

VA-007

**SURVEY OF
STATE-OWNED PROPERTIES:
DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION**



Prepared For:
Department of Conservation and Historic Resources
Division of Historic Landmarks
Richmond, Virginia

Prepared By:
Land and Community Associates
Charlottesville, Virginia

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INTRODUCTION

The Commonwealth of Virginia through the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources owns several historic resources, including Douthat State Park and Chippokes Plantation, that are managed by its Division of Parks and Recreation and that are already listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places. The Department also owns, however, a number of other historic resources that prior to initiation of this survey had never been documented or evaluated. This survey has consisted of a survey of the holdings of the Commonwealth through its institutions of higher education (including a resurvey of some of the currently-listed buildings and their immediate environs).

PROJECT PURPOSE AND GOALS

The purpose and intent of this survey was to document all state-owned buildings and landscapes, forty years old or older, and owned by the Commonwealth's Department of Conservation and Historic Resources, to determine which may be deemed eligible for nomination to the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. The survey has been undertaken to reduce the uncertainties that have existed regarding the eligibility of state-owned properties for placement on the state and national registers.

This survey was conducted concurrently with a similar survey of all properties, forty years old or older, and owned by the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources. The major goal associated with both surveys was to improve the level of protection of state-owned architectural/historic resources in Virginia through identification and evaluation. Related survey objectives included preparation of historic contexts, state survey forms, mapping of locations of historic resources, and documentary black and white and color slide photography. The scope of work for the survey did not include any survey of archaeological resources on state-owned lands.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

In accordance with the guidelines for survey outlined in *Bulletin #24* (of the National Register of Historic Places, U. S. National Park Service, Department of the Interior) several historic contexts were developed initially under the social/cultural,

government/welfare, and military themes. The historic contexts developed outline the development of state parks in Virginia from the 1920s to the present day and the influence of national parks and the Civilian Conservation Corps. A minor military context also has been developed for two properties associated with Civil War battles. The contexts provided the basis for development of survey strategies for additional research and field work. Field work was organized geographically and by historic context. Each property was evaluated for its applicability to the historic contexts, according to its ability to meet the criteria established for the National Register of Historic Places, and for its physical integrity. Finally, the initial historic contexts were revised and supplemented based on the results of field work and additional research conducted during the survey.

Criteria for the Virginia Landmarks Register

The Commonwealth of Virginia has established the following criteria for the Virginia Landmarks Register:

No structure or site shall be deemed to be a historic one unless it has been prominently identified with, or best represents, some major aspect of the cultural, political, economic, military, or social history of the State or nation, or has had a relationship with the life of an historic personage or event representing some major aspect of, or ideals related to, the history of the State or nation. In the case of structures which are to be so designated, they shall embody the principal or unique features of an architectural style or demonstrate the style of a period of our history or method of construction, or serve as an illustration of the work of a master builder, designer or architect whose genius influenced the period in which he worked or has significance in current times. In order for a site to qualify as an archaeological site, it shall be an area from which it is reasonable to expect that artifacts, materials, and other specimens may be found which give insight to an understanding of aboriginal man or the Colonial and early history and architecture of the State or nation.

Criteria for the National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places list properties that possess "quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture that is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history."

SURVEY SOURCES AND PRODUCTS

This report summarizes the main findings and recommendations of the survey. To obtain a complete understanding of the nature of the resources investigated and evaluated in the survey, the reader may need to become familiar with the additional materials collected, compiled, and consulted during the course of the survey. These materials include but are not necessarily limited to the following:

- a complete DHL file envelope for each property (each file envelope contains at a minimum a completed DHL survey form; labeled black and white documentation photographs in a labeled envelope; and a copy of a USGS map showing the location of the property; some envelopes may also contain the following:
 - supplementary information such as copies of news articles, scholarly papers, etc. that were collected and consulted during the survey;

- field notes from observations and interviews that may contain information not to be included on the DHL form but which may be useful in future investigations or evaluations;
- additional bibliographical data;
- sketches, maps and other graphics prepared during the survey to document or analyze the property and its resources
- copies of historic photographs
- copies of available maps and brochures (both contemporary and historic) documenting the property
- selected color 35 mm slides documenting the properties surveyed and relevant features and conditions, and
- a scripted presentation to be given orally with accompanying slides that documents the findings of the survey

SUMMARY OF SURVEY FINDINGS AND RESULTS

This survey has resulted in the documentation and evaluation of 297 individual buildings, structures, and landscape elements owned by the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources. Of these approximately 280 are believed to be eligible for the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places as contributing resources within a historic district or as part of a thematic nomination related to the historic contexts they represent. As a result of this survey it is anticipated that a thematic nomination could be prepared resulting in the creation of eight new districts.

SOCIAL/CULTURAL THEME: STATE PARKS IN VIRGINIA

The State Parks Movement In The United States: Background, 1864-1926

Although the establishment of the state parks did not begin in earnest in the United States until after the First World War, several events critical to the development of state parks occurred in the period between the end of the Civil War and the outbreak of World War I. Of particular significance was the birth of the national park movement that began with the establishment of Yellowstone National Park in 1872 and eventually led to the passage of the National Parks Act and the formation of the National Park Service in 1916. Many of the National Park Service's most significant properties were acquired during this period, including Sequoia, Yosemite, and General Grant national parks in California (1890), Mount Ranier National Park in Washington (1899), the Grand Canyon in Arizona (1908), and Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado (1915).

The initial emphasis of the national parks was on the acquisition of property with unique scenic value. However, with the passage of the Antiquities Act of 1906 the definition of significance was expanded to include properties of historic and scientific importance, such as the Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado, an area occupied by Indian cultures from the time of Christ until 1300.¹ Although there were several important distinctions between the national park movement and the later state park movement, the development of the National Park System provided an important impetus and model for the creation of state parks. First of all, the national parks sparked new pride and interest among Americans in the spectacular natural and historic resources of their land. Second, as in the case of the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, the presence of national parks created a new awareness of the social and economic benefits that could result from the creation of large outdoor parks.² Finally, officials and staff from the National Park Service would later come to play an important role in the creation and development of state parks in the majority of states, including Virginia.

¹ Norman Newton, *Design on the Land*. (Cambridge, Mass: The Belknap Press of the Harvard University Press, 1971), 527.

² Stephen H. Lotspeich, "The Design Intentions and the Planning Process of the Virginia CCC State Park Master Plans, 1933-1942," (Master's thesis, University of Virginia, May, 1984), 17.

The very earliest state park was the Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Big Tree Grove, which was deeded to the state of California for "public use, resort and recreation" in 1864, thus predating the subsequent development of state parks in any other state by at least twenty years.³ Frederick Law Olmsted, a member of the Yosemite Commission, prepared a report to the California state legislature in which he posed a powerful argument for the benefits of setting aside land for the use and enjoyment of the public. At the time it was written Olmsted's report gained little attention or support; in fact, the last of the Yosemite Park lands were returned to the United States government as a national park in 1890. However, more than fifty years later Olmsted's Yosemite report, one of the first declarations of support for the conservation of natural resources and the rights of the public to enjoy them, came to be recognized as "one of the most significant historic documents in what came to be the state park movement."⁴

At the onset of World War I, state parks had been created in about one third of the states, though only five had created any kind of larger "system" of parks.⁵ The state of New York, with the creation of the Niagara Falls Reservation and the Adirondack State Forest in 1885, was the first state to act in support of the protection and conservation of natural resources on a larger scale.⁶ In 1907 Wisconsin formed a state parks board and hired landscape architect John Nolen to prepare a comprehensive state park study. The California Redwood State Park was created in 1918, after several attempts by California to set up a park system. Other states that had made some progress in the development of a statewide organization of parks before World War I included Indiana, Illinois, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania.⁷

Several factors led to the increase of interest in state parks in the period from the end of World War I through the the Depression and the development of the New Deal. One major impetus was the increasing popularity of the automobile. According to Norman Newton, author of *Design on the Land*,

The impact of the automobile, which slowly but surely had been making the American People more mobile, was highly intensified

³ Newton, 555.

⁴ Ibid., 536.

⁵ Ibid., 563.

⁶ Lotspeich, 3.

⁷ Phoebe Cutler, *The Public Landscape of the New Deal* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985), 64.

at the end of the War by the installment sales of cars. To a degree unknown in earlier years, the American family started taking to the road, and the demand for outdoor recreational areas shot upward accordingly.⁸

The car provided the average American with a way to get to a state or national park either for a Sunday outing or an overnight trip. The increased interest in state parks was compounded by a growing interest in auto-camping in the first decades of the 20th century. Initially, campers set up their tents in municipal camps or simply along the side of the road. By the early 1920s, however, the deteriorating quality of municipal camps along with safety problems related to increased automobile traffic led many campers to the state parks.⁹

A second important factor in the development of the state parks movement was the first National Conference on State Parks, held in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1921. Stephen Mather, the first director of the National Park Service, is credited as the originator of this conference. Mather's interest in the state parks came in part from the same philosophy that guided his work for the national parks: a belief in the value of making outdoor natural and recreational resources available to the public.¹⁰ However, he also saw state parks as a useful complement to the National Park System. At the Des Moines conference, Mather promoted the establishment of a nationwide system of state parks as an essential safety valve to protect the newly formed national park system from overuse. In addition, the creation of state parks was an ideal way to use some of the less desirable sites being donated for use as national parks.

With the help of Iowa governor W. L. Harding, Mather assembled over two hundred participants, representing twenty-five states, to discuss and plan the future role of the state park. The Des Moines Conference had several important results. First, it led to the foundation of the National Conference on State Parks, which has provided an annual forum for the exchange of ideas about state parks ever since. Second, this first conference helped to bring together representatives from the National Park Service with local and state park officials—a relationship that would play a critical role in the

⁸ Newton, 564.

⁹ Sara A. Leach and Kathleen A. Kelly, *Douthat State Park Historic District Nomination*, 1986 (DHL File Number 08-136), 2.

¹⁰ Lotspeich, 10.

formation of a nationwide system of state parks that occurred in the period spanning the New Deal and outbreak of World War II.¹¹ Most importantly, the Des Moines meeting provided the impetus for an immediate resurgence of interest in the formation of state parks. In the five years following this conference, new parks were created in twenty states. Between 1921 and 1927, seventeen states created their first state park board or commission; several states, including New York (1927) and California (1928), prepared long term development plans for state park systems.¹²

The Development Of State Parks In Virginia: 1921-1933

The development of the Virginia state park system occurred relatively late in the history of the state parks movement; indeed, Virginia was not even represented at the Des Moines Conference in 1921. However, throughout the 1920s political and popular support for a state park system in Virginia grew considerably. The establishment in 1926 of the Shenandoah National Park located in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains led to a "new awareness of the value of parks from a social and economic standpoint" causing increased local interest in the creation of state parks.¹³ That same year the Commonwealth of Virginia established the Virginia State Commission on Conservation and Development with William E. Carson as its first chairman. Simultaneously, the General Assembly enacted legislation authorizing the creation of state parks in Virginia by providing for

the acquisition, preservation, development and maintenance of areas, properties, land or estates of scenic beauty, recreational utility, historical interest, remarkable phenomena, or other unusual features. Such acquisitions and developments were declared to be used for the use, observation, education, health and pleasure of the people.¹⁴

In 1929 Chairman Carson voiced publicly his support for the creation of a state park to be located on Virginia's seashore. At talks given to various civic organizations during that year Carson argued that a coastal park would best complement the Shenandoah

¹¹ Ibid., 11.

¹² Newton, 565.

¹³ Lotspeich, 17.

¹⁴ Association of Southeastern State Park Directors, *Histories of Southeastern State Park Systems*, 1977, 18.

National Park, located in the mountains.¹⁵ In response to Chairman Carson's proposal, the Seashore State Park Association was founded in Norfolk in the spring of 1929. Simultaneously with the movement for a park in the Tidewater area, support developed in Southwest Virginia for the establishment of an interstate park between Virginia and Kentucky at the Breaks of Cumberland. Finally, on December 17, 1929, a meeting was held in Richmond under the sponsorship of the Virginia Academy of Science, the Garden Clubs of Virginia, and the Isaac Walton League. Together, these organizations put together a series of resolutions in support of the establishment of a state park system, and presented them to governor-elect John Garland Pollard. In June 1930, in response to these various demonstrations of support for the creation of state parks, the State Commission on Conservation and Development hired Robert E. Burson as the head of the Division of Landscape Engineering. Burson's first assignment was to make a comprehensive study of state park systems in the eastern United States, including "every phase of development, operation, maintenance and administration."¹⁶ Following the study, Burson was to tour the state of Virginia and prepare a map showing suggested areas in which state parks might be located.

During the first three years in his new position Burson laid the groundwork for the development of the Virginia state park system. During July 1930 Burson visited the state park systems in Michigan, Indiana, and New York, spending one week at each and incorporating his observations into a report for the Commission on Conservation and Development. In 1930 Burson began to prepare the plans for the reconstruction of George Washington's Grist Mill, in Fairfax County, to commemorate the Washington Bicentennial Celebration of 1932. The Grist Mill, Virginia's first state park, was acquired by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1932. Throughout 1931 and 1932 Burson toured all of the regions of Virginia seeking potential sites for state parks. During this time Burson also actively promoted the idea of a state park system through talks at garden clubs and civic groups all over the state.¹⁷ In 1932 Burson hosted the National Conference on State Parks at Virginia Beach, boosting support for both Carson's idea of a Seashore State Park and a statewide system of parks for Virginia. By the spring of 1933, on the eve of the enactment of the New Deal, Burson had completed preliminary plans for a state park system to serve all regions of the state. The system was to include the formation of six new parks: Seashore and

¹⁵ Lotspeich, 3.

¹⁶ Wilbur C. Hall, "Virginia's State Parks" *The University of Virginia Newsletter*, 13 (1937): 1.

¹⁷ Lotspeich, 24.

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 of Virginia, and Douthat State Park to serve both the mountain and valley regions.¹⁸ (fig. 1)

¹⁸ Leach and Kelly, Douthat State Park Historic District Nomination, continuation sheet 17.

The Creation And Organization Of State Parks In Virginia

By June 1936 the six original parks were opened to the public. Spread throughout all the regions of the state, these parks created a solid backbone for the future development of the state parks system, setting important precedents in both their design and development. Since that time Virginia's park system has continued to grow and branch out in new directions through the acquisition of historic properties, natural areas, and a wide variety of recreational facilities with the Division of Parks and Recreation currently operating a total of thirty-nine parks. (see appendix 2)

THE SIX ORIGINAL PARKS

The decisive boost for Virginia's state parks occurred on April 5, 1933, with the enactment of the Emergency Conservation Work Act , one of the many innovative programs of President Roosevelt's New Deal. As a part of the ECW program a fund of ten million dollars was established in the treasury for "the emergency construction of public buildings."¹⁹ Robert Fechner, a prominent labor leader, was appointed director of this program. The creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps twelve days later, on April 17, provided the means to carry out the ECW program.²⁰ This bill gave the president the authority to enlist a civilian conservation corps of unemployed youths between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five to work on a variety of public works including the development of state and national parks.

With the promise of funds and manpower from New Deal legislation, Virginia, along with many other states, acted quickly to develop its state parks. Having already researched and prepared preliminary plans for a state park system, the Commission on Conservation and Development needed only to acquire land on which to locate the parks. Following Burson's recommendations about the location of the parks the commission set out to secure property in each of the approved regions through donations of land and money. As a result of these efforts "the majority of park property was so donated by public spirited citizens which had the foresight to see the tremendous advantage of a park in their community."²¹ In addition, the General

¹⁹ Perry H. Merrill, *Roosevelt's Forest Army: A History of the Civilian Conservation Corps*. (Barre, Vt., Published by Perry H. Merrill, 1981), 7.

²⁰ Newton, 577.

²¹ Hall, "Virginia's State Parks," 1.

Assembly appropriated \$50,000 to "round out the system's properties." By 1933 the Virginia Commission on Conservation and Development had acquired the following six properties:

Douthat State Park, located in the Alleghany Mountains four miles north of Clifton Forge, was the first recreational park to be acquired by the commonwealth. This park, described in 1937 as "one of the most outstanding examples of Virginia mountain scenery,"²² is situated in a valley between two ridges and cut from north to south by Wilson Creek. The land on which Douthat State Park is located was originally part of a 105,000-acre parcel of land granted to Robert Douthat by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1795. In 1933 a total of 1,920 acres was donated to the state by the Douthat Land Company, a consortium of Virginia businessmen, for use as a state park. The subsequent acquisition of properties adjacent to this parcel during the following year brought the park up to its current 4,493 acres. Later in the 1930s, two thousand acres of land adjacent to the park became part of the George Washington National Forest, greatly enhancing the desirability of the Douthat site.²³

Seashore State Park was the first recreational state park to be proposed. Support for the establishment of Seashore State Park began as early as 1929, when Chairman William Carson began pushing the idea of a seashore park to complement the Shenandoah National Park. Soon after, the Seashore State Park Association was founded in Norfolk to encourage the idea, and as early as 1930 a beachfront area one mile north of Cape Henry was selected as the ideal site for the park. This site had historical importance as well as natural beauty: the colonists who established Jamestown in 1607 had first landed at Cape Henry on April 26, 1607. The Cape Henry site remained state property until 1886, when it was sold to private owners.²⁴ In 1933 it was returned to the Commonwealth of Virginia when the Cape Henry Syndicate of Norfolk donated 1,100 acres in fee simple for Seashore State Park, giving the commission an option on about 2,300 additional acres. The park has two water frontages: one on the Chesapeake Bay, and the other on a series of lakes known as Lynnhaven Inlet, Broad Bay, Linkhorn Bay, and Crystal Lake.

²² Ibid.

²³ Lotspeich, 52-54.

²⁴ Ibid., 19.

Hungry Mother State Park is located in Smyth County, two and a half miles north of Marion, Virginia. This land was owned by the Copenhaver family from about 1800 until 1929, when Frank Copenhaver, along with local residents E. P. Ellis and J. D. Buchanan, received a charter from the State Corporation Commission to build a recreational area on the banks of the Hungry Mother Creek. Lake Forest, Inc., the first recreational complex in Smyth County, featured a "small lake, a bathhouse, a diving platform, with diving board, a picnic area and a dance pavilion, and a parking lot for 200 cars."²⁵ This complex, located in what is now the middle of the lake, was in operation for three years. When a state park was proposed for Southwest Virginia, several stockholders of the Lake Forest corporation, along with "several other public spirited citizens of the Town of Marion and Smyth County" influenced the donation of this land to the Commonwealth of Virginia.²⁶ In 1933 the corporate charter of Lake Forest was revoked, making possible the construction of a state park in that location. Two small adjacent tracts comprising about fifteen acres were also purchased.

Staunton River State Park is located in Halifax, Mecklenburg, and Charlotte counties, on a point of land situated on the confluence of the Dan and Staunton rivers. The Commonwealth of Virginia purchased the land outright; the counties of Halifax, Charlotte, and Mecklenburg contributed \$2,500 in the aggregate to the project. This area was reputedly used by the Occaneechee Indians as trading quarters, and is the site of one of their last battles.

Fairy Stone State Park is located in Patrick County, twelve miles west of Bassett, nineteen miles from Martinsville, and eight miles from Stuart. The land for the park, embracing nearly five thousand acres, was donated to the state by Junius Blair Fishburn, of Roanoke, in May 1933. The land, which is covered with valuable hardwood timber, is also the site of an iron mine abandoned after the Civil War. The fifth park property to be acquired, this land was donated in fee simple, along with all mineral rights, a water power site, and a twelve-mile right-of-way.

Westmoreland State Park is located on the Potomac River between Wakefield, the birthplace of George Washington, and Stratford, the birthplace of General Robert E. Lee. The 1,226 acres on which the park is located, including water frontage of one

²⁵ Mack H. Sturgill, *Hungry Mother: History and Legends* (Marion, Va., Tucker Printing, 1986), 41.

²⁶ Hall, "State Parks in Virginia," 1.

and a fourth miles, was originally part of the Stratford estate. The parkland was purchased outright by the state; Westmoreland County donated an additional tract of land to be used as a right-of-way from the state highway to the park. A 1937 article described the park as follows: "The beach is one of the most perfect in Eastern America, being composed of sand and shell of a gently shelving character. The trees come almost to the water's edge, merging with a cliff background that makes it quite picturesque."²⁷

RECREATIONAL DEMONSTRATION AREAS

Recreational Demonstration Areas were established as a part of the Federal Emergency Relief Land Program of 1934. Under this program, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (and later the Resettlement Administration) purchased blighted agricultural land, resettled the farmer, and reforested poor quality land using CCC labor. The reforested land, thus restored to productivity, was referred to as a "demonstration area." By the mid-1930s some of the submarginal land identified and acquired by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration was also being used by the National Park Service for the development of a series of prototypical parks catering to the poor and underprivileged. These parks, called Recreational Demonstration Areas, were intended to be located within fifty miles of a major city, to provide accessible group camping facilities for children from urban areas. Forty-six Recreational Development Areas were created throughout the United States. After each area was developed, it was turned over to state and local governments, or to federal agencies, to operate.²⁸

Swift Creek (later renamed **Pocahontas State Park**), just twenty miles south of Richmond near Chesterfield Court House, was one of two recreation demonstration areas developed by the National Park Service in Virginia during the 1930s. Located on land that had been formerly used to grow tobacco, this park was developed in the early 1930s by the National Park Service in cooperation with CCC camps located in Chesterfield County. When Swift Creek first opened in the summer of 1936, it offered three new lakes, numerous buildings, and miles of road. That very first summer, more than 100,000 people visited the park. According to Phoebe Cutler, author of *Public*

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Newton, 589.

Landscape of the New Deal, Swift Creek, of all the RDAs, subscribed most "convincingly to the stated intent of serving the disadvantaged and handicapped,"²⁹ by providing numerous recreational opportunities including camping, child care, a nature and crafts center, swimming lessons, games, and supervised equipment for thousands of children from Richmond, Hopewell, and Petersburg. Swift Creek was tremendously popular. As one satisfied visitor explained in 1938, "Most places, you know, are for people who have plenty of time and money to enjoy them. But Swift Creek is convenient to a lot of us who couldn't go any other place."³⁰ In 1946 Swift Creek was transferred from the National Park Service to the Virginia Conservation Commission, and its name was changed to Pocahontas State Park.

A second recreation demonstration area, Chopawamsic RDA, was developed at the same time as Swift Creek RDA in Triangle, Virginia. Unlike Swift Creek, Chopawamsic (now known as Price William Forest Park) was never transferred to the state and is still operated by the National Park Service. This park, which continues to provide day-use and overnight facilities for both group and private use, is currently being nominated by the National Park Service to the National Register of Historic Places.

FORESTRY DIVISION RECREATION AREAS

In 1939 the Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation (at that time called the Division of Parks) assumed the operation four recreational areas that had been developed in the 1930s by the State Division of Forestry on land held by the United States Department of Agriculture. These were **Bear Creek, Holliday Lake, Prince Edward Lake, and Goodwin Lake State Parks** (the latter two were merged in the 1980s to form Twin Lakes State Park). These parks were originally part of large tracts of submarginal land in Buckingham, Appomattox, Cumberland, and Prince Edward counties that had been acquired by the United States Department of Agriculture as a part of the resettlement program. These areas were designated as state forests and deeded to the Commonwealth of Virginia in the early 1930s. Several CCC camps under the direction of the National Forest Service (a branch of the USDA) were

²⁹ Cutler, 74.

³⁰ Ibid.

stationed on this land to work on reforestation and timber management projects.³¹ These CCC camps were also responsible for the development of the four recreation areas located on this land.³²

It was not uncommon for CCC camps controlled by the National Forest Service to be involved in the development of recreational areas in national and state forests. Indeed, in 1934 the Forest Service formally proposed to the Director of the CCC, Robert Fechner, that they be allowed to use the CCC camps under their direction to participate in the same type of recreational development conducted by the National Park Service through the state park program. Fechner authorized this arrangement the same year. However, National Park Service staff objected strongly to this infringement on their territory. Soon after Fechner's authorization acting National Park Service Director Arthur Demaray expressed his fierce opposition in a letter to the Secretary of the Interior. This letter recommended that "(1) Necessary steps be taken to secure cancellation of the authorization granted the Forest Service and (2) the Forest Service be prohibited from developing intensive recreational areas on national and state forests."³³ Demaray cited the Forestry Service's lack of technical and design expertise as the primary reasons that they should not be allowed to participate in recreation related projects. Fechner attempted to reconcile the two departments, but neither the Forestry Service nor the Park Service would agree to any compromise. Consequently, despite the Parks Service's consternation the Forestry Service continued to develop recreation areas (such as the ones in Virginia) for the next decade.³⁴

Originally, Bear Creek, Holliday Lake, Prince Edward Lake, and Goodwin Lake recreation areas were developed for day-use; each featured lake access, picnic shelters, and play equipment, but had no cabin or camping facilities. With the exception of Prince Edward which was the first of the recreation areas to be given park status, the others remained day-use facilities until the 1970s and 1980s, when they

³¹ According to an article by James E. Ward and Treadwell Davison ("The CCC Camps in Virginia," The University of Virginia Newsletter II (1934): 1) as early as 1934 CCC Camp P-56 was located in Buckingham County, and P-62 in Prince Edward County.

³² Merrill, 186.

³³ John C. Paige, *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History* , (Washington, D.C., National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1985) 62-63.

³⁴ John C. Paige, 62.

also were upgraded to state park status with the addition of campgrounds and shower facilities.

In 1949 the Division of Parks and Recreation began developing Prince Edward Recreation Area into a segregated state park for blacks. Improvements undertaken at this time included the construction of an enlarged swimming area, expanded parking lots, new roads, six housekeeping cabins, a bathhouse, and a concession area. At the same time, Goodwin Lake Recreation Area (located adjacent to Prince Edward) was officially made a segregated facility for whites. Although it appears that the other Virginia's state parks were limited to use by whites, Goodwin Lake and Prince Edward Lake are the the only known examples of the creation of intentionally "separate but equal" state park facilities in Virginia. Despite the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Prince Edward and Goodwin Lake Parks remained largely segregated by race until 1986, when the two parks were merged to form Twin Lakes State Park. The following year, because both blacks and whites continued to frequent their traditionally segregated areas, the concession and beach area at Prince Edward Lake were closed, and day-use facilities consolidated at what was traditionally Goodwin Lake. Currently the concession and beach area at Prince Edward sit empty and unused; they may be rented out to private groups in the future.³⁵

HISTORICAL PARKS

According to the General Assembly act of 1926 that created the state park system, one of the four primary purposes of the Division of Parks and Recreation is to serve the people of Virginia through "preserving, protecting, and portraying historic and scientific sites of statewide importance." Although historic parks have certainly not been the focus of park development, the Division of Parks and Recreation has since 1932 managed the operations at several historic properties. Historical sites currently maintained by the division are **George Washington's Grist Mill**, in Fairfax (1932), **Sayler's Creek Battlefield Park**, in Amelia and Prince Edward counties (1937), **Shot Tower Historical Park**, in Wythe County (1954), and the **Southwest Virginia Museum**, in Big Stone Gap (1943). The **Staunton River Bridge Battlefield** is controlled by the Division of Parks and Recreation, but is currently undeveloped. **Chippokes Plantation**, which is on the National Register of Historic

³⁵ Richard Groover, Communication Chief, Division of Parks and Recreation, interview, December 1987.

Places, was acquired by the division in 1967, and is being developed as a recreational park rather than a historic park.

The George Washington Grist Mill was originally part of Mount Vernon Plantation, the residence of George Washington from 1761 to 1799. Soon after Washington acquired the property, he decided to rebuild the existing mill, and construction began in 1770. This new mill operated with two pairs of stones and ground both corn and wheat. Traditionally, Mount Vernon had produced tobacco, but with the new mill Washington found wheat to be a more successful crop. Indeed the development of Washington's mill is representative of the general transition from tobacco to wheat in Northern Virginia that occurred during this period. Washington operated the mill for the next three decades, including the eight years of his presidency. Washington's diary indicates his great interest in the mill, which he visited daily when at home until his death in 1799.³⁶ During the next fifty years the mill changed hands several times, until falling into disrepair by 1850.

Interest in reconstructing George Washington's grist mill began in the early 1930s, as part of the plans for the Washington Bicentennial Celebration of 1932. In 1932 the Virginia Conservation Commission purchased the property, which included seven acres of land and the ruins of the mill's foundation, and donated it to the Commonwealth of Virginia. That same year, Robert Burson prepared a master plan for the development of the site.³⁷ The mill was reconstructed during the 1930s based on sketches and written descriptions of the property made in the 1800s. An archaeological excavation was conducted to gain additional information on the mill's construction, and to determine its original location. Equipment inside the reconstructed mill was brought from another mill of approximately the same period. Currently, the site features interpretive displays of the mill, the miller's house (also reconstructed), and mill-related machinery, as well as a picnic area and visitor center. Recent evidence indicates an earlier mill was located on the opposite side of Dogue Run from the present reconstruction.³⁸

³⁶ Alan Burton Clarke. "Famous Grist Mill Restored at Mount Vernon", Richmond Times Dispatch, 6 (date unavailable-clipping from Division of Parks, Richmond Virginia).

³⁷ Division of Parks, Master Plan Inventory.

³⁸ Site Visit, park brochure.

The Shot Tower is located in Wythe County, Virginia, on the banks of the New River. The tower was built in 1807 by Thomas Jackson, the part owner of a local lead mine, to produce shot for the local militia. The tower was located on Jackson's land rather than at the mines in Austinville, to prevent controversies from developing between Jackson and Davis Pierce, the other part owner of the mine. The tower is located high on a hill overlooking the New River, and can be seen clearly from U. S. Route 52. The base of the tower is twenty feet square, and it stands seventy feet tall. The two-and-a-half-foot thick walls of the tower were built from limestone quarried about one mile away. A seventy-five-foot shaft was sunk from the bottom floor of the tower through the bank on which it sits to the level of the river below. The shot was made by melting metal in a large cauldron located at the very top of the tower and pouring it down through the hollow inside of the tower and the shaft below into a kettle filled with water from the river.

