gable roof and as many as eleven bays across. The barracks were most certainly intended as temporary; period photographs indicate the cladding consisted of a heavy tarp-like material pulled over the building frame and held in place with wooden battens. Camps comprised roughly a dozen buildings, including barracks, officers' quarters, mess halls, recreation halls, and bathhouses, organized around a small green. The CCC camps were all razed by the early 1940s, since it was believed that the buildings were not suitable for adaptation to the purposes of a state park.

There are fourteen buildings constructed between 1951 and 1976 within the developed area that are noncontributing due to their age. Wherever possible, however, these elements have been designed with sensitivity to the scale, color scheme, and construction methods of the CCC-era buildings; they include a picnic shelter, wellhouse, boat launch toilet (Fig. 23) the assistant superintendent's residence, and the chief ranger's residence (see inventory). Concrete cabins Nos. 26 through 30, erected in 1951 and 1957, are the only completely inappropriate noncontributing elements in the district. (Fig. 24) Fortunately, they are grouped along a path set back from the main cabin access route (past cabins Nos. 12 through 21) and screened by those cabins and existing trees. One noncontributing building, the boat concession, is slated for demolition. (Fig. 14, building on far left)

(See Continuation Sheet #6)

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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (continued)

The developed area comprises approximately 1/7 of Douthat State Park's total acreage. One priority in the design of this and other state and national parks at the time was "to group the developed areas of the park, concentrating them in an area of the park site where the impact on the natural landscape would be minimized."<sup>10</sup> To further minimize the intrusion of built elements, each building was sited in relative isolation in order to blend with the surrounding landscape. This technique of blending natural and man-made elements not only maintains the park's natural beauty, but enhances the buildings' rustic quality as well.

In addition to the developed area located within two imaginary lines called "wildlife boundaries," the majority of the park is designated as a primitive or wildlife area.<sup>11</sup> Within the wildlife area are twenty-four trails totaling forty miles and dating to the CCC era.<sup>12</sup> These trails, some of which were used for horseback riding in the park's early days,<sup>12</sup> constitute an integrated system serving two purposes: to lead the park visitor to points of interest, such as waterfalls and scenic views; and to support firefighting activities. A major concern in park development in the 1930s, forest fire prevention required the construction of fire breaks to prevent a fire from spreading and to allow a firefighting crew to reach the top of a ridge quickly.<sup>13</sup> Before the close of the CCC era, these fire breaks evolved into a more comprehensive trail system. Except in those sections of the park not serviced by trails, fire breaks have been allowed to become overgrown.<sup>14</sup> The fire lookout cabin, a simple one-room log cabin, was built at the Tuscarora Overlook on Middle Mountain by 1936 for fire control purposes during the dry season.<sup>15</sup>

Only two areas within the district, the game sanctuaries, are neither developed nor have trails. The larger of the two, on Middle Mountain, was set aside for "the encouragement of deer," while the smaller sanctuary on Beard's Mountain was designated primarily for grouse and wild turkey. As a complement to the preservation of natural surroundings, these sanctuaries were created "to allow the park to serve as a breeding ground for game."<sup>16</sup>

Whereas the trail system organizes the undeveloped zones of Douthat State Park, a system of minor roads and paths orders the developed area. "The National Park Service viewed a park's roads as the major organizing system" in a park's development,<sup>17</sup> and that viewpoint is evident at Douthat. One existing road (now State Route 629) is the backbone for all vehicular traffic through the park. In accordance with the initial design intention of physically and visually separating sections of the developed area -- overnight accommodations, day-use facilities, office and service buildings -- minor roads off the state highway "typically end in a cul-de-sac or a parking lot" in order "to concentrate the majority of the traffic on the primary access road and to avoid having traffic pass through the middle of one developed area in order to reach another one."<sup>18</sup>

From the perspective of landscape architecture, Douthat Lake, with its dam and spillways, serves as a much-needed focus for the developed area and the park as a whole. This body of water and its tributary, Wilson Creek, provide a link between areas of the district, whether one is standing at the creek's edge in the group campground, or at the

(See Continuation Sheet #7)

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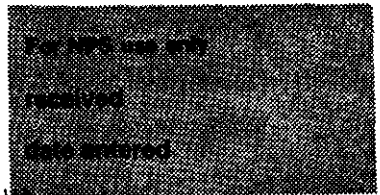
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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (continued)

top of the knoll near the guest lodge. Another successful landscape design element is the stone used throughout the district, for edging roads and demarcating parking lots and pathways. (Fig. 25) Stone is also used for outdoor markers such as drinking fountains, grills, and newel posts. The underlying order of the landscape design and the visual connections realized through certain natural yet man-made elements, such as the roads, trails, lake, and stone detailing, help to pull the landscape of various distinct parts into a visually and functionally cohesive whole.

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ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Albert H. Good, ed., Park Structures and Facilities (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1935), p. 224.

<sup>2</sup>"Narrative Report Accompanying the Master Plan for Douthat State Park, Virginia SP-4. Approved May 25, 1937," p. 6.

<sup>3</sup>Albert H. Good, Park and Recreation Structures, Part III: Overnight and Organized Camp Facilities (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1938), p. 62.

<sup>4</sup>Good, Park Structures and Facilities, p. 236.

<sup>5</sup>Good, Park Structures and Facilities, p. 127.

<sup>6</sup>Memo on dam construction. "SP-3 Company 1373. Clifton Forge, A.H. McDill, Jr. Superintendent." No date.

<sup>7</sup>Good, Park and Recreation Structures, Part III, p. 161.

<sup>8</sup>Good, Park and Recreation Structures, Part III: Recreation and Cultural Facilities, (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1938), p. 158.

<sup>9</sup>Job Comment on Douthat State Park Master Plan from Stanley M. Hawkins, Associate Recreational Specialist (state office), August 3, 1937.

<sup>10</sup>Steven Lotspeich, "The Design Intentions and the Planning Process of the Virginia CCC State Park Master Plans, 1933-1942" (M.A. Thesis, School of Architecture, University of Virginia, 1984), p. 59.

<sup>11</sup>Lotspeich, p. 60.

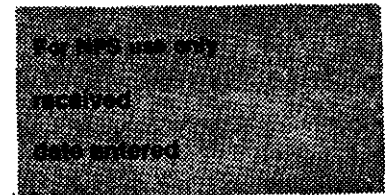
<sup>12</sup>"Narrative Report Accompanying Master Plan for Douthat State Park, Virginia SP-4," 1938, p. 5.

<sup>13</sup>Lotspeich, p. 72.

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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (Endnotes continued)

<sup>14</sup>Lotspeich, p. 73.

<sup>15</sup>Master Plan, 1937, p. 7.

<sup>16</sup>Lotspeich, p. 61.

<sup>17</sup>Ibid.

<sup>18</sup>Lotspeich, p. 62.

INVENTORY: (\* = Noncontributing)

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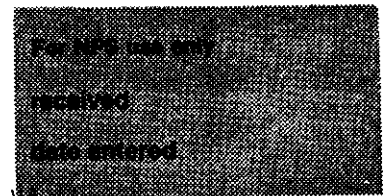
EAST SIDE VA STATE ROUTE 629

- 1 Cabin 1: vertical round log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with vertical log infill; 3 bays; 1-story, 2-bay porch with shed roof and round log supports. Built 1935.
- 2 Cabin 2: horizontal round log; raised stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with shed roof and round log supports; board and batten exterior doors with tree branches for battens. Built 1935.
- 3 Cabin 3: horizontal round log; raised stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with roughboard infill; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay "projecting portico" with round log supports; board and batten front door with tree branches for battens. Built 1935.
- 4 Cabin 4: horizontal round log; raised stone foundation; 1 story; cross gable roof with roughboard infill; 4 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with shed roof and round log supports. Built 1935. (Fig. 4)
- 5 Cabin 5: horizontal round log; raised stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 3 bays; 1-story, 1-bay porch with gable roof, open pediment, and round log supports and brackets. Built 1935.
- 6 Cabin 6: horizontal round log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay "projecting portico" with roughboard infill and round log supports. Built 1935.
- 7 Cabin 7: horizontal round log; stone foundation; 1 story; cross gable roof; 3 bays; 1-story, 1-bay porch, under gable of main facade, with round log support and brackets; front door board and batten with tree branches for battens. Has one of only exposed chimneys in the cabins (northeast corner). Built 1935.

(See Continuation Sheet #9)

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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (Inventory continued)

EAST SIDE VA STATE ROUTE 629

- 8 Cabin 8: horizontal round log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with gable roof and horizontal round log infill and round log supports; board and tree branch-batten front door. Built 1935. (Figs. 1 and 5)
- 9 Cabin 9: vertical round log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 2 bays; 2-bay "deck" porch (no roof) with round log and roughboard railings. Built 1935.
- 10 Cabin 10: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with vertical roughboard infill; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with shed roof and 4 square log supports. Built 1936.
- 11 Cabin 11: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with vertical roughboard infill; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with shed roof and square log supports. Built 1936.
- 12 Cabin 12: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; cross gable roof with vertical roughboard infill; 3 bays; inset covered area at center bay in lieu of porch, no supports. Built 1936.
- 13 Cabin 13: vertical round log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with horizontal roughboard infill; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with shed roof and round log supports and railings. Built 1936. (Fig. 3)
- 14 Cabin 14: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 3 bays; 1-story, 2-bay porch with gable roof and vertical roughboard infill and hewn log (square) supports. Built 1936.
- 15 Cabin 15: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; cross gable roof; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with shed roof and square posts. This cabin has many original interior features, such as the wooden stained ceiling. Built 1936.
- 16 Cabin 16: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 1 bay; 1-story, 1-bay porch with shed roof and square supports. Built 1936.
- 17 Cabin 17: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; cross gable roof; 3 bays; 1-story, 1-bay porch with shed roof and square supports. Built 1936.
- 18 Cabin 18: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 2 bays; 1-story, 2-bay porch with shed roof and square supports. Built 1936.
- 19 Cabin 19: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with shed roof and square supports. Built 1935.

