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National Park Service  
Cultural Landscapes Inventory  
2009



Headquarters  
Shenandoah National Park

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## **Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan**

### **Inventory Summary**

#### **The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:**

##### **CLI General Information:**

###### **Purpose and Goals of the CLI**

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

###### **Scope of the CLI**

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

**Inventory Unit Description:**

The Headquarters site is the administrative and maintenance center of Shenandoah National Park (NP). The park was one of two national parks in the southern Appalachians authorized by Congress in 1926 and established in the 1930s. The twenty-four acre site is a portion of a 260-acre parcel purchased for the development of the Headquarters, located three miles west of Thornton Gap (and Skyline Drive) and four miles east of Luray, Virginia, on U.S. Route 211. It is approximately one mile outside the west boundary of the park. Vegetation at the site is covered with wooded areas as well as open meadows and lawns. The property is comprised of four distinct sub-areas, including the administration area, the employee residential area also used for park offices, the (former) Superintendent's Residence, and the maintenance area. An access road off of Route 211 connects all four sub-areas with spurs to both the residential area with its own loop road, and the (former) Superintendent Residence. The Administration Building and its adjacent parking lots occupy the most prominent site along Route 211 so as to be visible to passing motorists. The maintenance area is located furthest to the north away from view, and the residential areas are located between.

The Administration Building, built in 1940, was designed as an I-house type building with a central section and several separate gable-roofed sections on either side. A long wood building addition, built after construction, extends from the rear of the building. Locally quarried sandstone was used for the ashlar stone facades and the roof was laid with slate shingles. The Warehouse and several other maintenance buildings also feature ashlar stone facades. G.E. Baughan, a landscape architect with the NPS, designed three employee residences in the early 1940s, all of which reflected local building styles and techniques. Two of the residences featured wood siding, slate roofs, and prominent sandstone chimneys. The third residence was designed as a traditional rectangular cabin with a front porch. All three residences had wood frame garages with arched double doors and strap hinges. A pre-existing farmhouse built in 1916 was remodeled for use as an employee residence along with another farmhouse, constructed in 1870, for use as the Superintendent's Residence. The Headquarters site also features landscape elements constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the 1930s and 1940s, including the main access road, stacked stone grills, a boulder drinking fountain, wooden lamp posts as well as the planting of trees and shrubs.

**HISTORICAL OVERVIEW**

Prior to the establishment of Shenandoah NP, the area was inhabited by Native Americans and later settled by European immigrants beginning in the early 1700s and reaching its peak in the nineteenth century. Homesteads were established where families raised a variety of crops and fruit trees and kept pastures for cattle grazing. The Headquarters site was originally occupied by several family farmsteads that occupied the area beginning in the early to middle nineteenth century and continued into the early twentieth century.

During the early part of the twentieth century, several environmental disasters occurred, diminishing the economic livelihood of many area residents. The chestnut blight brought catastrophic change to the forest ecosystem, decimating chestnut trees that once made up twenty percent of the forest. Chestnuts were a food source for animals and could also be sold for cash. The bark was used for tanning, and the



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wood was used in the construction of telephone poles, railroad ties, wheel rims, and tools. In addition, the region experienced a severe drought in 1930 causing crops and the apple harvest to fail.

In 1924, the idea of establishing a national park in the region came about when the U.S. Secretary of the Interior formed the Southern Appalachian National Park Committee (SANPC), which recognized the potential of locating a scenic drive atop the Blue Ridge Mountains in northern Virginia with dramatic views of the Shenandoah Valley and the Piedmont Plain. In 1926, Congress authorized Shenandoah NP to provide a large, western-type park accessible from the urban centers of the East Coast. However, the act did not provide federal funding to acquire land for the park. Until the park was officially established in 1935, lands were acquired through private donations and funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The need to provide economic relief and jobs to the region, already suffering from the drought of 1930 as well as the Great Depression, moved forward the plan to make the Shenandoah area more accessible by building the motor road. As part of his New Deal legislation, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt established the CCC to help create jobs through natural resource conservation efforts on federal, state, and municipal properties. At Shenandoah, the CCC was involved in erosion control, planting trees and shrubs, and the construction of site amenities. Roosevelt also established the Public Works Administration (PWA) which later became a part of the Federal Works Agency. The PWA was involved with a comprehensive program for federal and nonfederal public works projects. The program's objectives were to reduce unemployment, increase consumers' purchasing power, improve standards of labor, and conserve natural resources. At Shenandoah, PWA funds were used for the construction of the Headquarters Administration Building and several other buildings at the site (Historic Resource Study 1997:73).

The Headquarters site was planned as four distinct sub-areas comprised of the administration area, the employee residential area, the (former) Superintendent's Residence area, and the maintenance area. An access road (herein called Headquarters Road), off of Route 211, connected all four sub-areas with spurs to the employee residential area with its own loop road, and the (former) Superintendent Residence. The administration area was the most visually prominent, located along Route 211. The maintenance area was located at the northernmost portion of the site, and the residential areas were sited between the two, east and west of Headquarters Road. The residential area was laid out with buildings arranged inside and outside a loop road, creating a more separate and private setting. The CCC was involved in the construction of Headquarters Road and site features such as stacked stone grills, a boulder drinking fountain, wooden lamp posts, and a variety of tree and shrub plantings.

After the U.S. entered World War II, further development of Shenandoah NP was mostly suspended until after the war. During the war, the Smithsonian Institution moved a major portion of their collection to the Headquarters site from Washington D.C. in order to protect it from possible bombing. Items were shipped to the park in November 1942, and stored in the Warehouse until 1944 when they were returned to Washington D.C. Also during this time, the Civilian Public Service (CPS) established a camp for conscientious objectors in Shenandoah NP. The CPS provided work for men unwilling to serve in the military based on religious upbringing or belief. At Shenandoah, the CPS took over fire and

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erosion control projects previously done by the CCC, continued the revegetation efforts, installed utilities, and built trails, roads, and park structures. CPS workers were involved in the construction of an Oil and Gas Storage Building at Headquarters for use by the Smithsonian to heat the Warehouse. The CPS also made alterations to the Equipment and Storage Workshop to accommodate materials moved out of the Warehouse (Historic Resource Study 1997: 120-121).

In the 1950s and early 1960s, the NPS expanded the facilities at the Headquarters site. Many new buildings were constructed according to guidelines established under the planning initiative known as "Mission 66." This ten-year development program was designed to upgrade the national parks to modern standards to accommodate rising visitation after World War II. New facilities were designed in a contemporary modern style, in contrast to the rustic style that had been employed at Shenandoah and other national parks.

At the Headquarters site, the residential area expanded with six new buildings sited amongst the existing 1940s houses around and within the loop road. The new buildings were designed as ranch-style houses, comprised of slab-on-grade wood frame buildings with attached carports. At the maintenance area, additional storage buildings were constructed at this time amongst the earlier buildings.

In the 1970s, several smaller structures and parking lots were constructed at the maintenance area. An additional parking lot was constructed north of the employee parking lot along Headquarters Road in the administration area. In 1995, the NPS constructed a massive steel-frame Maintenance Building in the middle of the maintenance area. A new archive building was also constructed slightly east of the maintenance area. Throughout the 1990s and into the early 2000s, some buildings throughout the Headquarters site were remodeled. Several buildings were converted into other uses, including three residences constructed in 1959 that were adapted for various NPS offices. The Superintendent's Residence was also converted into the Natural Resources Office. Additional site furnishings have been installed, such as picnic tables, benches, an information kiosk, signage, site lighting, barbecue hut, and dumpsters and recycling bins.

### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Headquarters site is within the boundaries of the nationally significant Skyline Drive Historic District, and therefore shares the same areas and period of significance, 1931-1952. Construction of Skyline Drive began in 1931 and occurred in three distinct phases, and extended to 1952, which recognizes the small amount of work done to complete the guardwalls after World War II and some minor changes that were in keeping with the 1930s plans. While construction of the Headquarters area did not begin in earnest until the late 1930s as part of a park master plan, it shares the same period of significance as the historic district.

The historic significance of the Headquarters site is evaluated according to the National Register Criteria A and C. The Headquarters site is nationally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of entertainment/recreation and politics/government for its association with Shenandoah NP as one of the first eastern national parks and is associated with the early twentieth century movement to

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accommodate the growing popularity of the automobile while also conserving natural and scenic areas. Shenandoah NP was created as a recreational park that provided motorists with a shifting panorama of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Shenandoah Valley, and the Piedmont along Skyline Drive. Located three miles west of Thornton Gap (and Skyline Drive) and four miles east of Luray, Virginia, on U.S. Route 211, the Headquarters site provided a contact station for visitors, and served as a residence for employees and the park Superintendent, as well as a maintenance area comprising equipment and materials storage, workshops, and garages. The Headquarters site is also associated with federal government efforts to mitigate widespread unemployment during the Great Depression through work programs, most notably the PWA and the CCC that constructed many of the site amenities throughout Shenandoah NP.

The Headquarters site is also nationally significant under Criterion C in the areas of architecture and landscape architecture for its association with the master planning, landscape design, and rustic style implemented by the NPS in the 1930s and 1940s. This style emphasized preserving existing landscapes and restoring landscapes altered by man to their original condition, using native vegetation. It also encouraged the use of local materials and building traditions in the construction of buildings, structures, and site furnishings. The overall layout of the Headquarters site worked with the existing topography as much as possible and created four separate sub-areas by function, locating the maintenance sub-area furthest from public view and the Administration Building prominently along the main road. Trees were planted for spatial definition and screening at the residential areas and the administration area. Foundation plantings were also installed around the Administration Building as well as the residences and the Warehouse to help blend the buildings with the landscape.

#### ANALYSIS/EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

Landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain today at the Headquarters site and are important to its historic character and unique identity. The most important natural feature at the site is the slightly sloped terrain with several knolls and its lower elevation in relation to the park. These topographic features determined the location and layout of the development with buildings such as the Administration Building constructed around the knolls. The site's lower elevation meant that the area was accessible all year. The historic circulation system is mostly intact and exemplifies the NPS use of curvilinear and loop roads that followed the existing topography to minimize impact on the land and maintain a naturalistic setting. At the Headquarters site, an access road (Headquarters Road) intersected with Route 211 heading north and connecting all four sub-areas. A flagstone walkway leads visitors from the parking lot to the entrance of the Administration Building. It is connected to a stepping stone pathway to the west side of the building to a set of steps leading to the employee parking lot. The Administration Building, three residences, the Warehouse, and several other maintenance buildings are all important examples of the rustic style that defined the architecture and landscape architecture of Shenandoah NP in the 1930s and 1940s. The buildings were designed using traditional construction traditions with local materials such as wood and stone. Small scale features constructed by the CCC survive at the Headquarters site and are also associated with the NPS rustic architectural style, including the boulder drinking fountain, the stacked stone grills, and the wooden lamp posts. Other small scale features that date to the period of significance include the flagpole at the

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administration area, the clothes lines at the residential area, and the loading ramp, tennis court and fence, and perimeter security fence at the maintenance area. The CCC also installed plantings, using native plant materials, to blend buildings into the landscape and add spatial definition, whereas grass lawns south of the Administration Building and around the Superintendent's Residence highlighted these buildings.

Since 1952, one of the most significant changes to the Headquarters site has been the construction of new facilities, including seven new buildings at the maintenance area and six employee residences. The design of these buildings departed from the NPS rustic style of the 1930s and 1940s and utilized more contemporary architectural styles. Additional parking lots were constructed north of the Administration Building and at the maintenance area. New site elements have been added over the years, including a picnic/barbecue shelter, walkway lights, a baseball field and volleyball court, bicycle racks, recycling bins, dumpsters, and dog houses. With the possible exception of the Maintenance Building, the overall impacts of these additions on the landscape have been minimal and do not detract from the historic setting.

The condition of the Headquarters landscape at the time of this report's completion is evaluated as "good." The vehicular circulation system has been well maintained through repaving. The historic small scale features, including the flagpole, boulder drinking fountain, and stacked stone grills, are in good condition. The flagstone walkways and stepping stone pathway at the Administration Building have been well maintained. Although some of the foundation plantings at Administration Building, residences and maintenance area have been reduced, the remaining vegetation appears to be healthy. In addition, the trees that were planted throughout the site have grown in and are well maintained.