The tower was donated to the Lead Mines Ruritan Club in the early 1960s by a descendant of Thomas Jackson (also named Thomas Jackson) who still owns a farm adjacent to the seven-acre Shot Tower site. In 1964 the Ruritan Club donated the site to the Commonwealth of Virginia and in 1968, after extensive renovation, the site was opened to the public. This property was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1968 and was designated a historic landmark by the American Society of Landscape Engineers in 1981. The tower is currently planned to be part of the New River Trail State Park which has been made possible through the creation of scenic easements along the New River.³⁹

Sayler's Creek Battlefield, located in Amelia and Prince Edward counties, is the site of the last major battle of the Civil War, which took place on April 6, 1865, three days before confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox. In this historic battle General Robert E. Lee lost over 8,000 men. Sayler's Creek is also the site of the story-and-a-half Hillsman House built in 1770 for Moses Overton. Apparently, this house was used as a hospital for both Confederate and Union soldiers. This two-hundred-and-twenty-acre property was acquired by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1937 through donation and a negotiated sale. The park currently has no visitor facilities other than an interpretive auto route that runs through

³⁹ Park ranger, New River Trail State Park, interview 1/88; parks division informational brochure.

the site along route 617. The battlefield and the Hillsman House were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

The Southwest Virginia Museum is located on the corner of West First Street and Wood Avenue, in Big Stone Gap, Virginia. The large, three-story house constructed of native, rough-cut stone with dressed headers was built as a residence by Rufus Ayers in 1893. Ayers, who had served as attorney general of Virginia from 1886 to 1890, came to Big Stone Gap as part of a wave of speculators who were lured to the area in the 1890s by the discovery of abundant natural resources including coal and iron. The Ayers house is just one, albeit the most impressive one, of several grand houses built in Big Stone Gap by speculators during this period. The property, which also includes a notable brick carriage house, was donated to the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1943 by J. Bascom Slemp, the last resident of the house and a former Congressman from Virginia's Ninth District. Currently, the museum houses Mr. Slemp's extensive collection of historical artifacts of the history, culture, and industry of Southwest Virginia.⁴⁰

POST-WORLD-WAR-II RECREATIONAL PARKS

With the outbreak of World War II, progress in the development of a state park system halted abruptly. The state parks were not open for visitation in 1943; although they did reopen in 1944 and 1945, attendance was sparse. By the late 1940s, however, with the return of the GIs and the beginning of the baby boom, attendance at the state parks rose dramatically, and the Division of Parks and Recreation resumed active operations and made plans for the creation of new parks. After acquiring the Swift Creek RDA in 1946 the state in cooperation with the citizens of Radford and Pulaski purchased four hundred and thirty-eight acres in Pulaski County for the development of **Claytor Lake State Park** in 1948. This property also includes the 1876 brick Howe House (currently the park administration building) located on the banks of what is now Claytor Lake. The Radford Chamber of Commerce developed the park with minimal facilities, and operated it through 1951. The Division of Parks and Recreation began operating the park during the 1951 season.

⁴⁰ Site visit, park informational brochure.

In 1966 after a lengthy hiatus in park development further encouragement was given in the form of the Virginia Outdoors Plan, a long-range program authorized by the General Assembly. This plan, called *Virginia's Common Wealth*, was the product of the Virginia Outdoor Recreation Study Commission. Focusing on the modern-day problems of population growth and increasing urbanization, this plan proposed the acquisition of land for thirty-six new recreational parks, and the actual development of twenty parks in the next decade. In the decade after this plan was mandated, the Division of Parks and Recreation developed eight new recreational parks, including **Chippokes Plantation** (1967), **Grayson Highlands** (purchased 1965), **Mason Neck** (1967), **Natural Tunnel** (1967), **Oconneechee** (1968), **Sky Meadows** (1975), **Smith Mountain Lake** (1967), **York River** (1969), and **Lake Anna** (1972). Currently under development is **Leesylvania State Park**.

Of these newer parks, four are also the sites of one or more historic buildings. **Grayson Highlands State Park** was originally the site of several small mountain farms. The Commonwealth of Virginia acquired this property in 1965 through condemnation and negotiated sale from the original owners, many of whom were resettled on other farms in the area. Consequently, there are several visible remnants of these farms in the park. An almost complete, although abandoned, farm complex is located next to the maintenance area across Route 58 from the main entrance to the park. This farm, built in the 1930s, includes a residence, tool shed, toilet, office, barn, and shop. The shop, a one-story, gable-roofed building originally clad in chestnut siding, was built as a residence but was used as the maintenance shop for the park for several years after the park opened in 1965. The Jones Homestead, located across from the picnic area, is another such site. Now a demonstration farm, the reconstructed homestead incorporates several original elements of a pre-1900 farm including the tree-lined road, the springhouse, and the graveyard, with graves dating to 1850. Finally, the relocated log cabin below the contact station is also on the site of a pre-1900 homestead; the open spring and aging apple orchard are evidence of the site's previous use.⁴¹

Sky Meadows State Park, opened in 1975, is the site of a partially reconstructed farm complex that includes several historic buildings. The stone farmhouse was built in 1835 by Isaac Settle, a merchant from Paris, Virginia. Also in the main farm

⁴¹ Park Ranger, Grayson Highlands State Park, interview 1/88 ranger.

complex is a log slave cabin built in 1790. The superintendent's residence (a stucco house) as well as the Turner residence (a frame house with stone ends) both date from the 19th century. This property features the largest Kentucky coffee tree in Virginia, as well as extensive orchards and flower gardens. It has had several distinguished owners, including one of John Mosby's rangers, a British consul, and, finally, John Mellon, who donated it to the commonwealth in 1975.⁴²

NATURAL AREAS

During the early 1960s, at the suggestion of the Old Dominion Foundation, the Division of Parks and Recreation developed the "natural area" program, with the goal of "preserving, in an unspoiled condition, examples of each of the Old Dominion's land types."⁴³ The movement to define and preserve natural areas in Virginia reflected the influence of the environmental movement that was developing in the United States and Europe during this period. Faced with the deterioration of the natural environment and the disappearance of wilderness due to industrialization and development, more and more people became interested in the forced preservation of unspoiled land. According to Roderick Nash, the author of *Wilderness and the American Mind*, "A simple scarcity theory of value, coupled with the shrinking size of the American wilderness relative to American civilization underlies modern wilderness philosophy."⁴⁴ The movement was also linked to a much broader popular disenchantment with traditional culture that polarized around opposition to the Vietnam War: "Given its general orientation, the counterculture inevitably found value in wilderness which was, after all, diametrically opposed to a civilization many had come to distrust and resent."⁴⁵

Under the natural area program, seven new properties have been acquired since the 1960s, including **Parkers Marsh** in Accomack County (1960); **Lick Creek** in Smyth and Bland counties (1961); **Caledon** on the Potomac River (1974); **Goshen Pass** in Rockbridge County (1961); **Wreck and Bones islands** in Northhampton County; the **Charles C. Steirly Heron Rookery**, in Sussex County (1964); and **Seashore Natural Area**, adjacent to Seashore State Park. The acquisition and development of

⁴² Site Visit, park informational brochure.

⁴³ "Fifty Years and Still Growing" (unpublished article from Information Office, Division of Parks and Recreation).

⁴⁴ Roderick Nash, *Wilderness and the American Mind*, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1967).

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*,

the Natural Area System for aesthetic and educational purposes has been supported by conservation organizations and individuals; much of the land comprising the system was donated. ⁴⁶ (According to Fixed Asset Accounting and Control System (FAACS) there are no historic properties located in any of the natural areas; however, it is unclear whether any comprehensive inventory has been conducted.)

⁴⁶ Histories of Southeastern State Parks, 176.

SOCIAL/CULTURAL THEME: PARK DESIGN

The design and development of the six original Virginia state parks during the 1930s (Douthat, Westmoreland, Staunton River, Fairy Stone, Hungry Mother, and Seashore) was a cooperative process involving the efforts of the Virginia Division of Parks, the National Park Service, and the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC). This process was developed by the National Park Service during the New Deal era for all states using CCC labor to create state parks, in order to "insure that the design intentions utilized in the creation of the parks were consistent with the standards of park planning and design acceptable to the National Park Service."⁴⁷ In Virginia, as in many other states, the state parks designed during this period are distinguished from subsequent parks by their unusually high quality of design and attention to detail and should be recognized as models for park design.

With the establishment of the New Deal's Emergency Conservation Work Program the National Park Service was inundated with requests from individual states for the CCC to help build new state parks. Some of these requests came from states with little or no experience in park development and small, inexperienced park staffs. The method developed by NPS to oversee the design of these new state parks was to require that a master plan be submitted for each state park project worked on by a CCC camp. The concept of a master plan, a long range planning document that would guide all aspects of a park's development, was first developed by the National Park Service in the 1920s for design work done for Mount Ranier National Park. The master plans eventually submitted for the six original Virginia parks were "a direct adaptation of the National Park Service master plan."⁴⁸

Once a state submitted a park master plan, it was reviewed by one of the four regional offices of the National Park Service Branch of Planning and State Cooperation, which were established in Denver, San Francisco, Indianapolis, and Washington, D.C. (later transferred to Richmond). Each office had a regional director, an administrative director, and a technical staff composed of landscape architects, architects, engineers, foresters, and geologists, who would comment on submitted park plans. The

⁴⁷ Lotspeich, 30.

⁴⁸ Ibid., 31.

participation of the NPS technical staff brought an unprecedented level of expertise to the state park planning process and was "one of the main reasons for the steadily improving level of quality in the work at the (CCC) camps."⁴⁹ The increased participation of landscape architects and designers, who earlier had little to do with "public" park design before the Depression, also greatly improved the design of the state parks during this period: "By their entry into the domain of the state park, landscape architects converted what had been largely a creature of chance into a synthesis of orderly design."⁵⁰

Another important way in which the National Park Service exerted its influence over the design of state parks was through the publication in 1935 of *Park and Recreation Structures*, which was edited by Albert H. Good, architectural consultant to NPS. This book, which served as the basic textbook for the development of national and state parks throughout the New Deal era, contained plans and photographs for all of the various elements of park design, ranging from lodges to shelters to culverts. Structures shown in the book were selected by a special committee of National Park Service staff as best examples of their type. (Structures from Westmoreland, Douthat and Fairy Stone state parks are all featured.) Through this publication Good formalized the unintrusive, rustic style of building that has since come to be a National Park Service trademark. The broad dissemination of this work is largely responsible for both the high quality and uniformity of structures built at state and national parks all over the United States during this period. In Virginia, the influence of *Park and Recreation Structures* on all of the state parks built before World War II (including Pocahontas—originally Swift Creek—and the four recreation areas) is unmistakable.

In Virginia, where no recreational state parks existed in 1933, the cooperative services offered by the National Park Service were used to their fullest extent. The eastern regional office of the Branch of Planning and State Cooperation, which served Virginia, was first located in the National Park Service's central office in Washington, D.C., but then moved to Richmond where it shared an office with the Richmond office of the NPS's Branch of Plans and Designs. These two offices apparently shared staff until 1937, when they officially merged. Preliminary plans for the Virginia state parks were developed by Robert Burson, from the Virginia Division of Parks, and Frederick

⁴⁹ Newton, 580.

⁵⁰ Cutler, 66.

A. Fay, a landscape architect with the NPS Branch of Plans and Designs. Technical staff from the National Park Service, including foresters, architects, and geologists, were also consulted. In 1937, the Virginia Division of State Parks submitted the first formal master plans for Douthat, Westmoreland, Staunton River, Hungry Mother, Seashore, and Fairy Stone state parks for review by NPS staff. Until as late as 1942, these plans were revised and resubmitted for comments on a yearly basis. The revised master plans served as the basis for decisions about which projects would be approved and funded as projects for the CCC.⁵¹

Due largely to the additional help supplied by National Park Service technical staff and the skilled workmanship of the CCC, the system of six parks that emerged from this period represents some of the highest-quality work produced by the Virginia Division of Parks. Despite the fact that the six original parks have been open more than fifty years, much of the thoroughness and attention to detail that went into the design of the original parks is still in evidence today. Indeed, many of the elements of park design developed in the 1930s have been successfully re-used in the design of Virginia's more recently developed state parks.

The Design Of The Six Original Parks

The six original parks (Douthat, Westmoreland, Staunton River, Hungry Mother, Seashore, and Fairy Stone) were acquired simultaneously and designed as a group. Many similarities exist in the layout and design of all six; indeed, exact duplicates of certain structures, such as signs, picnic shelters, and water fountains, can be found at all of them. Consequently, for the purpose of analysis, the six original parks can best be discussed as a group. In the following discussion, the parks will be analyzed according to six basic components: circulation systems, water features, beach/swimming areas, picnic areas, lodging, and service and maintenance buildings.

As was the practice throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia prior to the end of the era of Massive Resistance in the 1960s, it appears that with the exception of Prince Edward State Park (which was developed as a segregated park for blacks) the use of facilities at Virginia's state parks was almost exclusively limited by practise, if not

⁵¹ Lotspeich, 39-44.

by law, to whites. As was the case at most public facilities, the integration (by practice) of the parks was a gradual process that in some parks is still occurring.

CIRCULATION

The major unifying element in each of the six original state parks is the circulation system composed of vehicular roadways, pedestrian paths and trails, and, at some of the parks, horse trails. These subsystems are unified by certain similarities. In the construction of all three special care was given to follow the contours of the land and use a minimum of cut and fill. (fig.1) The high quality of detailing associated with the original circulation system, including the construction of curbs, culverts and drop inlets, stands out when compared with more recent detailing. Finally, all three subsystems were designed to take the maximum advantage of possible views. Despite these basic similarities, the three types of circulation provide three widely varied means for getting around the park that rarely cross or even run parallel to each other.

Vehicular Circulation

At all six of the parks, the vehicular circulation system was designed with a central spine or main road leading directly from the entrance of the park to the center of park activity, the beach/swimming area. From this main road branched a series of secondary and tertiary loop roads that passed through the cabin, campground, and maintenance areas. This system allowed daytime park visitors to travel directly to the day use area, while at the same time providing campers and cabin dwellers with greater privacy and quiet. All of the major roads (and minor ones with severe slopes) were lined with stone culverts and featured finely crafted drop inlets and retaining walls. (fig. 2) Albert H. Good, in *Park and Recreation Structures* devoted an entire chapter to the construction of graceful culverts, emphasizing that "materials and workmanship should be such that facing and culvert itself, make no demands whatever on maintenance appropriations."⁵²

At all of the parks it appears that much attention was given to the design of the entry drive into the park, following Good's advice that "the truly successful entranceway will be contrived to the simple essence of the characteristic of the park to no resultant

⁵² Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures* (Washington, D.C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1938), 1: 169.

interference with the basic functions of ingress, egress, and barrier."⁵³ Originally, the main entrance to each park was marked by a sixteen-foot-tall stone marker, mounted in concrete, bearing a sign with the name of the park. (fig.3) These markers recently have been replaced by low horizontal signs constructed of logs. All of the parks were designed to have long entry drives, ranging from .5 to 2.5 miles, and passing through the extensive undeveloped park land to the main area of the park. The divided road leading into Westmoreland State Park, with its planted midway, remains particularly impressive. All of the entry roads are heavily wooded, usually with evergreens. At three of the parks—Fairy Stone, Westmoreland, and Douthat—the wooded entry drives are dramatically punctuated with areas of open meadow. The alternation from wooded to meadowland, open to closed, was an intentionally designed feature clearly indicated on the original park plans. At some of the parks, these open undeveloped areas (such as the ones located immediately across the main road from the superintendents' houses at both Westmoreland and Staunton River) were used for active recreation and team sports such as baseball. The termination of the initial journey into the park was marked by the contact station, which was located in the middle of the road to serve cars entering or leaving the park. (figs. 4 and 5) Originally, these were small, board-and-batten, gabled structures; in recent years they have been replaced by similarly-sized block structures with sliding glass windows.

Pedestrian Circulation

The pedestrian system was designed to serve two distinct purposes. First of all, it provided an alternate way to get from one part of the park to another without the use of a car. Secondly, it allowed park visitors to leave the main area of the park and experience the extensive open area beyond. At all of the parks, trails were accented with rustic stone steps, trailside seats, and shelters designed to blend in with the natural surroundings as closely as possible, although, as A. H. Good pointed out, "trail steps must strive to emulate nature only to a degree that will not make them extremely hazardous."⁵⁴ Culverts and bridges occurring along the trails were also designed to be as unobtrusive as possible. (fig. 6) Although at many of the parks the original details along the trails have been modified or removed, both Douthat and Hungry

⁵³ Ibid.,10.

⁵⁴ Ibid.,161.

Mother State Parks still provide outstanding examples of original trail layout and trailside features.

Horse Trails

Horse trails were developed at Douthat, Fairy Stone, Hungry Mother, and Seashore state parks. (fig. 7) Where horse trails were provided they were never as extensive as hiking trails; however, they served much the same purpose: providing a means to experience the extensive surrounding undeveloped parkland. Horse trails differed from hiking trails in that they were usually broader and more level; they lacked the pedestrian trailside details such as shelters, benches, and bridges. Associated with the horsetrails at all four of these parks were stables, paddocks, and barns. The only remaining stable from this era is at Fairy Stone State Park—a one-story, board-and-batten structure with an end-gabled roof and a single dormer window. The building contained stalls for approximately twenty horses; each stall had a louvered window to provide light and air. A small paddock area and outbuilding was located to the rear of the stable.

WATER FEATURE

The central water feature at each of the six parks varied from a tidal bay to a river to a man-made lake. However, at all of the parks the central water feature played an important role as an organizing element in the overall design. Since the beach area, usually associated with the water feature, was planned to be the focus of park activity, the main park road and many of the paths and trails were designed to lead directly to the water, often providing alluring glimpses of it along the way. Picnic areas at all of the parks were also located directly on the water but often away from the central swimming area, providing the opportunity to see a different view of the water feature. Finally, at most of the parks the cabins were arranged to take advantage of the ocean, lake, or river setting. An exception to this is at Hungry Mother, where only one of the original cabins stood directly on the water.

The idea that every state park in Virginia must have a central water feature was one of Robert Burson's primary recommendations after his tour of state parks in 1930. Burson was particularly impressed with the man-made lake at Palisades Interstate

Park in New York and New Jersey.⁵⁵ Burson may well have been influenced by the work of Robert Moses, who served as chairman of the Long Island State Park Commission and commissioner of parks in New York City throughout the 1930s. Moses played a major role in popularizing the idea of the central water feature, insisting that no state park would succeed without a swimming area.⁵⁶ During this period the National Park Service also encouraged state parks to develop swimming areas, establishing the position that "although it is an inviolate principle with respect to national parks . . . that artificial control of stream flow is to be rigidly avoided, the situation with respect to lesser parks is somewhat different."⁵⁷ Despite considerable opposition among landscape architects to the concept of man-made lakes, such lakes became almost standard features at state parks throughout the country.⁵⁸ In Virginia, where there were only two natural lakes and very hot summers, the need for swimming areas seemed particularly pressing. As a result, the existence of a natural swimming area, or the opportunity to construct a man-made one, became "a major factor in the survey of potential park sites which Burson undertook in Virginia prior to 1933."⁵⁹

In response to Burson's recommendation, three of Virginia's original six parks had access to natural bodies of water: Seashore is located on the ocean, Westmoreland on the banks of the Potomac, and Staunton River at the confluence of the Roanoke and Dan rivers. At Staunton River, a large swimming pool was constructed; in this case, the "water feature" and the active swimming area were different. (fig. 8) At Douthat, Hungry Mother, and Fairy Stone artificial lakes were constructed by damming local rivers and creating sizeable impoundment—150 acres at Fairy Stone, 108 acres at Hungry Mother, and 78 acres at Douthat. At all three parks, the handsome earth- and rock-filled, stone-faced dams and well-detailed spillways were the very first elements to be constructed. (figs. 9 and 10)

SWIMMING/BEACH AREAS

At all six of the parks, the swimming/ beach area was intended to serve as the hub of park activity, and commanded a central location either directly off of, or at the

⁵⁵ Lotspeich, 28.

⁵⁶ Cutler, 66.

⁵⁷ Good, vol. 2, 119.

⁵⁸ Newton, 582.

⁵⁹ Lotspeich, 28.

termination of the main park road. Because park beach areas were intended for day visitors to the park as well as overnight campers, large parking lots were provided. All of the parks featured sand beaches with the exception of Staunton River, where two large pools served as the active swimming area. The basic components of the beach area included a guarded swimming area; a bathhouse, often associated with a snack bar type of concession; and a central concession and restaurant located nearby. (fig. 11) Additional facilities such as docks, boathouses, diving towers, shelters, and playing fields were also often constructed at the beach area.

The largest and most impressive structure at the beach area was the bathhouse. The typical bathhouse built at all of the parks was a rectangular, story-and-a-half structure clad in board-and-batten siding, with a hipped roof. The front of the bathhouse, facing the water, featured a partially open bay providing a counter and window for concession sales. Variations on this basic plan included the addition of gabled wings on either end and dormer windows (as at Staunton River) or a protruding front bay (as at Westmoreland). Photographs and plans for the bathhouse at Westmoreland State Park appear in A. H. Good's *Park and Recreation Structures*. (figs. 12,13 and 14) Douthat's original bathhouse provided a larger and more complex variation of the basic design. This hip-roofed, five-bay, wood-frame structure clad in board-and-batten siding features two full stories, stone foundations, and pillars. Flagstone terraces and a viewing deck are located on the beach side of the building.⁶⁰ Today, the original bathhouses remain only at Douthat and Staunton River state parks.

At all of the parks except for Westmoreland, where the physical center of park development and the beach area are somewhat removed from each other, the restaurant and concession building was located adjacent to the beach area. (figs. 15 and 16) This provided convenient service for day visitors as well as overnight campers. The same plan was used for the restaurant/concession at all of the parks except for Seashore. This one-story, board-and-batten structure featured a central, gabled block with several wings housing the restaurant, storage rooms, and gift shop. A porch, either screened or enclosed, faced out from the main block of the building, usually toward the water. At Seashore State Park the concession was located in the larger "Big H" building, a multi-purpose structure containing dressing rooms, concession and restaurant. The Big H building, as its name suggests, was laid out in

⁶⁰ Kelly and Leach, continuation sheet 3.

an H configuration and constructed of cement block painted with imitation wooden beams to convey a rustic appearance.

Additional structures associated with the beach area included docks, boat launches, boat shelters, diving towers, and shelters. These water-related structures were usually located away from the swimming area, for obvious safety reasons. Even the diving tower shown in the plans for Fairy Stone's beach area is located surprisingly far out in the lake. All of these structures were wooden and simply constructed. Docks and piers were made using log piers and long planks. Boat shelters built at the parks range from shed-roofed open structures to the 100-foot frame boat barn at Staunton River.

Each of the six original parks was intended to have at least two picnic areas. At some of the parks, such as Westmoreland and Hungry Mother, the picnic areas were sited immediately adjacent to the swimming/beach area, and the center of park activity. At others, such as Staunton River and Fairy Stone, they were sited well off the main park road in a less intensively used area of the park. However, in nearly all instances, picnic areas were sited on or near the water, to take advantage of both views and cool breezes.

The focal point of the picnic areas at all six of the original parks was the picnic shelter. Indeed, in *Park and Recreation Structures* A. H. Good argues that the importance of the picnic shelter spreads far beyond the picnic area: "Beyond doubt the most generally useful building of recreational purpose in any park is a picnic shelter."⁶¹ The typical picnic shelter used in the Virginia state parks was a partially enclosed five-bay structure built of rough-hewn timbers, with a fireplace and built-in seating area at either end. (figs. 17 and 18) These shelters featured attractive stone floors and chimneys. The picnic shelter at Westmoreland, open on three sides with one central fireplace, provided a variation to the typical shelter plan. (figs. 19 and 20) Another variation occurred at Seashore, where after 1940 picnic shelters were built according to the typical plan, but using concrete block rather than rough hewn timbers for supports. Movable picnic tables and benches were located inside the shelters, providing flexible seating and eating arrangements. (fig. 21)

⁶¹ Good, 2:45.

Several other structures were also commonly associated with picnic areas. Free-standing stone fireplaces for cookouts were often provided, as well as matching stone incinerators for safe and convenient ash and trash disposal. (fig. 22) The typical water fountain used at the Virginia parks was a simple waist-high column constructed of rough-cut stone. Toilets located near the picnic areas were simple, gable-roofed, frame structures clad in board-and-batten siding. A significant variation to the standard toilet is the impressive rustic "Stone John" located near picnic area number two at Hungry Mother State Park. Remnants of a "camp circle" made of a circular arrangement of stones are located near one of the picnic areas at Staunton River State Park, which may have been used for organized campfires.⁶² Several of the picnic areas currently provide playground equipment for small children; it is not known whether this was originally planned or not.

LODGING

Overnight facilities at the six original parks ranged from campsites to cabins to the more luxurious lodges constructed at Douthat and Fairy Stone. These different types of facilities served the needs of park visitors with a wide variety of tastes and incomes.⁶³

Campgrounds

Tent and trailer campgrounds were originally developed at all of the six parks. Both types of campground were located off of the main road, removed from the activity and noise of the day use areas of the park. (fig.23) Tent and trailer camping areas were sited in separate but adjacent locations (today tents and trailers often share the same campground). At some of the camps, such as Westmoreland, these two types of campsites shared bathroom, shower, and laundry facilities. Tent campsites at all of the parks followed closely the basic layout recommended in *Park and Recreation Structures*:

Basic in the campsite concept is a short parking spur, taking off from a one way road at a readily negotiable angle, and bounded by naturalized barriers

⁶² Ibid., 2:147.

⁶³ Ibid., 2:563.

defining the parking space and confining the campers automobile therein. Supplementing this principle is a logical grouping of tent site, picnic table, and fireplace in suitable relation to the parked automobile, existing tree growth and prevailing winds.⁶⁴

Trailer campsites were also supplied with the requisite fireplace and picnic table, but were laid out as a small loop off of the campground road to facilitate easy turning for the cumbersome trailers.

Structures associated with the campgrounds included freestanding stone fireplaces, picnic tables, and benches. The typical toilet and laundry facility was a long single-pile, three-bay, wood-frame building clad in vertical siding with a gabled roof. Separate men's and women's facilities were located at one end of the building, and the laundry was located on the other side. At the front of the building, an overhanging roof and a cement platform provided protection from the sun and rain for those who might be waiting outside. A wooden fence wrapped around the front of the building and screened views of the entrances. High louvered windows allowed ventilation while insuring privacy.

Cabins

Overnight cabins at all of the parks were located off a loop road or cul-de-sac leading off the main park road, in an area somewhat isolated from the rest of the park. Cabins were located at regular intervals near the loop road, either singly, with their own parking space and little yard, or in groups of two. (fig. 24) At some of the parks, the original cabins were located to take advantage of the water feature. At Staunton River, for example, every cabin is sited with full river frontage. At Westmoreland, on the other hand, some of the cabins were tucked into the woods and some were located overlooking the river, providing a variety of settings and views.

Three sizes of cabins were built at all of the parks: one-room efficiencies and one- and two-bedroom cabins with separate kitchens and living rooms. These three sizes of cabins were built in three basic configurations. Typical examples of all three types of cabins are shown in *Park and Recreation Facilities*. Numerous variations on these

⁶⁴ Ibid., 1:9.

three basic forms were created through the use of different styles and the placement of porches, bays, and porticoes. One-room efficiencies were typically built as a single rectangular room, three bays wide, with an end or side-gabled roof and a chimney on one of the gable ends. A variation on this was a square block with a central chimney dividing the house into kitchen and bathroom on one side, and the living/bedroom on the other. Porches for these one-room cabins varied from a simple stone terrace running along the front facade of the building to a massive log portico protruding from the front gable end.

One-bedroom cabins were typically cross-gabled structures, with the rectangular main block of the building containing the living room and kitchen; the bedroom was located in the gabled front, rear, or side addition. Numerous variations on this basic form were created by placing the cross gable on either the front or the back of the main block of the house, either symmetrically or asymmetrically. Two-bedroom cabins were typically larger rectangular structures, with two bedrooms and a bathroom on one side and a living room and kitchen on the other. In the two-bedroom cabin at Douthat shown in *Park and Recreation Structures*, this basic form has been varied by cutting away part of the main block of the house to form an engaged front porch, and a bay containing part of the living room has been added to one side of the main block. (figs. 25-26)

The materials used to construct park cabins varied from park to park. Variations in material were in part a response to the nature of the park setting and in part a reflection of the materials locally available. At Douthat, Fairy Stone, and Westmoreland state parks, the original cabins were constructed with rough-hewn logs, appropriate for the heavily wooded setting. The logs used at most of these cabins were laid horizontally, however, at some cabins vertically placed logs provided an interesting variation. At Staunton River State Park cabins were constructed with board-and-batten siding. At Seashore vertical siding was used, with rough-hewn weatherboarding at the eaves. At Hungry Mother a combination of log cabins and cabins clad in weatherboard were used.

Unique to Westmoreland were a group of seven overnight cabins, located in the tent and trailer camping area, built to serve group campers. These simple, one-room, gabled structures clad in board-and-batten were furnished only with four built-in bunks and did not have kitchens. Each overnight cabin had its own outdoor cooking area, and campers using the overnight cabins shared the use of campground toilets.

Lodges

Guest lodges were constructed at two of the parks, Douthat and Hungry Mother. At both parks, these grand buildings were located high on a hill above the main cabin area, overlooking the lake. The steep road winding up the hill to the lodge at Hungry Mother is lined with a massive stone retaining wall—both the road and the wall are impressive feats of engineering. The purpose of these buildings was to house short-term overnight visitors to the park (somewhat like a hotel) since cabins were available only to those who wished to stay a minimum of one week.⁶⁵

Both of these buildings were constructed of horizontal hewn logs on stone foundations, with multi-gabled roofs made of hand-split shingles. At Douthat, the lodge is eight bays across, divided into three wings with a large porch projecting from the center wing. (fig. 26) The lodge at Hungry Mother is similar in configuration, but smaller, without some of the projecting wings. In overall appearance, both of these buildings follow the recommendation made in *Park and Recreation Structures* (which shows full plans and photographs of the lodge at Douthat) that lodges should be "long, low and horizontal" in their appearance, in order to best fit into their natural setting.⁶⁶ Interiors at both buildings were "the most highly crafted of any in the park, including bevelled pine panelling on walls and ceilings, stone chimney and fireplace in the main area, five arch support ceiling frames with excellent examples of wrought iron hardware and panelled doors with leaded glass and giant strap hinges."⁶⁷

SERVICE BUILDINGS AND STAFF QUARTERS

Generally, park maintenance areas, staff residential quarters, and the park office are all located in close proximity to each other. At some parks, such as Hungry Mother, the staff residences were located immediately adjacent to the maintenance area. At others, such as Westmoreland, staff residences were associated with the office and a secondary maintenance area, the primary maintenance area being located a short distance down the road. At Staunton River the park office is in the middle of the maintenance area and disconnected from the staff residences. Whatever their

⁶⁵ Kelly and Leach, continuation sheet 2.

⁶⁶ Good, 3:59.

⁶⁷ Kelly and Leach, continuation sheet 10.

relationship, the components of the service buildings are nearly identical from park to park; many were taken directly from *Park Facilities and Structures*. Because some of the park service buildings were built as part of the original CCC camps, they have a special importance as some of the few surviving remnants of the CCC era at these parks.

Maintenance Areas

Maintenance areas at all of the six parks were separated from the central recreation area. At some parks, such as Seashore and Westmoreland, this separation was created by placing the maintenance areas at a distance from other developed areas of the park. At others, such as Staunton River, maintenance areas were located near the center of park activity, but carefully tucked off the main road and screened with vegetation.