(See Continuation Sheet #10)

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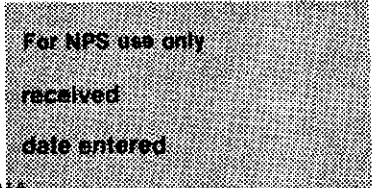
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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (Inventory continued)

EAST SIDE VA STATE ROUTE 629

- 20 Cabin 20: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with roughboard infill; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with shed roof and square supports. Built 1935.
- 21 Cabin 21: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; cross gable roof with roughboard infill; 3 bays; 1-story, 1-bay porch with shed roof and square supports. Built 1935.

WILSON CREEK

- 22 Cabin 22: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with roughboard infill; 2 bays; 1-story, 2-bay porch with shed roof and square supports. Built 1935.
- 23 Cabin 23: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; cross gable roof with vertical roughboard infill; 3 bays; inset covered area at center bay in lieu of porch, no supports. Built 1936. (Fig. 2)
- 24 Cabin 24: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with vertical roughboard infill; 3 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch with shed roof and square supports. Built 1936.
- 25 Cabin 25: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with vertical roughboard infill; 2 bays; 1-story, 2-bay porch with shed roof and square supports. Built 1936.

{ -26  
-27  
-28  
-29  
-30 } \*Cabins 26-30: concrete block; 1 story; gable roof; 2 bays; 1 bay enclosed screen porch. These cabins are compatible with the existing rustic cabins in size, scale, and color scheme (cream and brown), but are noncontributing due to their materials and their lack of a rustic appearance. Built 1951 and 1957. (Fig. 24)

-31 Guest Lodge: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; split level; multi-gable roof of hand-split shingles with board and batten roughboard infill; 8 bays across front divide into 3 wings (left to right: sleeping, public, and kitchen); 1-story, 1-bay porch projecting from center wing with horizontal hewn log walls half high, square posts above, and gable roof with board and batten infill; board and batten shutters and doors; 3 flagstone terraces. Interior is one of most highly crafted of any in the park, with beveled pine paneling on walls and ceilings, stone chimney and fire-place in main lodge area, 5-arch support ceiling frame with excellent examples of wrought-iron hardware and paneled doors with leaded glass and giant strap hinges. Completed 1935. (Figs. 6, 7, and 8)

-32 Superintendent's Residence: horizontal hewn log; stone foundation; 1 story; multi-gable roof of hand-split shingles and board and batten infill; 4 bays; 1-story, 1-bay porch beneath a portion of 1 gable, with tree and branch supports and brackets; 2

(See Continuation Sheet #11)

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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (Inventory continued)

WILSON CREEK (continued)

(Superintendent's Residence continued)

flagstone terraces. This residence rivals the Guest Lodge in its construction and display of quality craftsmanship. Interior has same elements as Guest Lodge. Residence includes a horizontal, hewn-log 2-car garage with hipped roof and dovecot at peak. Exterior of residence completed by 1935. Interior and garage definitely completed by 1937. (Fig. 9)

-33 Picnic Shelter #2: vertical round log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 5 bays; center 3 bays open, roof supported by round log posts; each end is enclosed by 3 walls, each has a stone fireplace and chimney; simple exposed beam truss ceiling. The plan was a common one for picnic shelters built for parks in the 1930s (see Architectural Analysis above). Built before 1936. (Figs. 10 and 11)

-34 Picnic Toilet #2: horizontal round log with pointed ends and graduated profile in elevation; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with creosote-dipped wood shingles and horizontal roughboard infill; 1 bay. Built 1936.

-35 \*Assistant Superintendent's Residence: wood frame (aluminum siding); concrete foundation; gable roof; 1 story; 6 bays; 1-story, 3-bay porch beneath roof; wooden board and batten shutters. Compatible with other buildings in scale and color scheme (cream). Built 1968. Noncontributing.

-36 \*Chief Ranger's Residence: wood frame (aluminum siding achieving board and batten effect from a distance); concrete foundation; gable roof. Compatible with other buildings in scale and color scheme. Built 1973. Noncontributing.

-37 \*Bunkhouse: wood frame (plywood siding); concrete foundation; 1 story; gable roof with asphalt shingles. Compatible with other buildings in scale, siding materials, and color scheme. Appears to replace earlier bunkhouse whose plans date from 1940. Built 1974. Noncontributing.

-38 Park Office and Visitor Center: wood frame (board and batten); 1 story; hipped standing-seam metal roof; irregular layout, roughly 8 bays. The building now contains park's offices, visitors interpretive center, and blacksmith shop from CCC camp era. An early plan (no date) calls it a "permanent service building" with an office, tool room, open space for truck storage in center (now closed) bay, blacksmith shop, and repair garage. Board and batten siding may be of later date. Built ca. 1934 and altered as described. (Fig. 20)

-39 \*Control Station: wood frame (beaded siding); concrete foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 2 bays. Compatible with other structures in scale, siding materials, and color scheme (cream and brown). Built 1973. Noncontributing.

(See Continuation Sheet #12)

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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (Inventory continued)

WILSON CREEK (continued)

-40 Maintenance Buildings (each fits the following description): wood frame (vertical roughboard board and batten siding); concrete foundation; 1 story; gable roof with paroid roofing. A 1938 plan calls this the National Park Service service area and identifies 8 buildings; those remaining are: tractor shed, truck shed, toolhouse, oil house, garage, and another blacksmith shop. One source (Division of Parks and Recreation) says these buildings date from 1934. The area may have been first set out in 1934, but the buildings do not appear on park maps until 1938. (Fig. 21) They are considered contributing buildings because they are nearly fifty years old, date to the period of significance, and meet clearly documented criteria for significance and integrity. (See Section 8, page 24.)

-41 Chimney (ruins): stone; only tangible remnant of CCC camplife in the district. Originally chimney of Camp Malone mess or recreational hall, abandoned by 1938 and razed ca. 1940. Considered one of the district's two contributing sites. (See Site Plan #1.)

WEST SIDE VA STATE ROUTE 629

-42 Group Camp Shelter (formerly stables): wood frame (board and batten and horizontal roughboard siding); concrete foundation; 1½ stories; gable roof with 1 dormer-like opening to the hayloft; 7 bays, 6 are open and now house group picnics and camping; exposed open frame ceiling over area having 14 square posts with simple brackets around 3 sides. Built to replace an abandoned ca. 1935 CCC stable; described as "proposed" in 1938 master plan (Fig. 19) and erected by that year. Considered contributing because it retains integrity as stable and dates to period of significance. (See Section 8, page 24.)

-43 Picnic Toilet #1: horizontal round log with pointed ends and graduated profile at corners; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof with creosote-dipped wood shingles and horizontal roughboard infill; 1 bay. Built 1936. (Fig. 12)

-44 \*Picnic Shelter #1: wood frame; cement foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 8 bays. Open building supported by log posts. Built 1960. Noncontributing

-45 Dam and Spillway: earth filled, masonry with local stone. General plan also used at Hungry Mother and Fairy Stone state parks, according to undated cover for plans (ca. 1934-35). Lee H. Williamson was designing engineer, working under direction of State Commission on Conservation and Development for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of National Park Service Buildings and Reservations, State Park Emergency Conservation Work (ECW). Completed 1935. (Fig. 13)

(See Continuation Sheet #13)



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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (Inventory continued)

WEST SIDE VA STATE ROUTE 629

-46 Restaurant: wood frame (board and batten and horizontal roughboard siding); concrete foundation; 1 story; irregular layout, roughly 8 bays; multi-gable roof over restaurant and service wing with vertical siding infill; shed roof over flagstone patio on lakefront (west side), enclosed to form 1-story, 4-bay screened terrace in 1938. Service wing also added about that time. Dining room interior displays same truss ceiling of chamfered beams found in Guest Lodge and Superintendent's Residence. Whereas ceiling covering in Guest Lodge is pine paneling, in the Restaurant the ceiling specifications were: "studio board salvaged from abandoned CCC barracks to be placed between studs and braces. This board to be painted as specified." (From 1937 elevation drawing.) Built 1937; additions to exterior date no later than 1939. (Figs. 16, 17, and 18) Considered contributing because it dates to period of significance, retains integrity and is nearly fifty years old. (See Section 8, page 24.)

-47 \*Well House #1: wood frame (board and batten siding); concrete foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 1 bay. Compatible with other structures in size, scale, and color scheme (cream and brown). Built ca. 1958. Noncontributing.

-48 Boathouse: wood frame (shingle siding); 1 story; shed roof; 2 bays; raised wooden walkway across front. Built 1934. (Fig. 14)

-49 \*Oarhouse: stone; 1 story; shed roof; 1 bay; Built 1958. Noncontributing. (Fig. 14)

-50 \*Boat Concession: wood frame (shingle siding); 1 story; shed roof; 2 bays. Built 1976. Soon to be demolished. Noncontributing. (Fig. 14)

-51 Bathhouse: wood frame with stone pillars on beach side lower level (rough sawn weatherboard and random width board and batten siding of heart pine); stone foundation; 2 stories; hipped roof; 5 bays; flagstone terrace on beach side no longer in use. Provisions made for concessions in 1941 in existing breezeway between parking lot and beach levels. Recent alterations include enclosing some beach-level open bays between stone piers for additional changing rooms. Plan and elevation drawings largely from 1935-1936. Completed 1938. (Fig. 15) Considered contributing because it dates to period of significance, retains integrity and is nearly fifty years old. (See Section 8, page 24.)