Headquarters  
Shenandoah National Park

Site Plan



Site Plan. Map 1 of 1 for Headquarters (OCLP, 2008).

### Property Level and CLI Numbers

<b>Inventory Unit Name:</b>	Headquarters
<b>Property Level:</b>	Landscape
<b>CLI Identification Number:</b>	300127
<b>Parent Landscape:</b>	300127

### Park Information

<b>Park Name and Alpha Code:</b>	Shenandoah National Park -SHEN
<b>Park Organization Code:</b>	4840
<b>Park Administrative Unit:</b>	Shenandoah National Park

### CLI Hierarchy Description

Headquarters is one five landscapes in Shenandoah NP. The other landscapes and their component landscapes are as follows:

- Skyline Drive landscape with component landscapes: Big Meadows, Dickey Ridge, Elkwallow, Lewis Mountain, Piney River, Pinnacles, Skyland, South River Picnic Grounds, and Simmons Gap.
- Rapidan Camp landscape
- Mt. Vernon Iron Furnace landscape
- Appalachian Trail landscape with component landscapes: Appalachian Trail North District, Appalachian Trail Central District, and Appalachian Trail South District.

## Concurrence Status

**Inventory Status:** Complete

### Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Field work for Headquarters was completed in the summer of 2008 as part of the Landscape Preservation Field School at Shenandoah National Park. The six-week field school was organized by the Department of Landscape Architecture, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, State University of New York (SUNY) in Syracuse, New York, in partnership with the National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation (OCLP), in Boston, Massachusetts. The field school was lead by Graduate Assistant David Washburn (SUNY) and included four other students: John Quattrocchi (SUNY), Laura Roberts (SUNY), Mark Simonin (SUNY), and Adrienne (Addy) Smith-Reiman (Cornell). Faculty from SUNY and staff from OCLP served as project leaders on a weekly basis and included the following: John Auawaerter (SUNY), George Curry (SUNY), H. Eliot Foulds (OCLP), John W. Hammond (OCLP), Jeff Killion (OCLP), and Robert Page (OCLP). The field school also included lectures and presentations by NPS professionals and park staff. This draft was finalized by Allison Crosbie (OCLP) in the spring of 2009. The park's Cultural Resource Manager is Ann Kain. She can be reached at 540-999-3500, x3435.

### Concurrence Status:

<b>Park Superintendent Concurrence:</b>	Yes
<b>Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:</b>	07/20/2009
<b>National Register Concurrence:</b>	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
<b>Date of Concurrence Determination:</b>	08/27/2009

### National Register Concurrence Narrative:

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources concurred with the categorization of landscape resources at Headquarters, Shenandoah National Park, as contributing, noncontributing, and undetermined, on August 27, 2009. The SHPO had no additional comments on the report.

### Concurrence Graphic Information:

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY  
CONCURRENCE FORM

Headquarters  
Shenandoah National Park

Shenandoah National Park concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Headquarters including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

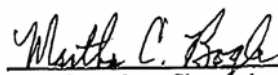
CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

**Good:** indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

**Fair:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

**Poor:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Headquarters is hereby approved and accepted.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent, Shenandoah National Park

7/20/09  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Park concurrence on the findings of this report were received on July 20, 2009.*

## Geographic Information & Location Map



**Inventory Unit Boundary Description:**

The Headquarters inventory unit at Shenandoah National Park (NP) is located three miles west of Thornton Gap (and Skyline Drive) on U.S. Route 211, and approximately one mile outside the west boundary of the park. The site includes four distinct sub-areas: administration, residential, superintendent’s residence, and maintenance. For the purposes of this Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI), the boundaries for Headquarters are described as 125 feet on either side of the centerline of all National Park Service-constructed or –used circulation roads or parking areas that were in place by 1950. This includes parking areas along Route 211 and to the west of the Administration Building, “Headquarters Road,” residential area access road and loop, Superintendent’s residence area access road, and maintenance area access road and internal roads. This boundary is consistent with the boundary set forth in National Register of Historic Places documentation for the boundary increase for the Skyline Drive Historic District, entered on September 19, 1997 (see Location Map).

The National Register documentation notes that the Headquarters site is discontinuous with the area included within the original Skyline Drive Historic District nomination. “The area between the Headquarters area and the rest of the park, although outside of park boundaries, has always been within the park’s legislative boundaries. Under National Register Bulletin 21, discontinuous boundaries are appropriate where elements are spatially discrete; space between the elements is not related to the significance of the district; and visual continuity is not a factor in the significance. The Headquarters area was never contiguous to the rest of the park and is spatially discrete from it. The areas between the Headquarters and Skyline Drive is not directly related to the significance of the district. Visual continuity is not a factor in the district’s significance. Because all of the criteria are satisfied, a discontinuous district is appropriate in this case.” (National Register 9/1997: Sec.10, 92-93).

**State and County:**

**State:** VA  
**County:** Page County

**Size (Acres):** 24.00

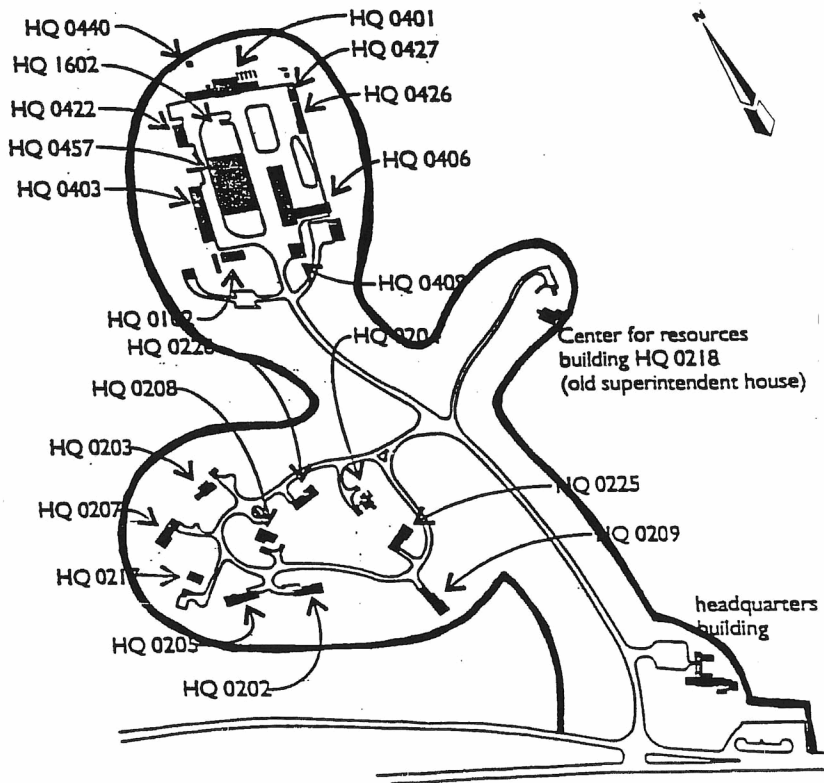
**Boundary UTMS:**

<b>Source:</b>	USGS Map 1:24,000
<b>Type of Point:</b>	Area
<b>Datum:</b>	NAD 83
<b>UTM Zone:</b>	17
<b>UTM Easting:</b>	728,840
<b>UTM Northing:</b>	4,282,645
<b>Source:</b>	USGS Map 1:62,500
<b>Type of Point:</b>	Area
<b>Datum:</b>	NAD 83
<b>UTM Zone:</b>	17
<b>UTM Easting:</b>	728,750
<b>UTM Northing:</b>	4,282,760
<b>Source:</b>	USGS Map 1:24,000
<b>Type of Point:</b>	Area
<b>Datum:</b>	NAD 83
<b>UTM Zone:</b>	17
<b>UTM Easting:</b>	728,940
<b>UTM Northing:</b>	4,282,500
<b>Source:</b>	USGS Map 1:24,000
<b>Type of Point:</b>	Area
<b>Datum:</b>	NAD 83
<b>UTM Zone:</b>	17
<b>UTM Easting:</b>	728,900
<b>UTM Northing:</b>	4,283,000

**Location Map:**



*Location Map Information. Shenandoah National Park is located in northwest Virginia (Map courtesy of Great Outdoors Recreation pages).*



**Key Map: Headquarters**

*Location Map Information. Sketch plan showing boundary increase around Big Meadows for Skyline Drive Historic District (National Register 9/1997, 104).*

**Regional Context:**

**Type of Context:** Cultural

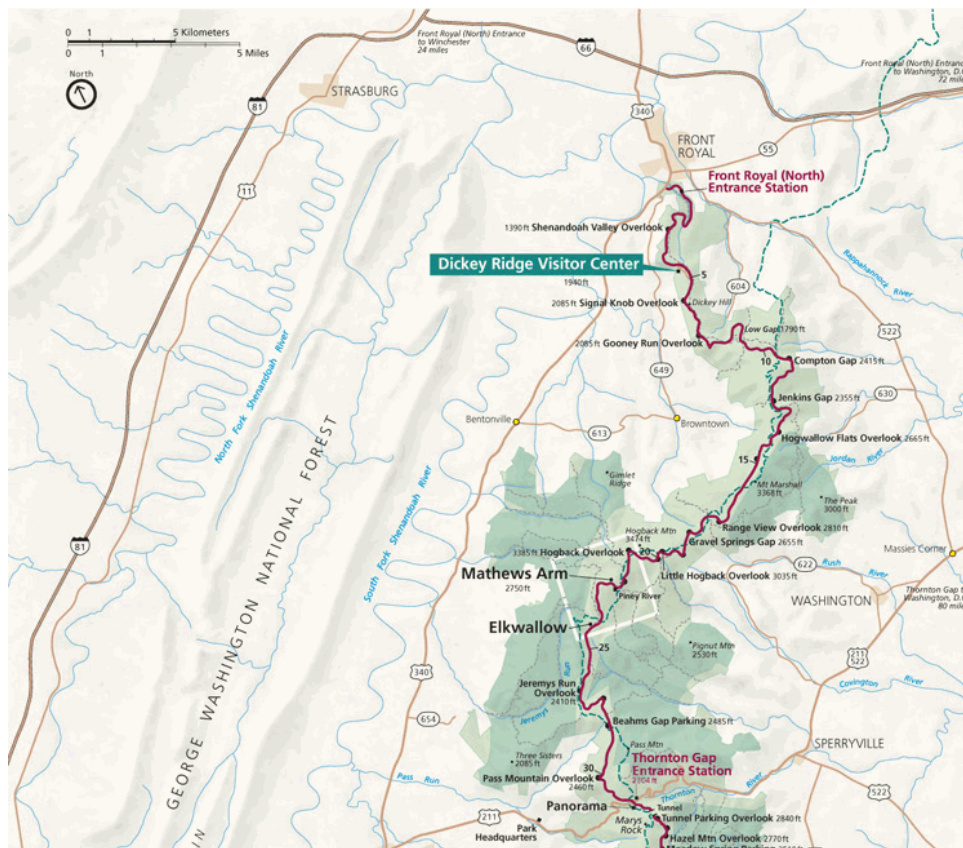
**Description:**

The Headquarters site is part of Shenandoah NP, serving as the administrative and maintenance center and some employee residences. In the surrounding region, tourism is a significant industry. Agriculture, particularly poultry production, is the main industry to the west, with convenient north-south access via Interstate 81 and Route 340. Suburban development in the Washington D.C.-Baltimore metropolitan area dominates the east, with east-west access via Interstate 66 and Routes 7, 50, and 211.

**Type of Context:** Physiographic

**Description:**

The Headquarters site is located on fairly flat terrain that gradually slopes northward at a lower elevation than Shenandoah NP, making the site accessible throughout the year.



*Regional Landscape Context. (Shenandoah NP website, <http://www.nps.gov/shen/planyourvisit/upload/north.jpg>).*

**Type of Context:** Political

**Description:**

The Headquarters site is located in Page County, in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is located three miles west of Thorton Gap (and Skyline Drive) on U.S. Route 211, and approximately one mile outside the west boundary of Shenandoah NP.