Maintenance yards at most parks included a garage, shop, storage buildings, boathouse or blacksmith shop, oil house, net house, and pump house. Typically, these buildings were placed in a rectangular arrangement around an open workyard accessible to both cars and larger trucks. This is precisely the arrangement proposed in *Park and Recreation Structures* by Good, who emphatically stated that "the happiest and most forehanded visualization of the ultimate maintenance group is a square service courtyard surrounded by all of the facilitating structures."⁶⁸

Maintenance structures in the Virginia parks were characteristically modest, gable-roofed, board-and-batten structures painted a dull tan color, with a minimal number of doors and windows.

Staff Dwellings

Dwellings were constructed at all of the parks for the superintendent, assistant superintendent, and park rangers. In general, the design and construction of all park dwellings was based on the principle that "comfortable, well maintained living quarters in which the occupants can take personal pride will undoubtedly find reflection in the attitude of each employee towards maintenance of the public area."⁶⁹

⁶⁸ Good, 1:90.

⁶⁹ Good, 1:73.

At the same time, variations from one type of dwelling to another reflect the notion put forth by A. H. Good in *Park and Recreation Structures* that "quarters and salary (should be) reasonably scaled to one another" thus providing a clear sense of the hierarchy of park administration.

The chief ranger's house and the rangers' bunkhouse were typically located immediately adjacent to the maintenance area. The standard rangers' bunkhouse built at the parks was an eleven-bay, wood-frame structure, with a gabled, shingled roof, and a shed-roofed porch supported by thick, rustic posts. (fig. 27) At Fairystone, the long bunkhouse was built as a split level to conform to the terraced ground on which it stands. These long bunkhouses provided sleeping quarters for several rangers, with a central kitchen and lounge area. The chief ranger's house was a smaller, cross-gabled structure, similar to the bunkhouse in style, but built as a single family residence, with a kitchen, a living room, and one or two bedrooms. (fig. 28)

The superintendent's residence at each park is located off the park entry road, removed from the center of park activity. In three of the six parks—Hungry Mother, Westmoreland, and Staunton River—the superintendents' houses have a similar location in respect to the overall layout of the park: to the left of the main entrance road and just beyond the contact station. These comfortable houses, with their yards, driveways, and garages, have all the trappings of standard, single-family homes, almost belying their role as a part of the larger park. At Staunton River and Douthat, the architectural style of the residences relate to the rustic architecture used in the rest of the park. At Douthat, the superintendent's residence is a rustic, one-story structure built of rough hewn logs, with a multi-gabled roof featuring hand-split shingles. At Staunton River it is a simple, one-and-a-half-story, board-and-batten structure with a rear addition; it appears to be a somewhat enlarged version of the two-bedroom cabin used at Staunton River. At Westmoreland, on the other hand, the superintendent's house is a clapboard, colonial style house, with a gabled roof and three dormer windows.

Swift Creek RDA /Pocahontas

Recreational Demonstration Areas such as Swift Creek (which later became Pocahontas State Park) were developed during the years of the Depression through a combination of Federal Emergency Relief funds, National Park Service design

assistance, and CCC labor. The RDAs were designed by special technical and administrative teams of NPS staff located either in Washington or at the regional headquarters. Typically, the detailed master plans prepared for the state parks were not prepared for the RDAs. In the case of Swift Creek, a rather informal site plan was prepared for the park in 1939. However, very thorough guidelines for the design and layout of group camping areas was provided in *Park and Recreation Structures*. The original layout of Swift Creek followed these guidelines very closely.

Because of the involvement of NPS staff in the design of Swift Creek RDA, it shares many similarities in its overall appearance with the six Virginia state parks developed (also with NPS assistance) during this period. However, whereas the intent of the state parks was to serve the single family, the chief aim of Swift Creek (and the RDA program in general) was the "provision of organized camps intended for lease or rental to competent welfare organizations (such as church groups, scout troops, and YMCA summer camps)."⁷⁰ This basic difference in aim led to some important differences between the program and design of Swift Creek RDA and that of the traditional state parks.

One of the most fundamental differences between Swift Creek and the other state parks was in the design of the circulation system. All of the six original state parks featured a long road that passed through the center of park activity, with smaller loop roads leading off that to secondary areas of the park. At Swift Creek, on the other hand, a single main road ended at a centralized parking area, presumably for buses, before reaching the park's activity core. This modified circulation system follows Good's recommendations closely:

The entrance road to the camp should penetrate a minimum distance, to a small parking area near the administration building. It is well to supplement this with an overflow parking area on the approach road further removed from the camp. . . There is no purpose in an actual roadway to the other camp buildings. Should there be occasional need to reach other buildings to collect

⁷⁰ Newton, 592.

rubbish, for instance . . . a cleared truck or wagon trail . . . will suffice.⁷¹

Another obvious difference between the state parks and Swift Creek RDA was in the type and arrangement of cabins. Cabins at the state parks were sited much like private residences on a suburban block—each with their own own driveway and yard. Cabins at Swift Creek, on the other hand, were arranged in tightly knit clusters of six, housing four campers each. Individual cabins were placed not more than fifty feet apart; the clusters themselves were located approximately six hundred feet apart. The exact grouping of cabins found at Swift Creek is outlined by Good in *Park and Recreation Structures* as the most "desirable and practical" arrangement for group camps.⁷² Designed to serve unrelated groups of children, rather than single families or individuals, the group camp cabins themselves also differed greatly from those found at the state parks. Whereas the sizes of cabins at the state parks ranged from efficiency to one-or two-bedroom, cabins at Swift Creek were designated as "large, medium and small." (fig. 29)

A final difference was the role of the central water feature in the overall layout of the park. Whereas in the state parks all of the various areas of the park were organized around the water, at Swift Creek the majority of staff buildings and cabins were removed from the water. This may well reflect an important practical concern discussed at length in *Park and Recreation Structures*:

The distance between the campsite and the place of waterfront activity is important in the planning of the organized camp. The temptation to indulge in unsupervised swimming, despite the fact that it is outlawed in every well-conducted camp, is great. The cynical planner may see fit to reinforce moral restraint with physical distance and spot the structures from 1,000 to 2,000 feet from the swimming beach.⁷³

Swift Creek's function as a group camp manifested itself in a large number of buildings and a wide variety of building types. Although physically one of the smaller parks in

⁷¹ Good, 3:112.

⁷² *Ibid.*, 110.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, 113.

Virginia, Swift Creek had (and still retains) the largest numbers of buildings built during the CCC era. Structures at Swift Creek were typically covered with board and batten siding, in the National Park Service rustic style. Some of these structures including picnic shelters, maintenance and staff buildings, lodges, toilets, and standard cabins, were typical of those used throughout the Virginia state park system. Others, such as the mattress rooms (for storing bedding), recreational lodge (fig. 30), dining hall (fig. 31), bunkhouse-style group cabins, craft shop (fig. 32), and group bathrooms (fig. 33) were built only at Swift Creek, reflecting its role as a facility for large groups.

Recreation Areas: Bear Creek, Holliday Lake, Prince Edward, and Goodwin Lake

In general, the four recreation areas developed by the Division of Forestry (Bear Creek, Holliday Lake, Prince Edward and Goodwin Lake) were much simpler both in program and detail than the six original parks. The National Park Service, who played a major role in the design of the state parks, had little or nothing to do with the design of the recreation areas and no formal master plans or detailed construction documents were prepared for their development. Indeed, it appears that the recreation areas may have been simply designed on site by the Forestry-Service-controlled CCC camps by whom they were built. However, because these recreation areas were designed and built in the same era—and presumably under some of the same influences—as the six original state parks, they share certain similarities in overall layout and design.

As at the parks, all of the four recreational areas had long entry drives extending from the main road through the state forest to the central area of the park. All of them are organized around a water feature, and have beach and swimming areas. Structures at the four recreation areas, including picnic shelters, fireplaces, toilets, and maintenance buildings, were built in the typical national park rustic style using traditional materials such as stone and logs. As at the six original parks, the picnic areas at the four recreation areas are all located in shaded areas at the water's edge, to take advantage of both the views and the cool breezes. Prince Edward Park originally had a typical CCC-vintage maintenance area including a shop, garage, and storage buildings; several of these buildings are still standing.

The four recreation areas differed from the original state parks in that the recreation areas were not originally intended for overnight use; consequently, no cabins and campgrounds were built. Other facilities standard at the state parks, such as superintendents' quarters, restaurants, offices, stables, and bathhouses, were also omitted. Furthermore, many of the construction details at the six original parks, such as stone culverts, walls, and steps, are noticeably absent in these four recreation areas. In general, although the recreation areas share several of the basic elements of the six original state parks, they appear to have been far more modest endeavors.

Historic Parks

Relatively little design work aside from restoration and reconstruction has been done at any of Virginia's six historic parks (George Washington's Grist Mill, Saylor's Creek Battlefield, Shot Tower, Southwest Virginia Museum, Staunton River Bridge Battlefield, and Tabb Monument) which have largely been left undeveloped except for the addition of minimal parking areas, restrooms, and, in some cases, interpretive signs. Instead, the Division of Parks has maintained a consistent policy since the establishment of the George Washington Grist Mill site in 1932 to leave these areas as free from modern intrusions as possible, designating them as "minimum intrusion areas." Of all of the historic parks, the George Washington Grist Mill site has been the most changed, with the reconstruction of the ruined mill. (fig. 34) According to officials at the Division of Parks and Recreation, this policy of "minimum intrusion" is also applied to historic properties in parks that are not specifically designated as historic. At Chippokes Plantation State Park, for example, orientation and recreational facilities are located at a distance from the plantation complex itself although a planned interpretive center for historic farm equipment and implements will intrude somewhat on the historic environs. At Sky Meadows (a recreational park featuring a variety of historical farm buildings and an agrarian landscape) the typical recreation program has been modified to suit the historic nature of the site: no cabins or campgrounds were built, and only primitive camping is allowed.

The unwritten policy of the Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation towards the historic parks appears to have been modeled after the general restoration policy adopted by the National Park Service in 1935 at the recommendation of its advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments. This nine point policy advocates that a light hand be taken in restoration and reconstruction efforts, advising that it is "better to preserve than repair, better repair than restore, and better restore than construct."⁷⁴

Post-World-War II Recreational Parks

With the onset of World War II, the cooperative design process between state parks and the national parks came to an end. Since that time, park design has been

⁷⁴ Good 2:187.

accomplished in-house by the Division of Parks and Recreation. When compared to the six original parks, the eleven new recreational parks provide some interesting similarities and differences.

Interviews with staff members from the Division of Parks and Recreation indicate that many of the directives that guided the development of the six original parks still guide the development of the newer parks. The major focus of the newer parks, like the original parks, is still on more unstructured, individual forms of recreation: hiking, camping, boating, swimming, etc. As in the older parks, only a small portion of the park land is actually developed, leaving the larger, surrounding area undisturbed. Circulation in the newer parks consists of the three traditional subsystems for vehicular, pedestrian, and horse traffic. Finally, a central water feature is still considered essential to the successful development of a park, although swimming pools are now more frequently used than man-made lakes.

An important shift in philosophy has been in the conscious adoption of the tenets of the environmental movement. State and national parks have always been supposed to be in harmony with the environment. However, since the many wildlife and environmental protection acts that have developed since the 1960s, a more cautious approach has been taken to the development of these large and valuable tracts of land. A good example of this new approach is Caledon Natural Area, which was planned to be a recreational park until it was determined to be a nesting spot for eagles.

A second important change is the concept of each park as a separate entity rather than as parts of a larger system. The six original parks (which were acquired all at the same time) were designed as a group: although an effort was made to be sensitive to topography and other aspects of the individual site, similar layout plans, structures and details were used at all six. According to Parks Division staff, this uniform approach is no longer used; instead, unique design solutions are sought for each park, depending on its individual setting and the special needs of park visitors. Although standard details are used for smaller items, such as benches, waste receptacles, and maintenance areas, larger structures such as bathhouses and visitor centers are no longer duplicated at more than one park. The premise for this individual approach to park design is that it is more sensitive to the local environment. However, it has also

led to a decrease in consistency and recognizable identity of the park system as a whole.

A final more specific difference in the newer parks is a noticeable decline in the quality and craftsmanship of detail work. One of the most visible examples of this is the use of concrete block rather than log or wood frame in the construction of cabins, restroom facilities, and other structures. Smaller scale changes include the use of asphalt rather than stone in the construction of culverts; the replacement of stone water fountains with cement water fountains; and the absence of amenities such as benches and steps along the newer hiking trails. Maintenance areas at the newer parks are built of cinderblock, corrugated metal, and chain link fencing, rather than frame buildings with board-and-batten siding. These changes undoubtedly reflect practical issues of labor and cost effectiveness. Indeed, it is unlikely that an organization comparable to the CCC, which provided high-quality, low-cost labor, will ever be formed again. This lack of attention to detail, however, has undoubtedly taken its toll in the overall appearance and atmosphere of some of the newer parks, and in maintenance and repairs at the older ones.

Natural Areas

The concept of the Natural Areas System was developed in the 1960s in response to the environmental movement, with the aim of "preserving, in an unspoiled condition, examples of each of the Old Dominion's natural land types."⁷⁵ No formal plans were prepared for the natural areas. Except for providing basic entry, parking, and toilet facilities they are generally left undisturbed. Some of the natural areas also feature guided walks, carefully laid out to prevent erosion. The guiding development documents for these parks are usually written "task force directives" rather than rendered plans. However, as a part of the natural area program, formalized interpretive programs were developed by the Division of Parks and Recreation. For the interpretive programs, the division procured the services of historians and naturalists to conduct evening lectures, lead walks, and prepare self-guided tours through natural areas, historical parks, and state parks. The aim of the program is to enhance the visitor's experience by providing more information about the historical or natural resources that make each park distinctive.

⁷⁵ "Still Growing After Fifty Years," 4.

WELFARE AND GOVERNMENT THEME: THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

On April 17, 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps was established as a part of the New Deal's Emergency Conservation Work Program, giving the president the authority to enlist a civilian workforce of unemployed youths between the ages of eighteen and twenty five "for the performance of useful public work, and other purposes."⁷⁶ The establishment of the CCC is recognized as one of Roosevelt's most popular acts, favored by Democrats and Republicans alike.⁷⁷ The opening sentence of a newspaper article written in 1934 clearly expressed the national enthusiasm for the program: "No matter what he may think about the New Deal as a whole, or about any of its specific phases, any person must go far afield to criticize the Civilian Conservation Corps."⁷⁸ The CCC worked on three hundred different types of projects under ten general classifications: structural improvements, transportation, erosion control, flood control, forest culture, forest protection, landscape and recreation, range, wildlife, and emergency work.⁷⁹ In terms of state parks, one writer has commented that "the CCC program set the state parks movement forward a good fifty years."⁸⁰ In Virginia, as in many other states, the CCC was instrumental in the development and construction of all aspects of the state parks before World War II, doing work of a quality that has remained unmatched since that time.

With the establishment of the CCC, the Roosevelt administration addressed two pressing issues. By the early thirties, millions of Americans had lost their jobs as a result of the financial upheaval of the Depression. Among the young and very old, unemployment was a particular problem. It was estimated in 1932 that one in four of those between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four were completely unemployed, with an additional twenty-nine percent working only part time.⁸¹ For an estimated two hundred and fifty thousand young men, the situation grew so desperate that they had "abandoned all pretense to a settled existence, and simply taken to the road, traveling in freight cars or on foot, sleeping in caves or in shanty towns, aimlessly drifting in

⁷⁶ Merrill, Appendix B, 198.

⁷⁷ John Salmond, ch. 6.

⁷⁸ Ward and Davison 1.

⁷⁹ Merrill, 9.

⁸⁰ Newton, 576.

⁸¹ John Salmond, *The Civilian Conservation Corps* (Durham, N.C. Duke University Press, 1967), Ch. 6.

search of vanished security."⁸² Through the creation of the CCC, which provided jobs for two hundred and fifty thousand youths in the very first year it was created, and an estimated 2,500,000 after six years, the government directly and efficiently provided some relief for unemployed youth.⁸³

The Civilian Conservation Corps, as suggested by its name, was also intended to deal with the urgent conservation problems that had developed in the United States. By 1933, roughly eighty-seven percent of the virgin timber land that had once covered the continental United States had been destroyed. The destruction of the forest, in turn, had led to increased soil erosion; by 1934 one-sixth of the continent had been irreparably eroded.⁸⁴ Roosevelt's concern with environmental issues was well established before the formation of the CCC. A belief in the moral value of interacting with nature and the superiority of a rural existence had traditionally guided both his personal and political decisions. Only twenty-seven days after he became president, on March 31, 1933, Roosevelt signed an act of Congress conferring broad executive power for national recovery "in order to provide for the restoration of the country's depleted natural resources and the advancement of an orderly program of useful public work."⁸⁵ With the establishment of the CCC, Roosevelt created a civilian army of unemployed youths, bringing together "two wasted resources, the young men and the land, in an attempt to save both."⁸⁶

The responsibility of organizing the ranks of the CCC was given to the Department of Labor, which used local or county relief organizations to select the enrollees. CCC "troops" were assigned to a wide variety of projects directed mainly by the various divisions of the Agriculture and Interior departments. The National Park Service was the agency within the Department of the Interior chosen to direct the CCC program in the national, state, and metropolitan parks.⁸⁷ In order to coordinate activities among state and local authorities and the National Park Service, the NPS established the Branch of Planning and State Cooperation, directed by the assistant director of the parks service, Conrad Wirth. Wirth established regional offices to direct ECW work in

⁸² Salmond, 3.

⁸³ Merrill, 11.

⁸⁴ Salmond, 4.

⁸⁵ Newton, 577.

⁸⁶ Salmond, 4.

⁸⁷ Lotspeich, 14.

the state parks.⁸⁸ These regional offices provided technical, design, and administrative assistance for both the improvement of existing state parks or, as in the case of Virginia, the creation of new ones.

In Virginia, as in other states, CCC enrollees were paid \$30 a month, and were expected "to be willing to make monthly allotments home to their families." Enrollees were between eighteen and twenty-five, and generally untrained, though allowance was also made for the selection of several thousand local experienced men, called LEMs, to work with and train the new enrollees. Enrollment generally lasted for one year. Once enrolled, CCC troops were given a full physical examination and were supplied with clothing appropriate for the climate in which they would be working. Enrollees lived in tents or wooden barracks and ate three meals a day in a camp mess hall. (fig. 35) The work day generally started between 7:30 and 8:00 A. M. and lasted until 4:00 P. M., with a break for lunch at noon. Between the end of work and supper, enrollees were encouraged to participate in athletic activities, and many camps put together teams that played in competitive leagues with other CCC camps. After supper, classes were offered through the camps' education programs.⁸⁹ These classes developed out of Director Fechner's philosophy that the CCC should serve as much to educate the enrollees as to employ them.⁹⁰

In Virginia, there were forty-eight white and twelve "colored" camps of 200 men each by 1934. By 1937 the total number of camps had risen to seventy-three. These camps were located in all regions of the state, but almost half of the camps were in the mountains, representing a high level of forest work.⁹¹ In 1937, thirty-eight CCC camps worked under the administration of the Forest Service in private, national or state forests; sixteen worked for the National Park Service, either at Shenandoah National Park, or the National Capital Parks Project; eleven camps worked at the state parks; four worked on military reservations; and four worked for the Tennessee Valley Authority.⁹² In 1934, after the CCC had been in Virginia for just twelve months, it was reported that they had already achieved "the improvement of 60,799 acres of forest by thinning, the reduction of fire hazards over 64,738 acres, the building of 2,244 miles of

⁸⁸ Newton, 578.

⁸⁹ Merrill, 11.; Salmond, 13.

⁹⁰ Conrad Wirth, *Parks Politics and the People* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1980), 81-82.

⁹¹ Ward and Davison, 1.

⁹² Merrill, 184.

roads and trails, and the construction of approximately 314 miles of telephone lines."⁹³ By 1939, the Virginia CCC could add to their list of achievements the construction of facilities for six new recreational parks, four recreational areas, and three historic parks.

⁹³ Ward and Davison, 1.

MILITARY THEME: SAYLER'S CREEK AND STAUNTON RIVER BRIDGE BATTLEFIELDS

Two of the properties managed by the Division of Parks and Recreation are the sites of important Civil War battles. The first is Saylor's Creek Battlefield Historical State Park, located off of State Route 307 in Amelia County. The second is Staunton River Bridge Battlefield Park, an undeveloped parcel of land located approximately ten miles north of Staunton River State Park, at Staunton River Bridge on the line between Charlotte and Halifax counties.

Saylor's Creek Battlefield, located in Amelia and Prince Edward Counties, is the site of the last major battle of the Civil War. In this historic battle, which took place on April 6, 1865, confederate troops directed by General Robert E. Lee were defeated by the forces of the Union cavalry, directed by General Philip Sheridan. In the course of this battle Lee lost more than 8,000 men—more than half of his entire army. This was the largest number of men ever to surrender in a single action on this continent. Seventy hours after this terrible defeat, General Lee surrendered at Appomatox, ending the four-year Civil War.

Saylor's Creek is also the site of the Hillsman House, a story-and-a-half residence built between 1770 and 1800 by Moses Overton, which was used as a hospital for both Confederate and Union soldiers during the battle. The battlefield and the Hillsman House are on the National Register of Historic Places. More detailed historical information about the site can be found in the 1982 National Register nomination.⁹⁴

Staunton River Bridge Battlefield Park was the site of the Battle of Staunton River Bridge, which took place on June 25, 1864. In this battle "a small band of old men and boys" fought off a "vastly superior Federal force" composed of two brigades of cavalry led by General James H. Wilson. Wilson and his troops had set out on an expedition to destroy part of the Richmond and Danville Railroad, including the railroad bridge across Staunton River near Clover Depot, to interrupt Confederate communications. As the Union troops approached, Confederate Captain Farinholt and Colonel Henry E. Coleman rounded up a force of 150 men to defend the bridge.

⁹⁴ Christopher M. Calkins. Nomination of Saylor's Creek Battlefield to the National Register of Historic Places, June, 1984, (DHL File 04-19).

Despite the fact that they were outnumbered ten to one, the tiny Confederate band claimed victory burying "one hundred and thirty-five dead Yankees," and saving the bridge.⁹⁵ A modern trestle now stands at the site but remains of earthworks still exist.

⁹⁵ Herman Ginther, Captain Staunton's River (Richmond, Va.: The Dietz Press, n.d.), 45-47.

EVALUATION OF PROPERTIES

The properties owned by the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources have been evaluated to determine their significance in history, design, and culture using the survey information and historic contexts developed during the course of this project. The survey team applied two tests for significance: a property must 1) represent a significant pattern or theme in the history, design, or culture of the nation, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or the locality in which it is located; and 2) possess integrity—that is it must retain the essential characteristics that make it a good representative of a particular theme or pattern. National Register criteria recognize the following seven aspects, or qualities which, in various combinations, define integrity: historic location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Significant properties managed by the Division of Parks and Recreation generally belong to one of the following major property types: CCC-era parks (Douthat, Fairystone, Hungry Mother, Seashore, Staunton River and Westmoreland), recreation demonstration areas (Pocahontas), recreation areas (Holliday Lake, Bear Creek and Twin Lakes), and historical parks (Sayler's Creek, Staunton River Bridge Battlefield, George Washington' Grist Mill, Southwest Virginia Museum). In addition, several of the later parks include historic buildings or farms (such as the Howe House at Claytor Lake State Park, or the Turner Farm at Sky Meadows State Park) that predate the establishment of the park and are significant primarily in architecture.

The scope of the project did not include an archaeological component and no archaeological studies have been made. It can be assumed, however, that some of the properties included in the survey will have archaeological significance. It is recommended that an evaluation be conducted by a qualified archaeologist before land disturbing activities are planned and executed on these parks.

Bear Creek Lake, Cumberland County

Developed by the State Forestry Office on land originally controlled by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as part of its resettlement program, Bear Creek Lake was one of four recreation areas developed in Virginia by CCC camps under the direction of the United States Forestry Service although it subsequently came under the management in 1939 by what is now the Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation. Unlike the state parks, which were developed according to detailed master plans prepared in cooperation with the National Park Service, the recreation

areas were designed and built without formal plans and consequently do not exhibit the same high level of design, workmanship, or detailing. Bear Creek is a typical recreation area where only a very few structures were developed and the major impact of the Forestry-Service-controlled CCC camps was in clearing and reforesting land. Only the rustic CCC-era structures documented at this park (the picnic areas and shelters) should be included in a multiple property nomination of Virginia's CCC-era properties.

A list of surveyed resources follows.

Shelter #1 (01002)	1936
Shelter #2 (01003)	1936
Well House #14 (01014)	1932
Circulation System	c1932-1936
Picnic Areas	c1932-1936
Lake, Spillway, and Dam	c1932

Chippokes State Park

Farmed continuously for more than three hundred and fifty years, Chippokes Plantation, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, is a 1,403 acre tract located on the south side of the James River just downstream and across from the site of Jamestown, Virginia's first capital. Part of Chippokes State Park since 1968, the farm is significant for its history, architecture, and archaeological sites. The plantation is named for Choapeake, an Indian chief who held the land prior to 1620. For more than two centuries following English settlement there, Chippokes was owned by a succession of absentee landlords, being farmed by tenants, overseers, and slaves. In 1837, local planter Albert C. Jones purchased the farm, enlarging the c1830 River House and later building the Italianate brick mansion that bears his name. In 1918 Victor W. Stewart, a wealthy Petersburg lumberman, purchased Chippokes and made it a showcase farm. Two years after his death in 1965, his wife Evelyn Bleakley Stewart donated the farm to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Chippokes was established as a state park in 1967 and the state has since opened the property to the public operating it as a modern farm and museum of plantation life. Besides possessing significant examples of 19th-century domestic architecture and a representative assemblage of early 20th-century sharecroppers' houses, Chippokes contains more than thirty-four historic and prehistoric archaeological sites with cultural remains dating from 3,000 B.C. to the early 20th century. Four of the 17th-century sites

hold particular potential for broadening our understanding of the crucial first epoch of colonization and development in Virginia.

Contributing resources in the original survey and nomination include:

Mansion (02001)	1854
Kitchen (02002)	1854
Information Center (02003)	1925
Gardener's Quarters (02004)	1925
Carriage House (02005)	1925
Garden Toilet (02006)	1925
Residence (02007)	1930
Barn (02008)	1930
Barn (02009)	1930
Barn (02010)	1930
Corn Crib (02011)	1930
Horse Barn (02012)	1930
Barn Shop (02013)	1930
Barn (02014)	1930
Dwelling (02015)	1900
Dwelling (02017)	1900
Plantation House (02019)	1842
Barn (02021)	1930
Barn (02022)	1930
Dwelling (02023)	1890
Dwelling (02025)	1930
Dwelling (02026)	1930
Dwelling (02037)	1930

Claytor Lake, Pulaski County

Developed as a state park in 1951, the 472-acre park has no historic or architectural significance within the contexts developed for state parks. However, a pre-existing dwelling (the Howe House), a late-19th-century, two-story, Italianate style, brick building with two-story rear ell has architectural significance. Built for Haven B. and Catherine Howe between 1876 and 1879, the house is used as the park's visitor center. The interior of the house was unavailable for inspection during the site visit. Although a handicapped access ramp has been incorporated into the porch, the exterior of the house retains a substantial degree of integrity. The development of the nearby lake, gazebo, and park, however, have diminished the integrity of the house environs and its previously agricultural setting. There may be associations with themes pertaining to local history which were not determined during this survey. The Howe House should be reevaluated in the context of Pulaski County architecture of

the period and, if it is deemed eligible in that context, included in a multiple property nomination for the county.

The following building was included in the survey:

Howe House (02544) 1876-1879

Douthat, Bath County

Douthat State Park, a 4,493-acre district listed in the National Register of Historic Places, is significant for its craftsmanship and the interrelationship between architectural and landscape design. The park, a major project associated with the New Deal and the state parks movement, was built between 1933 and 1942. Retaining its original spirit and character, the park possesses a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. The district, which contains the park in its entirety, features a fifty-acre lake that serves as the focal point of the park's scenic and recreational resources. The CCC was responsible for the construction of the twenty-five rustic cabins, mountain-top guest lodge, restaurant, bathhouse and boathouse, picnic shelters, support staff and maintenance facilities, tent and trailer campgrounds, as well the dam, spillways, lake, and circulation system. The park is one of three in the park system to have CCC-era equestrian trails, stables and barns. Also particularly notable is the intact condition of such landscape details as stone culverts, walls, and steps.

The following contributing properties were included in the original survey and nomination :

Main Shop (03502)	1934
Blacksmith Shop (03503)	1934
Woodshed (03504)	1934
Equipment Shed (03505)	1934
Storage Building (03506)	1934
Naturalist's Quarters (03507)	1934
Information Center (03508)	1934
Group Comp Shelter (03513)	1935
Picnic Toilet #1 (03515)	1936
Picnic Toilet #2 (03516)	1936
Restaurant (03517)	1937
Boathouse (03518)	1934

Superintendent's Residence (03520)	1937
Beach House (03522)	1938
Cabin #1 (03523)	1935
Cabin #2 (03524)	1935
Cabin #3 (03525)	1935
Cabin #4 (03526)	1935
Cabin #5 (03527)	1935
Cabin #6 (03528)	1935
Cabin #7 (03529)	1935
Cabin #8 (03530)	1935
Cabin #9 (03531)	1935
Cabin #10 (03532)	1936
Cabin #11 (03533)	1936
Cabin #12 (03534)	1936
Cabin #13 (03535)	1936
Cabin #14 (03536)	1936
Cabin #15 (03537)	1936
Cabin #16 (03538)	1936
Cabin #17 (03539)	1936
Cabin #18 (03540)	1936
Cabin #19 (03541)	1935
Cabin #20 (03542)	1935
Cabin #21 (03543)	1935
Guest Lodge (03544)	1935
Cabin #22 (03550)	1936
Cabin #23 (03551)	1936
Cabin #24 (03552)	1936
Cabin #25 (03553)	1936
Well #1 (03556)	1937
Booster Station (03557)	1937
Guest Lodge (03558)	1937
Picnic Shelter #2 (03561)	1938
Paint Shed (03562)	1934

Fairy Stone, Patrick County

The 4,570-acre Fairy Stone State Park is significant for the quality of its overall site planning, the craftsmanship of its rustic architecture, and the interrelationship of architectural and landscape design. A major project associated with the New Deal and the state parks movement, the park was built between 1933 and 1938. The park features a 168-acre lake that serves as the focal point of the park's scenic and recreational resources. The CCC was responsible for the construction of nine rustic cabins, a restaurant, picnic shelters, tent and trailer campgrounds, the dam, spillways, lake, and circulation system. A notable survival from the era of the park's construction is an intact bunkhouse built as a dormitory for the CCC. It is one of three state parks

with CCC-era horse stables and equestrian paths. Despite the loss of some original buildings, the park retains substantial integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association and is relatively free of intrusion. The original CCC-era park should be nominated as a district with its original boundaries as district boundaries.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

Cabin #1 (04001)	1933
Cabin #2 (04002)	1936
Cabin #3 (04003)	1937
Cabin #4 (04004)	1936
Cabin #5 (04005)	1936
Cabin #6 (04006)	1936
Cabin #7 (04007)	1936
Cabin #8 (04008)	1936
Cabin #9 (04009)	1936
Stable/Barn (04026)	1936
Lower Bath (04028)	1936
Picnic Shelter #2 (04030)	1938
Garage (04055)	1936
Superintendent's Residence (04040)	1935
Bunkhouse (04043)	1938
Log Toilet (04031)	1936
Allied Cook Shelter (04053)	1938
Restaurant (04034)	1936
Circulation System	1936
Lake, Dam, & Spillway	1936
Picnic Areas	1936
Cabin Areas	1936
Campgrounds	1936
Beach Area	1936

George Washington Grist Mill, Fairfax County

The first of Virginia's state parks and the first historical park developed in the state, this seven-acre park is located on the site of George Washington's grist mill. When evaluated in the context of the life Washington, the property retains little integrity. The original mill no longer exists, and the extant structures were built by the CCC as reconstructions for the historical park. Since the structures have been reconstructed for interpretive purposes, they do not appear to be eligible for the National Register. However, the property should be reevaluated for eligibility in the context of other early-twentieth-century commemorative reconstructions as more research is done and

increased information becomes available. The property also has a history of local use and may have associations with local history that have not been identified in this survey.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

Grist Mill (05001)	1932
Miller's House (05002)	1932

Grayson Highlands, Grayson County

Developed as a state park in 1965, the 4754-acre park has no historic or architectural significance within the contexts developed for state parks. There may be additional significant associations pertaining to local history which were not determined during this survey. The following Depression-era farm buildings (exclusive of the Jones Graveyard) are located adjacent to the park maintenance area, approximately one mile from the park itself, and were documented during the survey.