-52 \*Boat Launch Toilet: wood frame (beaded siding); concrete foundation; 1 story; hipped roof of cedar shingles; 1 bay. Compatible with other buildings in size, scale, materials, and color scheme. Built 1978. Noncontributing. (Fig. 23)

-53 Fire Lookout Cabin: horizontal log; stone foundation; 1 story; gable roof; 2 bays. 1-room cabin located at Tuscarora Overlook on Middle Mountain in western section of park. Built by April 1936.

(See Continuation Sheet #14)

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7. ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS (Inventory continued)

WEST SIDE VA STATE ROUTE 629

54 Trail system: system of 24 trails, maintaining original names, paths, and stone detailing of CCC era. Planned originally for horseback riding, hiking and supporting firefighting activities. Developed by men of Camp Malone by 1938. Considered one of the district's two contributing sites. (See Site Plans #1 and #2.)

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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background (continued)

Conservation and Development, offers a retrospective confirmation that:

the need for state parks came with a changing concept that the average citizen of moderate income should be provided by the government with facilities through which he might rejuvenate his body and soul at a moderate cost. The astonishing development of automobile travel, thus increasing the mobility of the people, gave a tremendous impetus to the park movement.

The period from 1926 to 1933 was the beginning of "widespread political and popular support for the creation of a state park system in Virginia, sparked by the establishment of Shenandoah National Park..."<sup>4</sup> In 1926 the State Commission on Conservation and Development was formed, headed by William E. Carson. That same year the Virginia General Assembly:

provided for the acquisition, preservation, development and maintenance of areas, properties, lands or estates of scenic beauty, recreational utility, historical interest, remarkable phenomena or other unusual features. Such acquisitions and developments were declared to be for the use, observation, education, health and pleasure of the people.<sup>5</sup>

In 1929 Carson proposed the idea of a "seashore" facility in the Tidewater as the first step toward development of a state park system. In December of that year, the enthusiasm for a series of state parks culminated with a number of resolutions being presented to Governor-elect John Garland Pollard by proponents of such a system. As a result of this result of this interest, in June 1930, the State Commission on Conservation appointed Robin E. Burson as Landscape Engineer and head of the Division of Landscape Engineering in the Department of Conservation and Development. One of the first tasks Burson undertook was to "make a comprehensive study of all park systems in the East," specifically those in Michigan, Indiana and New York.<sup>6</sup>

With Burson's input, momentum for the establishment of a seashore state park was high, and on July 2, 1931, the Virginia Seashore State Park Association was established in Norfolk to promote the selection and development of a site. Cape Henry, the first landing spot of the Jamestown colonists, was selected for its historic significance and scenic beauty. Significantly, in May 1932, the National Conference on State Parks was held at Virginia Beach and the Cape Henry site.<sup>7</sup>

Carson wrote to Governor Pollard in September 1933 eagerly revealing his enthusiasm and hopes for the Virginia park system:

Day after day and week after week preaching what we have been doing, on the value of a State park system to the State, seems at last to have caught the imagination of the people...We will give to 10,000 people in the State of Virginia, yearly, a place where they can have rest and recreation. Is not this well worth while (sic),<sup>8</sup> to say nothing of the thousands of tourists that these parks will attract to our State.

(See Continuation Sheet #16)

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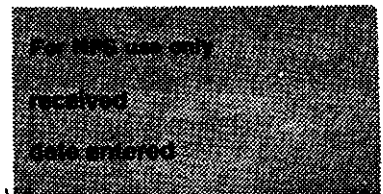
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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background (continued)

The concept of tourism was not new, but the state and historic parks with related parkway and highway systems offered the first real opportunity for state government to exploit the idea. Adequate roads for pleasure motoring and a growing allotment of leisure time contributed to the ability of families to travel, particularly because it was relatively inexpensive. The distance people were willing to travel was determined by several factors, including: the type and quality of facility, and the availability and attractiveness of the route to get there.

Years ago, the average family was pretty much restricted in opportunities for outdoor recreation. The splendid areas which are so much in use today were altogether too remote for a generation which did not know such economical use of the automobile. In present times, however, with automobiles that are operated over good roads, people are finding out what outdoor recreation means...This is true not only of the National Parks, but of the state and metropolitan parks which offer facilities such as have been developed by the CCC, PWA and WPA since 1933.<sup>10</sup>

Burson's preliminary plans for the Virginia State Park System were complete by spring 1933 when the CCC program was enacted.<sup>11</sup> Six parks were planned to complement Shenandoah National Park in the north-central part of the state: Seashore and Westmoreland state parks to serve the Tidewater region; Staunton River State Park to serve the middle region; Fairy Stone State Park to serve the Piedmont; Hungry Mother State Park to serve the valley area; and Douthat State Park to serve the mountain and valley region.<sup>12</sup> Each park would service a fifty-mile radius of approximately 200,000 Virginians.<sup>13</sup> (The first CCC camp in the nation -- Camp Roosevelt -- was established on April 17, 1933, in the Massanutten Mountains of Virginia.)

On the eve of the ECW program's creation, administrators in Virginia were speculating on how best to undertake the establishment of the parks, as well as targeting white middle-class Americans as the most needy beneficiaries. William Carson wrote in a 1934 report:

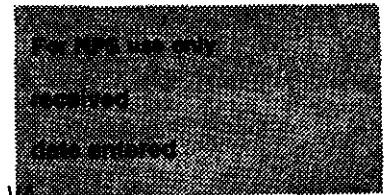
What would happen and where were the parks coming from was the anxious question we asked ourselves...If parks were donated would they be of a calibre or quality we could accept, and would their location be such as to best serve the people of the state, and would our dream come true of being able to establish recreational centers for the most deserving but least considered class, the white-collar man (who is the backbone of our civilization), where he could at little cost take his family...This principle has guided us from the inception of our state work and is one on which we have relied till it has become one of the tenets of the [State] Commission [on Conservation and Development].<sup>14</sup>

President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal of the 1930s offered a solution to the dilemma. The Emergency Conservation Work Act (ECW), organized by FDR and approved by Congress on March 31, 1933, included under its auspices the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The ECW Act authorized the president to use CCC crews on state and municipal lands; for the purpose of encouraging and assisting the development of state and county

(See Continuation Sheet #17)

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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background (continued)

park systems throughout the nation.<sup>15</sup> In April 1933, supervision of state, county and local recreation area projects was assigned to the National Park Service (NPS) under the State Park Assistance Program. Later, that program evolved into a separate State Park Division under the direction of Herbert Evison.<sup>16</sup> The program soon became regionalized and what each state constructed under the program during the New Deal was the product of local work crews directed by state and national governing authorities. Wherever possible, "the ECW regional offices of the State Park Division were staffed with professionals who had previous national park experience."<sup>17</sup> This policy resulted in the creation of state parks in Virginia and elsewhere in which the master plan, architectural design and landscaping not only met prevailing NPS criteria, but bore distinct similarities with their counterparts in other states.

As the ECW and CCC programs grew, the NPS recognized the need to improve job-related training of the men in the respective programs. In response, the NPS published Park Structures and Facilities in 1935. A collection of photographs, plans and descriptions of architecture in national and state parks, it served as a textbook for the training of new workers involved with the construction of park architecture.<sup>18</sup> The editor of the book, Albert H. Good, an architect with the State Park Division, offered what has come to be known as the definitive statement on rustic architecture by the NPS prior to World War II:

*Successfully handled, [rustic] is a style which, through the use of native materials in proper scale, and through the avoidance of rigid, straight lines, and over-sophistication, gives the feeling of having been executed by pioneer craftsmen with limited hand tools. It thus achieves sympathy with the natural surroundings, and with the past.*<sup>19</sup>

Good advocated unintrusive park design, calling for harmony in building construction and setting through the use of natural materials and paint of natural hues. But by 1938, when the book was rereleased, the taste for rustic architecture, which had risen in the late 1910s, had begun to give way to modernism, with its emphasis on simplicity and functionalism, and its disdain for romance in architecture. The new movement swept through the design professions worldwide, and consequently, affected the kinds of designs produced by professional architects employed in the various national and state park offices:

*Fewer examples of 'exaggerated rustic' were appearing. Many NPS residences built in the late 1930s made only minor concessions to their immediate settings. Quite often these were rather unexceptional wood-frame houses incorporating rustic siding and stone veneer foundations.*<sup>20</sup>

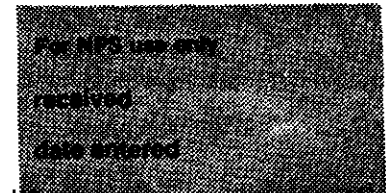
Although some of the buildings at Douthat State Park were under construction during the late 1930s, they all reflect a wholehearted commitment to the highest form of rustic stylization. All original plans for buildings at Douthat State Park bear the stamp of the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service and the State Park Emergency Conservation Work, and were signed by Burson.