**Tract Numbers:** 88 (portion)  
137 (portion)  
139 (portion)  
141 (portion)  
142 (portion)  
143 (portion)  
144 (portion)

## Management Information

### General Management Information

**Management Category:** Must be Preserved and Maintained

**Management Category Date:** 07/20/2009

**Management Category Explanatory Narrative:**

Headquarters falls within the management category “Must Be Preserved and Maintained” because it is within the boundaries of the nationally significant Skyline Drive Historic District. Headquarters was added to the district as part of a boundary increase on September 19, 1997.

**NPS Legal Interest:**

**Type of Interest:** Fee Simple

**Public Access:**

**Type of Access:** Other Restrictions

**Explanatory Narrative:**

Headquarters is open year-round. However, portions of the site, including the maintenance area, are posted as “employees only” areas.

### Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** No

## National Register Information

### Existing NRIS Information:

**Name in National Register:** Skyline Drive Historic District (Boundary Increase)  
**NRIS Number:** 97001112  
**Primary Certification Date:** 09/19/1997

**Significance Criteria:** A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

**Significance Criteria:** C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

### Period of Significance:

**Time Period:** AD 1931 - 1952  
**Historic Context Theme:** Expressing Cultural Values  
**Subtheme:** Landscape Architecture  
**Facet:** The 1930's: Era Of Public Works

**Time Period:** AD 1931 - 1952  
**Historic Context Theme:** Creating Social Institutions and Movements  
**Subtheme:** Recreation  
**Facet:** General Recreation

**Time Period:** AD 1931 - 1952  
**Historic Context Theme:** Transforming the Environment  
**Subtheme:** Conservation of Natural Resources  
**Facet:** The Great Depression And Conservation

**Time Period:** AD 1931 - 1952  
**Historic Context Theme:** Developing the American Economy  
**Subtheme:** Transportation by Land and Air  
**Facet:** Carriage Roads, Touring Roads and Parkways

**Area of Significance:**

<b>Area of Significance Category:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area of Significance Subcategory:</b>	None
<b>Area of Significance Category:</b>	Entertainment - Recreation
<b>Area of Significance Subcategory:</b>	None
<b>Area of Significance Category:</b>	Landscape Architecture
<b>Area of Significance Subcategory:</b>	None
<b>Area of Significance Category:</b>	Politics - Government
<b>Area of Significance Subcategory:</b>	None

**Statement of Significance:**

Shenandoah NP was one of the first and largest national parks established in the eastern United States, and raised national and regional awareness of the importance of the government's role in preserving large portions of the environment for public recreation and enjoyment. From the park's early history, a key feature has been Skyline Drive, which traces the mountaintop ridges and offers panoramic views of the Piedmont Plain to the east and the Shenandoah Valley to the west. The Headquarters site, which is integral to the park and thematically tied to Skyline Drive, has served as the main administrative and maintenance center for Shenandoah NP along with employee housing and the Superintendent's Residence, and provides a point of contact for visitors. The period of significance for the Headquarters site is 1931-1952, as identified in the Boundary Increase for the Skyline Drive Historic District. Construction of Skyline Drive began in 1931 and occurred in three distinct phases, and extended to 1952, which recognizes the small amount of work done to complete the guardwalls after World War II and some minor changes that were in keeping with the 1930s plans. While construction of the Headquarters area did not begin in earnest until the late 1930s as part of a park master plan, it shares the same period of significance as the historic district.

The resources included in the boundary increase documentation, like those included in the district's original documentation, exemplify the park and its singular history:  
"The park and thus the boundary addition's significance falls under both National Register Criterion A (properties significant for their association with events) and Criterion C (properties significant as representatives of the manmade expression of culture or technology). The area is significant in the



## Headquarters

### Shenandoah National Park

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areas of entertainment/recreation, politics/government, architecture, and landscape architecture for the period of 1931-1952. The park's historical significance relates in part to the fact that it was one of the first eastern national parks and as such, the nation's most visited national park in the years immediately prior to World War II. In addition, it is significant as the site of the Skyline Drive and as a primary example of artificial efforts to return a developed area to its natural state. The park, while initiated during the administration of Herbert Hoover, is an example of the many accomplishments of Franklin Roosevelt's Depression-era programs, in particular the Civilian Conservation Corps. The park's design is characteristic of the outstanding landscape design and master planning of the National Park Service's Branch of Plans and Designs. It features a notable collection of buildings designed in the rustic style (by the National Park Service and, for the concessionaire's buildings, Richmond architect Marcellus Wright, Jr.)." (National Register 9/1997:Section 8, 36).

#### NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERION A

The Headquarters site is nationally significant under Criterion A in the areas of entertainment/recreation and politics/government for its association with Shenandoah NP. The park is significant in part as one of the first eastern national parks, and is associated with the twentieth century movement to develop national parks for public enjoyment and to conserve natural features and scenic areas as public parks. The park was one of two national parks in the Southern Appalachians authorized by Congress in 1926 and established in the 1930s through the acquisition and donation of land by the states in which they were located. Shenandoah NP is also associated with efforts of the federal government to provide economic relief in the form of employment for both skilled and unskilled labor during the Great Depression. These efforts included a special allocation in 1931 for drought relief funds for road construction in national parks, and the extensive economic relief programs of the New Deal era (1933 to 1942) which included the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), Public Works Administration (PWA), and Works Progress Administration (WPA), and Emergency Relief (FERA). The programs not only promoted economic stability but also reflected the social-humanitarian purposes of the New Deal by advancing the conservation of natural areas and expanding the recreational resources of the nation, while creating employment for thousands of skilled and unskilled workers. Funds obtained through the PWA were used for the construction of the Administration Building and other buildings at Headquarters. In addition, the Headquarters site typifies the work of CCC laborers who were employed to install trees and other plantings and construct site amenities including stacked stone grills, a boulder drinking fountain, and wooden lamp posts. The park also represents the increasing popularity of recreational motoring in the United States in the 1920s and 1930s and the evolving design of national park facilities to attract and accommodate increasing numbers of visitors who were visiting the parks by automobile. The Headquarters site provided an administration center where visitors could obtain park information. The Headquarters site retains sufficient integrity to convey the site's significance to the entertainment/recreation and politics/government themes.

#### NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERION C

The Headquarters site is nationally significant under Criterion C in the areas of architecture and landscape architecture for its association with master planning, landscape design, and the rustic style

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implemented by the National Park Service (NPS) in the 1930s and 1940s. All of the master planning and landscape design, and most of the architectural design in the boundary addition area, was completed by architects and landscape architects at the NPS Branch of Plans and Designs. Master plans were intended to ensure rational development that would preserve scenery and provide for public facilities. Although planning work for Skyline Drive was completed before the development of Shenandoah NP's master plans, all post 1935/36 development was tied to plans for the park as a whole and for individual developed areas. Generally, the plans grouped buildings together by function that were to be aesthetically pleasing and in harmony with the natural surroundings (National Register 9/1997:Section 8, 55,58-60).

One such example of a functional grouping was maintenance areas that clustered all maintenance-related facilities in a single location. Charles Punchard, who in the early years of the NPS oversaw landscape issues in national parks, promoted the idea of an ensemble of warehouses, workshops, garages, storage and equipment sheds, and stables arranged in parallel rows within the periphery of a rectangle. These complexes were typically located on side roads out of view from the public and often within the park's headquarters area (National Register 9/1997:Section 8, 60-61). Such was the case at the Headquarters maintenance area. The Headquarters site also included distinct and separate areas for administration, employee housing, and the Superintendent's residence.

In the boundary addition areas, landscape design closely followed the NPS naturalistic design principles of the period, which preserved (or restored) the natural surroundings through the use of native species and the de-emphasis of man-made intrusions (National Register 9/1997:Section 8, 67). Much of this theory had its origin in the naturalistic landscape design of Andrew Jackson Downing, such as the use of curvilinear forms. It also emphasized the opportunity for a series of unfolding scenes threaded together by roads and trails, and broad vistas experienced at an angle. Roads, trails, and buildings were to be positioned to take advantage of views, but at the same time were to be placed so as to be inconspicuous as possible. At the Headquarters site, the Administration Building was sited so as to be viewed within a setting of lawns, trees, and masses of shrubs by the motoring public from Route 211. Though it accessed less public areas, the curving Headquarters Road was nonetheless carefully designed to conform to the local topography and connect to other curving drives and loop roads within the site's distinct residential and maintenance areas, which were separated by extant vegetation and new native plantings installed by the CCC.

NPS buildings in the boundary addition area were designed in the rustic style, which was formalized in a 1938 publication entitled "Park and Recreation Structures" (National Register 9/1997:Section 8, 67). The aim of the style was to achieve "sympathy with natural surroundings and with the past" through the use of native materials in proper scale and the avoidance of straight lines and over-sophistication (National Register 9/1997:Section 8, 67). One of the tenants of this style was to draw upon existing local design. At the Headquarters site, two pre-park farmhouses (1870s and 1916) that were retained and remodeled for park uses featured "I" house plans and open porches. This housing type was found throughout the country and usually described as a mid-nineteenth- to early-twentieth-century symmetrical, two-story, one-room-deep building with central hall/stair. The Administration Building (1940) is described as having a traditional "I" house central structure with several separate one-story

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gable-roofed sections on either side, and an open porch. Additionally, three employee residences (1941-1942) and their associated garages at the site echoed local building traditions and cabin design through their designs and screened or open porches (National Register 9/1997:Section 7, 6,8-9; Section 8, 42).

Another aspect of the rustic style from this period was that groupings of buildings and structures often shared a common design theme through particular design elements and materials. At the Headquarters site, the maintenance area consisted of a series of one-story rectangular-plan buildings faced in local sandstone. The Administration Building was also built with locally quarried sandstone, as were the chimneys in the residences and the outdoor grills. The two farmhouses, and three residences and associated outbuildings, featured wood frame construction, wood siding, and gabled roofs.

The Headquarters site retains sufficient integrity to convey the site's significance to the architecture and landscape architecture themes. Resources that illustrate the initial park-related development at the Headquarters site include the Administration Building, eight buildings in the maintenance area, three houses and associated garages in the residential area, two pre-park farmhouses and associated outbuildings incorporated into the site's development, and various circulation features and site furnishings. The landscape at the Headquarters site illustrates the NPS planning and design philosophy of the late 1930s and early 1940s through the compact groupings of buildings and carefully sited circulation features, all of which were integrated with the site's topography. The site's historic buildings, constructed with local stone and wood, blend in with the surroundings, while the site's non-historic buildings for the most part do not. Although some uses of buildings have changed, and new buildings have been added, the site's four distinct sub-areas remain. Vegetation planted by the CCC to provide screening, spatial definition, and accents throughout the site have matured and blend in with the surroundings, as was intended, while lawns and masses of shrubs still frame the Administration Building and preserve the view from the highway. Other original site features, such as stacked-stone grills, a boulder drinking fountain, and wooden lamp posts, also reflect the naturalistic design expression advocated by the NPS.

### State Register Information

**Identification Number:** 69-0234  
**Date Listed:** 07/02/1997  
**Name:** Skyline Drive Historic District

**Explanatory Narrative:**

Headquarters is within the Skyline Drive Historic District.

### Chronology & Physical History

**Cultural Landscape Type and Use**

**Cultural Landscape Type:** Designed

**Current and Historic Use/Function:**

<b>Primary Historic Function:</b>	Visitor Contact (Visitor Center)
<b>Primary Current Use:</b>	Visitor Contact (Visitor Center)
<b>Other Use/Function</b>	<b>Other Type of Use or Function</b>
Maintenance Facility	Both Current And Historic
NPS Class V Administrative Access Road	Both Current And Historic
Parking Area	Both Current And Historic
Single Family House	Both Current And Historic
Sports/Athletic Field	Current
Tennis Court	Both Current And Historic

**Current and Historic Names:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Type of Name</b>
Headquarters	Both Current And Historic

**Ethnographic Study Conducted:** No Survey Conducted

**Ethnographic Significance Description:**

As with most areas of Shenandoah National Park (NP), it is quite possible that Native American tribes used this site at one time. The Manocan and Manahoac tribes used the general park area, but no other information was found on their use of the area.