Non-contributing structures surveyed include:

Shop (06002)	1934
Tool Shed (06001)	1934
Toilet (06003)	1934
Office and Storage (06005)	1934
Barn and Equipment Shed (06006)	1934
Jones Family Graveyard	c. 1880

Holliday Lake, Appomattox County

Developed by the State Forestry Office on land originally controlled by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as part of its resettlement program, the 250 acre Holliday Lake State Park was one of four recreation areas developed in Virginia by CCC camps under the direction of the United States Forestry Service. It is currently managed by the Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation which assumed operation of the facility in 1939. Unlike the state parks, which were developed according to detailed master plans prepared in cooperation with the National Park Service, the recreation areas were designed and built without formal plans and consequently do not exhibit the same high level of design, workmanship, or detailing. Holliday Lake is a typical recreation area where only a very few structures were developed and the major impact of the Forestry-Service-controlled CCC camps was in clearing and

reforesting land. The rustic CCC-era structures documented at this park should be included in a multiple property nomination for this area.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

- Shelter c1939
- Picnic Area c1939
- Circulation System c1939
- Lake, Dam, and Spillway c1939
- Well House c1939

Hungry Mother, Smyth County

Hungry Mother State Park, a 2,180-acre park, is significant for the quality of its overall site planning, the craftsmanship of its rustic architecture, and the interrelationship of architectural and landscape design. The park, a major project associated with the New Deal and the state parks movement, was built between 1935 and 1940. The park features a 108-acre lake that serves as the focal point of the park's scenic and recreational resources. The CCC was responsible for the construction of fourteen rustic cabins, a mountaintop lodge, restaurant, picnic shelters, maintenance and support staff facilities, tent and trailer campgrounds, the dam, spillways, lake, and circulation system. The park has the most complete and intact staff dwelling and maintenance areas of any of the CCC-era state parks in Virginia. It is one of three parks with CCC-era equestrian paths. Other notable features include the stone culverts, walls, and steps that survive in good condition. The park has experienced minimal loss of original buildings and retains substantial integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Only the existence of Route 348 north of the lake—a road that predated the park but that today experiences increased traffic—disturbs the scenic beauty and tranquility of the park. The original CCC-era park should be nominated as a district with its original boundaries as district boundaries.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

Superintendent's Residence (07501)	1935
Assistant Superintendent's Residence (07502)	1935
Shelter #1 (07512)	1935
Shelter #2 (07513)	1935
Restaurant (07515)	1935
Restaurant Storage (07516)	1935
Boat Dock Shed (07517)	1940
Boat House (07519)	1935
Toilet (Long John) (07520)	1935
Toilet (Stone John) (07521)	1935
Nature Center (07523)	1935
Cabin #1 (07525)	1935
Cabin #2 (07526)	1935
Cabin #3 (07527)	1935
Cabin #4 (07528)	1935
Cabin #5 (07529)	1935
Cabin #6 (07530)	1940

Cabin #7 (07531)	1935
Cabin #8 (07532)	1940
Cabin #9 (07533)	1935
Cabin #10 (07534)	1940
Cabin #11 (07535)	1940
Cabin #12 (07536)	1940
Cabin #13 (07537)	1940
Cabin #14 (07538)	1940
Bunk House (07551)	1935
Shop (07552)	1935
Storage Shed (07553)	1940
Service Shed /Garage (07554)	1940
Blacksmith Shop (07555)	1935
Circulation System	1936
Lake, Dam & Spillway	1936
Picnic Areas	1936
Cabin Areas	1936
Campgrounds	1936
Beach Area	1936

Natural Tunnel, Scott County

A 1925 storage building and the 1945 Powell Residence listed on FAACS have been demolished. The site (including the Natural Tunnel itself) was visited and documented. No significance to the contexts identified for Virginia State Parks was determined at this time. The significance of the site appears to be primarily natural and not cultural although its associations with railroad history could be evaluated when the appropriate contexts are developed.

Pocahontas, Chesterfield County

Pocahontas State Park (formerly Swift Creek Recreation Area) was one of two Recreation Demonstration Areas developed in Virginia, (and one of forty-six developed throughout the nation) by the National Park Service as part of the Federal Emergency Relief Land Program of 1934. The park, a major project associated with the New Deal, the recreation demonstration area program, and the state and national park movements, was built between 1935 and 1940. It is unique among the Virginia state parks as the only park developed specifically for use by large groups rather than single families or individuals. Although physically one of the smaller parks in Virginia, Swift Creek had (and Pocahontas still retains) the largest numbers of buildings built during the CCC era. The 1783-acre park is significant for the quality of its overall site planning, the craftsmanship of its rustic architecture, and the interrelationship of architectural and landscape design. The park features a 156-acre lake that serves as

the focal point of the park's scenic and recreational resources. The CCC was responsible for the construction of more than thirty-five rustic cabins, two dining halls, two crafts buildings, a recreational lodge, a restaurant, picnic shelters, maintenance and support staff facilities, tent and trailer campgrounds, the dam, spillways, lake, and circulation system. The park has experienced minimal loss of original buildings and retains substantial integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Pocahontas should be nominated as a remarkably intact and exemplary example of a CCC-era Recreation Demonstration Area.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

Office (10501)	1930
Superintendent's Residence (10503)	1930
Superintendent's Garage (10504)	1937
Chief Ranger Storage (10505)	1935
Storage (10506)	1935
Pump House #2 (10509)	1935
Restroom Stable (10512)	1935
Office Stables (10513)	1935
Feed Room Shelters (10514)	1935
Shop Building (10515)	1935
Shop Building (10516)	1935
Shop Building (10518)	1935
Picnic Shelter (10519)	1935
Boat House (10525)	1935
Beach Rd. Chesterfield (10526)	1935
Camp B. Picnic Shelter (10529)	1935
Visitor Center (10530)	1935
Pottery Kiln (10531)	1940
Director's Cabin (10532)	1935
Staff Quarters (10533)	1935
Restroom with shower (10534)	1935
Dining Hall (10535)	1935
Craft Bldg. (10536)	1935
Craft Bldg. (10537)	1935
Mattress Room (10538)	1935
Garage (10539)	1935
Naturalist's Quarters (10540)	1935
Lodge (10542)	1935
Large Cabin (10543)	1935
Large Cabin (10544)	1935
Large Cabin (10545)	1935
Large Cabin (10546)	1935
Small Cabin (10547)	1935

Restroom (10548)	1935
A & B Showers (10549)	1935
A & B Showers (10550)	1935
Lodge (10551)	1935
Large Cabin (10552)	1935
Small Cabin (10553)	1935
Large Cabin (10554)	1935
Large Cabin (10555)	1935
Restroom (10556)	1935
Large Cabin (10557)	1935
Large Cabin (10558)	1935
Large Cabin (10559)	1935
Large Cabin (10560)	1935
Cabin (10561)	1935
Large Cabin (10562)	1935
Small Cabin (10563)	1935
Restroom (10564)	1935
Lodge (10565)	1935
Medium Cabin (10566)	1935
Medium Cabin (10567)	1935
Medium Cabin (10568)	1935
Medium Cabin (10569)	1935
Medium Cabin (10570)	1935
Cabin (10571)	1935
Cabin (10572)	1935
Cabin (10573)	1935
Staff Quarters (10574)	1935
Cabin (10575)	1935
Garage & Wellhouse (10576)	1935
Craft Building (10577)	1935
Staff Quarters (10578)	1935
Restrooms w>Showers (10579)	1935
Ranger Residence (10580)	1935
Cabin (10581)	1935
Large Cabin (10582)	1935
Medium Cabin (10583)	1935
Large Cabins (10584)	1935
Cabin (10585)	1935
Medium Cabin (10586)	1935
Cabin (10587)	1935
Small Cabin (10588)	1935
Lodge (10589)	1935
Medium Cabin (10590)	1935
Large Cabin (10591)	1935
Medium Cabin (10592)	1935
Large Cabin (10593)	1935
Small Cabin (10594)	1935
Restroom (10595)	1935
Lodge (10596)	1935

Small Cabin (10597)	1935
Dining Hall (10598)	1935
Rec. Cabin-Medium (10599)	1936
Restroom/showers (10541)	1936
Machinery Building (10600)	1935
Lake, Spillway, and Dam	1935
Circulation System	1935

Sayler's Creek Historical Battlefield, Amelia County

Sayler's Creek Battlefield State Park, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, is significant as the site of the last major battle of the Civil War between the armies under General Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant before the capitulation at Appomatox Courthouse on April 9, 1865.

In the course of the three engagements that took place here, Lee lost 7,700 men including eight generals. The success of the Federal forces in this battle led to the final downfall of Lee's army three days later. The three engagements that made up this battle were led by some of the most famous military leaders from both the North and South.

The Hillsman House, located on the boundary of the state park, was built by Moses Overton between 1770-1800 and is an example of colonial architecture. Its role in the battle lay in the fact that it served as a hospital for both Union and Confederate soldiers.

The Hillsman House and battlefield have been redocumented as a part of this survey.

Hillsman House (11001)	1780
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Seashore, Virginia Beach

Seashore State Park, a 2,770-acre park, is significant for the quality of its overall site planning, the adaptation of the traditional rustic park architecture to a coastal setting, and the interrelationship of architectural and landscape design. The park, a major project associated with the New Deal and state parks movement, was built between 1935 and 1940. Despite its waterfront setting and periodic storm damage, the park retains a number of original buildings and substantial integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship and feeling. A large portion of its acreage has been

designated and protected from development as a National Natural Landmark. Because the park was developed adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay there was no need for creation of a man-made lake. The CCC was responsible for the construction of seven cabins, the Big H complex (which housed the bathhouse and restaurant), picnic shelters, staff and maintenance facilities, tent and trailer campgrounds, and circulation system. The original CCC-era park should be nominated as a district with its original boundaries as district boundaries.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

Superintendent's House (04501)	1932
Utility Shed (04507)	1945
Cabin #1 (11501)	1936
Cabin #2 (11502)	1936
Cabin #3 (11503)	1936
Cabin #4 (11504)	1936
Cabin #5 (11505)	1936
Cabin #6 (11506)	1936
Cabin #20 (11521)	1936
Bathroom B (11522)	1943
Bathroom F (11527)	1936
Bathroom E (11528)	1936
Big H Complex (11534)	1936
Old Office Storage (11535)	1936
Shop (11536)	1936
Equipment Shed (11537)	1936
Superintendent Residence(11538)	1936
Residence (11540)	1936
Superintendent's Garage (11548)	1936
Toilet (11545)	1936
Circulation System	1936
Picnic Areas	1936
Cabin Areas	1936
Campgrounds	1936
Beach Area	1936

Shot Tower Historical Park, Wythe County

The shot tower, built in 1807 for the manufacture of firearms for frontier settlers, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Sited on a bluff overlooking the New River, this impressive structure is one of only three remaining shot towers in the United States.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

Tower (02544)	1807
Cottage/ Restroom (12003)	1900

Sky Meadows, Fauquier County

The Mount Bleak and Turner farms, which were consolidated into the present Sky Meadows State Park, have a substantial degree of integrity and represent a well-maintained 19th-century rural landscape. A portion of the farm is still used as a working cattle farm with a tenant farmer resident on the property. The only new facilities that have been built are agricultural in nature. The Mount Bleak farmhouse is used as the park's central visitor center. Both 19th- and 20th-century agricultural buildings including a large barn, small bank barn, cattle scales, and sheds survive on the Turner Farm. The site has been relatively undisturbed by modern roads, or the construction of recreational facilities and appears to retain integrity according to the criteria that the National Register is developing for rural historic districts. This relatively intact, historic landscape needs in-depth investigation to determine if it should be nominated either as one rural historic district, incorporating both the Mt. Bleak Farm and the Turner Farm, with the park boundaries serving as district boundaries, or as part of a larger rural district or multiple property nomination for the Sky Meadows vicinity.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

Log Slave Dwelling (12501)	pre-1860
Main House (12502)	1830
Garage (12509)	1900
Corn Crib (12509)	1900
Rental Tenant House (12511)	19th century
Second Main House (12512)	19th century
Barn (12520)	1930
Barn, Hay Storage (12520)	1900
Scales for Cattle	1930
Equipment Storage	1930
Turner Residence	19th century
Turner Springhouse	1930
Turner Shed	1930
Turner Shed	1930

Smith Mountain Lake State Park

Smith Mountain Lake State Park includes the former Five Oaks Plantation, an antebellum plantation owned by the Saunders family from 1855 until 1931. In 1969 the commonwealth purchased the plantation along with other acreage on Smith Mountain Lake to create the park. The brick plantation house, believed to be one of the earliest brick residences built in its region, still stands although it is in a state of serious disrepair owing to neglect and vandalism. Other properties in the park associated with the Five Oaks plantation era include a dilapidated outbuilding adjacent to the plantation house; an abandoned residence; and three tobacco barns in fair condition.

The five buildings surveyed at Smith Mountain Lake have limited significance as representative structures from the plantation era in Virginia; in light of their relatively poor condition and the considerable changes wrought on the surrounding site with the construction of Smith Mountain Lake and the state park, they have not been evaluated as eligible for individual nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

However, the Saunders House and its immediate environs appear to be significant in terms of local history, and should be included in a multiple property nomination for the county.

Saunders House (13001)	c1860
Abandoned Dwelling	early 20th century
Tobacco Barn #1	early 20th century
Tobacco Barn #2	early 20th century

Southwest Virginia Historical Museum, Wise County

SWVM is significant as one of the grand mansions built in Big Stone Gap during the 1890s by the wave of speculators who were lured to the area by the discovery of abundant natural resources including coal and iron. The house was built for Rufus Ayers, attorney general of Virginia from 1886 to 1890. There may be additional associations with contexts pertaining to local history which were not determined during this survey. The property appears to be significant in the context of local architecture and history and should be included in a multiple property nomination for Big Stone Gap.

The following two buildings were included in the survey:

Museum (13501)	1893
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Staunton River, Halifax County

The 1414-acre Staunton River State Park is significant for the quality of its overall site planning, the craftsmanship of its rustic architecture and the interrelationship of architectural and landscape design. The park was developed adjacent to the Staunton River, a recreational and scenic focal point of the park. The CCC was responsible for the construction of eight rustic cabins, a restaurant (current visitor center), picnic shelters, maintenance and support staff facilities, tent and trailer campgrounds, and circulation system. The park is one of only two to retain its original bathhouse and is the only park with a surviving boat storage house. It was the only one of the six Virginia CCC-era parks to include a swimming pool complex, a feature that still survives today. The park has experienced minimal loss of original buildings and retains substantial integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. The original CCC-era park should be nominated as a district with its original boundaries as district boundaries.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

Chief Ranger's Residence (14002)	1936
Picnic Area Toilet #1 (14004)	1940
Picnic Area Toilet #2 (14005)	1940
Picnic Shelter #1 (14006)	1935
Picnic Shelter #2 (14007)	1935
Visitor Center (14008)	1935
Pool Bath House (14009)	1935
Chlorinator House (14010)	1935
Chief Ranger's Garage (14022)	1936
Cabin #1 (14023)	1934
Cabin #2 (14024)	1934
Cabin #3 (14025)	1934
Cabin #4 (14026)	1934
Cabin #5 (14027)	1934
Cabin #6 (14028)	1934
Cabin #7 (14029)	1934
Cabin #8 (14030)	1934
Boat Storage (14021)	1936
Metal Pipe Shop (14012)	1936
Oil House/Storage (14014)	1936
Carpenter Shop (14013)	1936
Filter Pump House (14015)	1936
Pressure Pump House (14017)	1936
Circulation System	1936
Picnic Areas	1936
Cabin Areas	1936
Campgrounds	1936
Pool Area	1936

Staunton River Bridge Battlefield

The site of the Staunton River Bridge Battlefield is significant in national, state, and local history as the site of a significant Civil War battle. The site has been acquired by the commonwealth and is under the administration of the Staunton River State Park Superintendent. The site is not interpreted and appears vulnerable to vandals and looters in search of Civil War artifacts. There should also be an archaeological investigation of the site and in-depth documentation of the site. The entire property and the bridge should be nominated to the National Register either individually or as part of a thematic nomination for other currently unlisted Civil War sites in Virginia.

Twin Lakes (formerly Goodwin Lake/Prince Edward), Prince Edward County

Developed by the State Forestry Office on land originally controlled by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as part of its resettlement program, Twin Lakes incorporates two (Goodwin Lake and Prince Edward) of the four recreation areas developed in Virginia by CCC camps under the direction of the United States Forestry Service. The Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation has managed both since 1939. Unlike the state parks, which were developed according to detailed master plans prepared in cooperation with the National Park Service, the recreation areas were designed and built without formal plans and consequently do not exhibit the same high level of design or workmanship.

Twin Lakes incorporates two previously segregated recreation areas—Goodwin Lake for whites and Prince Edward for blacks—that were combined into one state park in 1986. Prince Edward Lake had been upgraded to park status in 1949 with such developments as an improved swimming area and housekeeping cabins. The facilities at Prince Edward Lake, Virginia's only state park for blacks, while dating from the 1950s are based on the plans used at other state parks with the major difference being their execution in concrete block rather than log or wood. These facilities were closed in 1987 and some are threatened by lack of roof maintenance. The facilities portion of the park may qualify for the special exception criteria of the National Register as the only major state-owned recreational area for blacks during segregation if included in the multiple properties nomination for all parks.

Today's combined park combines characteristics of both a recreation area and a state park. The rustic CCC-era structures documented at Goodwin Lake also should be included in a multiple property nomination.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

<i>Goodwin Lake State Park</i>	
Equipment Shed (05504)	1940
Well House (05507)	1939
Staff Quarters (05512)	1935
Garage/Shop (05513)	1937
Blacksmith Shop (05515)	1937
Wood Storage #2 (05516)	1939
Stable (05517)	1939

Picnic Shelter #7 (05542)	1939
Circulation System	1939
Lake, Spillway, and Dam	1936
<i>Prince Edward Lake State Park</i>	
Concession/Bath House	1957
Storage Bldg (05514)	1937
Picnic Shelter #4 (05535)	1940
Picnic Area	1940
Lake, Spillway, and Dam	1936

Westmoreland, Westmoreland County

Westmoreland State Park, a 1,295-acre park, is significant for the quality of its overall site planning, the craftsmanship of its rustic architecture, and the interrelationship of architectural and landscape design. The park, a major project associated with the New Deal and state parks movement, was built between 1935 and 1940. The clay cliffs along the Potomac River park are a major focal point of the park's scenic and recreational resources. The CCC was responsible for the construction of nineteen rustic cabins, a restaurant, picnic shelters, maintenance and support staff facilities, tent and trailer campgrounds, and circulation system. The park is notable for its substantial landscape detailing, including stone culverts, walls, steps, major entry fountain and water fountains which survive in good condition. A unique feature of the park are the five overnight cabins with no housekeeping facilities. Located within campgrounds, the tiny cabins still provide overnight facilities for campers without access to tents and trailers. The park has experienced minimal loss of original buildings (although the bathhouse was a major loss) and retains substantial integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The original CCC-era park should be nominated as a district with its original boundaries as district boundaries.

Contributing resources surveyed include:

Superintendent's Residence (15002)	1930
Assistant Superintendent's Residence (15003)	1938
A Area Toilet (15005)	1935
Net House Storage (15011)	1933
Oil House (15012)	1933
Storage (15013)	1933
Blacksmith Shop (15014)	1933
Office (15015)	1937
Garage (15016)	1937
Restaurant (15017)	1936
Beach Concession (15020)	1936
Picnic Shelter 1 (15021)	1935
Picnic Shelter 2 (15022)	1935
Cabin (15024)	1933
Cabin #2 (15025)	1933
Cabin #3 (15026)	1933
Cabin #4 (15027)	1933
Cabin #5 (15028)	1933
Cabin #6 (15029)	1933
Cabin #7 (15030)	1933
Cabin #8 (15031)	1933
Cabin #9 (15032)	1933
Cabin #10 (15033)	1933
Cabin #11 (15034)	1942
Cabin #12 (15035)	1942
Overnight #26 (15049)	1937
Overnight #27 (15050)	1937
Overnight #28 (15051)	1937
Overnight #29 (15052)	1937
Overnight #30 (15053)	1937
Overnight #31 (15054)	1937
Naturalist's Quarters (Cabin #32)(15055)	1934
Circulation System	1936
Picnic Areas	1936
Cabin Areas	1936
Campgrounds	1936
Beach Area	1936

CURRENT PRESERVATION POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

National Role in Historic Preservation

Preserving historic resources has been a national policy since the passage of the Antiquities Act of 1906; significant expansion in historic preservation has occurred through the subsequent Historic Sites Act of 1935, and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. These last two laws made the Secretary of the Interior responsible for maintaining the National Register of Historic Places, a list of properties which have been evaluated as significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture, and worthy of preservation. The National Park Service maintains and expands the National Register of Historic Places on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior.

Nominations to the National Register for state-owned properties in Virginia are made by the State Historic Preservation Officer who is also the Director of the Division of Historic Landmarks, Department of Conservation and Historic Resources. Federal agencies request determinations of eligibility for properties that are subject to Federal, federally assisted, or federally licensed activities in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. For state-owned properties, a National Register designation accomplishes the following:

- increase public awareness of historic resources and may encourage preservation,
- may mitigate the negative impact of projects where there is federal involvement, but
- does not restrict the use of private funds.

Role of the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources

The General Assembly, in recognition of the value of the Commonwealth's cultural resources, provides for review by the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources of all rehabilitation and restoration plans for state-owned properties listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register to insure the preservation of their historic and architectural integrity. In this respect the Virginia Landmarks Register is a planning tool in the protection and wise use of significant historic properties in the Commonwealth.

Enabling Legislation

The specific provisions for review are defined in the 1987 Appropriations Act, 1987 Session, Virginia Acts of Assembly, Chapter 723, Section 4-4.01, p:

State-Owned Registered Historic Landmarks: To guarantee that the historical and/or architectural integrity of any state-owned properties listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the knowledge to be gained from archaeological sites will not be adversely affected because of inappropriate changes, the heads of those agencies in charge of such properties are directed to submit all plans for significant alterations, remodeling, redecoration, restoration or repairs that may basically alter the appearance of the structure, landscaping, or demolition to the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources. Such plans shall be reviewed within thirty days and the comments of that Department shall be submitted to the governor through the Department of General Services for use in making a final determination.

The 1987 Appropriations Act which supersedes the similar provisions of the 1986 Appropriations Act, places into the code the provisions of Executive Order Forty-Seven issued by Governor Mills Godwin in 1976. In that executive order Governor Godwin stated the rationale for safeguarding state-owned historic resources:

Virginia's many historic landmarks are among her most priceless possessions. The preservation of this historic resource should be of prime concern to all citizens. As Governor, I believe the Commonwealth should set an example by maintaining State-owned properties listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register according to the highest possible standards.

Departmental Policy and Authority

By memorandum dated 28 October 1986, B. C. Leynes, Jr., Director of the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources, delegated to the Division of Historic

Landmarks, subject to his continuing and ultimate authority, the responsibility for review of all plans for significant alterations, remodeling, redecoration, restoration, and repairs that may basically alter the integrity of state-owned registered historic landmarks, and to provide comments related to such plans to the governor, through the Department of General Services.

Application and Review Procedures

The 1987 Appropriations Act directs the heads of state agencies in charge of state-owned landmark properties to submit all plans for significant alterations, remodeling, redecoration, restoration or repairs that may basically alter the appearance of the structure, landscaping, or demolition to the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources. While capital projects represent the most obvious state-funded activities that affect historic resources, state agencies should notify the Division of any remodeling, redecoration, restoration, or repair, that could have an impact on the structure of visual character of a state-owned landmark or could affect archaeological sites. Even such normal maintenance including repointing brickwork, cleaning masonry, painting woodwork, or landscaping can compromise the integrity of a landmark if not done in accordance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*. The *Standards* encompass the most widely accepted principles regarding work undertaken on historic buildings in the United States and are used in review of all Federal projects involving historic properties listed in or eligible for listing in the the National Register of Historic Places. The Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks uses the Standards as a basis for evaluating proposed alterations to state-owned historic landmarks. The Standards are available without cost from the Division of Historic Landmarks.

PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commonwealth of Virginia through its Department of Conservation and Historic Resources owns and manages an outstanding collection of state parks of notable design quality. Although used primarily for outdoor recreation, they possess inherent historic and design values that must be respected. The necessary first step in their preservation is a recognition by the Commonwealth that these resources are indeed significant.

This recognition should be accomplished through listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places of the properties identified in the course of this survey and through the adoption of an official preservation policy by the board of the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources. This policy statement should reiterate the nature of the Department's resources; their significance to the Department and the Commonwealth; and the role that these resources play and have played in defining the image and environment of the commonwealth's state parks. Furthermore, the statement should pledge the Department to a course of using wisely the historic resources that have been entrusted to its care.

Given the age and heavy use of most of Virginia's parks and the limited amount of personnel and staff available for their preservation — coupled with the fact that they have only recently come to be regarded as historic resources, Virginia's state parks are a remarkably well-preserved historic resource. Increased emphasis on outdoor recreation and changing forms of outdoor recreation, such as the introduction of very large travel trailers, in the 1970s and 1980s, however, have placed new pressures on the parks that threaten the protection of their historic resources.

A number of issues face historic resources in the state parks. Significant details such as stone culverts at road edges, water fountains, and fire places are being lost because of the lack of skilled personnel to repair and rebuild them when necessary. As with our national parks, overuse is an issue in some of Virginia's state parks. It appears that at some parks, original CCC-era campgrounds will be taken out of use because of the stresses that overuse has wrought on them. Allowing these very significant designed outdoor spaces to regenerate without daily seasonal use will allow understory to grow and help protect them as resources. When they are removed from active use, they should not be destroyed or significantly altered, however. It also appears that there are plans to demolish a number of CCC-era maintenance buildings and to construct newer facilities more suited to today's maintenance needs. If the need for new facilities can be substantiated, the old maintenance areas should be preserved and adaptive uses found for them and new maintenance areas developed in areas that are not highly visible. Until recently most of the parks have been located in rural areas that were relatively undisturbed by contemporary development. Several parks in this last decade, however, have seen development occur adjacent. A new service station is under construction adjacent to Westmoreland's entrance and

residential units have been near the campground at Seashore State Park. The Department may do well to initiate an easement or other protection program to protect park environs and entrances from incompatible and unsightly development.

The historic buildings, structures, and landscape elements in the CCC-era parks constitute a finite resource worthy of protection. Since most of the pre-1940 elements of the parks have been evaluated as significant, adoption of the *Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation* could provide a vehicle for consistent standards of maintenance and repair throughout the parks. Although features such as trails and campgrounds receive heavy seasonal use, any necessary expansion or repair should be respectful of their original character. Original road widths and alignments are significant design components in the parks and should be preserved. Significantly altering either will diminish integrity. The introduction in the last decade of a new entry sign for the entire parks system has resulted in a departure from the traditional entry sign historically associated with the CCC-era parks. Parks eligible as historic districts should return to the traditional entry sign.

The Division of Parks and Recreation should consider creation of a staff position with responsibility for preservation and restoration in the parks. Each park for which a historic district is recommended needs a preservation plan that can be incorporated into its overall master plan; for some, master plans will require substantial revisions to accomplish preservation. Just as important as master plans, however, are the development of maintenance plans based on the *Secretary's Standards* to ensure that both historic buildings and landscape elements such as stone gutters and culverts are given proper care. All future master plans and rehabilitations to historic buildings should incorporate the principles of the *Standards* and acknowledge the importance of preserving the integrity of the historic resource. Each park should have historic structure reports prepared for major buildings or major types of buildings. All future planning consultants, architects, engineers, and landscape architects should be well-informed concerning the nature of the historic resource and its integrity and have the ability and experience to work successfully in a historic environment. Continuing education for each park's employees involved with maintenance and physical improvements should be a priority.

A number of parks recently have had difficulty finding concessionaires to operate eating facilities, and boat rentals and other services that are normally let out rather

than being operated by the parks themselves. The buildings that house concession functions are significant parts of the parks and should be preserved even if the concessions are ever closed completely in some parks.

There do not appear to be major threats to resources within the historical parks owned and operated by the Division. There is a potential concern, however, that Chippokes and Sky Meadows are most significant for their historic and architectural significance and yet they are considered recreational and not historical parks. There are inherent conflicts between intense recreational use and preservation. In general the stewardship of the parks has resulted in the retention of much original fabric and character but to ensure future preservation, such parks should also be designated as historic parks. At Chippokes, for example, preservation of significant relationships between the house and its many auxiliary buildings and with the river need to be acknowledged and protected as do its significant archaeological resources. Similarly the agrarian qualities of Sky Meadows are important to preserve.

Since this survey did not include an archaeological component, potential sites at other parks have not been considered. Some, however, could be expected to yield information significant in archaeology; consequently, there should be an archaeological investigation by a qualified archaeologist when any site is proposed for major new construction or other land-disturbing activities

Because preservation has not been identified as a major focus for the non-historical parks, historic resources in the recreational parks have been lost and will probably continue to be lost as buildings that are considered obsolete or incompatible with the modern functions of the park are demolished. In some instances maintenance of both architectural and landscape resources has not been in accordance with accepted preservation and rehabilitation standards. For example, original stone drainage ditches have been covered with asphalt and log structures have had large applications of portland cement mortars.