The CCC was part of an emergency program intended to reduce unemployment through park

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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background (continued)

construction and conservation. Just as the design aspects of rustic architecture changed during the 1930s, so the role of the CCC changed during these same years. Initially, in the mid-30s, the CCC functioned as a relief agency, then it became a training agency, and finally, just before its demise, it evolved into a defense agency -- this last phase the least successful of the three.<sup>21</sup> Cited as a "nine-year experiment by the federal government in the conservation of human and natural resources,"<sup>22</sup> by one source, "the CCC state park program was planned with the intent to create new state park facilities at a scale and rate of development which had not occurred before this time."<sup>23</sup> Virginia was one of five states that prior to 1933 had no state parks, yet in one year had developed a complete system.<sup>24</sup>

Administration of the CCC program was a cooperative effort among the U.S. Departments of War, Interior, Agriculture and Labor. The Labor Department recruited the men in conjunction with each state, while the U.S. Army was responsible for the conduct and care of the enrollees. During the workday, the Agriculture and Interior departments directed the men. Each man received \$1 per day as well as room, board and the opportunity for an education; each camp was composed of 200 men.<sup>25</sup> The CCC ranks came from a quota of unmarried men (based on state population) age 18 to 25 years old; Virginia's quota was 5,000.<sup>26</sup> Each man enrolled for six months and could reenlist when that period was up.

Social, recreational and educational activities were the basis of the human conservation efforts at Douthat as well as all CCC camps. Sunday afternoon lectures on edifying subjects such as insects, dam construction, geology and plants were initiated in October-1933. Frequent dances were held, such as those at Camps Carson and Douthat in 1934 to celebrate the installation of electric lights.<sup>27</sup>

"An educational program was established in each camp from the beginning," first with only an inhouse teaching staff, that stressed both literacy and vocational skills. These included typing, auto mechanics, carpentry and the construction of parking lots. WPA teachers were assigned later, and each camp had its own library of 800 books. In addition, the "cooperation between the schools in the neighboring towns and cities and the camps (was) commendable."<sup>28</sup>

Athletic activities apart from those recreational features being built for public use were provided for the men. Swimming, baseball, boxing, volleyball, pushball, basketball and track events were directed at serving a social and moral purpose. "The athletic and mass recreation program affects every man in the District. This works for physical betterment, is also a moral education in teamwork, fair play and the will to win, coupled with full recognition of the principles of the games."<sup>29</sup>

The CCC camps were plagued with some problems, such as fighting, drunkenness and desertions, with major conflicts arising from "recruitment of men from both sides of the Mason-Dixon line."<sup>30</sup> At Douthat, one complaint was made attributing problems there to the "age old question of the north and the south;" the letter was signed by "Mistreated but Powerful Pennsylvanians to the Director of the CCC."<sup>31</sup> Between 1933 and 1942, the Vir-

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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background (continued)

Virginia CCC employed over 75,000 men, many of whom served for a full year. Compared to the rest of the nation, Virginia received a disproportionate number of CCC camps, ranking 4th in the number of camps, although ranking 36th among states in area.<sup>32</sup>

Although Virginia benefitted from the public works program, state legislators opposed the idea of a federal dole as the solution to Depression woes.<sup>33</sup> Five Democratic senators consistently opposed FDR in 1933-34 -- two were from Virginia.<sup>33</sup> Senator Harry F. Byrd, a former governor appointed in 1933, was a fiscal conservative and ardently resisted the New Deal programs. He "tolerated the CCC in the first few years of the Depression because conditions indicated that [it] was real and citizens in distress required temporary relief."<sup>34</sup> In theory, the states were expected to contribute to the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) program based on the ability to pay. Yet, "in spite of rather ample resources and an excellent financial condition, the leaders in public life of Virginia [had] no conviction that the State should bestir itself to help."<sup>35</sup>

Once legislation was passed to release relief dollars to each state, however, Virginia was intent on receiving her share. As of December 1935, Virginia comprised two percent of the nation's population, yet it contributed less than 6/10 of 1 percent to the cost of FERA. And, although it escaped the worst ravages of the Depression, Virginia ranked nineteenth among all states in money allotted by CCC enrollees to their dependents.<sup>36</sup>

The Corps largely achieved the natural and human conservation goals of its founding. It provided employment and a positive application of youthful energy at a time of national joblessness and idleness; it resulted in numerous parks for public recreation; and it promoted the out-of-doors as a necessary and healthful pastime.<sup>37</sup>

Guidelines for the size and scenic quality of each park included that each one should not comprise less than 1,000 acres and the land should be of sufficient calibre, without conditions on the time or manner in which it was to be developed. Each facility was also to have "a body of water for recreation and scenic purposes," since Virginia had only two natural lakes.<sup>38</sup> In 1936, by which time the CCC had many state parks under way nationwide, Conrad Wirth, the NPS official in charge of the state parks program during the 1930s, defined some aesthetic criteria with built-in variables. A state park must possess:

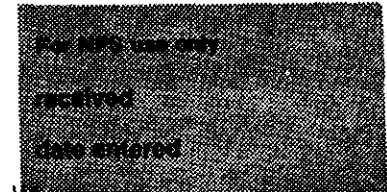
...either outstanding scenic importance, with or without facilities for active recreation, or...better-than-average scenic importance combined with high value for active recreation. They are intended to preserve areas of scenic, historic, prehistoric, scientific or recreational value.<sup>39</sup>

A 1941 National Park Service publication, A Study of the Park and Recreation Problem of the United States, determined that this untainted environment was a prescription for a

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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background (continued)

hassled and corrupt work force incarcerated in American cities:

Man's loss of intimate contact with nature has had a debilitating effect on him as a being[,] which can be alleviated only by making it possible for him to escape at frequent intervals from his urban habitat to the open country...He must again learn how to enjoy himself in out-of-doors by reacquiring the environmental knowledge and skills he has lost during his exile from his natural environment.

Besides the human need for relaxation out-of-doors, experts identified a finer distinction between the recreational activities found in urban and rural environments. In a survey of activities at 136 state parks, participation in activities by visitors was ranked by popularity: picnicking was favored by fourteen percent; swimming, thirteen percent; hiking, six percent; sports/games, camping and history/architecture, four percent each. Trails, a trailside museum, an outdoor theater and a bird blind were facilities recommended to attract a younger audience. "The Park Authority has pointed out that Virginia parks do not gather as large a youth attendance as it should and in order to stimulate such use it will be necessary to provide these types of activities which cannot be offered close at hand. Instead...of providing baseball, tennis, and other ... competitive sports, he should seek to offer nature and craft activities under competent leadership, tying these services in with schools, youth agencies, and other similar organizations."

Concurrent with the development of parks was the growth of a highway and parkway system to link recreational areas. As early as 1931 an "Eastern National Park-to-Park Highway" was agreed upon by the Department of Interior and state authorities for development of a regional thoroughfare. This highway linked the Shenandoah National Park Project in Virginia with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Project in Tennessee and North Carolina, the birthplace memorials of Abraham Lincoln and George Washington, as well as with Washington, D.C. and Colonial Williamsburg. In the vicinity of Clifton Forge and Douthat State Park this route was State Road 60.

During the 1930s, State Road 60 was the prime access route to the area surrounding Douthat State Park, connecting it with nearby Covington and Lexington, the area's two population centers. One consideration of the master plan of each Virginia state park was the development of a road system and its successful integration with existing highway systems. The National Park Service concentrated on parkway construction during the New Deal, as well as focusing on historic site administration.

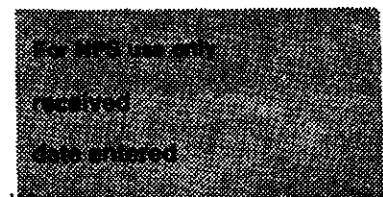
A road was built as part of Douthat itself, identified on early plans as the "main park road" and noted on legends as "park road." This north-south route -- now Route 629 -- which leads from Clifton Forge up to the region between Warm Springs and Millborg Springs was cited as a continuation of State Road 801 at the time of its development. The road bisects the park and is the sole avenue through the developed core; recreational and overnight facilities are today accessible off secondary, limited vehicular traffic roads. In a review of this plan in 1937, the existence of a state road location was

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considered detrimental, although the recommended action was never carried out: "It is unfortunate that a state highway, however minor, runs right through the center of the park; if possible, it should be abandoned north of the park boundary."<sup>45</sup>

The present-day Douthat State Park land was part of a 105,000-acre land patent granted to Robert Douthat by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1795. The land was henceforth divided several times and fell into various hands before approximately 2,000 acres was given back to the state for use in the 1930s, when the land surrounding Douthat State Park became part of the George Washington National Forest.