**Chronology:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Annotation</b>
900 - 1600 BC	Established	First human habitation in Blue Ridge Mountains takes place about 11,000 years ago as seasonal encampments.
AD 1000	Established	Native American use of the mountains focuses on game hunting (Resource Management Plan 1998: 23). The Manocan and Manahoac tribes used the area (Pinnacles CLI 2007: 13).
AD 1669	Explored	Dr. John Lederer, from Germany, is the first European to record exploration in this area of Blue Ridge Mountains, describing a forest full of game and large open area believed to be Big Meadows (Pinnacles CLI 2007: 13).

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AD 1700 - 1799	Settled	Immigrants from Tidewater area come to Piedmont region and from Pennsylvania to Shenandoah Valley, leading to the disappearance or departure of Native Americans from the area (Pinnacles CLI 2007: 13).
AD 1716	Explored	Alexander Spotswood, Lieutenant Governor of the Colony of Virginia, leads a party across the Blue Ridge to try to extend the boundaries of Virginia and promote trading to the west. The land he claims for the colony is soon bought up and spurs settlement (Historic Resource Study 1997: 7). Property disputes arise, specifically by Lord Fairfax who owned a considerable amount of land. Later, surveyors plot the land, giving half of what is now the park to Fairfax and the other half to the colony (Historic Resource Study: 7-8).
AD 1720 - 1729	Settled	“The first settlers moved up into the coves and along the ridges...For about two centuries these hardy mountaineers eked a living from the hills and forests. They depended to a large extent on the native mammals for food and clothing. Small patches of land were cleared and cultivated, and cattle and horses were grazed on pasturelands carved from the forest. Trees were cut for lumber and for their bark, used in tanning, over most of the country. And fires burned...All this had its effect on the mammal population. Overtrapping completely eliminated the beaver (Manville, Richard, “Mammals of Shenandoah National Park” 1956: 13-15).
AD 1730 - 1740	Built	A horse and wagon trail is formed through Thornton Gap (Historic Resource Study 1997: 12).
AD 1750 - 1830	Settled	Settlers move from lower elevations into mountain hollows, where they pursue farming, grazing, timbering, and hunting game (Pinnacles CLI 2007: 13).
AD 1785	Built	Thornton Gap Road is the second official mountain pass (31.5 miles) constructed.
AD 1870 - 1879	Built	A farmhouse, garage, and shed are constructed on the I. Caspar Judd property of the future Headquarters site and will later be adapted as portions of the Superintendent’s Quarters. (SHEN 134 5462, National Register 9/1997: Section 7,9).

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AD 1916 - 1917	Built	A farmhouse along with a carriage shed is constructed on the future park Headquarters residential area and includes an adjacent garage and storage shed. The building is a two-story, side-gable wood-frame house on stone foundations with a one-story porch and brick exterior chimney (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 7; Historic Resource Study 1997: 31).
AD 1924	Established	The Secretary of the Interior assembles Southern Appalachian National Park Committee (SANPC) to study the issues regarding establishing a national park (SHEN website, Historical Overview).
AD 1925	Built	A small frame Storage Building is constructed near the 1870 farmhouse and later moved to the maintenance area.
	Established	February 21, Congress passes legislation allocating \$20,000 for survey and evaluation of Shenandoah and other parks (SHEN website, Historical Overview).
AD 1926	Established	Congress authorizes Shenandoah National Park (NP) on May 22, but without funds for land purchases.
AD 1931	Built	July 18 marks the official groundbreaking of Skyline Drive along the park's ridgeline at Thornton Gap, heading south to Swift Run Gap (NHL Documentation 2008:8).
AD 1931 - 1938	Planned	Preliminary plans for the Headquarters propose a location at Thornton Gap.
AD 1933	Established	President Franklin Roosevelt establishes the Public Works Administration (PWA) as the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works under the authority of the National Industrial Recovery Act (Historic Resource Study 1997: 73). In December, Roosevelt establishes the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and six CCC camps are set up in Shenandoah (SHEN website, Historical Overview).
AD 1933 - 1940	Built	The CCC modifies an existing farm road to facilitate access to future Headquarters maintenance structures (Historic Resource Study 1997).

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AD 1933 - 1938	Moved	The CCC constructs a Workshop Garage at another location within the park, and the building is moved to the maintenance area of the Headquarters site (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 11).
AD 1935	Established	On December 26, Secretary of the Interior, Harold L. Ickes, accepts title to Shenandoah NP (National Register 4/1997:Section 7, 4).
	Moved	A small wood frame Paint Shop, designed by Harvey Benson and G.E. Baughan, is constructed at Pinnacles and moved to the maintenance area at Headquarters (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 11).
AD 1938	Planned	A schematic plan shows the preliminary siting of the Headquarters Administration Building with accompanying parking lots for employee and public use. Also shown is the realignment of the Headquarters Road and demolition of an existing farm house on the proposed site of the Administration Building, all of which is later executed (SHEN 134-2084-A-336389, Denver Service Center).
AD 1939 - 1942	Built	The National Park Service (NPS) constructs the Administration Building. Shortly thereafter, the NPS constructs a wood addition extending from the rear of the building. The NPS also constructs two parking areas, one for visitors south of the building and an employee parking area to the north.
	Built	A thirty-five foot high flagpole is constructed in front of the Administration Building, aligned with the main entrance.
	Built	A boulder drinking fountain is constructed near the maintenance area (LCS HQ01G).
AD 1940	Planned	Park headquarters functions move from rented building in Luray to new buildings off of Route 211 just outside the park boundaries.
AD 1940 - 1949	Built	Seven lightposts are constructed along the spur road to the Superintendent's quarters and around the residential area loop road (LCS HQ011, SHEN 134-8565, Denver Service Center).

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AD 1940	Built	A one and one-half story Warehouse is constructed at the maintenance area (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 10).
	Designed	The NPS develops planting plans for the Administration Building and Warehouse (Shenandoah NP Archives, 1940 Planting Plan, Pocket 3, Folder 1).
	Built	The Equipment Storage and Workshop is constructed at the maintenance area (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 10).
	Built	An Equipment Storage Shed is constructed at the maintenance area (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 10).
	Built	A Lumber Storage Building is constructed at the maintenance area, designed by Baughan (SHEN 134-2182-336473, Denver Service Center).
AD 1940 - 1947	Built	The NPS constructs a culvert system under Route 211 near the Headquarters public parking area south of the Administration Building (LCS HQ01E).
AD 1941	Built	The CCC constructs an access road and pedestrian circulation system around the residential area at the Headquarters site (LCS HQ01K). The access road spurs off of Headquarters Road and forms a loop through the residential area.
	Built	Two residences are constructed at the Headquarters site with garages, designed in a Colonial Revival style by G.E. Baughan, a landscape architect with the NPS (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 8).
AD 1942	Designed	A Carpenter Shop is designed for the maintenance area at Headquarters by G.E. Baughan and Harvey Benson but does not appear to have been constructed (SHEN 134-2152-A, No. 336103, Denver Service Center).
	Built	Another employee residence is constructed with a garage at the residential area (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 8).



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	Altered	The 1916 farmhouse at the residential area is remodeled (LCS HQ 2-17).
	Moved	A building constructed by the CCC as a paymasters office in 1937 is moved to the maintenance area at the Headquarters site and used as a sign shop (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 11).
	Moved	A building constructed by the CCC in 1935 is moved to the maintenance area and used as a Paint Shop (LCS HQ03D).
	Moved	A smokehouse constructed prior to the park's establishment is moved to the maintenance area and used for general storage (LCS HQ03E).
	Abandoned	The CCC program is disbanded after the U.S. enters World War II, and the CCC camps are closed (Lambert 1979:ii).
	Established	In August, the Civilian Public Service (CPS) establishes a camp for conscientious objectors in Shenandoah NP, at former CCC camp NP-10.
AD 1943	Planned	The NPS develops plan for a wooden post and rail fence along Highway US 211 frontage and around public parking lot at Headquarters (etic drawing 134-2035-333739).
	Built	A concrete loading ramp is constructed at the maintenance area adjacent to the Paint Shop.
AD 1943 - 1944	Built	The NPS constructs a tennis court just south of the maintenance area along the access road (Shenandoah NP Archives, no. 275).
AD 1943	Built	The Smithsonian Institution constructs the Gas and Oil Shop at the maintenance area, intended to house a heating system for the storage area of the Warehouse which was being used to house some of the Smithsonian's collection during World War II. It has also been designed to store flammable materials including oil and paint (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 11).

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AD 1945	Moved	A building that was originally part of one of the CCC camps is moved to the maintenance area and used as a workshop/garage (LCS HQ03F).
AD 1950 - 1965	Built	A semi-circular brick patio is constructed at (former) Superintendent's residence.
AD 1950	Built	A hose shed is constructed.
AD 1951	Built	Mileposts are installed along Skyline Drive (National Register 4/1997: Section 8, 91).
AD 1952	Built	Guardrails are completed in South District, marking official completion of Skyline Drive (NHL Documentation 2008:6).
AD 1957 - 1960	Built	A Community Dial Office is constructed, housing telephone related equipment, located southwest of the maintenance area (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 12).
AD 1958	Planned	Planting plans are developed for the residential area at the Headquarters site (SHEN 134 2469, Denver Service Center).
AD 1959 - 1960	Built	Six ranch-style houses are constructed at the Headquarters residential area as part of the Mission 66 program.
AD 1960	Built	An interchange is built on Skyline Drive at Thornton Gap connecting Skyline Drive to Route 211 (Heatwole, Guide to SNP and Skyline Drive, 1988).
AD 1960 - 1961	Built	A center median and second traffic lane are added to Lee Highway (Route 211).
AD 1961	Built	A Storage shed is constructed at the maintenance area (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 12).
AD 1962	Built	A Materials Storage building is constructed at the maintenance area.
AD 1963	Built	A carport is added to the east side of one of the 1941 residences (LCS HQ02H).

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AD 1965	Altered	The Superintendent's Quarters is adapted to be used as a Natural/Cultural Resources Building (LCS HQ02K).
AD 1967 - 1970	Built	A Chlorinator building is constructed at the maintenance area.
AD 1970	Built	A shed is constructed for the Sign Shop.
AD 1975	Built	A third parking lot is constructed at the administration area along Headquarters Road further north of the employee parking lot.
AD 1995	Built	The Maintenance Building and I& M Archives buildings are constructed at Headquarters. The Maintenance Building is located in the center of the complex on the site of the machine shop. The I& M building is slightly east of the main portion of the maintenance area.
AD 1996	Altered	The walkways around the Administration Building are modified to eliminate a step at the front porch and incorporate a flagstone ramp using original materials (LCS).
	Restored	The Gas and Oil building is restored.
AD 2000 - 2001	Altered	The 1916 farmhouse at the residential area is renovated including removal of 1970s exterior chimney (LCS HQ 2-17).
	Altered	The original Sign Shop changes function and is used for miscellaneous storage (LCS HQ03C).

## Physical History:

### 9000 BC to 17th CENTURY: NATIVE AMERICAN USE

This area of the Blue Ridge Mountains was known and used by Paleo-Indians for many centuries, with the first human habitation taking place about 11,000 years ago, sometime after the last Ice Age. The Paleo-Indians were hunters and gatherers who used the mountains for seasonal camps. With the development of farming in the valleys by 1000 AD, Native American use of the mountains focused on game hunting (Resource Management Plan 1998:23). The Manocan tribe settled in most of the Piedmont region and portions of the Blue Ridge Mountains while Manahoac tribes inhabited the area east of the Blue Ridge Mountains and along the Rappahannock River (<http://indians.vipnet.org/tribes/monacan.cfm>).

### 1669 to 1923: EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT

Dr. John Lederer, a German immigrant, was the first European to record exploration of this area of the Blue Ridge Mountains in 1669, describing the woods as wild and full of game. In 1716, Alexander Spotswood, Lieutenant Governor of the Colony of Virginia, led an expedition across the Blue Ridge Mountains to encourage settlement and extend the boundaries of the colony. The crossing place was probably Swift Run Gap or the Big Meadows area (Lambert 1989:32-33). The land Spotswood claimed was soon bought up by investors, but disputes over ownership led to court cases that went unresolved well into the early nineteenth century (Historic Resources Study 1997:7-8).