The CCC-era parks are significant primarily because of their original design and layout. Consequently, the locations of new buildings, structures, roads, swimming pools, concession stands, and other facilities need to be carefully considered so that new additions within the historic cores of the parks do not diminish their integrity.

Because these parks are significant in the history of park design, the spirit of their original master plans should guide any subsequent planning initiatives or needs for new construction.

Review of master plans early in their development should occur to eliminate as many conflicts as possible with the preservation of original character and fabric. Without exception, the parks identified as historic cannot absorb substantial new infill construction in their historic cores without suffering a loss of integrity. In most there is a deliberate balance of open and built space that is either a result of design intent or which over time has come to achieve significance as an identifying characteristic. Similarly, significant views into and from the core campus areas need to be protected from intrusions. Totally new functions that require new infrastructure should not be introduced into the existing CCC-era parks or historical parks. The construction of a very large resort lodge, such as those operated in some other state systems today, would probably have an intrusive impact and be incompatible with the original CCC-era master plans. Adding golf courses and downhill ski areas would also violate the original design intent in most instances. When new recreational activities are introduced into the state system, they should occur in newly created parks where they can be part of the original design concept and not an afterthought or intrusion.

The original park plans, drawings, and related documents represent a significant body of work in the history of park design for both the state and the nation. In many instances, these documents are still in working use by the Division of Parks and Recreation today. Proper conservation for historic documents and drawings should be provided in a centralized location. They should be reproduced and the originals moved to the State Library or other facility where they can receive proper conservation and be accessible for study and research. The Division of Historic Landmarks needs to allow in its future work plans for the periodic updating, documentation, and evaluation of existing conditions at state-owned properties included in this survey.

Appendix 1: Bibliography

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Note: All of the Virginia state parks have maps and informational brochures available at no cost. These can be found either at the individual parks, or through the Division of Parks and Recreation, Richmond, Virginia. In addition, the staff at each park can also often provide useful information and should not be overlooked as a resource.

A certain amount of information is also available through the Office of the Division of Parks and Recreation in Richmond. The Division employs a full-time information officer, and maintains files on each park.

Appendix 2

Chronological Listing of the Establishment of Virginia State Parks

<u>Park</u>	<u>Acquired</u>	<u>Established</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
George Washington Grist Mill H	1932	1932	donation	0007
Douthat R	1933	1936	CCC*	4493
Fairy Stone R	1933	1936	CCC*	4541
Hungry Mother R	1933	1936	CCC*	2180
Seashore R	1933	1936	CCC*	2770
Staunton River R	1933	1936	CCC*	1414
Westmoreland R	1933	1936	CCC*	1295
Bear Creek R	1945	1939	Forestry**	0150
Holliday Lake R	1945	1939	Forestry**	0250
Twin Lakes R	1945	1939	Forestry**	0270
Southwest Virginia Museum H	1946	1943	Donation	0001
Pocahontas H	1949	1939	CCC*	0156
Sayler's Creek H	1937	1937	Donation/ sale	0221
Claytor Lake R	1948	1951	donation	0472
Staunton River Bridge Battlefield H	1957	-----	donation	0007
Parkers Marsh N	1960	1960	donation	0758
Lick Creek N	1961	1961	donation	0863
Goshen Pass N	1961	1961	donation	0936
Wreck and Bones N	1961	1961	donation	1380

Shot Tower	H	1964	1964	donation	0007
Charles C. Steirly Heron Rookery	N	1964	1964	donation	0019
Grayson Highlands	R	1966	1965	con- demnation	4754
Chippokes Plantation	R	1967	1967	donation	1683
Mason Neck	R	1967	1967	donation	1804
Natural Tunnel	R	1967	1967	donation/ con- demnation	0603
Smith Mountain Lake	R	1967	1967	sale/ con- demnation	1506
False Cape	R	1968	1968	donation/ sale	4231
Occonnechee	R	1968	1968	lease from Army Corps of Engineers	2690
York River	R	1969	1969	sale	2505
Lake Anna	R	1975	1972	con- demnation/ sales	2058
Caledon	N	1975/ 1985	1974	donation sales	2600
Sky Meadows	R	1975	1975	donation/ sales	1132
Leesylvania	R	1980	-----	sale	0508

R: Recreational Park

N: Natural Area

H: Historical Park

* Transferred from the Civilian Conservation Corp to the Division of Parks and Recreation. (These parks developed through a joint effort of the Virginia Conservation Commission, National Park Service, and Civilian Conservation Corps.)

**Transferred from the Division of Forestry to the Division of Parks and Recreation through the Cooperative Use Agreement of 1939.

Source: Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation

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Figure 34. George Washington Grist Mill

Figure 35. CCC camp

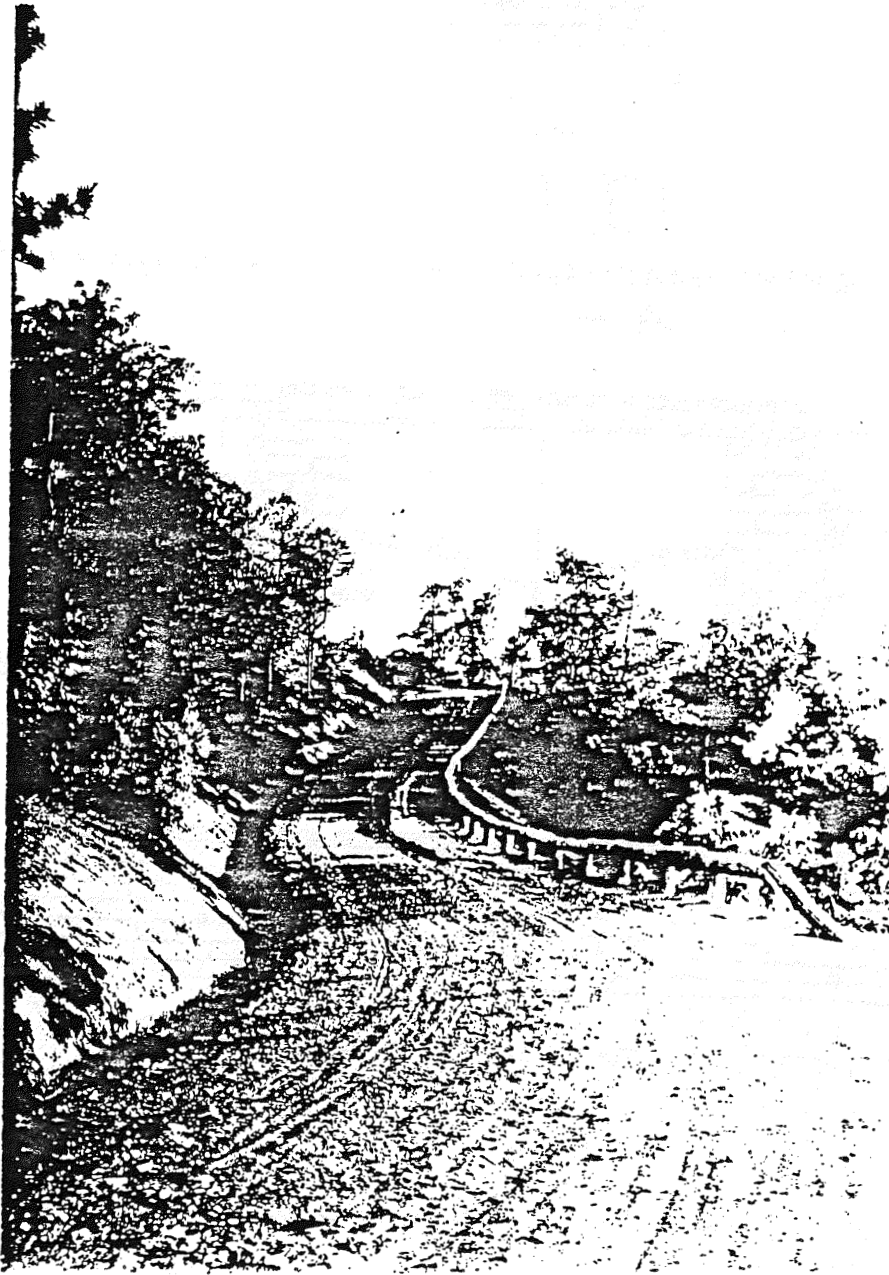
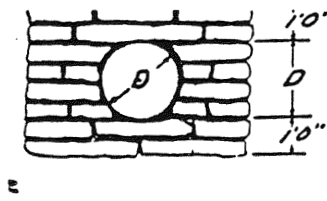
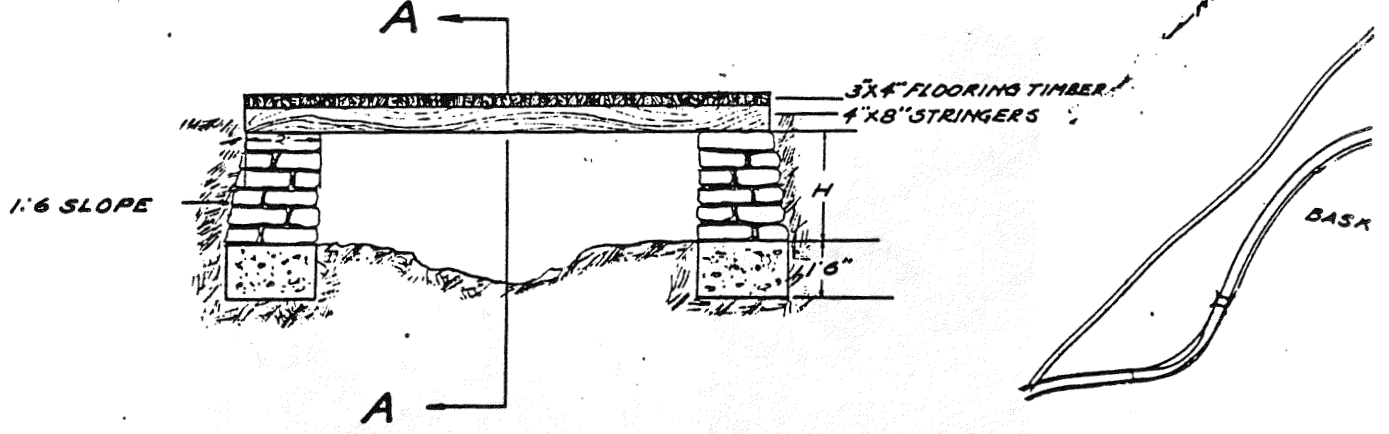


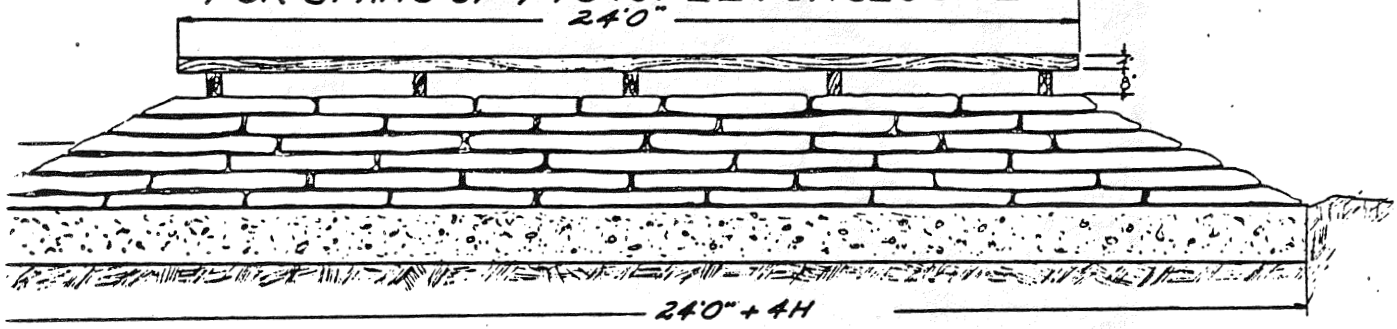
Figure 1. Road, Douthat State Park c1933
Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation



CULVERT HEADWALLS FOR CORRUGATED IRON PIPE



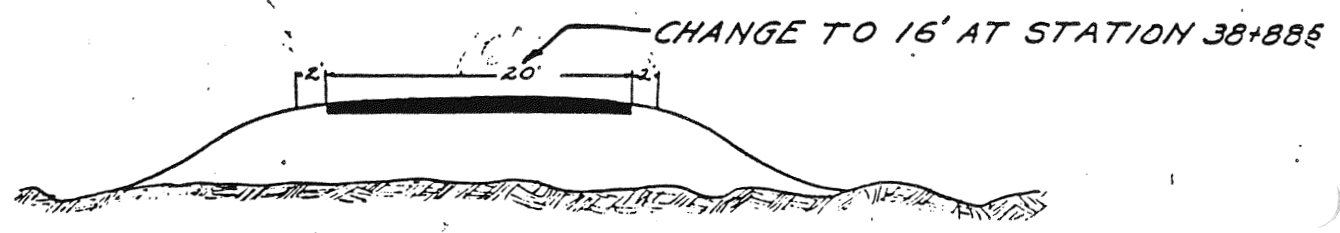
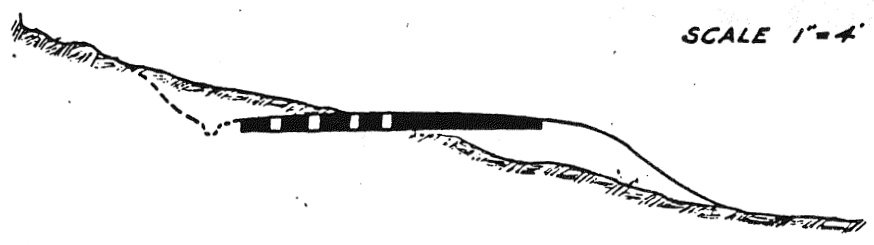
FOR SPANS OF 4 TO 10 FEET INCLUSIVE



SECTION A-A

BOX CULVERTS WITH WOOD FLOORS AND MASONRY WALLS

SCALE 1"=4'



ROAD SECTIONS: FILL AND CUT AND FILL

SCALE 1"=10'

Figure 2. Typical Road Sections, CCC Parks c1936

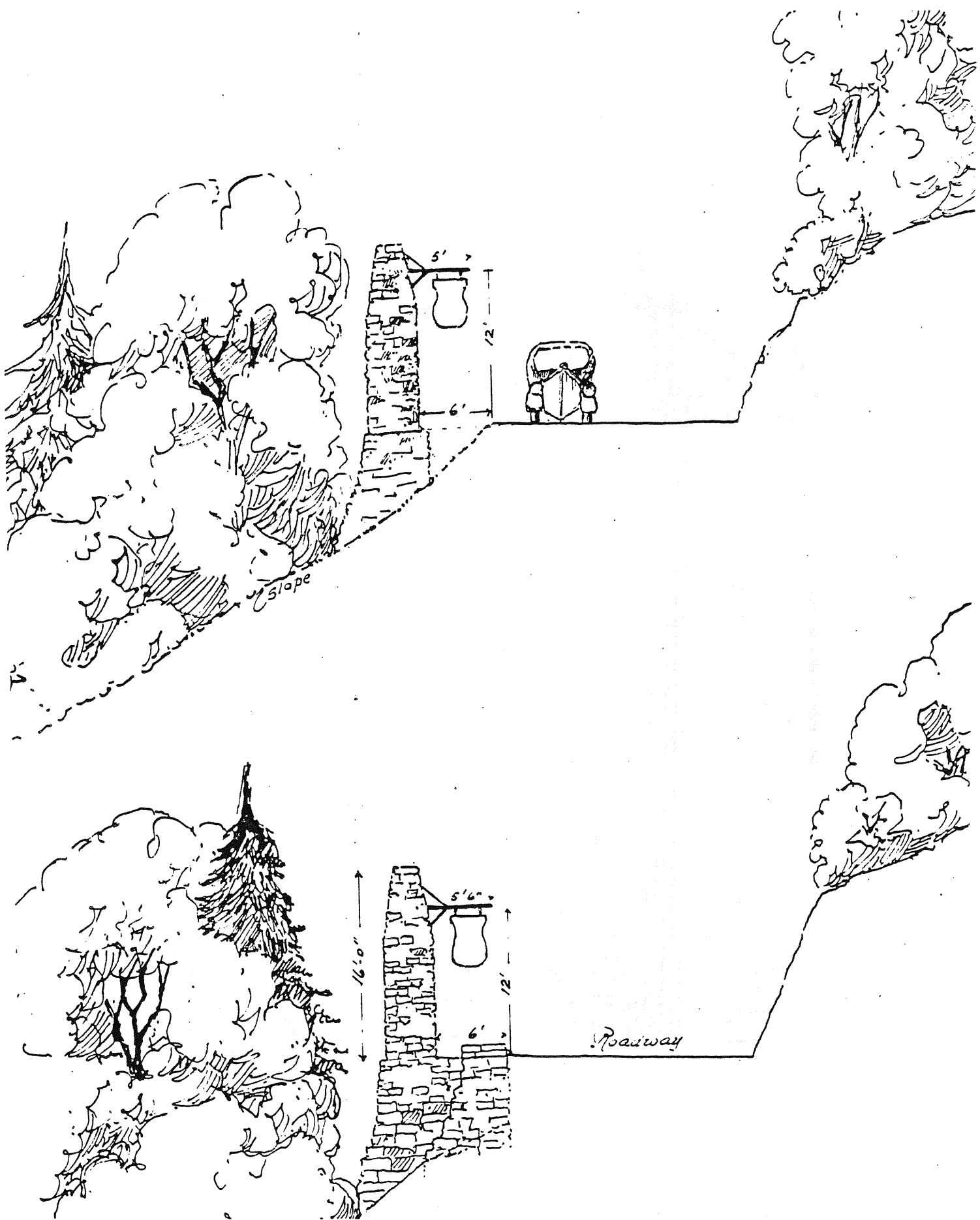
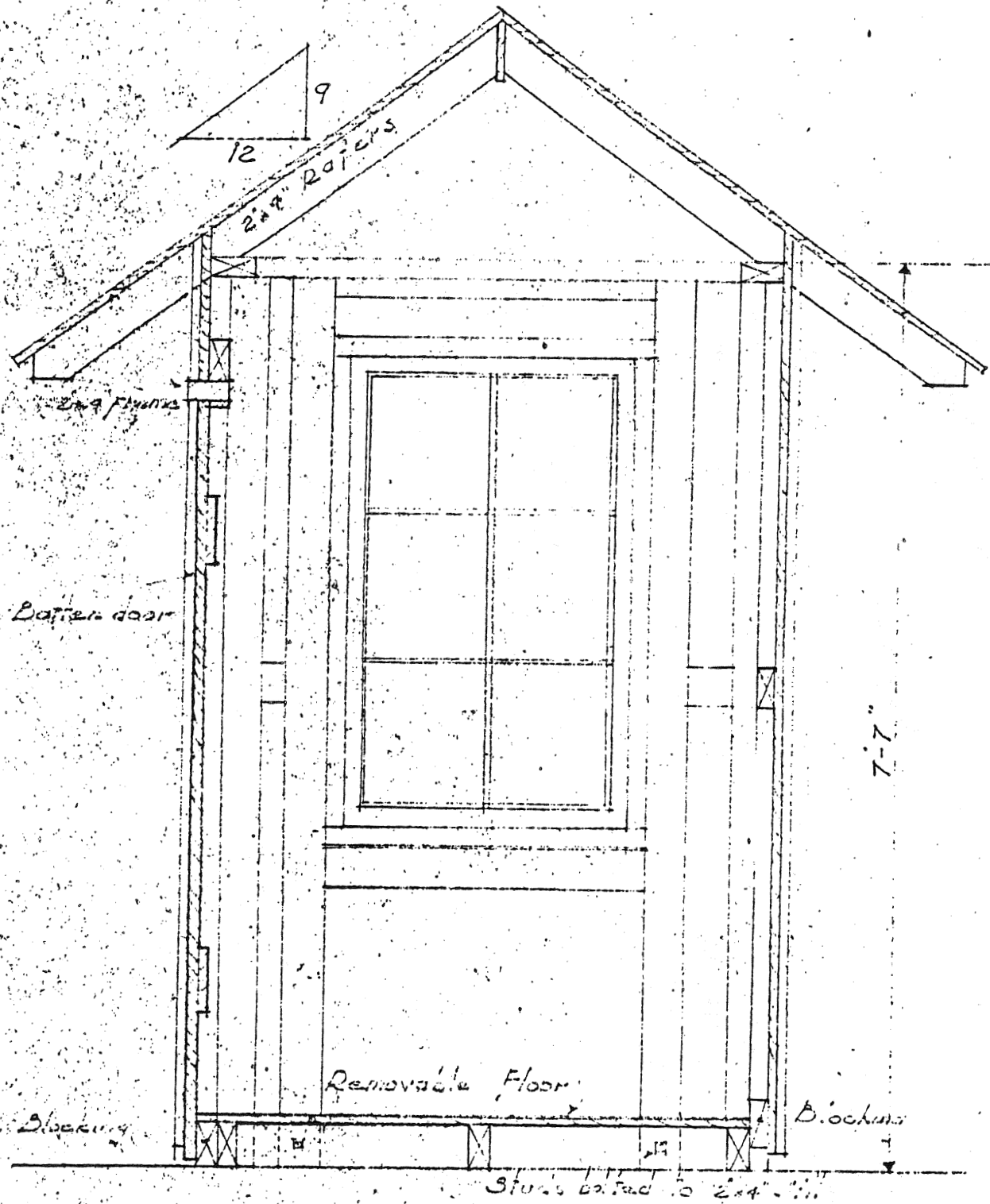


Figure 3. Entry Marker, Douthat State Park, 1934



SECTION A-A
 SCALE 1"=1'-0"

Figure 4. Typical Contact Station, CCC Parks c1936

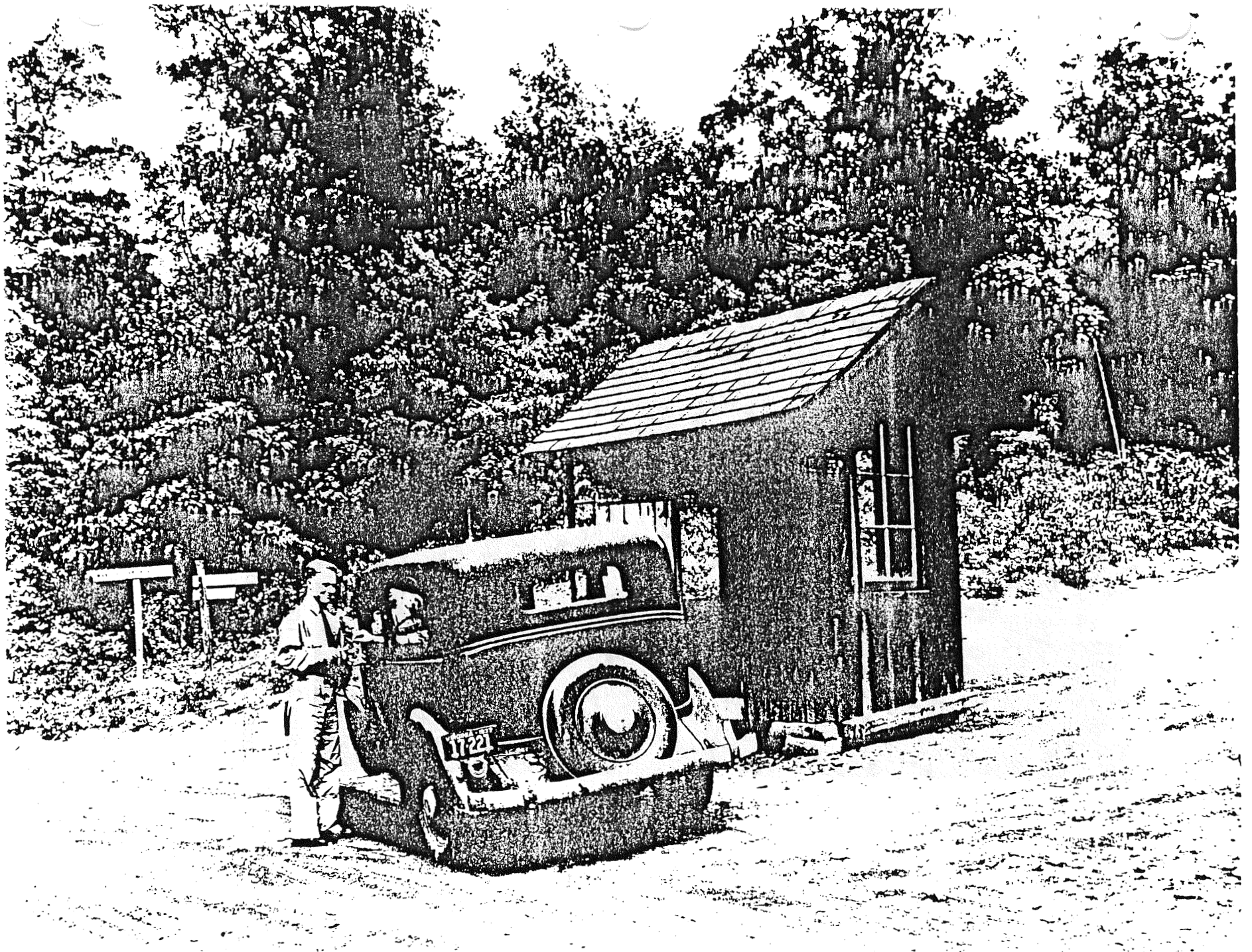


Figure 5. Contact Station c1936

Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation



Figure 6. Trail Bridge (date unknown)

Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation

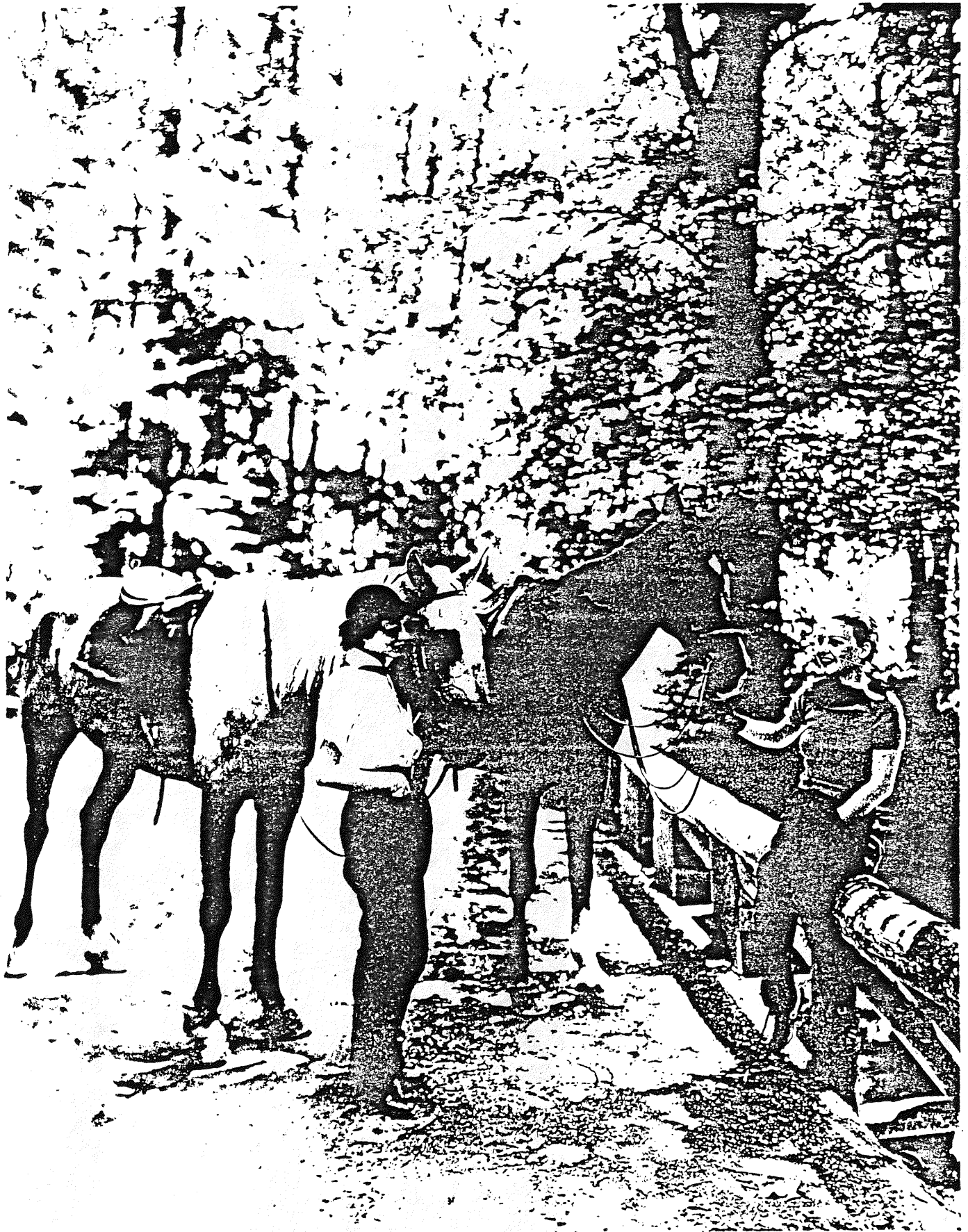


Figure 7. Riders c1950

Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation

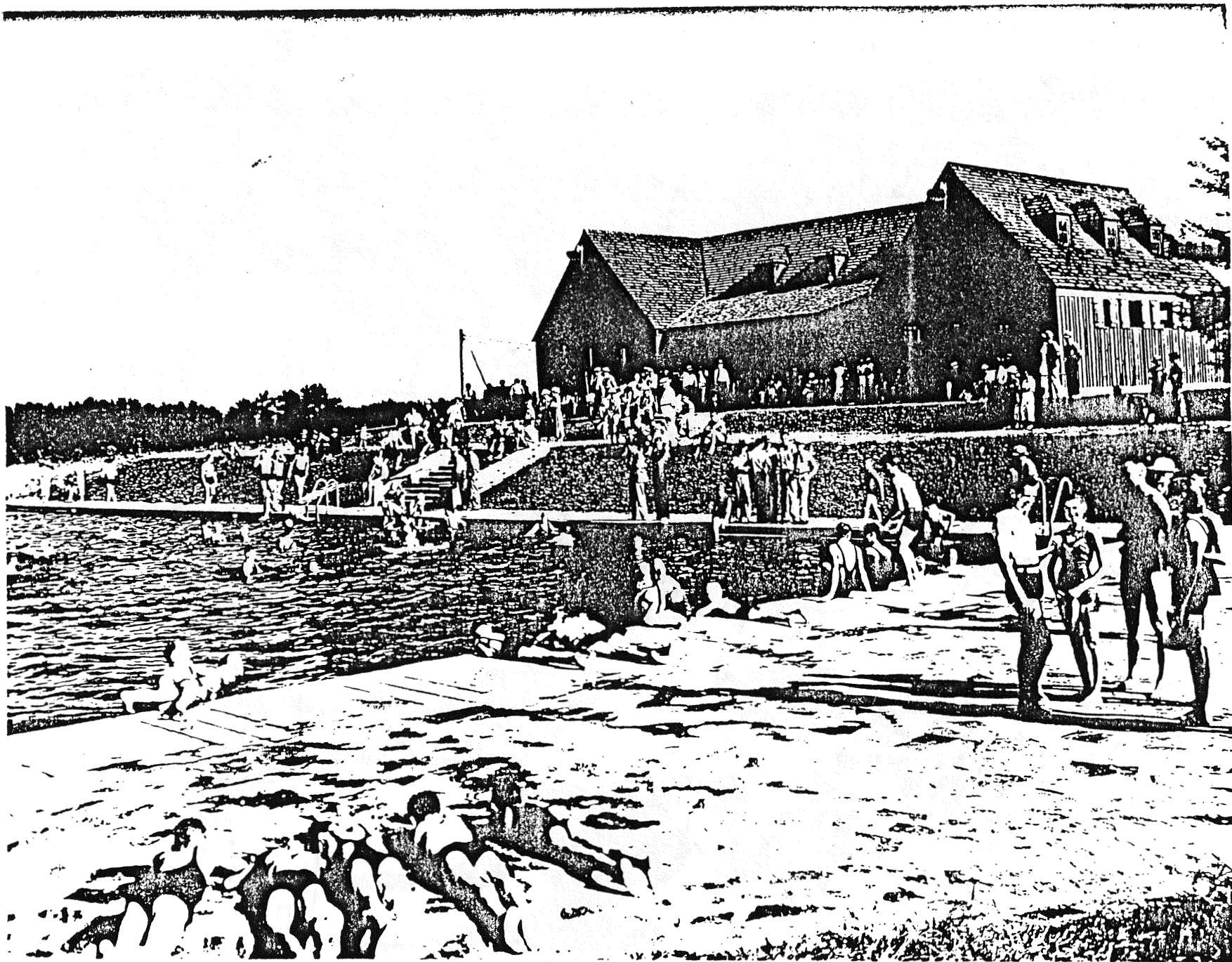


Figure 8. Bath House and Pool, Staunton River State Park c1950

Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation

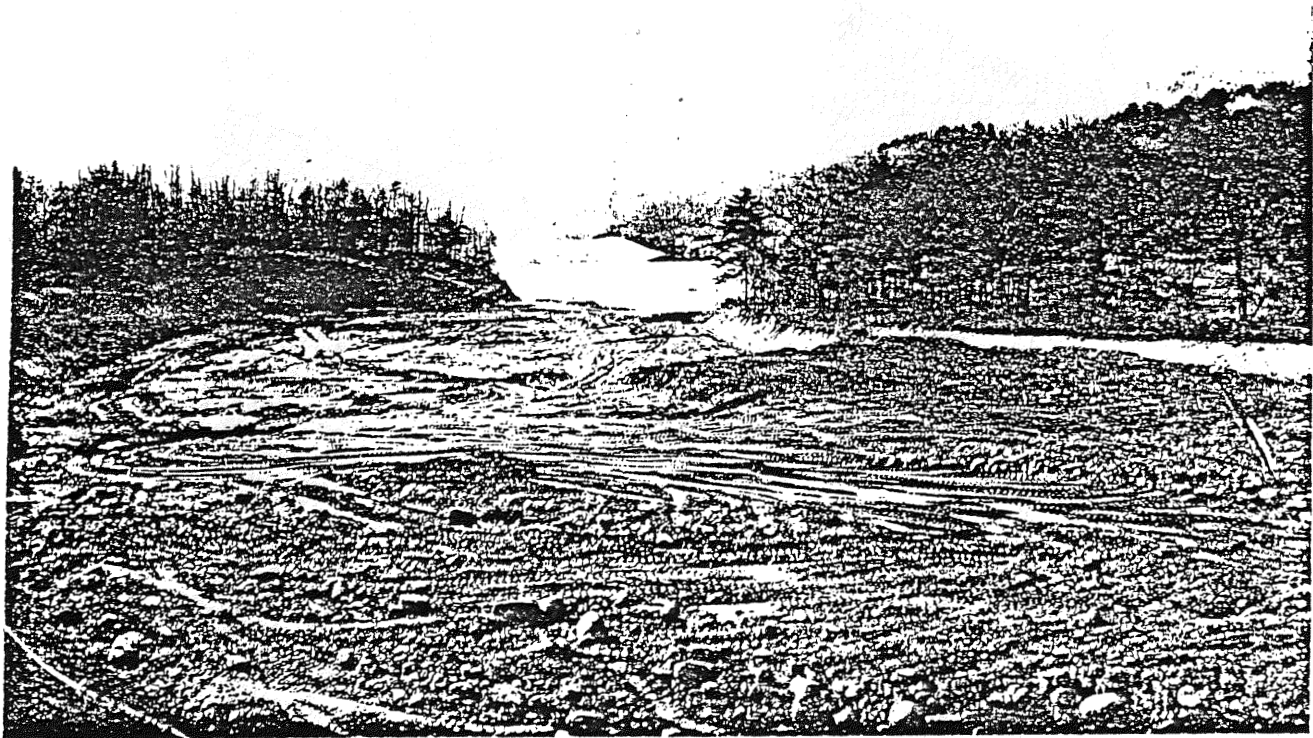


Figure 9. Making the Lake at Douthat, 1935

Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation

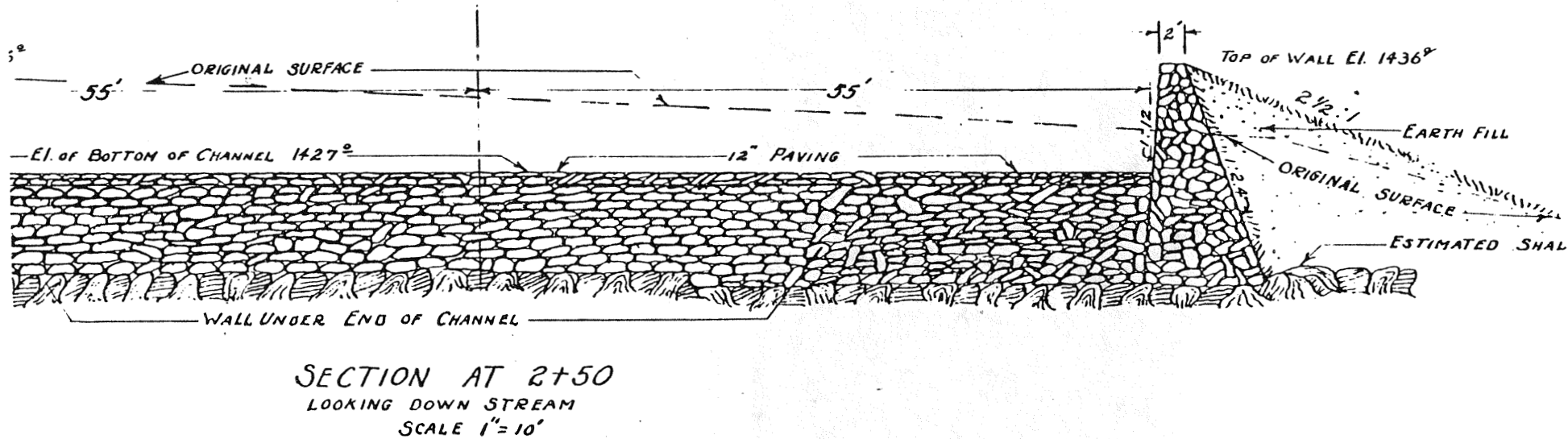
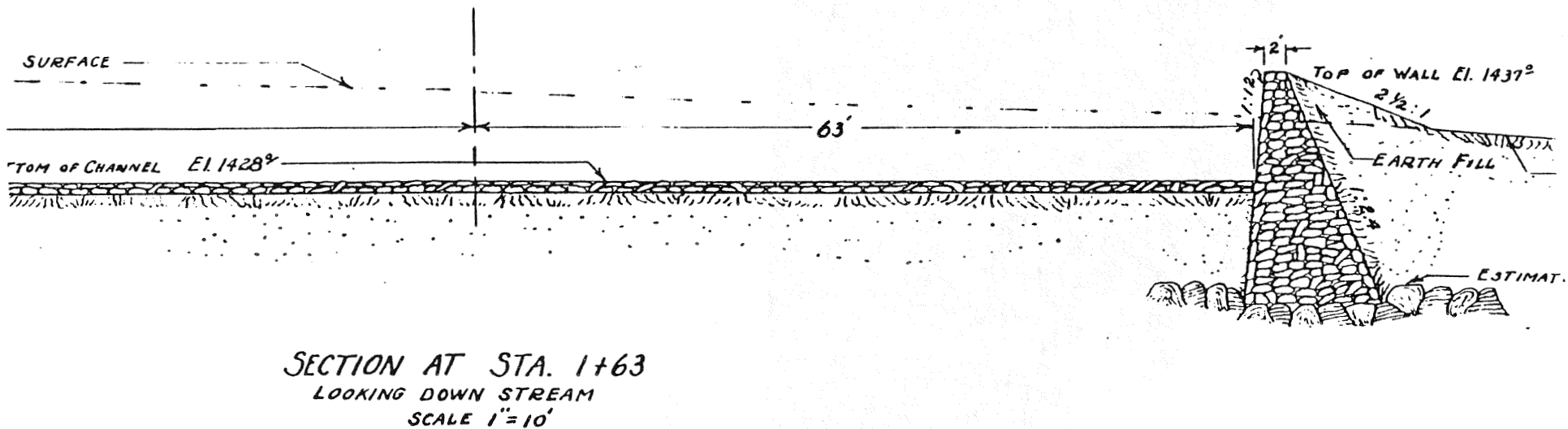
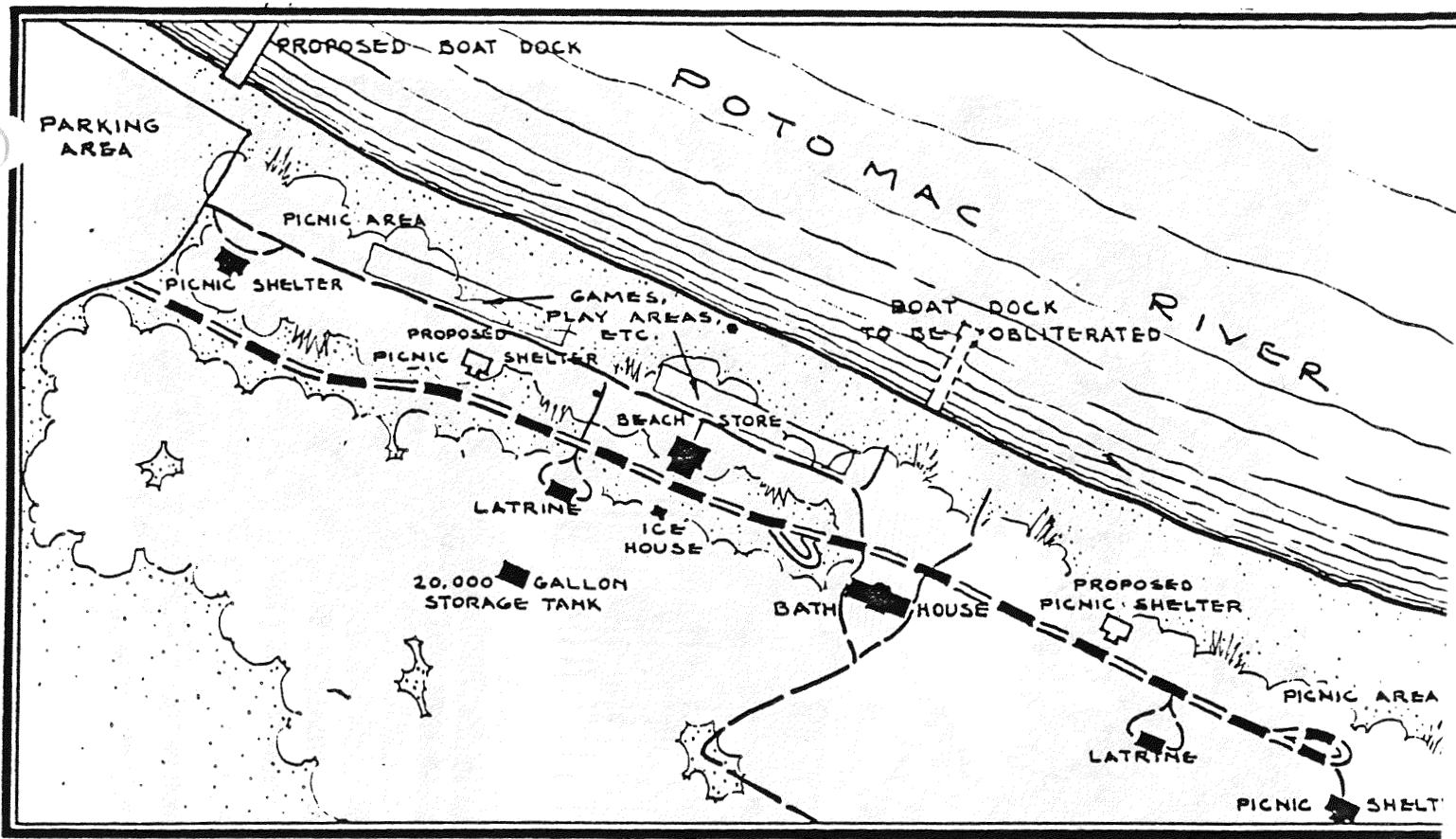
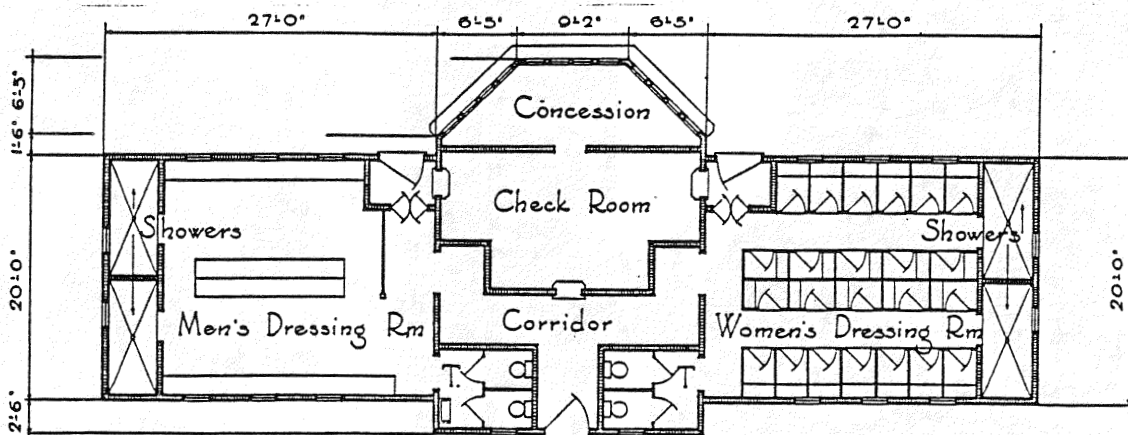


Figure 10. Earth Dam Spillway Detail, Douthat State Park, 1936



1. BEACH AREA

Figure 11. Beach Area, Westmoreland State Park, 1936



Westmoreland State Park - - Virginia

Figure 12. Bath House and Concession, Westmoreland c1936
From *Park and Recreation Structures*

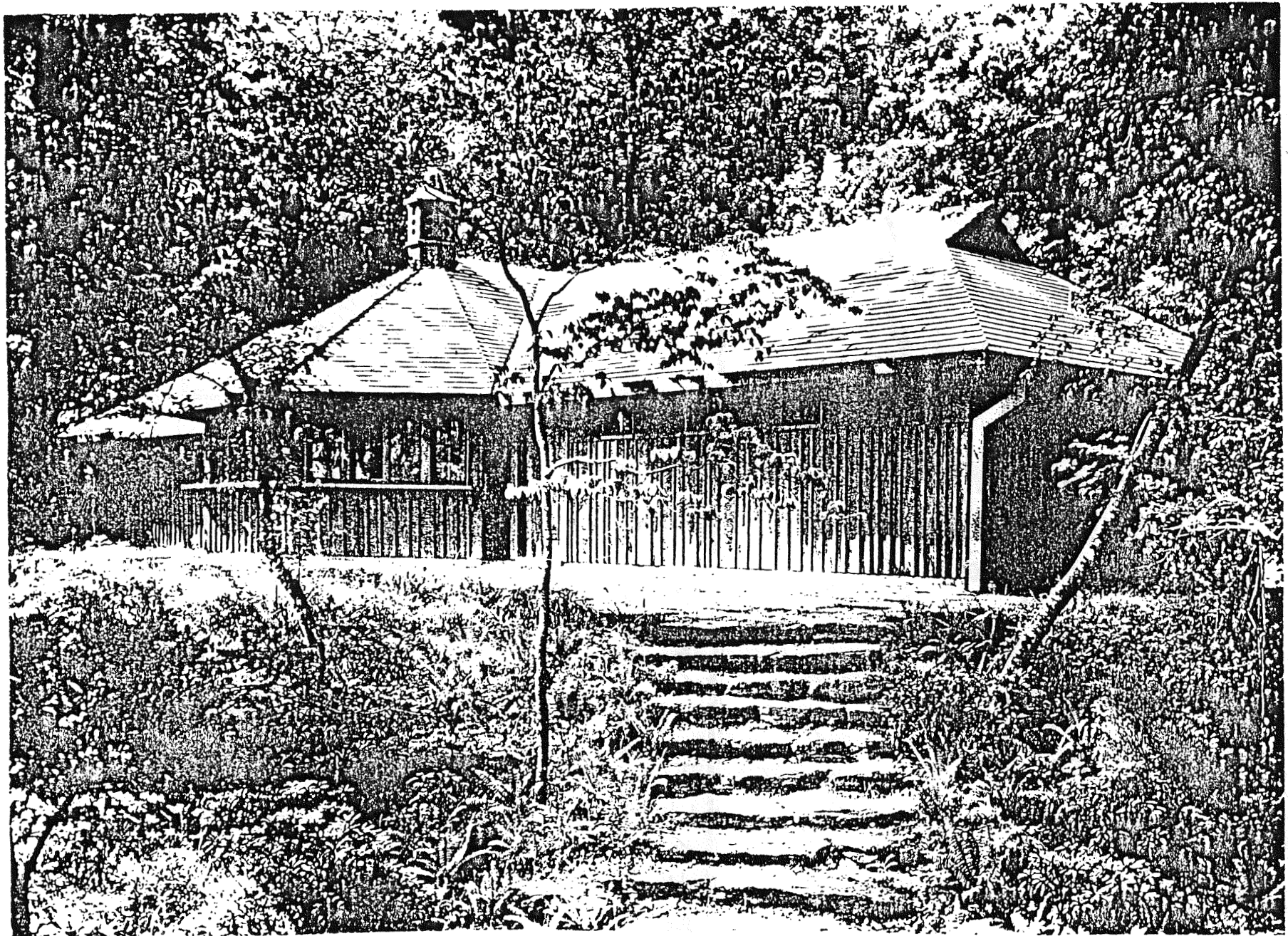


Figure 13. Bath House and Concession, Westmoreland State Park (date unknown)

Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation

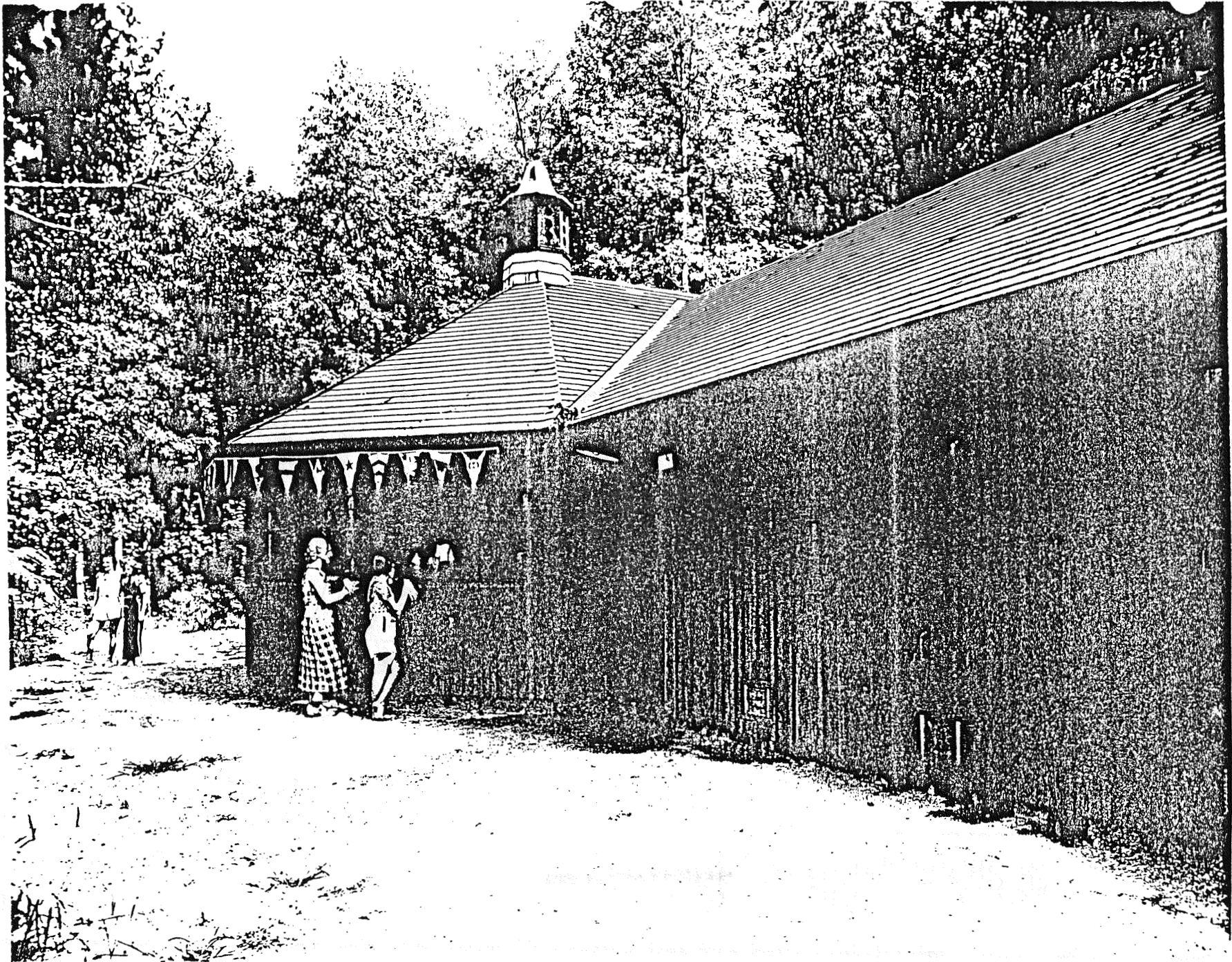
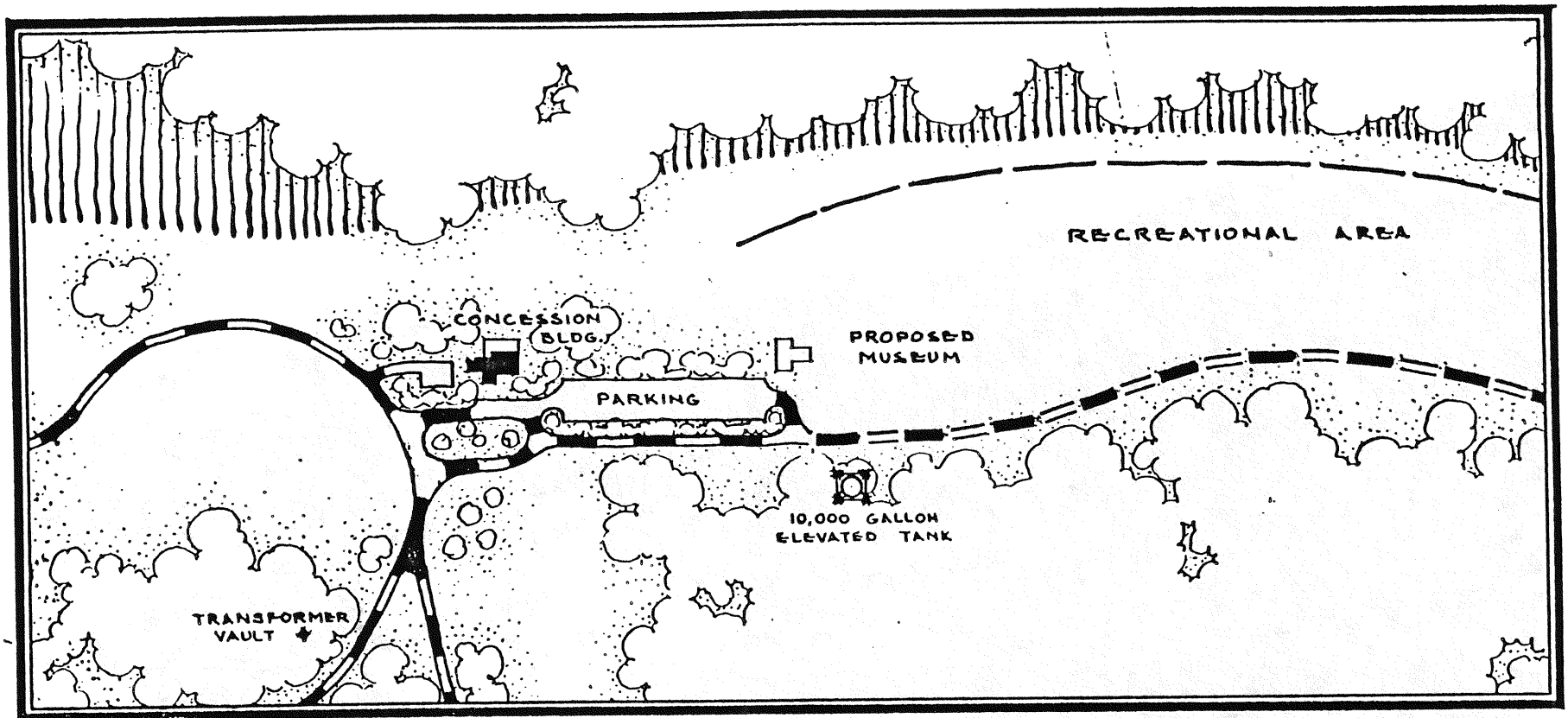


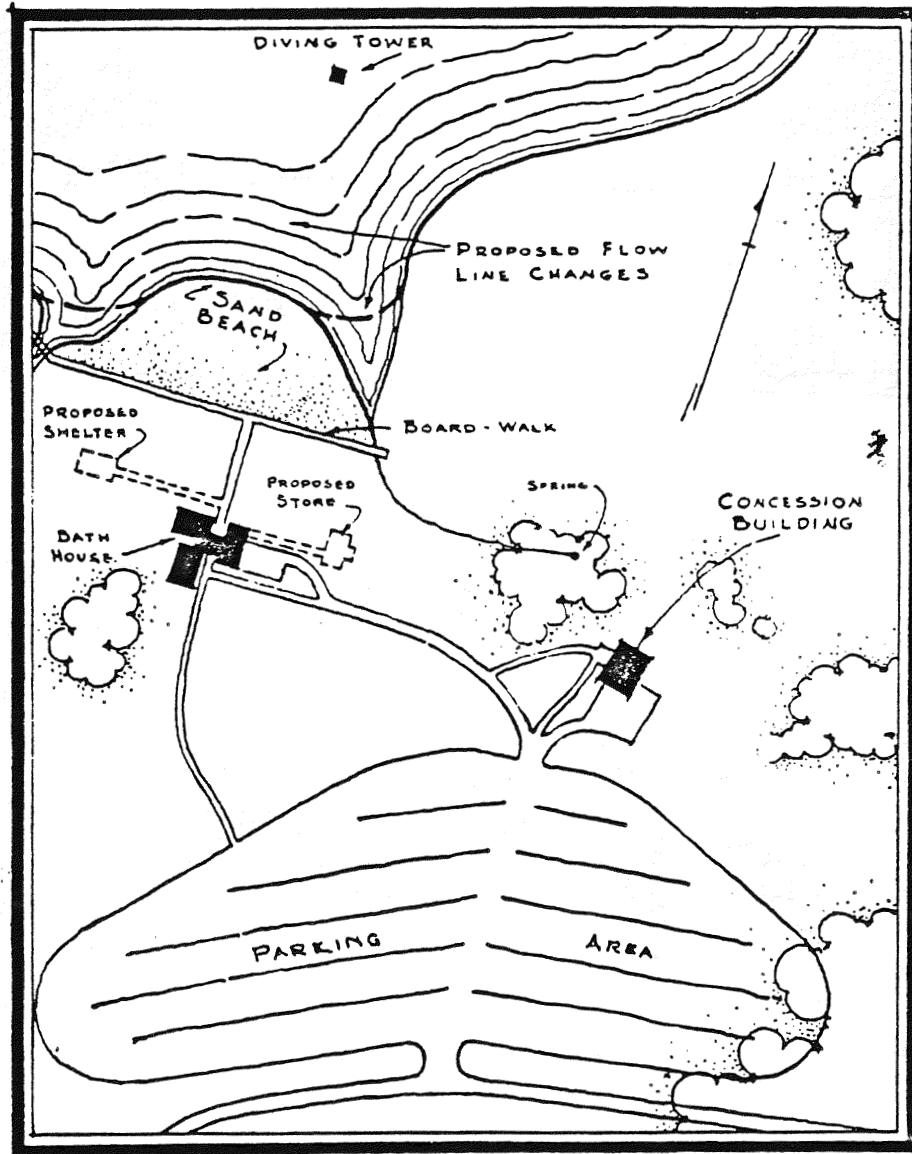
Figure 14. Bath House and Concession, Westmoreland State Park (date unknown)

Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation



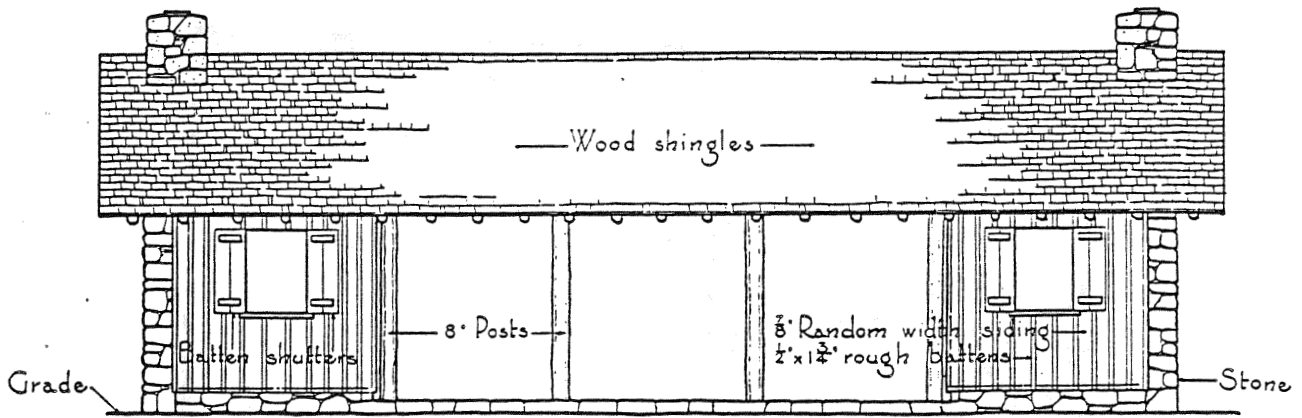
4. CONCESSION BUILDING AREA (INCOMPLETE)