One thousand nine-hundred and twenty acres of the present land area of the park was donated by the Douthat Land Company, a consortium of Virginia businessmen that included A.C. Ford, A.H. Grimsley and W. Kent Ford of Clifton Forge, J.M. Perry of Staunton and Floyd W. King of Alexandria. The acquisition of properties adjacent to this tract brought the park up to its current nearly 4,500 acres. A small plat of 152 acres on Wilson Creek "required to complete the Park project at that place" was purchased from John W. Hayslett for \$3,500 in October 1933.<sup>46</sup> The largest acquisition was approximately 2,417.6 acres "to become part of the Douthat State Park project now under development, nine miles north of Clifton Forge...on Wilson Creek," purchased in December 1933 for \$15,110. While Seashore State Park was the first of its kind proposed in Virginia, Douthat was the first recreational park to be acquired by the Commonwealth.<sup>47</sup>

The Daily Review of Clifton Forge proudly heralded establishment of the nearby CCC camps at Douthat in July 1933:

the first State recreational park in Virginia is now being established on the Douthat Land Survey on Wilson Creek, east of this city...The purpose of the development...will be to provide recreational facilities and vacation opportunities for citizens of the State and tourists. Camping, fishing, boating, water sports and other attractions will be available amid scenery and a climate that cannot be surpassed in the State.<sup>48</sup>

An estimated 600 men from Virginia and Pennsylvania (which was in the same Army Corps Area as Virginia<sup>49</sup>) lived and worked at the three CCC camps at Douthat State Park. (Site Plan 1) Each camp was responsible for various aspects of construction. Camp Malone (Company 1386, SP-2), was charged with forestry work, including trail and fire land construction as well as the establishment of a nursery for the cultivation of plant material. Camp Carson (Company 1373, SP-3), was charged with construction of the spillway (known as Dam No. 1). Camp Douthat (Company 1374, SP-4), was charged with all miscellaneous construction including cabins, shelters and truck trails.<sup>50</sup>

All three camps presumably existed simultaneously in the early years of Douthat's development, based on an undated site plan with directional arrows that identify the way to all three companies. Camp Douthat may have been the only camp intended for permanent use, based on another undated site plan. Camp Douthat was "under consideration as a group camp," yet Camps Malone and Carson were depicted as being "temporary buildings." Camp

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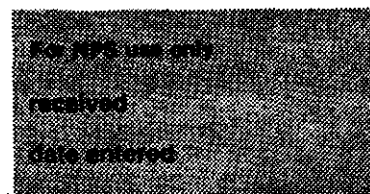
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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background (continued)

Douthat was under the direction of Superintendent B.J. Locher, a construction engineer with the Tennessee Valley Authority who worked on various aspects of park construction. It was reported that "he...stimulated a great deal of interest [from the men], especially in log cabin construction, and by the end of this period will have completed ten very satisfactory and attractive log cabins with a minimum of material purchased."<sup>51</sup> Camp Douthat is the only one of the three camps for which evidence exists to suggest it may have been considered for conversion to permanent use. This was denied for several reasons: "...with reference to converting CCC camp [Douthat] into group camps. It has been found that the cost is prohibitive, and in the end it is not a well planned camp. It is better to raze buildings and salvage all good material and then build a group camp from the ground up with a good layout."<sup>52</sup> This material was incorporated into at least one extant building, the restaurant, according to a 1937 elevation drawing of that structure.

Camp Carson was erected on July 16, 1933, "to provide a suitable mountain recreational area in a locality deprived of these pleasures." Under the direction of Superintendents A.H. McDill, Jr. and later C.N. Hawkins, the men constructed the earth-fill dam and masonry spillway between July 1933 and July 1935.<sup>53</sup>

A detail of the park shows that Camp Malone consisted of five barracks buildings, a recreational hall, bathhouse, latrine, mess hall, officers' quarters and garage. The nursery that served the reforestation task of this company was nearby. In fact, the enrollees at Douthat State Park "developed the [C]amp [Malone] and the park into two of the showplaces of the camps and parks of the state." The men of Camp Malone, responsible for forestry work, were so prodigious that they were named one of the four best companies in the Corps Area in 1934.<sup>54</sup>

A plan of 1938 indicates that "Old Camp Malone" was already abandoned and an "old chimney" is noted in the same spot where one exists today -- the one structural ruin in the park and the tangible evidence of CCC workcamp occupation. By this time, the cluster of maintenance buildings had been erected, as were the stables and custodian's headquarters; the rangers' bunkhouse was still only a proposed structure. A proposed plan for "Recreation and Service Areas" dated 1940 shows that the "old CCC barracks to be razed" were certainly those of Camp Malone.

A plan existed to replace them with public facilities for volleyball, badminton, softball, a pony ring, tennis courts, etc. This did not ever have the support of the appropriate authorities, however, for as early as 1937 Stanley M. Hawkins, Associate Recreational Specialist, sent a memo saying, "It is doubtful whether we should recommend hand-ball, tennis courts, etc., on State Parks. They are city activities. We should provide facilities that are natural developments of the out-of-doors and, because of conditions, cannot be found in cities."<sup>55</sup> The scheme was never carried out.

Camp Carson must have been demolished shortly thereafter, too, for a working drawing dated 1939 of the stable area shows an "old camp building to be obliterated," and the only remains of operating facilities is a notation of "CCC Camp" at the Camp Douthat locale.

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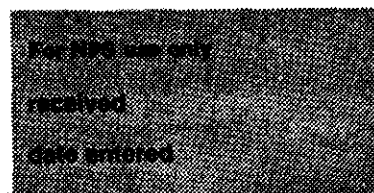
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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background (continued)

Park structures erected during the 1930s up to World War II were uniformly rustic, tailored to the natural environment of the specific park or region, in keeping with the back-to-nature aesthetic of touring and camping. They included day use structures like picnic shelters and bathhouses, as well as overnight cabins and lodges for large groups of vacationers. Those erected at Douthat similarly conform to a national rustic style and three were featured in the NPS publication Park Structures and Facilities by Good: the Superintendent's Residence (formerly known as the Custodian's Cabin), Picnic Shelter No. 2, and Cabin No. 19. In 1938 an expanded issue of this book featured a chapter on lodges, inns and hotels, which included an illustration of the Guest Lodge at Douthat.

Douthat State Park was opened to the public<sup>56</sup> on June 15, 1936, at which time an estimated several thousand people visited the site. As late as 1937, Douthat and Hungry Mother were the only CCC camps in Virginia offering overnight lodgings, although Douthat was not<sup>57</sup> completed until 1942 when the CCC was dissolved and the camps removed from the parks.

The dissolution of the CCC, although finalized with World War II, was the culmination of a variety of legislative factors, again involving Virginians. In 1937 Congress refused to make the CCC a permanent government organization, but did grant it a three-year extension. In 1941 Senator Byrd was the chairman of the Joint Committee for the Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures, which released a report that recommended the CCC be abolished by July 1, 1942, because "there is no room for nonessentials in a government stripped for actions."<sup>58</sup>

The benefits of the CCC and ECW programs toward the conservation of land have remained unchallenged, however. Because of FDR's New Deal, between 1933 and 1936, parkland in the nation rose from 599,091 acres to 3,859,087 acres; by 1934<sup>59</sup> there were sixty CCC camps at work in private, national and state parks in Virginia. Despite continuous objection from state legislators and a generally conservative government, Virginia received an abundance of national parks, parkways, state parks and protected historic sites in comparison with the rest of the nation. Ultimately, "one of the most successful of the NPS programs undertaken by the CCC, at least in Virginia, was the state park program."<sup>60</sup>

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The periodization for this nomination extends to 1942. Published sources documenting the historic context of master planning for Virginia's CCC State Parks (Lotspeich, 1984), of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Virginia (Byrne, 1982) and of National Park Service Rustic Architecture (Tweed et al, 1977) agree on this termination date as appropriate both for historical and architectural reasons. Congress eliminated the CCC in 1942, thereby effectively ending the CCC era of state park development.

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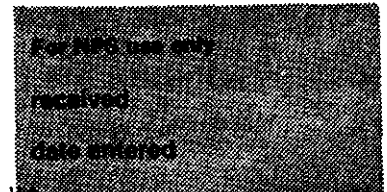
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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background (continued)

The extension of the ending date to 1942 allows for the inclusion of nine buildings which are less than fifty years old and which would normally not be considered contributing buildings in a historic district: the restaurant (1937), bathhouse (1938), group camping shelter, formerly a stable (1938-39) and six maintenance buildings (1936-38). Their inclusion is justified on the grounds that each of the nine buildings is nearly fifty years old and all were constructed several years before the termination date of the nomination. In plan, all nine buildings show the stamp of the same agency, designer and builder as the other thirty-seven contributing buildings; they exhibit the same integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, setting, and feeling; and they represent the continuing evolution of CCC camp building practices, of state park design intentions, and of National Park Service rustic architectural style as other contributing buildings erected by the CCC during the period 1933-1942 at Douthat and at other CCC-era parks in other states such as Arkansas (see Arkansas State Parks Thematic Nomination, 1984).

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FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Stephen Lotspeich, "The Design Intentions and the Planning Process of the Virginia CCC State Park Master Plans, 1933-1942" (M.A. thesis, School of Architecture, University of Virginia, May 1984), pp. 10-12.

<sup>2</sup>Warren James Belasco, Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910-1945 (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1971), pp. 71, 89, 126-7.

<sup>3</sup>Wilbur C. Hall, "Virginia State Parks," The University of Virginia Newsletter, (April 15, 1937). Carson's leadership role in state conservation, tourism, and park development is treated in detail by John F. Horan, Jr., "Will Carson and the Virginia Conservation Commission, 1926-1934." The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography Vol. 92, No. 4 (October 1984): 391-415.

<sup>4</sup>Lotspeich, p. 17.

<sup>5</sup>Histories of the Southeastern State Park System (Printed for the Association of Southeastern State Park Directors, 1977), p. 174.

<sup>6</sup>Lotspeich, pp. 18-20.

<sup>7</sup>Lotspeich, pp. 22-24.

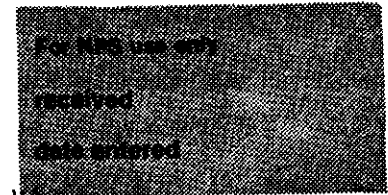
<sup>8</sup>Letter from W.E. Carson to John Garland Pollard, Governor of Virginia, 8 September 1933, Papers of Governor Pollard, State Library Archives, Richmond, VA.

<sup>9</sup>Department of Interior, National Park Service, A Study of the Park and Recreation Problem of the United States (Washington, D.C., 1941), p. 9.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- FOOTNOTES (continued)

<sup>10</sup>Conrad Wirth, "Related Park and Recreation Problems," Parks and Recreation (December 1936), p. 173.