In the 1730s, a horse and wagon trail was formed through Thornton Gap to gain access from the west of the Blue Ridge to Sperryville to the east where a gristmill was located, providing fresh ground flour and meal, as well as other services such as a general store. The trail became Thornton Gap Road, now known as Route 211 or Lee Highway, and eventually linked Sperryville to Massanutten. In 1786, to address the declining condition of the road, two local residents, Andrew Barbee and Enos McKay, formed a turnpike partnership and collected tolls. The money was then used for re-grading and paving the road. Barbee also built an inn and post station next to the toll booth to capitalize on the through traffic (Historic Resource Study 1997:12).

Most of the first European settlers in the area were English immigrants, followed by a large number of Germans and Scotch-Irish by the mid-eighteenth century (Historic Resources Study 1997:9). Settlers moved from the Tidewater area to the Piedmont region, and from Pennsylvania to the Shenandoah Valley. Even before European settlement started here, local Native Americans were dying of introduced diseases, and by 1800 they had disappeared completely or moved away (Lambert 1989:21-22; Resource Management Plan 1998:23). As the better farming land was taken, new settlers moved into the mountain hollows where they developed a life reliant on hunting, farming, grazing, and timbering that led to extensive clearing of the land (Resource Management Plan 1998:23 cited in Skyland CLI: 32). Industrial use also developed in some areas, such as the Mt. Vernon Iron Furnace and the Stony Man Mountain Tract, where copper was mined and charcoal produced for smelting occurred from 1845 to 1850 (Engle 1994:1). In addition, more gristmills were established, including one along Route

211 called Triplett Mill (Historic Resource Study 1997:12).

By the mid-1850s, there were a number of large, plantation-like farms as well as smaller scale farms in the Shenandoah Valley foothills. The smaller farms were mainly subsistence farms including small gardens with corn, rye and other vegetables, and small orchards. The area occupied by the future Headquarters site was comprised mostly of these smaller farms, including a farmhouse built in 1870 and later incorporated into the Headquarters site. Other surrounding land uses included cattle grazing, especially from 1830 to 1845, and lumbering that provided material for rebuilding after the Civil War, such as for railroad expansion. Tanneries were another important industry, utilizing chestnut bark for the source of tannin in the process (Historic Resources Study 1997:13-15). The chestnut blight that began in the United States around 1904 put an end to local reliance on the chestnut tree which at one time made up twenty percent of the Appalachian forest (<http://www.virginiaplaces.org/natural/chestnut.html>).

In 1894, George Freeman Pollock created a popular resort on the ridge, initially called Stony Man Camp and later renamed Skyland. It was a destination and summer residence for middle and upper middle classes mostly from Baltimore, Washington, Richmond, and Philadelphia. Pollock was known as a showman who held theatrical events, such as bonfires, Indian “pow-wows,” and medieval jousts for guest entertainment (Lambert 1979:i and Uhler <http://www.shenandoah.national-park.com/info.htm>). Pollock strongly supported the establishment of a park and would play a key role in this effort (Historic Resources Study 1997:44).

#### 1924-1952: PARK DEVELOPMENT

##### Shenandoah National Park:

In 1924, Hubert Work, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, assembled a five-member Southern Appalachian National Park Committee (SANPC) to study the issues regarding establishing a national park in the region, authorized by Congress. The Committee distributed a questionnaire to gain public input into suggested sites for a new national park (SHEN website, Historical Overview). George Pollock filled out the questionnaire with the aid of several colleagues, promoting the establishment of a park near Skyland. Pollock personally met with the members of the SANPC, and his enthusiasm and persuasive manner convinced the committee of the merits of his proposal (Historic Resources Study 1997:46).

In February 1925, Congress passed legislation allocating \$20,000 for survey and evaluation of proposed parks, including Shenandoah. It also stipulated that the Commonwealth of Virginia purchase the land and present it to the federal government for such purpose (SHEN website, Historical Overview). However, it would take ten more years for the park lands to be acquired. Obstacles involved lawsuits resulting from land condemnation for the park, resettlement requirements for former residents, and funding (Historic Resources Study 1997:45). In April 1926, Virginia Governor Harry F. Boyd established the Commission on Conservation and Development, headed by William Carson, to take over management of funds collected for the park’s creation. On May 22, Congress authorized Shenandoah National Park (NP), but without funds for land purchases. Landowner resistance caused conflicts and court challenges, delaying the clearance of deeds (National Historic Landmark [NHL])

Documentation 2008:6 and SHEN website, Historical Overview).

Skyline Drive and the New Deal:

In 1930, a severe drought hit the Piedmont region of Virginia, drastically reducing the livelihood of many farmers and apple pickers (SHEN website, Skyline Drive History). Coinciding with the drought disaster were the effects of the Great Depression caused by the stock market crash in October 1929. As economic conditions continued to look bleak, it became more imperative to bring jobs to the area. William Carson promoted a plan to both create jobs and make the Shenandoah area more accessible by building a road. As described in the Report of the SANPC from June 30, 1931: “the greatest single feature, however, is a possible skyline drive along the mountaintop, following a continuous ridge and looking down westerly on the Shenandoah Valley...and commanding a view [to the east] of the Piedmont Plain...Few scenic drives in the world could surpass it (Engle, 1999:15). That same year, President Hoover authorized drought relief funds to finance the work of building Skyline Drive, provided that much of the labor be done by locals using traditional hand tools and farm implements (HAER 1996:1).

The official groundbreaking of Skyline Drive at Thornton Gap heading south toward Swift Run Gap took place on July 18, 1931, and work continued through the summer and stopped in winter. Construction of the road occurred in three phases starting with Central District, then North District followed by South District (NHL Documentation 2008:8). Project One was the Central District, from Thornton Gap to Swift Run Gap, completed in 1934. Project Two, or the second section phase of the construction, comprised the North District, from Front Royal to Thornton Gap and finished in late summer of 1935. Project Three comprised the South District, from Swift Run Gap to Jarman Gap and opened in August 1939 (NHL Documentation 2008:6, 16).

In 1933, Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated as President of the United States. In March, one of his first presidential acts was to freeze all federal funding. Not until he visited the Shenandoah area in April did he release funding, and construction of Skyline Drive resumed (National Register 4/1997:Section 7, 7). As part of his New Deal legislation, Roosevelt initially established the Public Works Administration (PWA) as the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works under the authority of the National Industrial Recovery Act. It later became a part of the Federal Works Agency. The PWA was involved with a comprehensive program for federal and nonfederal public works projects. The program’s objectives were to reduce unemployment, increase consumers’ purchasing power, improve standards of labor, and conserve natural resources. The organization supplied funding and hired inspectors to ensure that projects were being constructed according to plans and specifications. The National Park Service (NPS) received a substantial amount of funds from the program, and at Shenandoah, PWA funds were used for the construction of the Headquarters Administration Building and several other buildings at the site (Historic Resource Study 1997:73).

Roosevelt also established the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), originally part of the Emergency Conservation Work initiative, created to help relieve high unemployment and carry out a broad program of natural resource conservation on federal, state, and municipal lands.

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Under the program, the Department of Labor recruited workers, the Army trained and transported the recruits and operated work camps, and the NPS and Forest Service directed their work assignments (Historic Resource Study 1997: 74). Six CCC camps were set up in Shenandoah NP where workers undertook a wide range of projects including erosion control, planting trees and shrubs, the construction of trails, shelters, and picnic areas (SHEN website, Historical Overview). At the Headquarters site, CCC laborers helped with the construction of the Headquarters Administration Building as well as tree and shrub plantings (Historic Resource Study 1997:77).

### Development of the Headquarters Site:

The first Master Plan for Shenandoah NP was produced in 1935 through the collaboration of the superintendent, landscape architects, chief engineer, and sanitary engineer. Revisions occurred each year until 1942, with the exception of 1941. The earliest plans called for the park headquarters to be developed along Skyline Drive just north of Thornton Gap. In the late 1930s, plans were changed and the headquarters areas was built one mile west of the park boundary along Route 211 near Luray on acquired property comprised of fourteen tracts of residential farmland. This change in location reflected a service-wide planning trend to locate park headquarters areas at the edge of parks instead of upland sites where access could be limited at certain times of the year (NHL Documentation 2008:77).

Thornton Gap Road, also known as Route 211, was part of Lee Highway and was one of three routes that intersected with Skyline Drive. A property map shows the NPS acquisition of 260 acres of land on both sides of Route 211. The actual site comprising the Headquarters and associated facilities was roughly twenty-four acres situated north of Route 211. The landscape at this time was mostly open with some clusters of trees and comprised several farmhouses and associated structures. A small cemetery was also located on the northern portion of the property. As the site was developed, the NPS removed existing buildings except for two farmhouses and several outbuildings. An existing farm road was modified by the CCC to facilitate access through the site during construction. Prior to the construction of the permanent Headquarters, temporary facilities were established in a rented building in nearby Luray.

At the Headquarters site, there were several pre-existing buildings on the site, comprised of two farmhouses and associated buildings, that were incorporated into the development and probably helped determine the layout of the site. One farmhouse was constructed in 1916, consisting of painted clapboard siding, stone foundations and a gable end exterior chimney, and was converted into an employee's residence in the residential area. Another farmhouse, built around 1870, was adapted into the Superintendent's Residence. Another existing building used by the NPS at Headquarters was the Storage Building, thought to have originally been located near the 1870 farmhouse and moved to the maintenance area just outside the perimeter fence in the late 1930s.

In addition, some of the buildings at Headquarters had been constructed in the early 1930s at other locations and then moved to the site. For example, the CCC constructed a Workshop Garage at another location at the park in the early 1930s, and the building was later moved to the maintenance area around 1938 (National Register 1997:Section 7, 11). The Workshop

Garage was a long, narrow, frame building with five vehicle bays. The gable roof consisted of rolled asphalt and the walls were of wood lap siding (National Register 1997: 7-12). In 1935, NPS landscape architects Harvey Benson and G. E. Baughan designed a small wood Paint Shop that was built at the Pinnacles site and then relocated to the Headquarters maintenance area in the late 1930s. The building was composed of a gable roof section with three bays, including a central bay with a wooden door flanked on either side by a bay.

Park planning at Shenandoah NP adhered to the design philosophy of making the least impact on the landscape. This involved designing park buildings to be subordinate to the landscape and grouping buildings together by function with a consistent architectural theme (Historic Resource Study 1997:90-91). Plans dating back to 1938 proposed four sub-areas for the Headquarters site, including an administration area, a residential area for employees, a maintenance area, and a residence for the superintendent (Figure 1). Other development plans depict more detailed information regarding the layout of buildings and structures, including recreational facilities such as tennis courts and a pool (Figure 2). A half-mile long, curving, unnamed access road (herein referred to as Headquarters Road) led from Route 211 connecting all four sub-areas. On the east side of Headquarters Road at its intersection with Route 211 was the administration area. This area included the Administration Building and two associated parking areas. Farther north, two side roads branched off from either side of the Headquarters road. The access road to the east led to the Superintendent's Residence and its associated ancillary buildings. The road on the west provided access to the residential area. Headquarters Road then terminated at the maintenance area at the northernmost portion of the site. A spur led from here to loop through the maintenance area.

In 1939, the NPS constructed the Headquarters Administration Building, located north of Route 211, on land previously occupied by a farmhouse and associated buildings. The new building was designed in the rustic style developed by the NPS with the purpose to “blend unobtrusively into the natural setting” (Figure 3) (NHL Documentation 2008:34). The design principles associated with the rustic style called for using native materials and traditional building techniques to create buildings that were subordinate to the surrounding landscape. The NPS designed the building as a two-story stone structure with a slate roof built on concrete foundations based on the traditional “I” type house plan with separate single story gable-roofed sections on either side (Figure 4). The five-bay wide central section had a single story wood porch. To the west of the central section was a two-bay wide, single story gable-roofed section. To the east of the central section was a longer section, composed of a narrow single-bay cross-gable section, and a final three-bay-wide, gable-roofed section. A long wood addition extended from the rear of the building and was constructed shortly after the completion of the main building. The rough-faced, random laid stone work on the building's facades was from locally quarried sandstone (National Register 9/1997:Section 7, 67). The Administration Building faced Route 211 to be visible by motorists, with the back of the building set into a small knoll. The building also functioned as a contact station for visitors, providing park information and restrooms. The CCC was involved in the excavation of the basement and used it as a borrow pit for grading the visitor parking area south of the building (Historic Resource Study 1997:77, citing interview with Baughan, Sept. 21, 1995). The CCC also constructed stone retaining walls on the east and west sides of the building for soil retention and erosion control.