Figure 15. Concession Building, Westmorland State Park, 1936

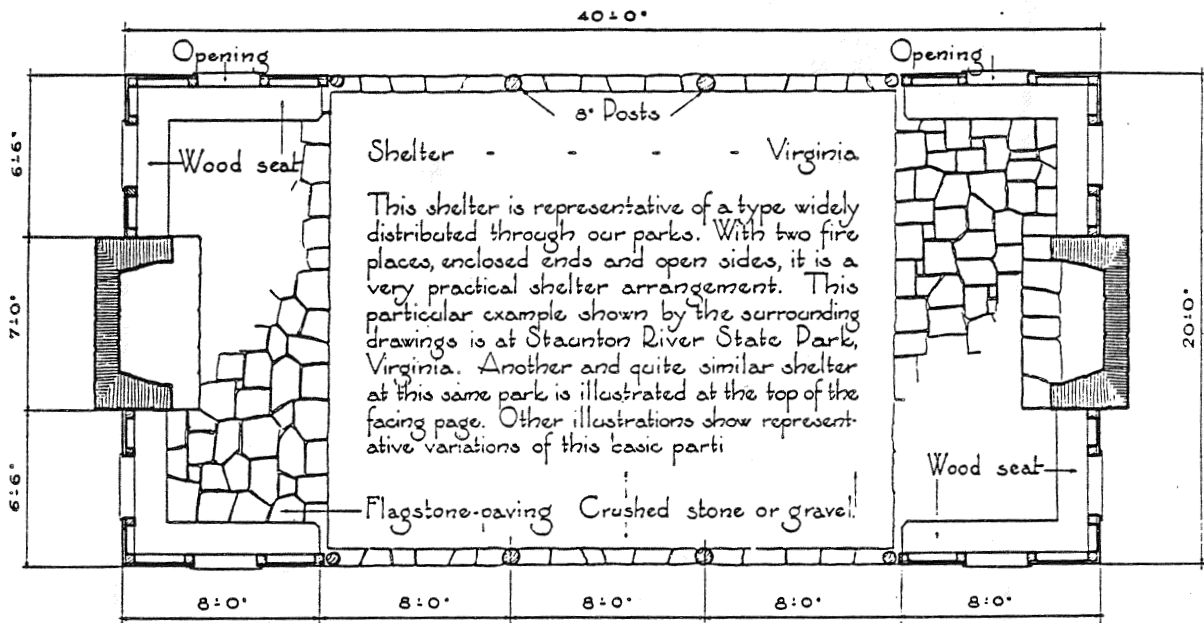


4. BATH HOUSE & CONCESSION BLDG. AREA.

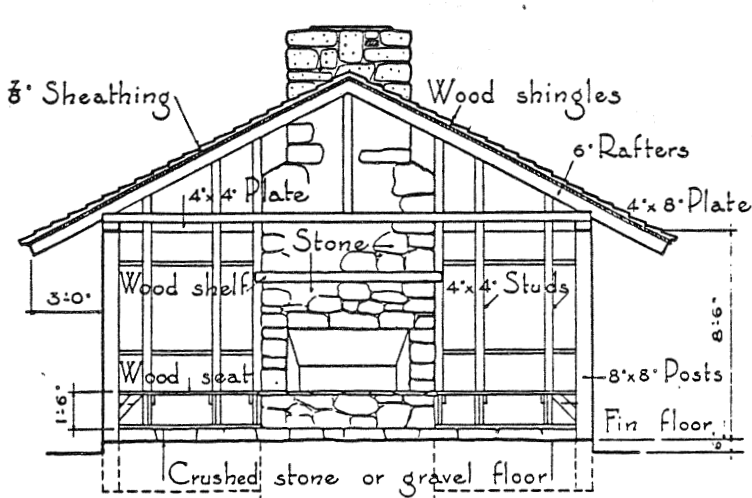
Figure 16. Bath House and Concession Building
Fairy Stone State Park, 1936



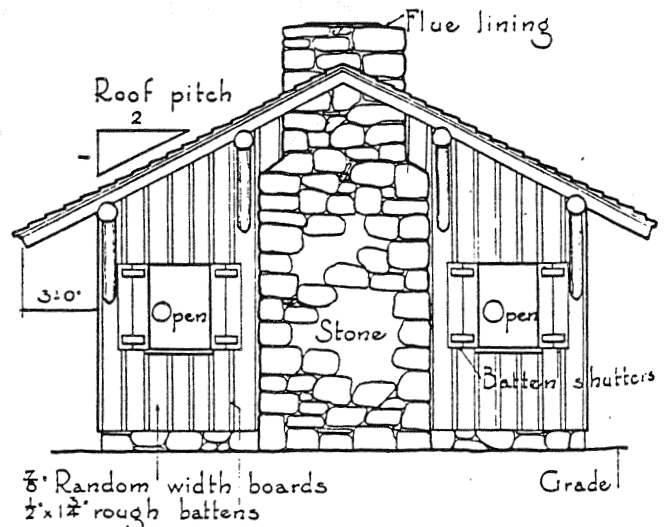
FRONT ELEVATION



FLOOR PLAN

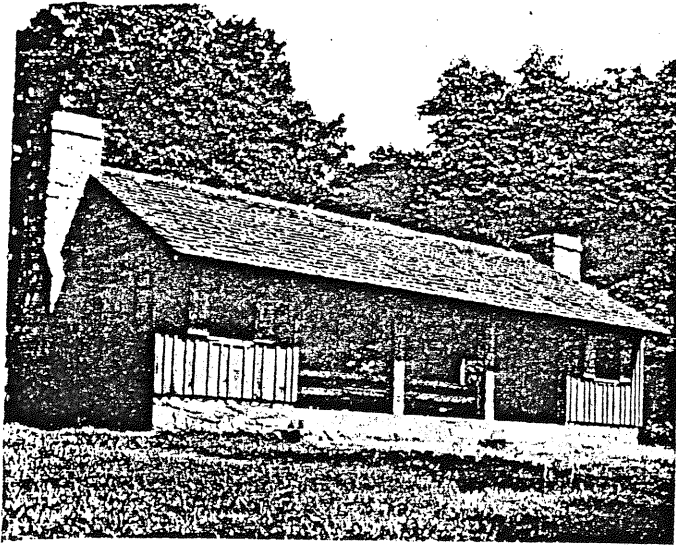


SECTION

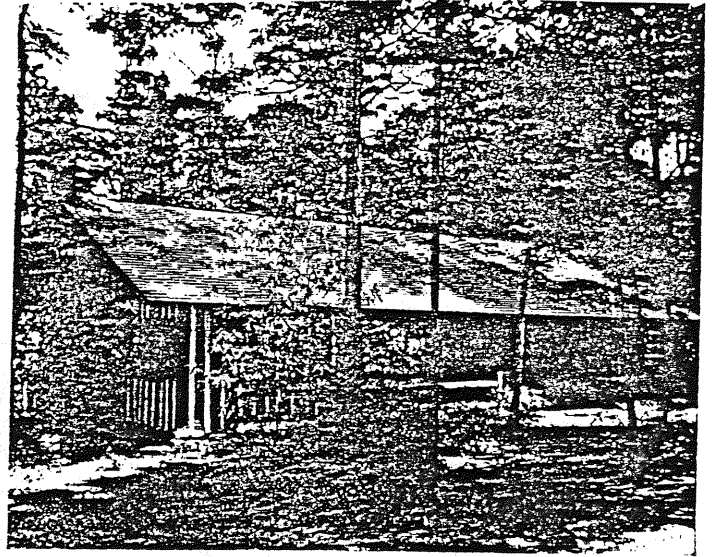


SIDE ELEVATION

Scale 3/8" = 1'-0"

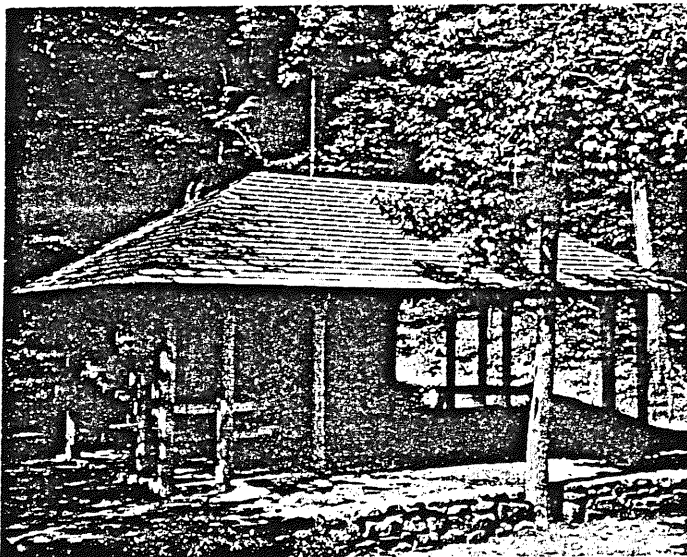


Staunton River State Park, Virginia

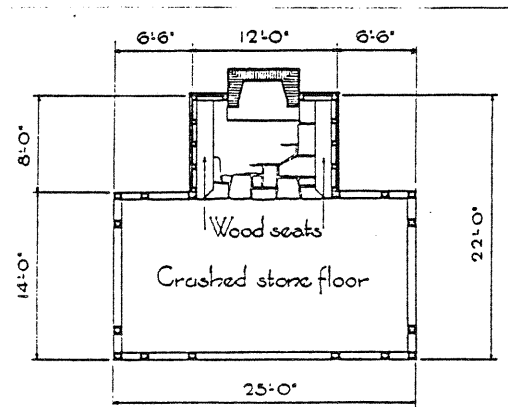


Douthat State Park, Virginia

Figure 18 Picnic Shelters
From *Park and Recreation Structures*



Westmoreland State Park, Virginia



Westmoreland State Park - Virginia

Figure 19. Picnic Shelter, Westmoreland State Park c1936

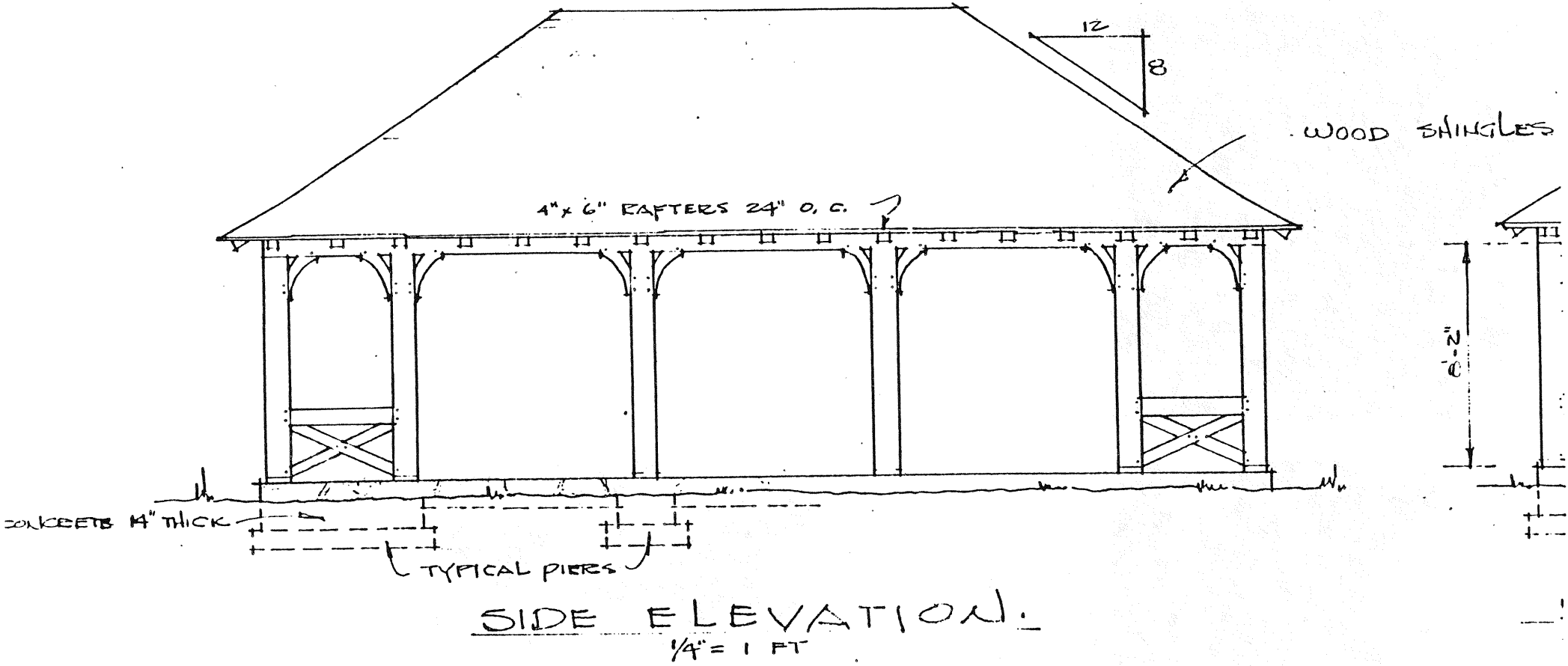


Figure 20. Picnic Shelter, Westmoreland State Park c1936

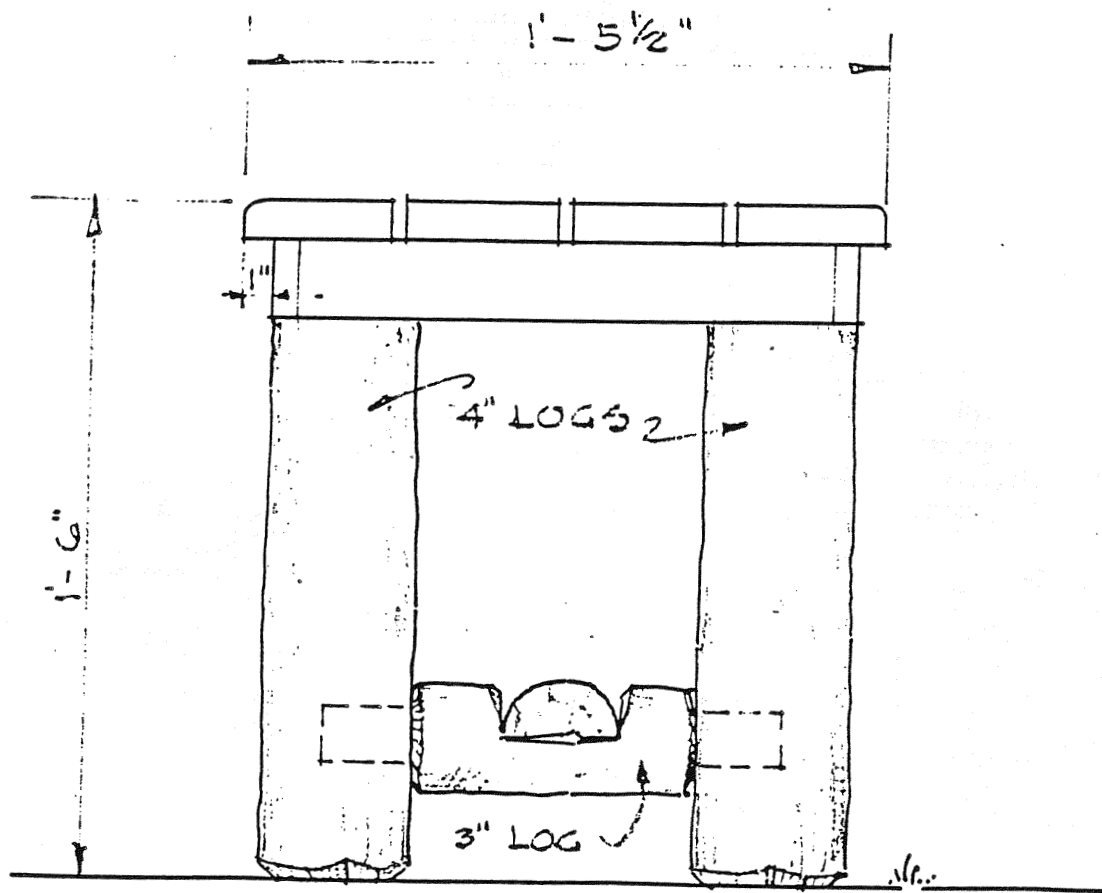
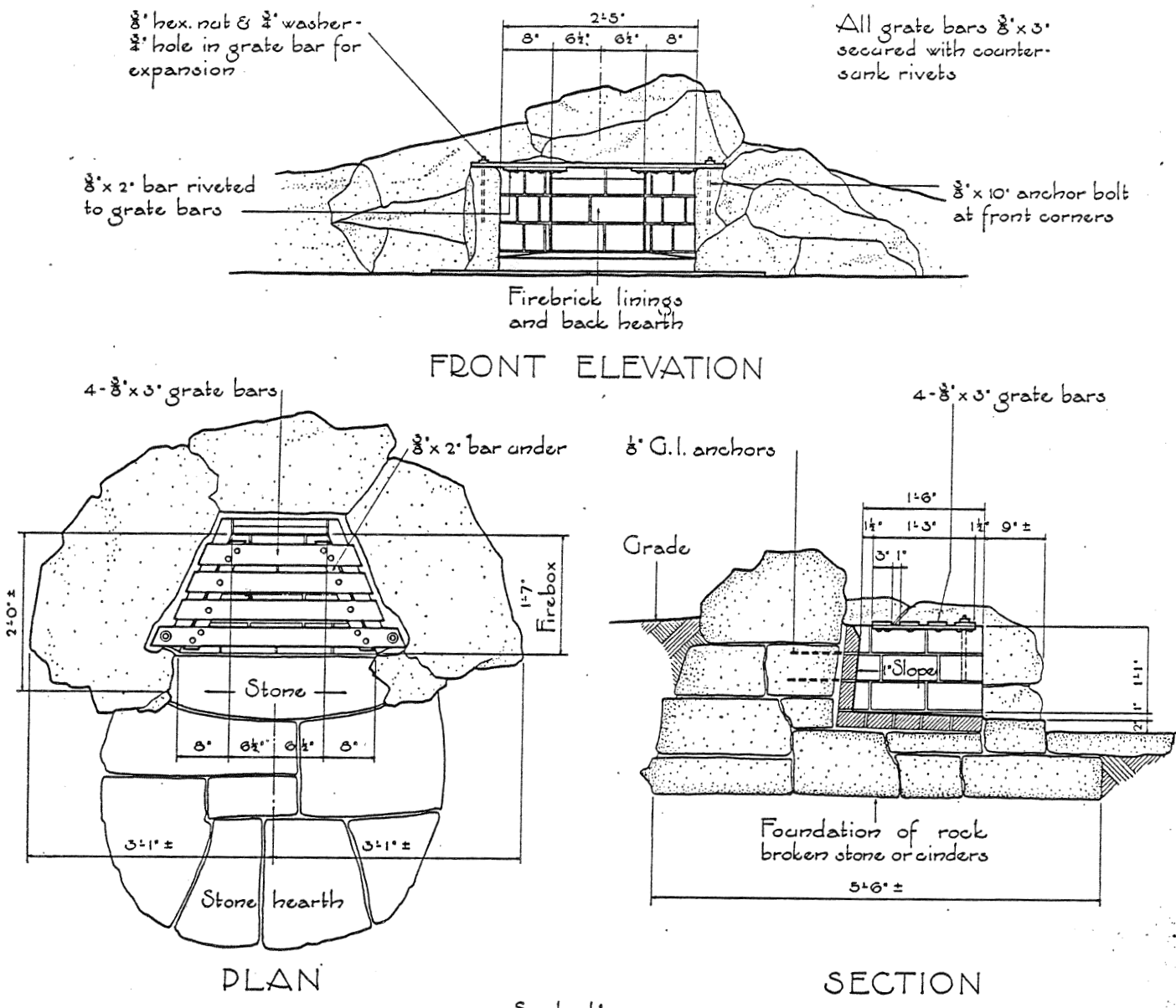
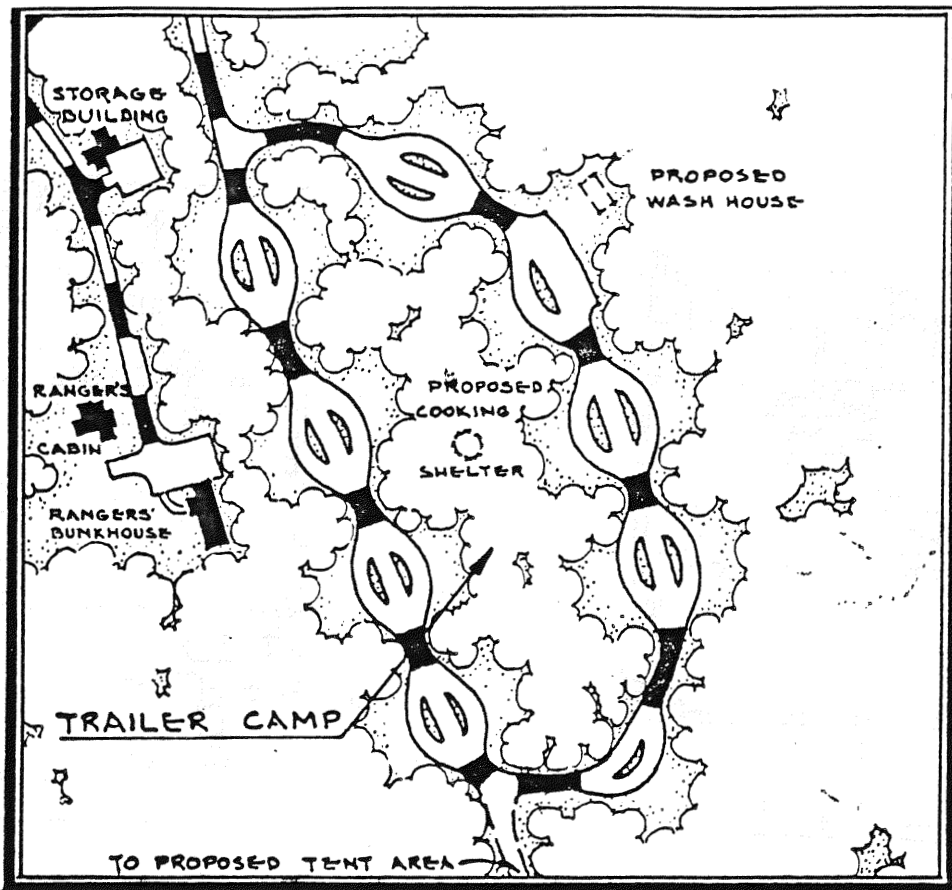


Figure 21. Bench Detail, Westmoreland State Park c1938



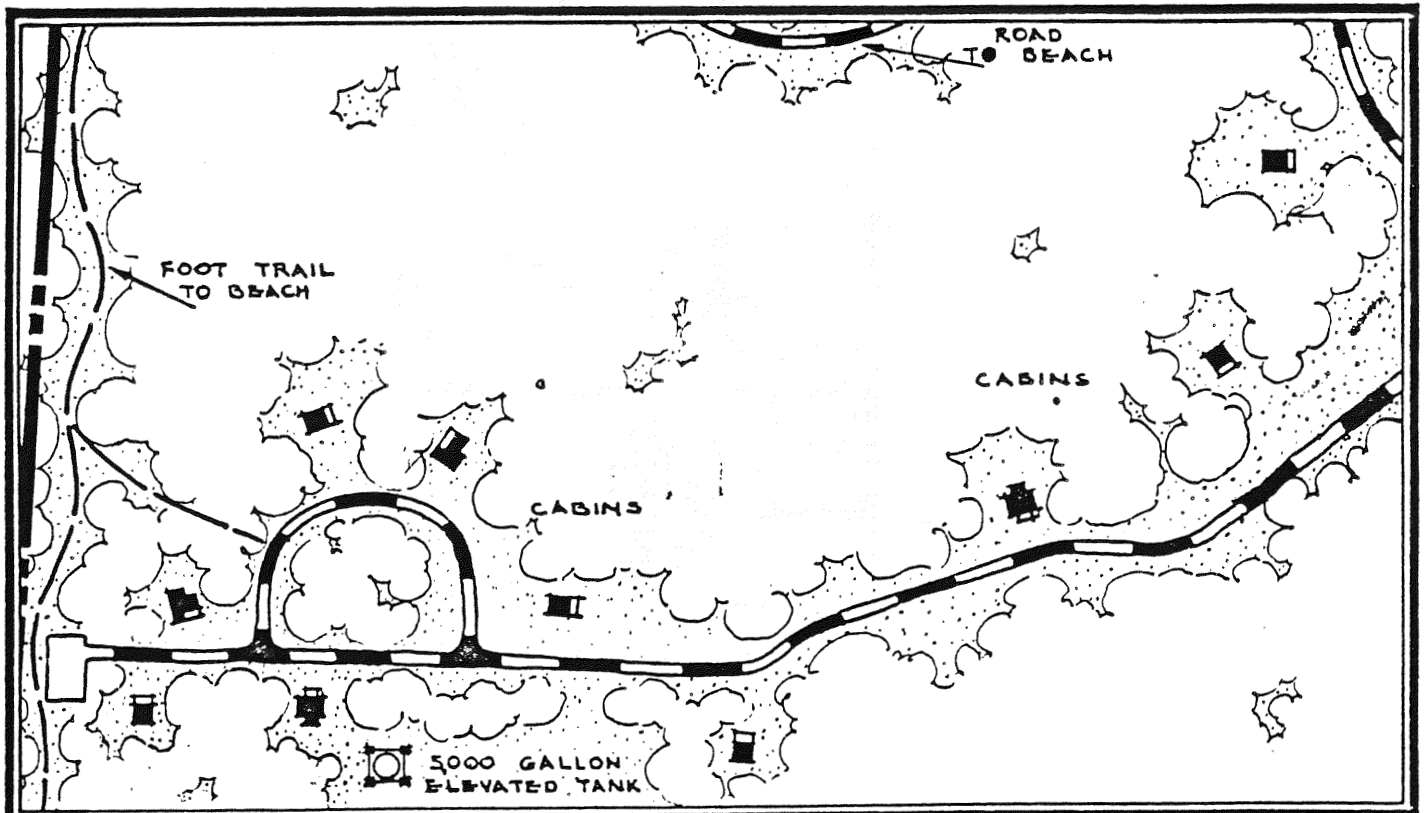
Scale $\frac{1}{2}" = 1'-0"$

Figure 22. Typical Outdoor Cooking Area c1936
 From Park and Recreation Structures



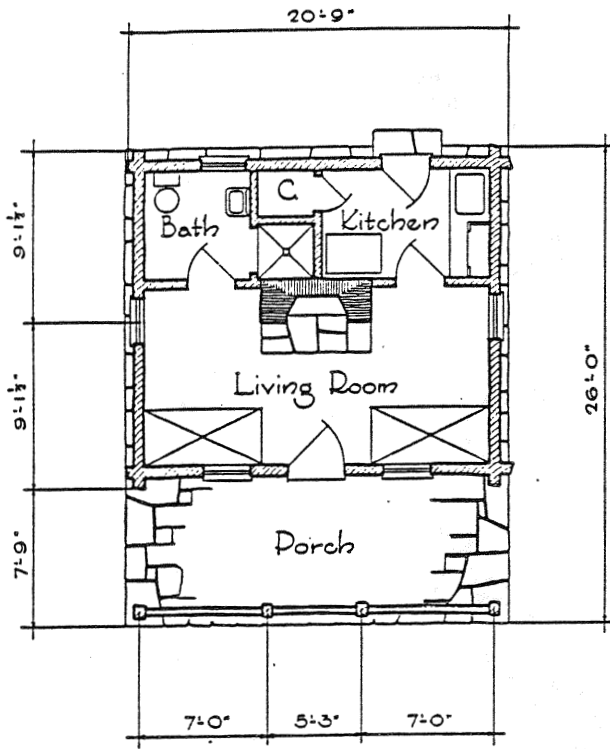
6. TRAILER & TENT CAMP AREA

Figure 23. Tent and Trailer Area, Westmoreland State Park, 1938

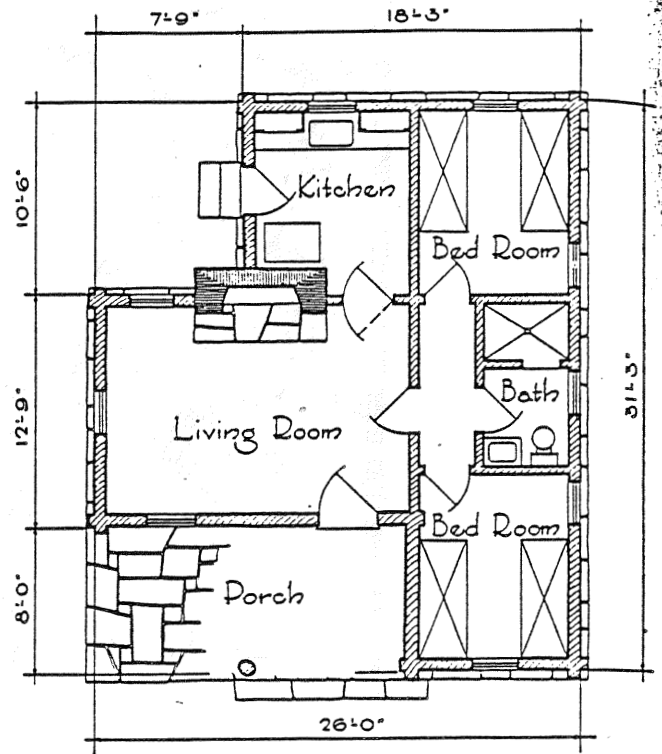


2. CABIN AREA

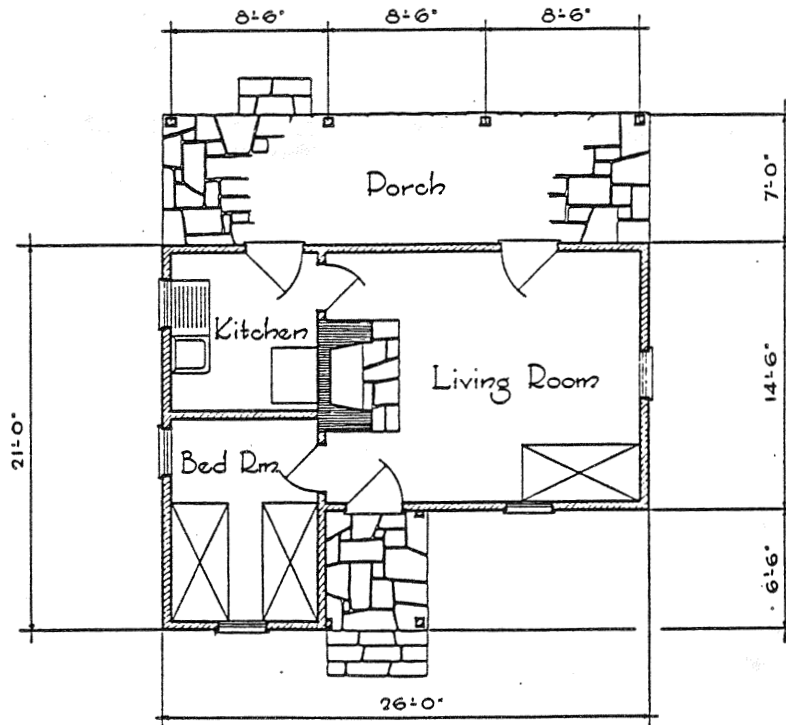
Figure 24. Cabin Area, Westmoreland State Park, 1938