<sup>11</sup>Lotspeich, p. 28.

<sup>12</sup>Hall.

<sup>13</sup>John P. Byrne, "The Civilian Conservation Corps in Virginia, 1933-1942" (M.A. thesis, University of Montana 1982), p.4.

<sup>14</sup>William E. Carson, Conserving and Developing Virginia (Report of the Commission on Conservation and Development, 1934), p. 34.

<sup>15</sup>William C. Tweed, Laura E. Souilliere, and Henry G. Law, National Park Service Rustic Architecture 1916-1942 (NPS, Western Regional Office, Cultural Resource Management, 1977), p. 91.

<sup>16</sup>Tweed et al, p. 91.

<sup>17</sup>Ibid.

<sup>18</sup>Tweed et al, p. 92.

<sup>19</sup>Albert H. Good, Park and Recreation Structures, Part III: Overnight and Organized Camp Facilities (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1938), p. 62.

<sup>20</sup>Tweed et al, p. 97.

<sup>21</sup>Final Report of the Federal Security Agency, p. 32, 38; cited in Byrne, p. 22.

<sup>22</sup>Byrne, p. 1.

<sup>23</sup>Lotspeich, p. 12.

<sup>24</sup>Norman T. Newton, Design on the Land (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971), p. 579.

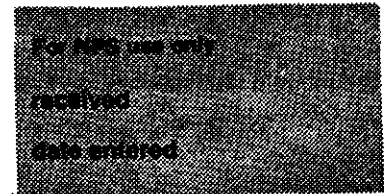
<sup>25</sup>Byrne, p. 2-3.

<sup>26</sup>James E. Ward, Jr. and Treadwell Davison, "The C.C.C. Camps in Virginia," University of Virginia Newsletter (December 15, 1934).

<sup>27</sup>The Daily Review, 13 November 1933; 18 January 1933.

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<sup>28</sup>Con C. McCarthy, ed., History: District No. 4, 1933-1937, Third Corps Area (Harrisonburg, PA: The Military Service Publishing Co., 1937), p. 32; Byrne, p. 33.

<sup>29</sup>Byrne, p. 34.

<sup>30</sup>Byrne, p. 34.

<sup>31</sup>Undated, File SP-4, cited in Byrne, p. 34.

<sup>32</sup>Byrne, p. 23, 30.

<sup>33</sup>James T. Patterson, Congressional Conservatism and the New Deal (Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1967), p. 348.

<sup>34</sup>Byrne, p. 17.

<sup>35</sup>Leland B. Tate, "Emergency Relief in Virginia," University of Virginia Newsletter (November 15, 1935), cited in Byrne, p. 68.

<sup>36</sup>Byrne, p. 30.

<sup>37</sup>Newton, p. 564.

<sup>38</sup>Carson, pp. 26-27.

<sup>39</sup>Wirth, p. 171.

<sup>40</sup>NPS, Park and Recreation Problem, p. 4.

<sup>41</sup>NPS, Park and Recreation Problem, p. 15.

<sup>42</sup>Memo to Randolph Odell, Acting Park Authority, from Herbert Evicon, Acting Regional Director, 25 April 1939.

<sup>43</sup>Byrne, p. 48.

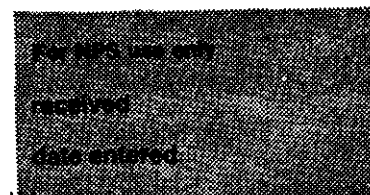
<sup>44</sup>Narrative Report Accompanying Master Plan for Douthat State Park Virginia SP-4, approved 25 May 1937.

<sup>45</sup>Job Comment, Subject: Master Plan, Virginia SP-4, Douthat State Park, 9 July 1937.

<sup>46</sup>Letter from R.A. Gilliam to Governor Pollard, 12 October 1933, State Library, Richmond, VA.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE -- FOOTNOTES (continued)

<sup>47</sup>Letter from R.A. Gilliam to Governor Pollard, 14 November 1933; "Letter from Governor Pollard to State Commission on Conservation and Development," 5 December 1933, State Library, Richmond, VA. For Douthat's primacy, see Horan, p. 405.

<sup>48</sup>"New Park Is Now Assured," The Daily Review, 8 July 1933.

<sup>49</sup>Byrne, p. 25.

<sup>50</sup>Memo from R.E. Burson, Procurement Officer, undated.

<sup>51</sup>Memo, Douthat SP-4, from R.E. Burson, undated.

<sup>52</sup>Job Comment on Douthat State Park Master Plan, from Stanley M. Hawkins, 3 August 1937.

<sup>53</sup>Memo on Dam Construction: SP-3 Company 1373, Clifton Forge, A.H. McDill, Jr., Superintendent, undated.

<sup>54</sup>McCarthy, p. 82.

<sup>55</sup>Job Comment, Hawkins.

<sup>56</sup>McCarthy, p. 82.

<sup>57</sup>Hall.

<sup>58</sup>Preliminary Report of the Joint Committee on the Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures, Congress of the United States, 77th Congress, First Session, Document 152; cited in Byrne, pp. 72-73.

<sup>59</sup>Wirth, p. 175; Ward and Davison.

<sup>60</sup>Byrne, p. 52.

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National Park Service**

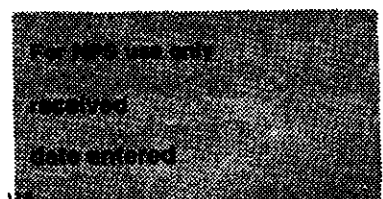
**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

DOUTHAT STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT, ALLEGHANY & BATH COUNTIES, VA

Continuation sheet 28

Item number 9

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

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(See Continuation Sheet #29)



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received  
date entered

DOUTHAT STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT, ALLEGHANY & BATH COUNTIES, VA

Continuation sheet 29

Item number 9,10

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

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10. VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION (continued)

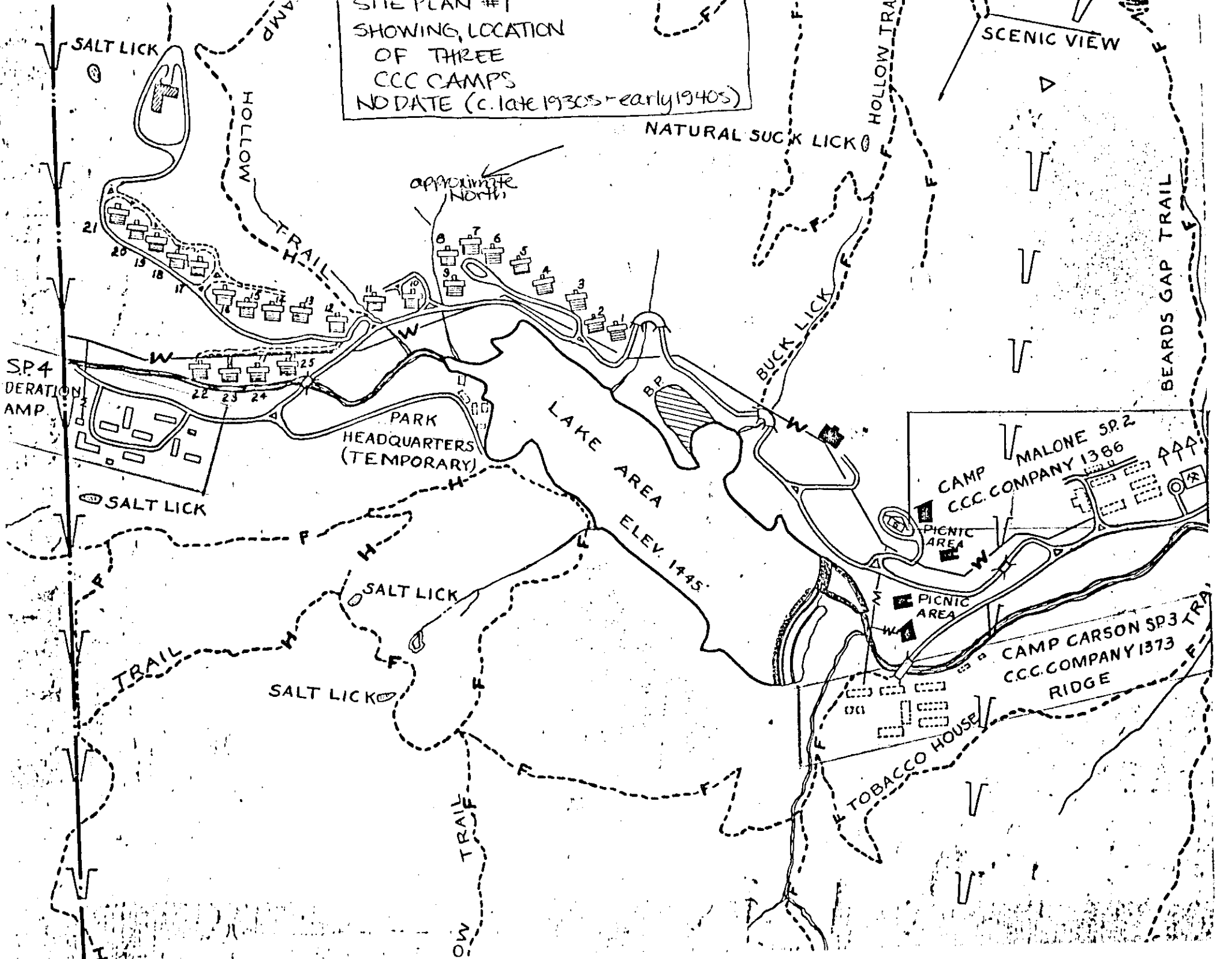
Justification: The boundary of Douthat State Park Historic District conforms to the original boundary of Douthat State Park and encompasses the entirety of the park's 4,493 acres, the 4,493 acres acquired by the Commonwealth of Virginia by gift and purchase for the park's development in 1933. The nominated acreage represents a fraction of the 105,000 acres of land granted to Robert Douthat by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1795. Containing all the significant surviving buildings and structures associated with the nomination's period (1933-1942), as well as the park's original network of roads and trails, the district boundary comprehends the recreational, scenic, architectural, community planning, and conservation values which formed the park's original design intentions as well as the historic values which the district now possesses. The boundary is further justified on the grounds that the entire park is a carefully planned landscape weaving various and discrete elements into a visually and functionally cohesive whole.