Two separate parking lots were also constructed at the administration area, including an employee parking lot north of the building with twenty spaces. South of the building and off of Route 211, the NPS also constructed a pull-off visitor parking lot with thirty spaces and a median separating the lot from the road and planted with grass and two shade trees. A curved flagstone walkway connected the visitor parking area to the main entrance of the Administration Building. A path made up of stepping stones linked this walkway to stone steps west of the building leading to the employee parking area. A thirty-five foot flagpole was also built in front of the building, aligned with the main entrance and incorporated into the flagstone paving. The landscape between the visitor parking lot and the building was fairly open with a lawn dotted by specimen trees and shrubs planted by the CCC (Figure 5). The CCC also installed foundation plantings around the building, including a variety of flowering and evergreen shrubs. A planting plan from 1940 also proposed maintaining an open view between the southeastern portion of the Administration building to the main road (Figure 6).

Development of the other sub-areas at the site proceeded in subsequent years. In 1940, the NPS constructed several more buildings at the site, including a Warehouse, an Equipment Storage Shed, an Equipment Storage/Workshop, and a Lumber Storage Building, in a separate fenced-off maintenance area further north of the Administration Building. These buildings were arranged either parallel or perpendicular to each other, forming a rectilinear pattern, enclosed by a chain link perimeter fence (Figure 7). This maintenance area exemplified the NPS philosophy that maintenance facilities should be grouped together with buildings arranged for efficiency and located on side roads, away from park visitors. The Warehouse was the largest building in the maintenance area, comprising one-and-a-half stories with a one-story ell, with an ashlar sandstone exterior and a concrete shingled roof. Foundation plantings installed around the Warehouse consisted of eastern redbuds, flowering dogwoods, azaleas, yews, mountain laurel, and witch hazel. The Equipment Storage Shed had twelve bays and was also faced with sandstone. Similarly, the Equipment Storage/Workshop Building, composed of three sections, was faced with ashlar sandstone and laid with concrete roof shingles. The consistent use of the same materials for the building facades created a unified architectural look to the site. By the end of 1940, the park's headquarters were officially moved from temporary facilities in Luray to the new Headquarters site.

In 1941, the residential area at the Headquarters was developed with the construction of two new houses, designed in a Colonial Revival style by G.E. Baughan, a landscape architect with the NPS (Historic Resource Study 1997:217). The houses were side gable structures with wood siding, slate roofs, and sandstone chimneys (Figure 8). Each house also had an adjacent garage with arched double doors and strap hinges. These new buildings aesthetically harmonized with the 1916 farmhouse that was also located at the residential area (Figure 9).

Other work completed around this time included the construction by the CCC of an access road and pedestrian circulation system around the residential area. This new road spurred off of Headquarters Road and formed a loop through the residential area. The CCC also constructed a boulder drinking fountain just outside the maintenance area which was typical of the site furnishings being built in the rustic style at the park. In addition, seven light posts were installed

along the access road to the Superintendent's Residence and around the residential area loop road (see Figure 9). These light posts consisted of six-inch square wooden chamfered posts with black iron lights on top, measuring a total of six feet in height. The NPS constructed a culvert system under Route 211 south of the visitor parking lot at the Administration Building. Built for water runoff and erosion control, the culvert was composed of stone headwalls and dropgates with two walls and two grates.

**World War II and Post-War Development:**

After the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the United States entered World War II, ending most development in the park until after the war. As the country directed all manpower toward the war effort, the CCC camps were closed by the end of March 1942 (Engle 1999:30). The park's workforce at this time shrank to 1/20th of its size (Lambert 2001:263). Some CCC foremen and technicians remained at the park for a while after the camps closed and worked on the renovation of the 1870s farmhouse building used as the Superintendent's Residence (Figure 10) (National Register 9/1997: Section 8, 43, citing Lambert 1979:287). Visitation at the park declined, due to the fuel shortages caused by the war.

At the Headquarters residential area, construction continued with the addition of a traditional cabin-style residence and garage designed by Baughan. The 1916 farmhouse was also remodeled. At the maintenance area, two more buildings were moved to the site including a building constructed by the CCC in 1937 as a paymasters office and turned into a Sign Shop (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 11). The Sign Shop was designed as a 20'x20' square structure with a partial porch and a gable roof covered with rolled asphalt. Moreover, a smokehouse constructed prior to the park's establishment was relocated to the maintenance area and used for general storage.

During the war, park buildings also became storage facilities for nationally historic artifacts. Concern over the possible bombing of Washington D.C. led the Smithsonian Institution to ship major objects and natural specimens to the park for safe keeping (Historic Resource Study 1997:115). These items were shipped to the park in November 1942, and stored in the Warehouse at Headquarters until 1944 when they were returned to Washington D.C. Artifacts included national treasures such as the actual star spangled banner immortalized by Francis Scott Key, and George Washington's uniform and sword. Other items included thousands of natural history specimens and patent models.

In August 1942, the Civilian Public Service (CPS) established a camp for conscientious objectors in Shenandoah NP, at former CCC camp NP-10. The CPS provided work for men unwilling to serve in the military based on religious upbringing or belief. At Shenandoah, the CPS took over fire and erosion control projects previously done by the CCC, continued the revegetation efforts, installed utilities, and built trails, roads, and park structures. They were also assigned to raze pre-park structures. CPS workers did not receive wages and were financially supported by their churches or families. Around 1943, CPS workers were involved in the construction of an Oil and Gas Storage Building at Headquarters for use by the Smithsonian to heat the Warehouse. The concrete block building featured a pyramidal roof with a ventilator at the peak and covered with concrete shingles. The building facades

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contained metal ties indicating the intention to attach stonework, but it was left unfinished (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 11-12). The CPS also made alterations to the Equipment and Storage Workshop to accommodate materials moved out of the Warehouse (Historic Resource Study 1997: 120-121). Other additions to the maintenance area included the relocation of a former CCC camp building to be used as a workshop/garage. A tennis court was also constructed just south of the maintenance area along Headquarters Road. The CPS camp was eventually closed in June 1946 (Historic Resources Study 1997:100).

In 1951, mileposts were installed along Skyline Drive and guardwalls were completed in 1952 at the South District, marking the official completion of the drive (National Register 4/1997:Section 8, 91; NHL Documentation 2008:6).

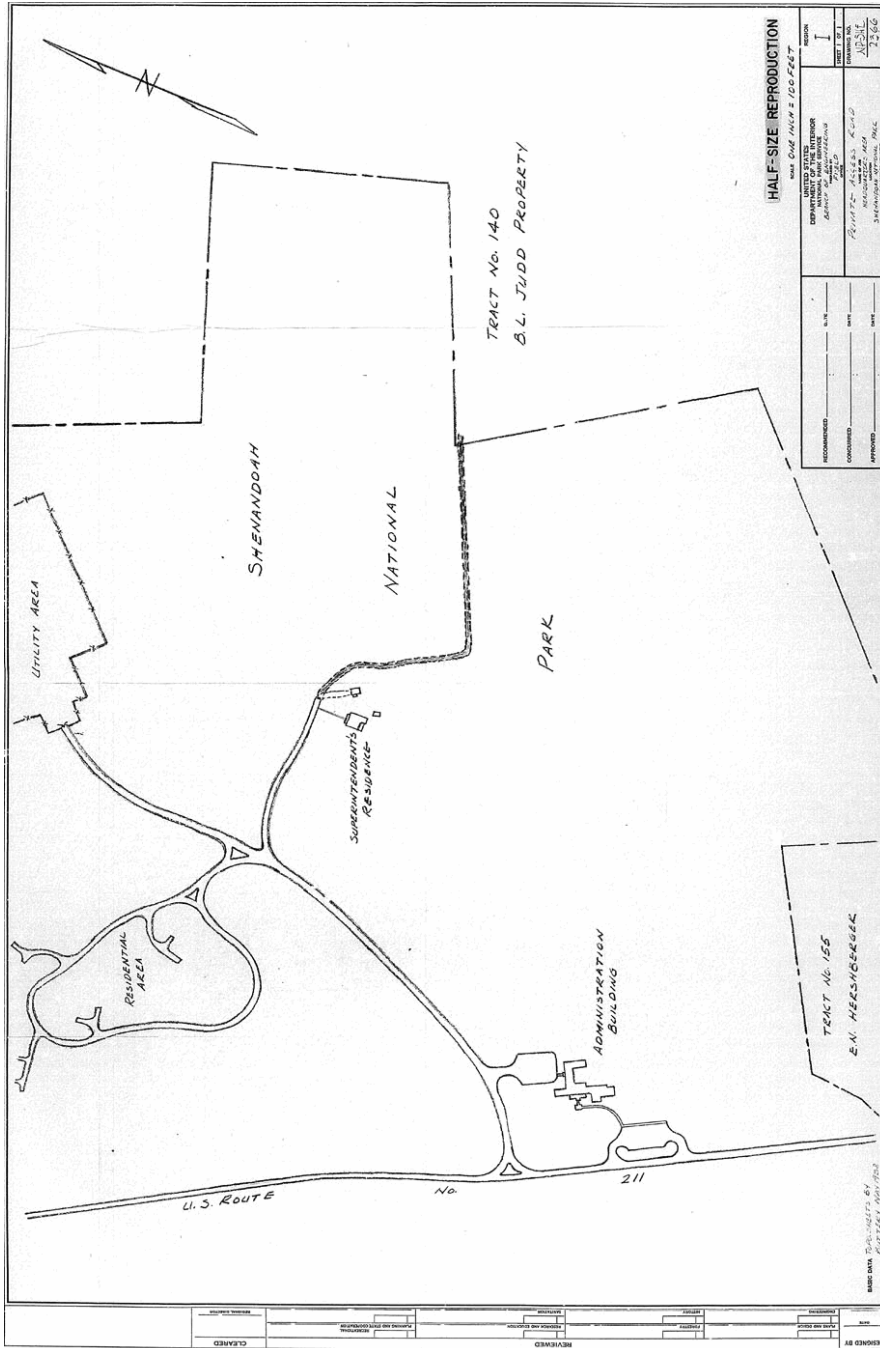


Figure 1. Preliminary site plan from 1938 for the Headquarters site at Shenandoah National Park (SHEN 134-2366, Denver Service Center).