Douthat State Park



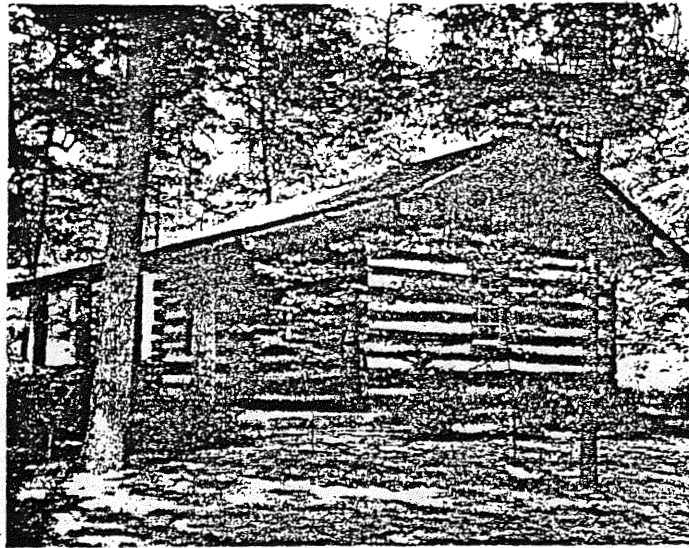
Westmoreland State Park



Staunton River State Park - Virginia

Scale $\frac{3}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

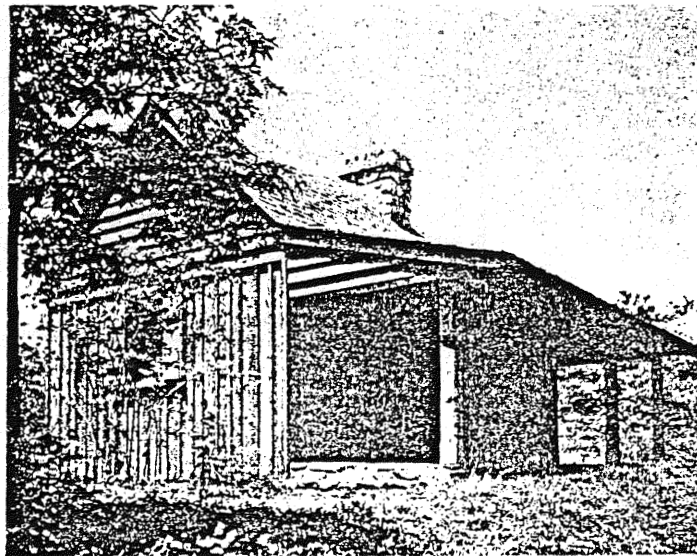
Figure 25. Cabin Plans c1936
From *Park and Recreation Structures*



Douthat State Park, Virginia

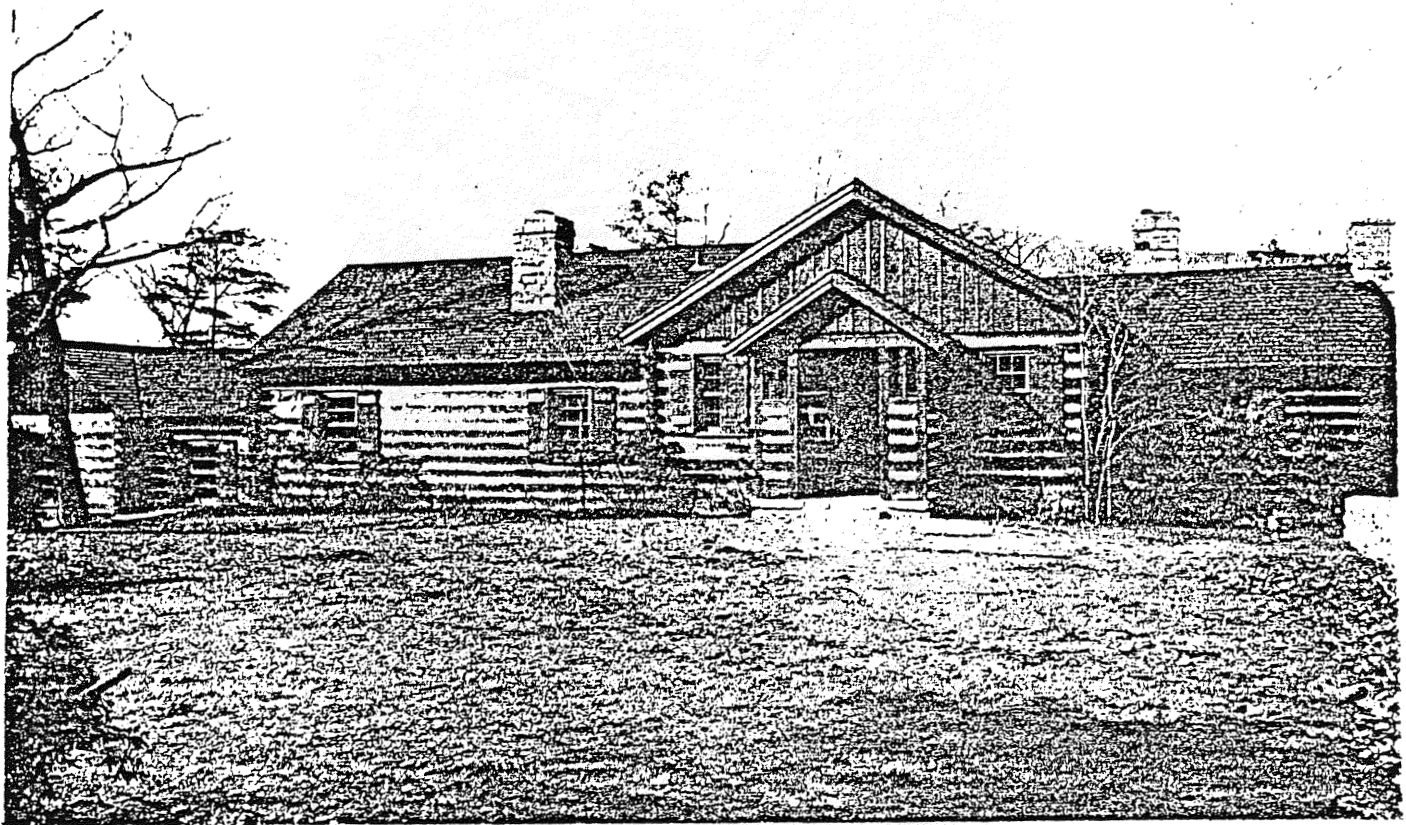


Westmoreland State Park, Virginia



Staunton River State Park, Virginia

Figure 26. Cabins (date unknown)
From *Park and Recreation Structures*



Lodge, Douthat State Park, Virginia

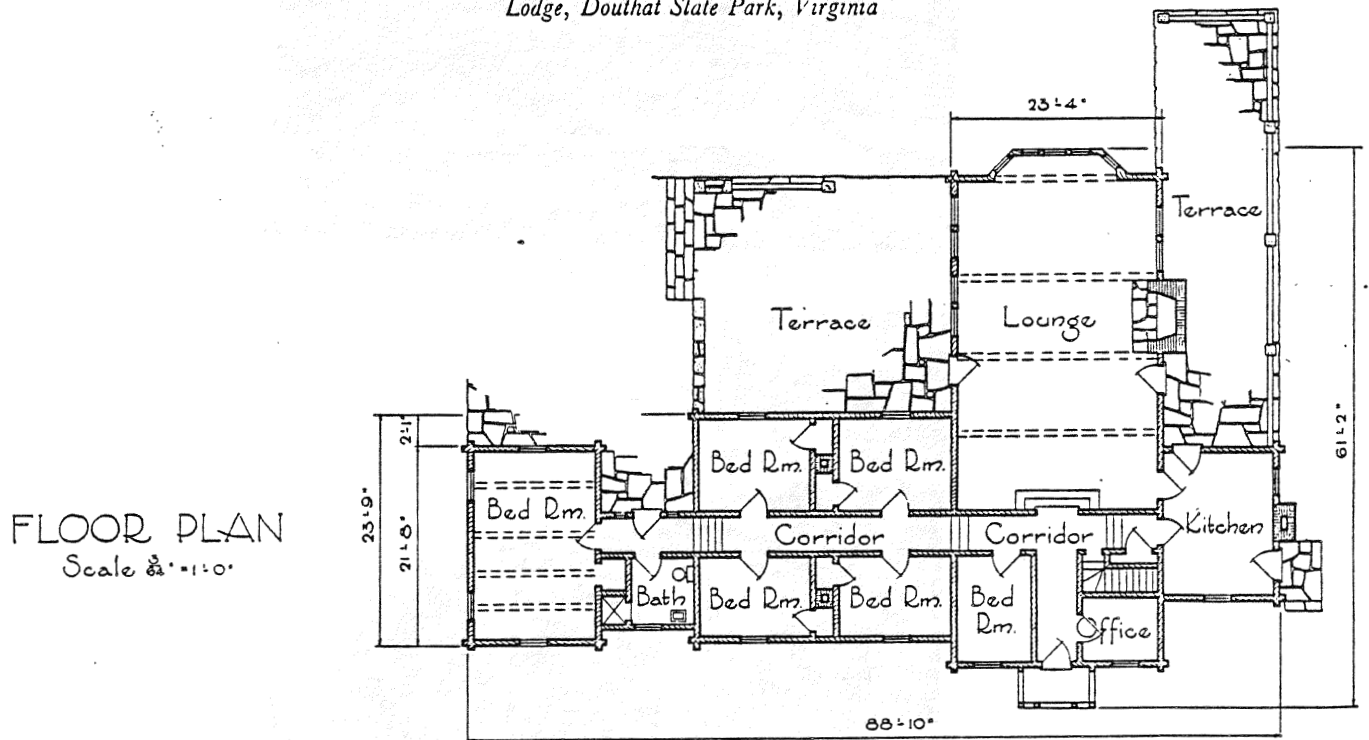


Figure 27. Lodge, Douthat State Park (date unknown)

From *Park and Recreation Structures*

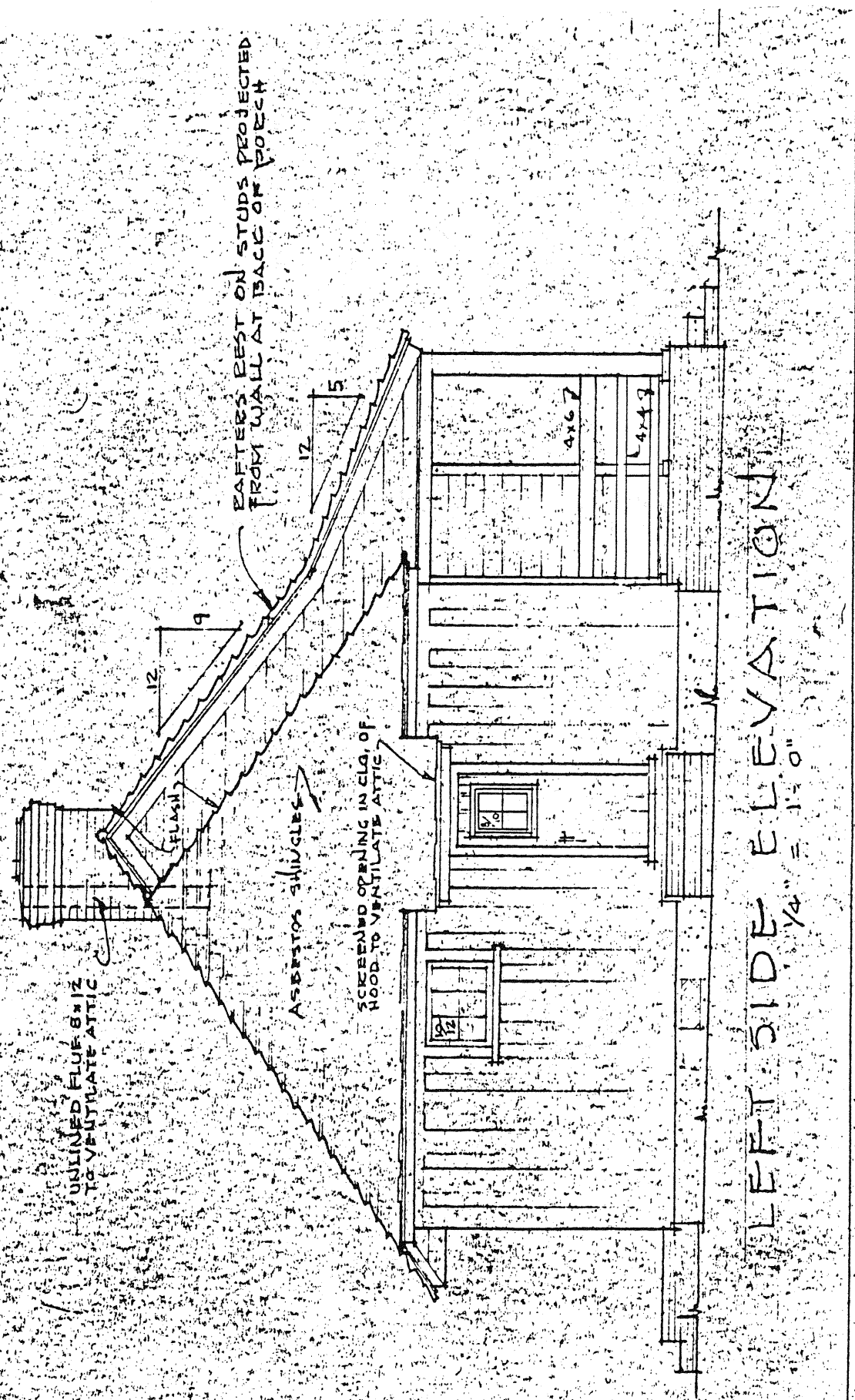
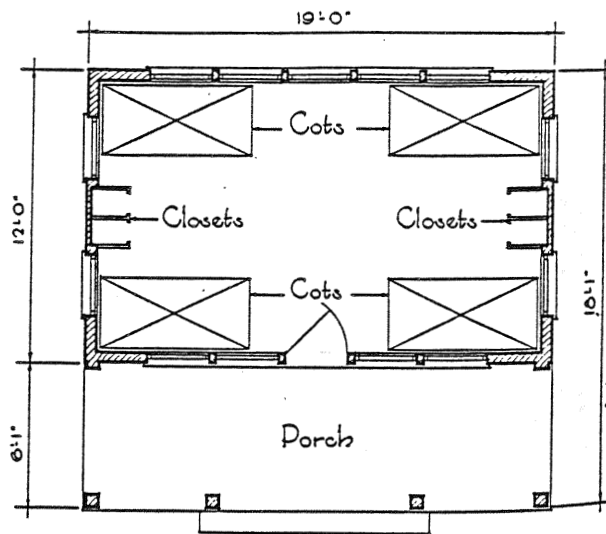
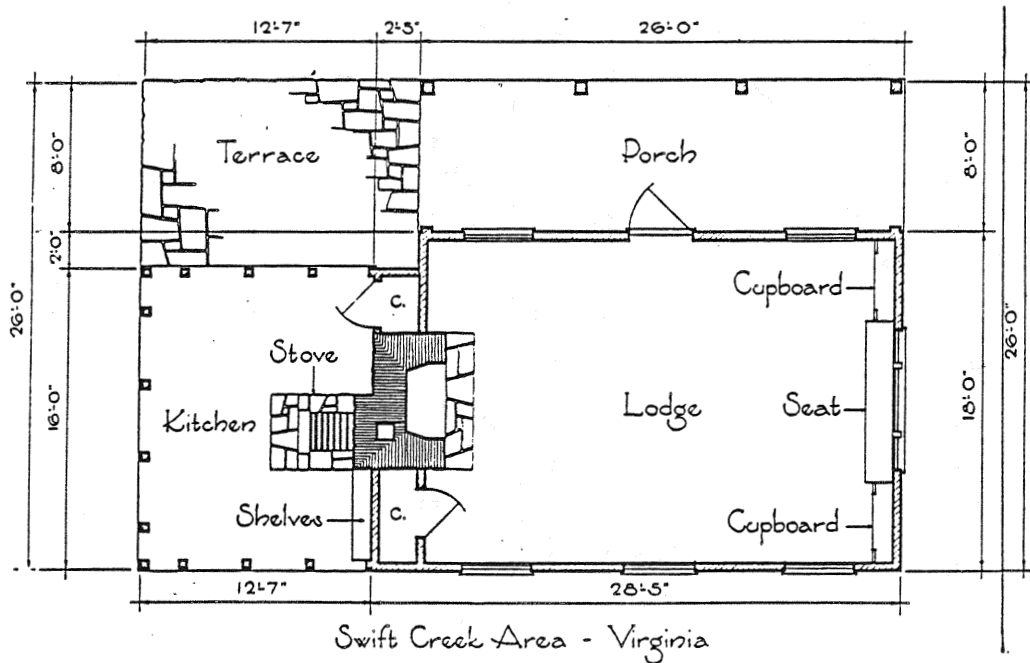


Figure 28. Ranger's Bunkhouse, Fairy Stone State Park c1936



cabins Swift Creek Area - Virginia

Figure 29 Cabin, Swift Creek Recreation Area c1939
From *Park and Recreation Structures*



Swift Creek Area - Virginia

Figure 30. Lodge, Swift Creek Recreation Area c1936
From *Park and Recreation Structures*

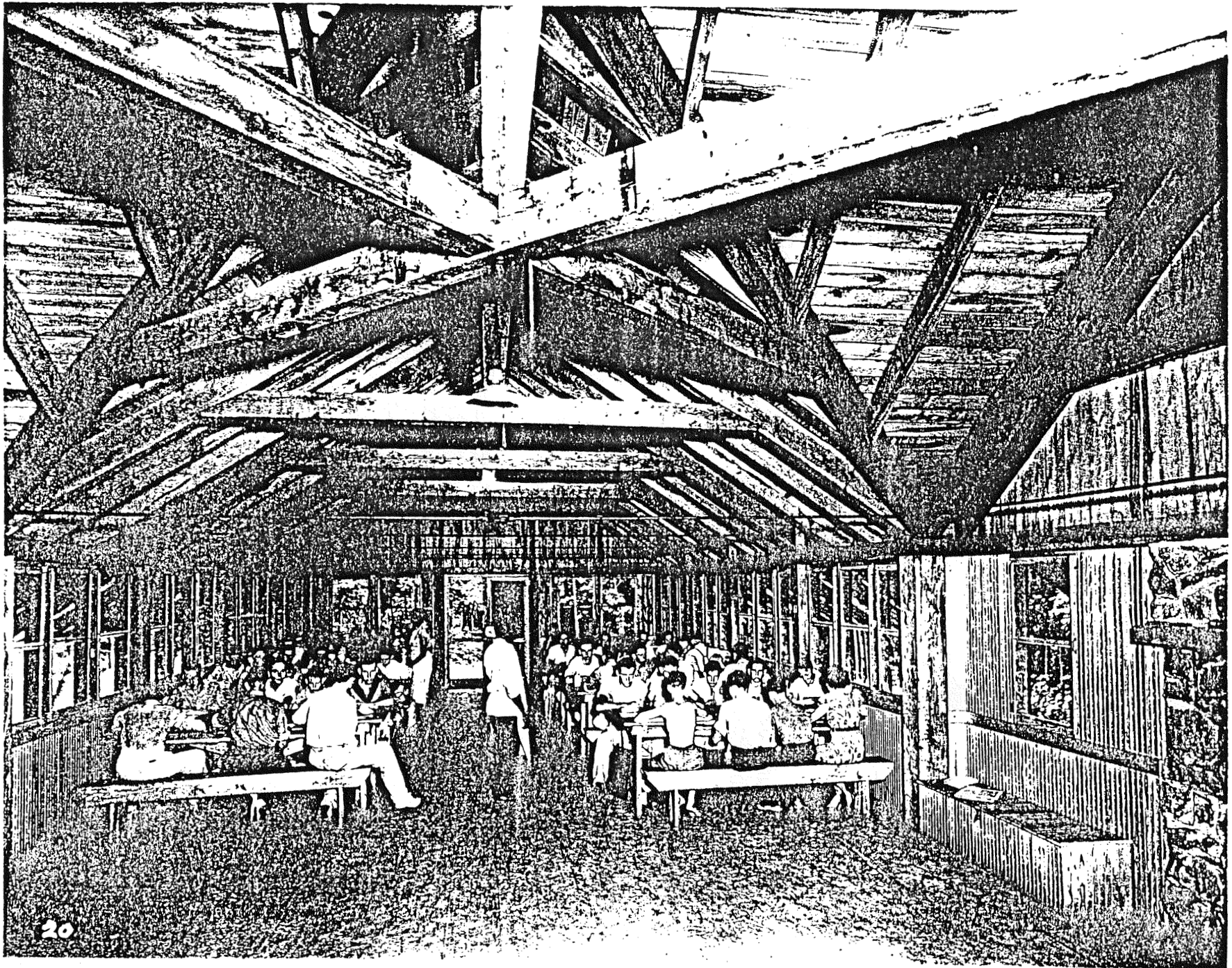
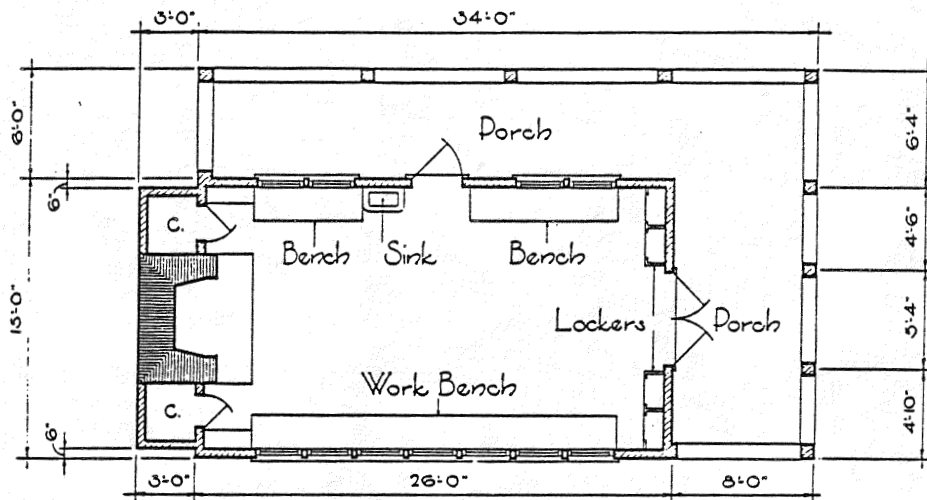


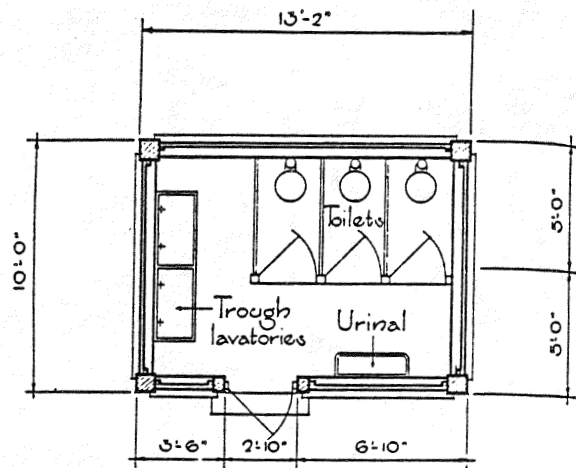
Figure 31. Dining Room, Swift Creek Recreation Area (date unknown)

Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation



Craft Shop - Swift Creek Area - Virginia

Figure 32. Craft Shop, Swift Creek Recreation Area c 1939
From *Park and Recreation Structures*



Swift Creek Area - Virginia

Figure 33. Toilet, Swift Creek Recreation Area c1939
From *Park and Recreation Structures*

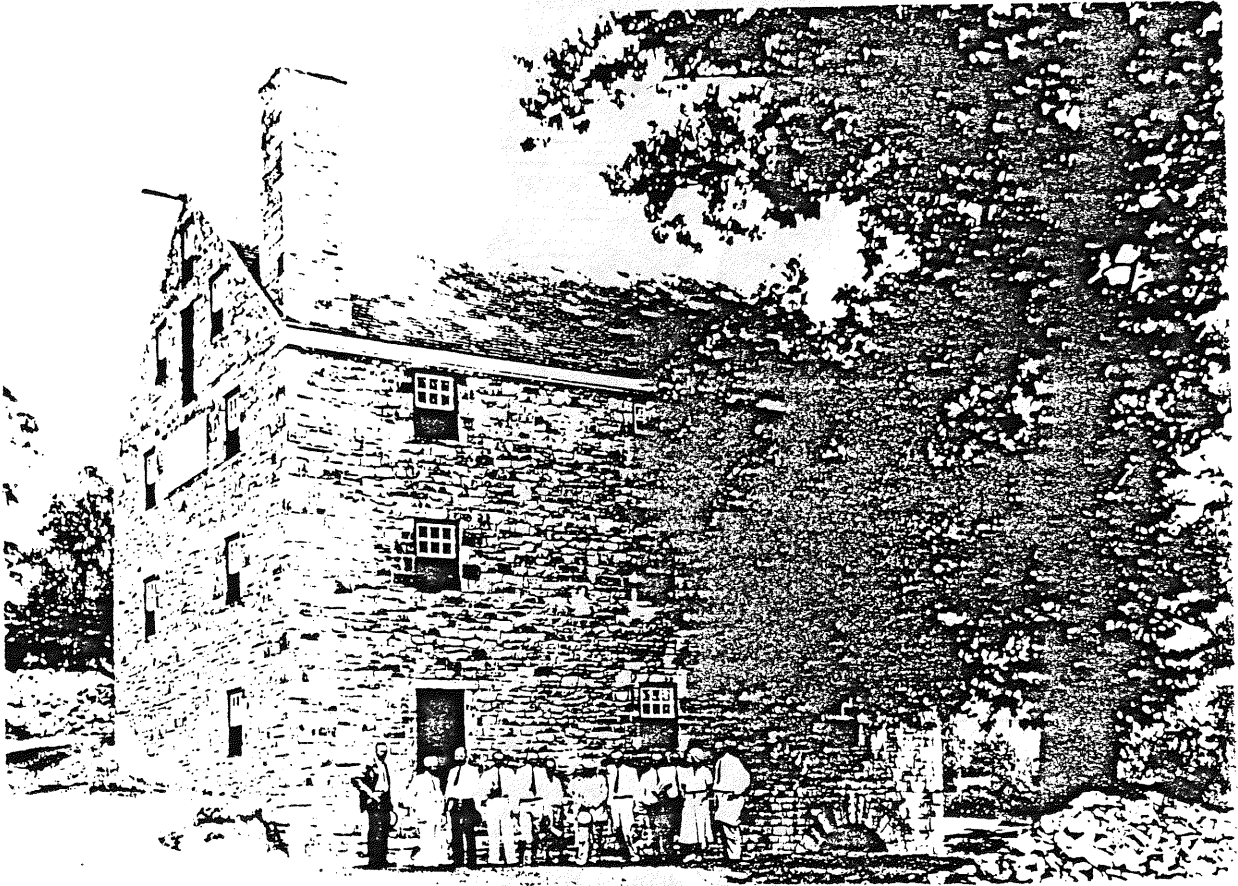


Figure 34. George Washington Grist Mill c1932
Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation

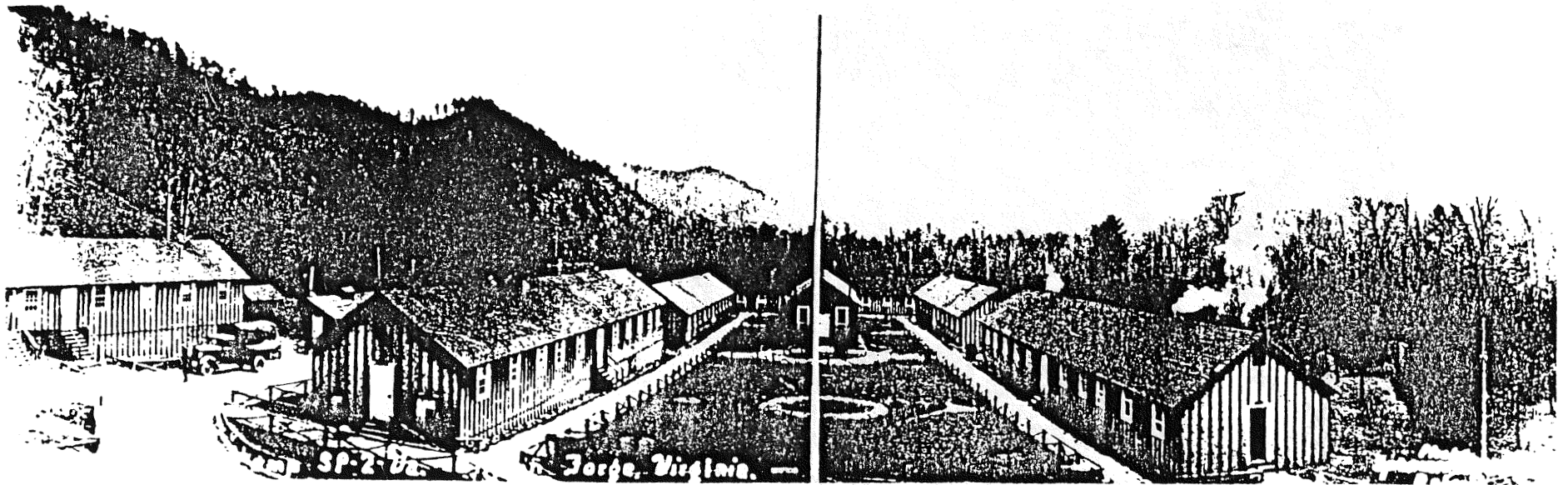


Figure 35. CCC Camp, Virginia c1934
Courtesy of Virginia Division of Parks and Recreation