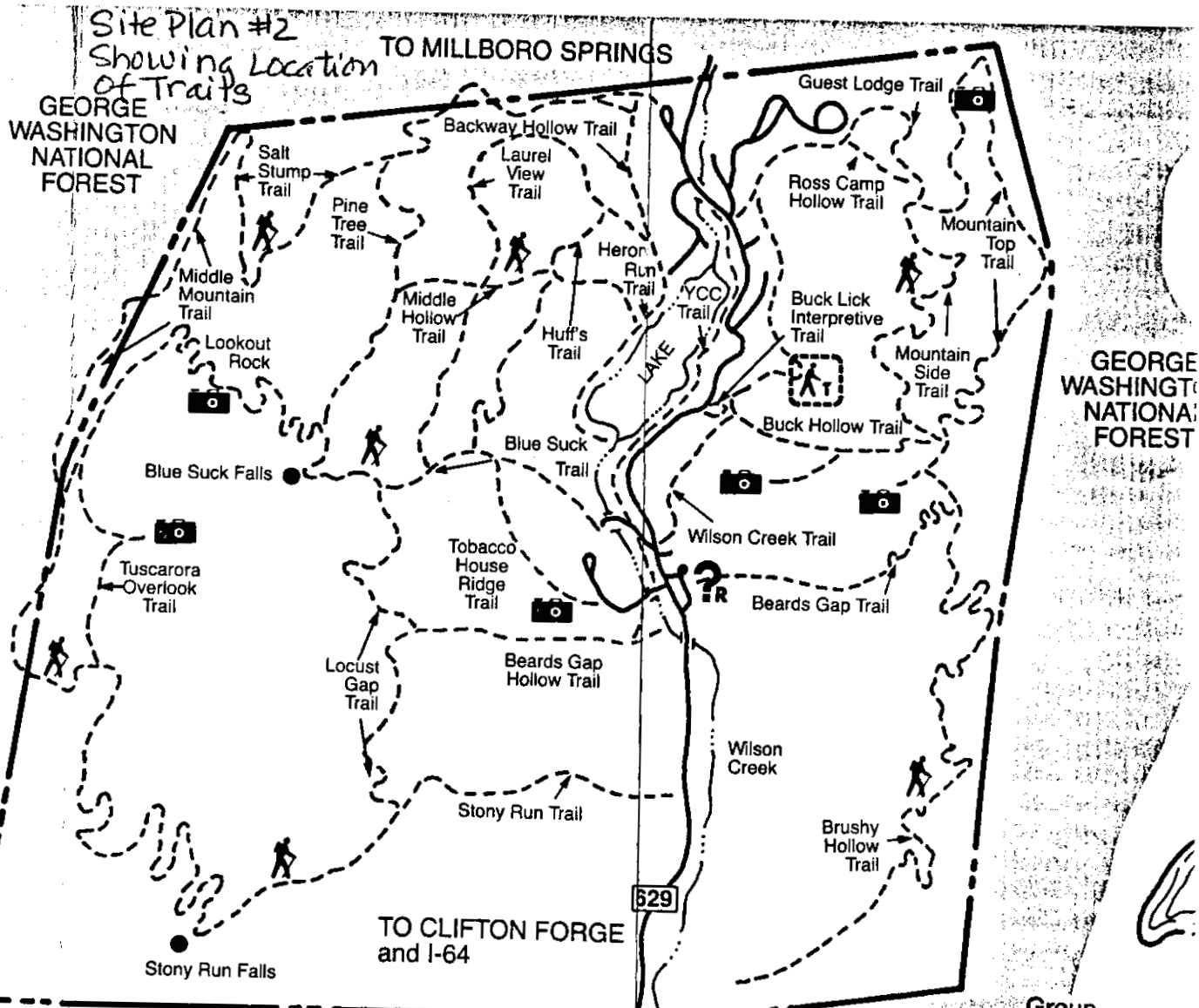
Verbal Boundary Description: Beginning at a point on the W side of VA 629 at the entrance to Douthat State Park; thence extending approx. 1100' NNW; thence approx. 1100' NW; thence approx. 1200' NE; thence approx. 1900' NW; thence approx. 1400' ESE; thence approx. 800' NE; thence approx. 2900' NNE; thence approx. 650' N; thence approx. 400' ENE; thence approx. 9900' WNW; thence approx. 7500' NNE; thence approx. 6100' ENE; thence approx. 11,600' ESE; thence approx. 3400' SSE to 2620 elevation point; thence approx. 10,600' SSW to Buckhorn Knob; thence approx. 4500' W; thence approx. 200' S; thence approx. 450' SSE; thence approx. 560' WSW; thence approx. 600' WSW; thence approx. 1000' SSW; thence approx. 650' SSE; thence approx. 1500' SSW; thence approx. 2200' S; thence approx. 1500' S; thence approx. 300' SW to point of origin.

UTMs (continued)

- I) 17-601760/4193550
- J) 17-602530/4195690
- K) 17-603650/4197160

SITE PLAN #1  
SHOWING LOCATION  
OF THREE  
CCC CAMPS  
NO DATE (c. late 1930s - early 1940s)





-  Shower
-  Store
-  Swimming
-  Park Boundary

**COLOR CODING OF THE TRAILS AT DOUTHAT STATE PARK**

- Stony Run—Orange
- Blue Suck Falls—Blue
- Owenby Overlook—Yellow
- Locust Gap—Yellow
- Beards Gap Hollow—White
- Tobacco House Ridge—Yellow

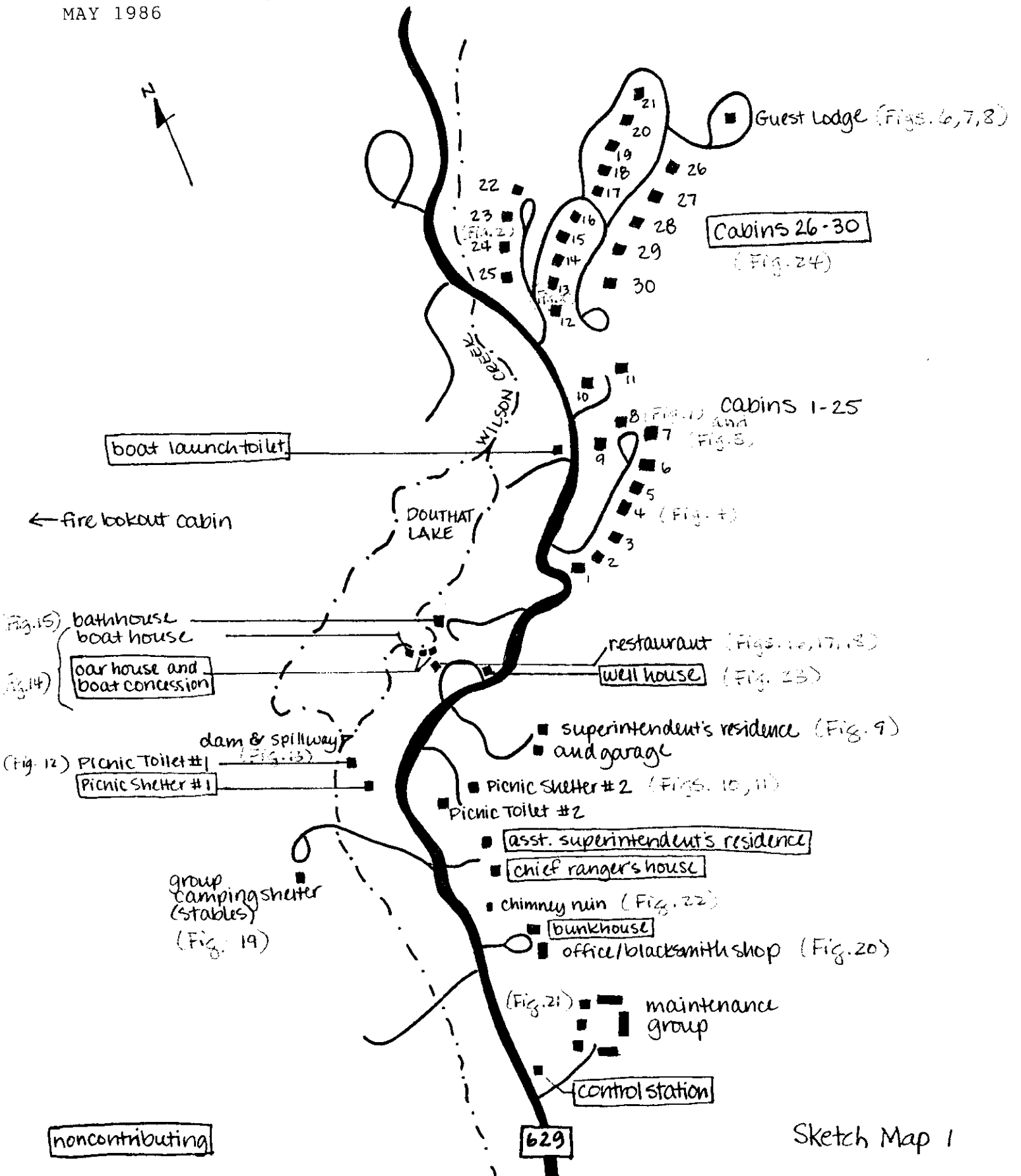
- Huff's—Gold
- Laurel View—White
- Middle Hollow—Orange
- Salt Stump—Orange
- Middle Mountain—White
- Pine Tree—Yellow
- Backway Hollow—Yellow
- Guest Lodge—Blue
- Ross Camp—Orange