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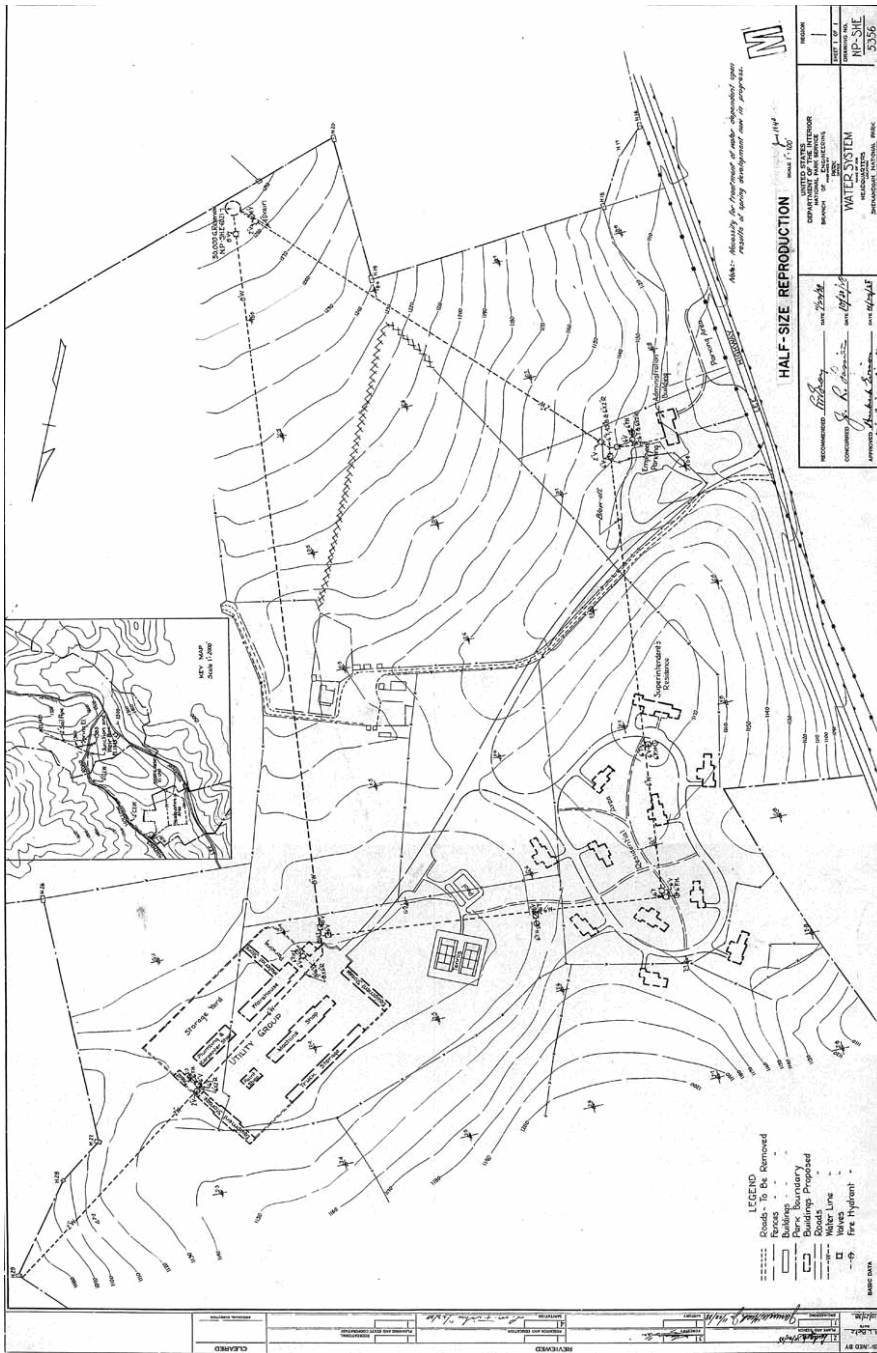
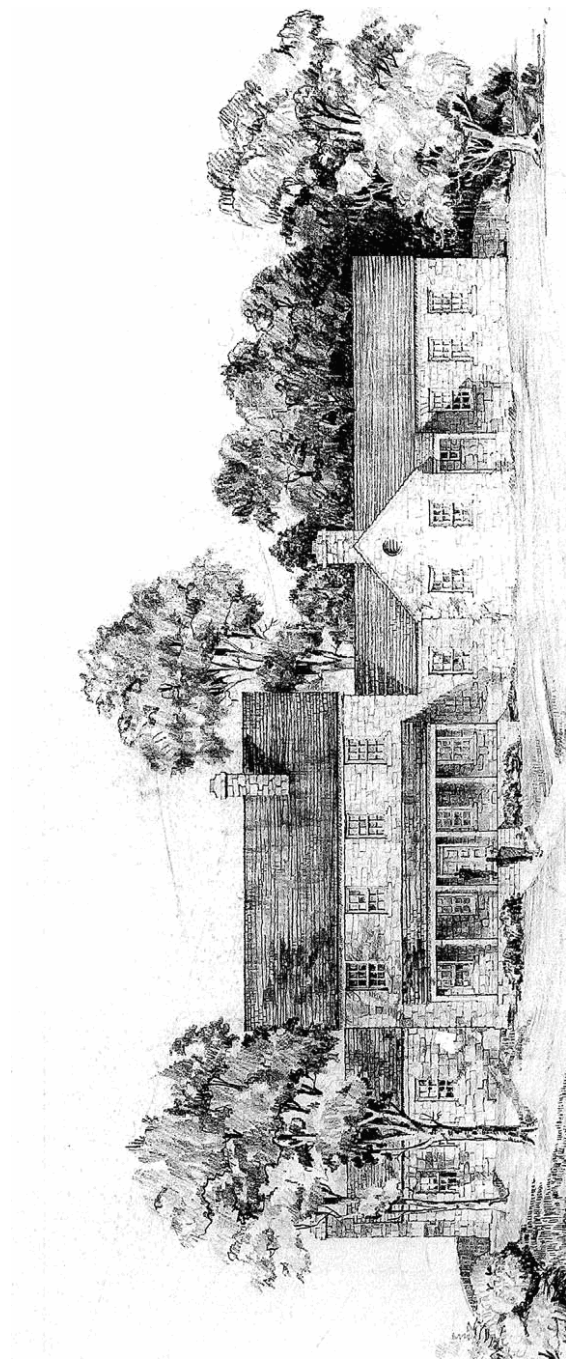


Figure 2. Master Plan from 1938 for the Headquarters site at Shenandoah National Park (SHEN 134-5356, Denver Service Center).



*Figure 3. Rendering of proposed Administration Building at the Headquarters site in 1938 (SHEN 134-2025-Z1, Denver Service Center).*



*Figure 4. View of newly constructed Administration Building in the early 1940s with visitor parking lot in front (Shenandoah NP Archives, Negative No. not found).*



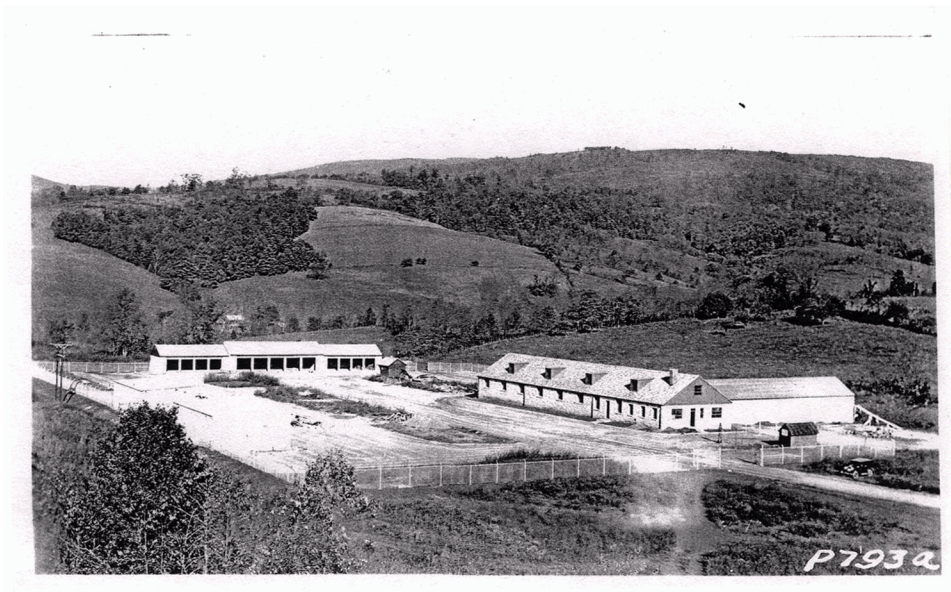
*Figure 5. View of the Administration Building at the Headquarters site in 1944, including the visitor parking lot and flagpole near the main entrance (Shenandoah NP Archives, SHEN Classification 0-145, Negative No. 621-19).*





Figure 6. Proposed planting plan for Administration Building in 1940 (SHEN 134-2195, Denver Service Center). Note the proposed view from the southeastern corner of the building.





*Figure 7. View of maintenance area at the Headquarters site in 1940, including the Warehouse to the right, the Equipment Storage/Workshop furthest back and the Equipment Storage Shed to the left (Shenandoah NP Archives, Negative No. 15365).*



*Figure 8. View of one of the employee residences constructed at the Headquarters site in 1941 (Shenandoah NP Archives, Negative No. 627-5). Note the variety of shrubs and trees planted, including a newly staked tree to the right.*



*Figure 9. View of 1916 farmhouse used as a residence, one of two pre-existing park buildings at the Headquarters site (Shenandoah NP Archives Negative No. 627-30B). Note the wooden lightpost to the left along the access road.*





*Figure 10. View of c. 1870s farmhouse used as Superintendent's Residence (Shenandoah NP Archives Negative No. 627-30B).*

#### 1953 – PRESENT: LATER DEVELOPMENT / NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ERA

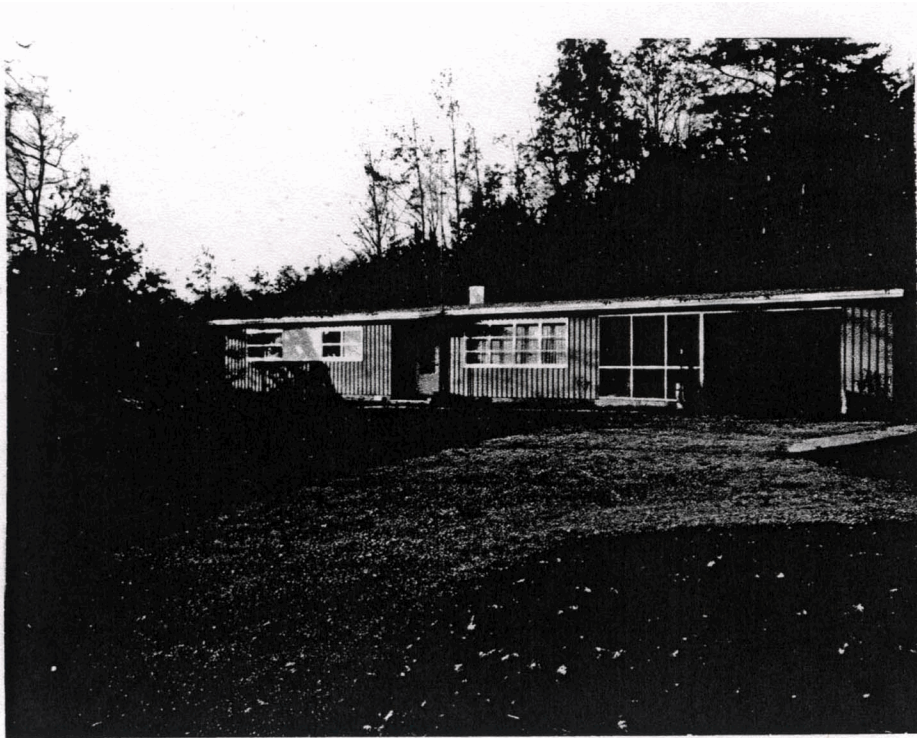
In the mid-1950s, the NPS began planning “Mission 66,” an ambitious ten-year development program designed to upgrade the national parks to modern standards to accommodate rising visitation after World War II. The goal was to develop and adequately staff the NPS by 1966, the fiftieth anniversary of the agency (Lambert 1979:314). The NPS gained Congressional funding for the work in 1956. New facilities were designed in a contemporary modern style, in contrast to the rustic aesthetic that had been employed at Shenandoah and other national parks.

At the Headquarters site, the residential area expanded with six new buildings sited amongst the existing 1940s houses around and within the loop road. The new buildings were designed as ranch-style houses according to Mission 66 guidelines, comprised of slab-on-grade wood frame buildings with attached carports (Figure 11) (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 8). Plans prepared by the NPS Landscape Architecture Division from 1958 and 1959 designated areas around the new houses for “family recreation” and “service areas” for clothes drying (Figure 12). Among the proposed plantings were white pines, hemlocks, sugar maples, flowering dogwood, and oak as well as a variety of shrubs including bittersweet, holly, winterberry, mountain laurel, spicebush, and flame azaleas. At the maintenance area, additional storage buildings were constructed at this time.