- Wilson Creek—White
- Buck Lick—Red
- Buck Hollow—Blue
- Beard Gap—Blue
- Brushy Hollow—Orange
- Mountain Side—White
- Mountain Top—Yellow
- Heron Run—Blue
- YCC Trail—Blue

Group Camping

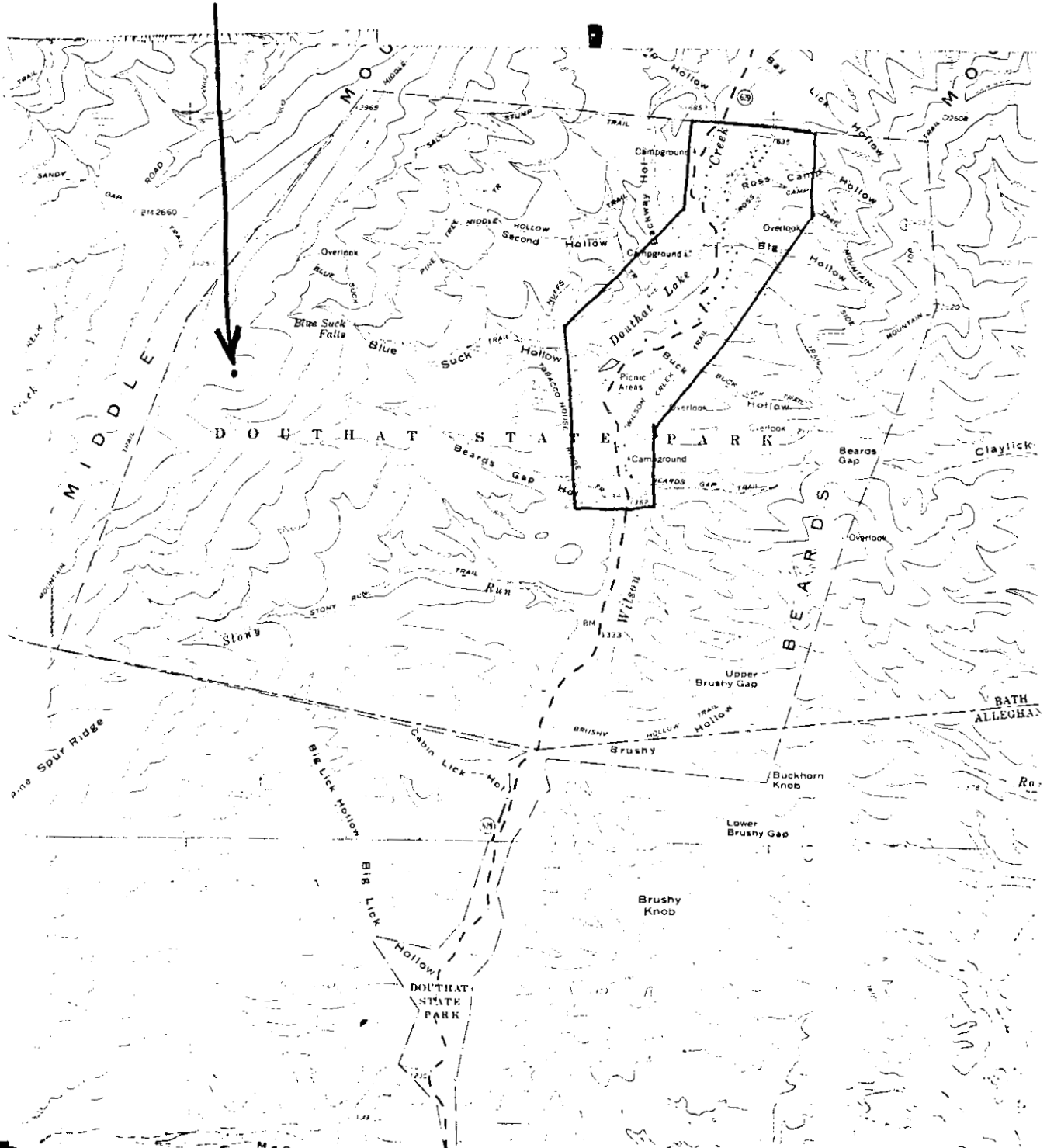


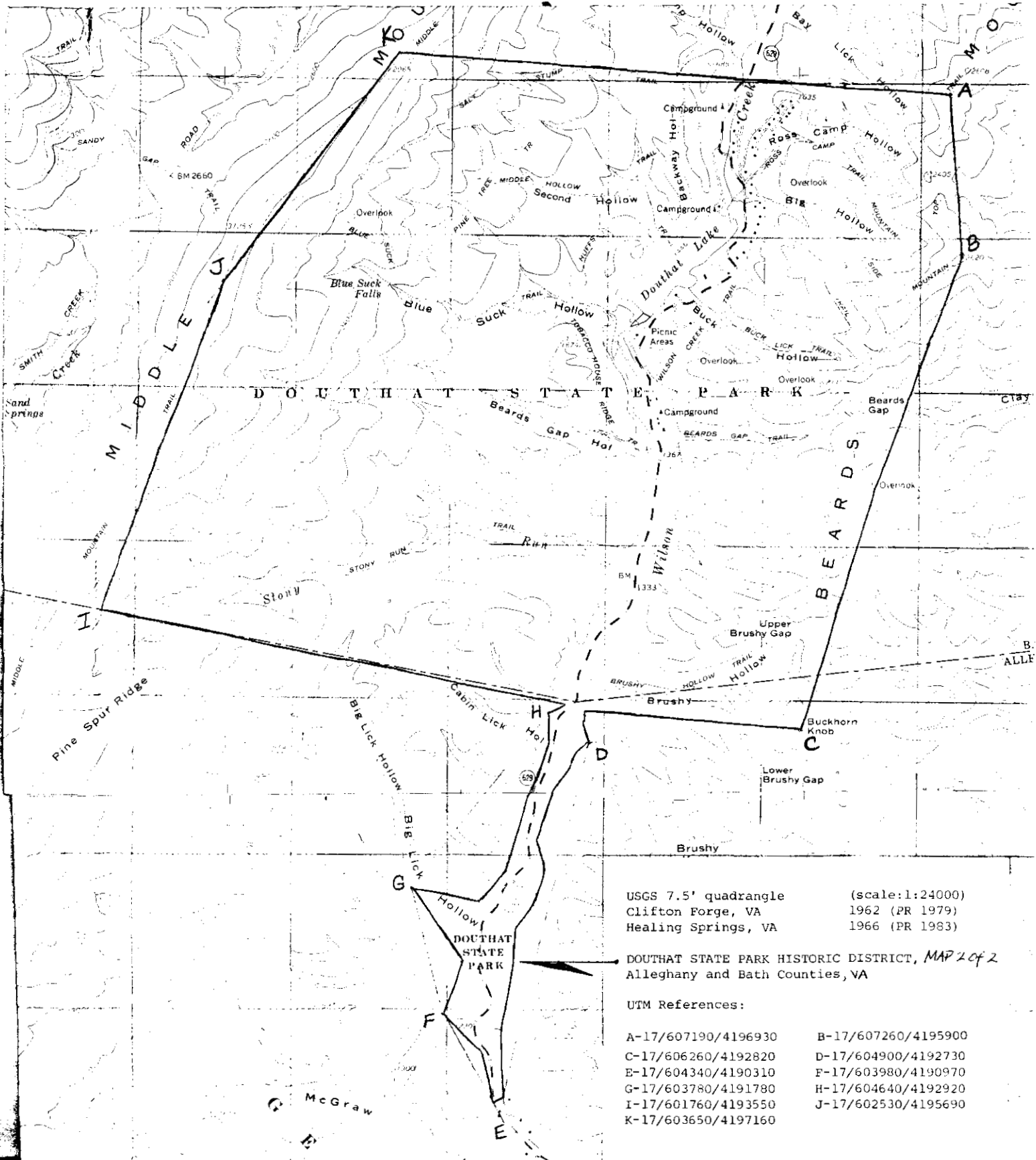
DOUTHAT STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT (DOUTHAT STATE PARK PREFERRED)  
 Sketch map showing contributing and non-contributing elements  
 Detail of park -- not to scale  
 MAY 1986



Sketch Map 1A

Fire Lookout Cabin  
Tuscarora Overlook





USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)  
 Clifton Forge, VA 1962 (PR 1979)  
 Healing Springs, VA 1966 (PR 1983)

DOUTHAT STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT, MAP 2 of 2  
 Alleghany and Bath Counties, VA

UTM References:

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A-17/607190/4196930 | B-17/607260/4195900 |
| C-17/606260/4192820 | D-17/604900/4192730 |
| E-17/604340/4190310 | F-17/603980/4190970 |
| G-17/603780/4191780 | H-17/604640/4192920 |
| I-17/601760/4193550 | J-17/602530/4195690 |
| K-17/603650/4197160 |                     |