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In the 1970s, new smaller structures and parking lots were constructed at the maintenance area. An additional parking lot was constructed north of the employee parking lot along Headquarters Road in the administration area. The NPS built additional recreational facilities, comprised of a baseball field and a volley ball court on either side of Headquarters Road just south of the maintenance area. In 1995, the NPS constructed a new steel-frame Maintenance Building in the center of the maintenance area complex, and it is the largest building on the Headquarters site. An Archive building was constructed slightly east of the maintenance area, consisting of a rectangular structure built into a hill with two stories above ground and a front façade with one story. Throughout the 1990s and into the early 2000s, buildings throughout the Headquarters site were remodeled, such as the 1916 farmhouse in the residential area and several buildings in the maintenance area. Other buildings were converted into other uses, including three residences constructed in 1959 that were adapted for various NPS offices. The Superintendent's Residence was also converted into the Natural Resources Office. Additional site furnishings have been installed, such as picnic tables, benches, an information kiosk, signage, dog houses, site lighting, and dumpsters and recycling bins.



*Figure 11. View of one of six ranch-style homes built at the residential area at the Headquarters site in the mid-1960s (Shenandoah NP Archives, Negative No. 8828).*

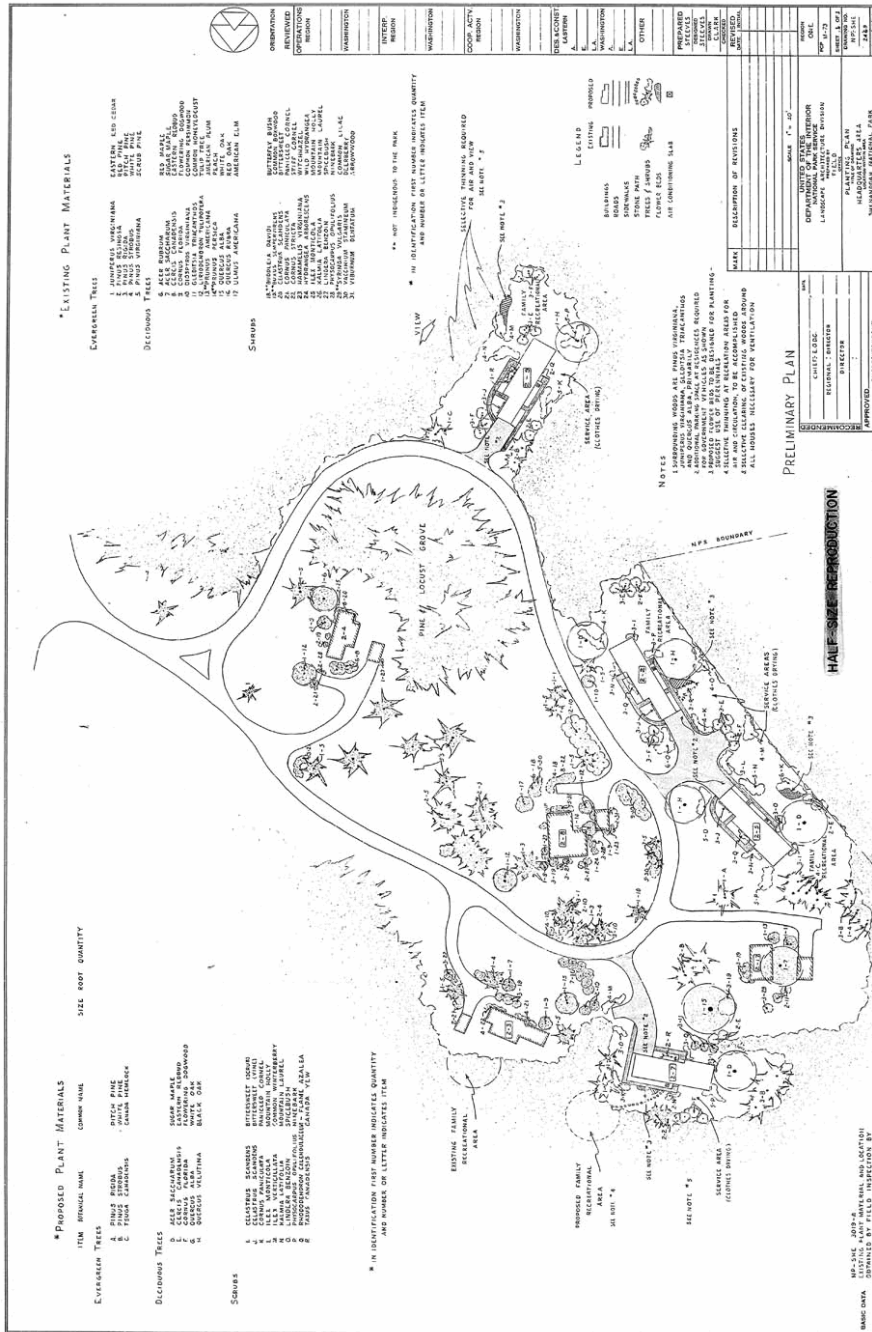


Figure 12. Planting plan, 1958 for the residential area at Headquarters, with new homes designed according to Mission 66 guidelines (SHEN 134-2469, Denver Service Center). Note the areas designated for recreation and clothes drying.

## Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

### Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Significant landscape characteristics identified for the Headquarters site include natural systems and topography, spatial organization, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views, and small-scale features. Many of these characteristics have associated with them features that contribute to the site's overall historic significance and identity, as well as features that do not contribute or are undetermined.

The physical integrity of the Headquarters site is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1931-1952) with current conditions. Many of the site's historic characteristics and features are unchanged. The historic design is evident in the circulation layout, building materials, and rustic design style of the Administration Building, three residences, and eight maintenance buildings, reflecting the master planning, landscape design, and rustic architectural style that was executed in the 1930s and 1940s by the National Park Service (NPS). Two pre-existing farmhouses reflect the history of the site prior to the development of the park and were incorporated into the site development. Access roads and parking areas remain much as they did during the period of significance. Historic small scale features include the flagpole by the Administration Building, the boulder drinking fountain, two stone stacked grills, light posts, a tennis court and fence, clotheslines at the residential area, security perimeter fencing around the maintenance area, and a loading ramp.

Changes since the period of significance include the addition of several new buildings and structures. At the maintenance area, the most notable additions include the Maintenance Building and the Archives Building, along with six other smaller buildings and a baseball field and volleyball court. At the residential area, the NPS constructed six ranch-style buildings. Several new parking lots were also constructed, including one just north of the administration area, one at the former Superintendent's Residence, and two at the maintenance area. Another major change to the Headquarters site is the conversion of several residences to NPS offices, including the former Superintendent's Residence which is now the Natural Resources Office. Other changes to the landscape at the Headquarters site include the reduction of plantings around the Administration Building and the residences. Although new buildings and structures have been added over the years, most of the layout and function of the site remain as they did during the period of significance, thereby retaining its historic character.

### INTEGRITY

#### Location:

The location of the Headquarters for Shenandoah National Park (NP) remains unchanged. The twenty-four acre site is located one mile west of the park boundary and three miles west of Thornton Gap and Skyline Drive, on Route 211. The site's location on fairly flat terrain at lower elevations than other portions of the park provides year-round access for visitors. In addition, the location of the site has remained unaffected by any adjacent land uses.

## Headquarters

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#### Design:

Design refers to the combination of elements that characterize the built landscape at the Headquarters site, known as the NPS rustic style. The Administration Building was designed in the rustic architectural style, utilizing locally quarried stone for the facades laid in an ashlar pattern. The roof was constructed with slate and the front porch was paved with flagstone. The back (north side) of the building nestled into a knoll with stone retaining walls on the west and east sides. The building was located north of Route 211 with a wide front lawn so as to be visible to passing motorists, but its massing and overall design did not overwhelm the site. Three residences constructed in the 1940s were also designed in a style reflecting local traditions, including the I-house plan which consisted of a rear and front one-story projecting additions. Eight of the buildings in the maintenance area were constructed during the period of significance and many of them were also faced with ashlar sandstone. Most of these buildings have undergone minor alterations and still retain historical integrity. In addition, other elements that contribute to the historic rustic style of the Headquarters landscape consist of the flagstone walks, the stepping stone path, the stone retaining walls, and the curving roads.

#### Setting:

The overall setting of the Headquarters site as a rustic NPS-developed area just outside the park boundary is intact. The general development of the Headquarters site was organized in four distinct sub-areas along an access road, including the public administration area along Route 211 and the utilitarian maintenance area at the northernmost portion of the site. Between these two zones were the employee and Superintendent residential areas. This arrangement has been maintained, with expanded parking facilities and new construction occurring in the maintenance and residential areas. The maintenance area has undergone the most physical change with the addition of several new buildings, including a large Maintenance Building from 1995 which alters the scale of the immediate surroundings. New housing styles were introduced in the residential area with the construction of six ranch-style homes, but they are of similar size and sited among the pre-existing buildings.

#### Materials:

The use of local materials is a characteristic of the rustic style and is evident in the Administration Building and several buildings in the maintenance area. Other extant original materials at the Headquarters site include the boulder drinking fountain, the stacked stone grills, flagstone paving, and bluestone stepping stone pathway. Historic vegetation also remains from the CCC-period plantings, comprising of mature shade trees in the residential and administrative areas such as tulip trees and oaks as well as open lawn areas. The Administration Building and Superintendent's Residence areas both contain shade trees and shrubs that date from the period of significance. Open lawn areas are also maintained south of the Administration Building and around the Superintendent's Residence in keeping with the historic character of the landscape.

#### Workmanship:

Workmanship refers to the physical evidence of the construction techniques at the Headquarters site. The stacked stone grills and boulder drinking fountain exemplify the typical rustic style in which site amenities were constructed by the CCC during the period of significance. The Administration Building, Warehouse, and three of the employee residences reflect the NPS philosophy of constructing

## Headquarters Shenandoah National Park

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buildings that are in keeping with the local architectural styles and blend in with the surrounding landscape.

### Feeling:

For the most part, the Headquarters site continues to function as it originally did during the period of significance, operating as a visitor contact station, maintenance service area, and employee residence. The Superintendent's Residence is now used as a Natural Resources Office, and several of the 1941 employee residences have been converted for office use, but the overall feeling of the site has been retained.

### Association:

The Administration Building, several period maintenance area buildings and residence buildings, and overall landscape, as well as the historic circulation features and some of the small-scale features are still present to directly link the site to the creation of Shenandoah NP, the work of the CCC and PWA, and the rustic architectural style used by the NPS during the period of significance.

The section that follows presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding List of Classified Structures names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (1931-1952), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource. Items noted with an \* are listed as contributing on the National Register of Historic Places. Where possible, names of features are derived from National Register documentation for the Skyline Drive Historic District, Boundary Increase, entered on September 19, 1997.

## **Landscape Characteristic:**

### **Natural Systems and Features**

#### Historic and Existing Conditions:

The rolling topography of the Shenandoah Valley foothills, on which the Headquarters site is located, may be a direct result of granular disintegration of the less resistant granitic rock found along the upper slopes of the mountain ridge. This layer of loose rock is easily eroded by climatic processes. As these piedmonts sloped gradually to the valley floor, a soluble limestone and dolomite bedrock was formed (Conners, SNP, 35). These fundamental processes have not been significantly altered since the end of the period of significance. The resulting terrain is a contributing resource to the natural systems and features belonging to the period of significance. Another natural feature noted in a plan from 1938 is a wet area on the eastern side of Headquarters Road, which necessitated the construction of culverts when a new parking lot was constructed in 1990 (SHEN 134-5363, Denver Service Center).

Today, the Headquarters sub-areas are surrounded by woods, comprised mostly of mature secondary growth forest with some successional growth in the area to the northeast of the Administration Building. Species composition varies in each area, but the overall dominant species are walnut, locust, oaks, and pines.



### **Spatial Organization**

Historic Condition (through 1952):

The Headquarters landscape was historically organized around an existing farm roadway intersecting with Route 211 and climbing into the hillsides north of the public road. The arrangement of facilities along the improved farm road serving the park headquarters began with the most publicly oriented Administration Building located conveniently along the highway. Park residential buildings and service facilities occupied small hilltops further north on the farm road, topographically above the Administration Building. With the public park Administration Building located along the highway, and a service compound made up of warehouses and workshops located furthest from view, employee residences were located at a place between these two uses.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:

While the uses for various park structures may have changed with the passage of over fifty years, the fundamental spatial relationships of park facilities to the improved farm road and Route 211 remains intact. The park Administration Building continues to serve as the public face of park management to travelers on Route 211. Staff residences continue to occupy the middle ground, insulated by topography and distance from highway traffic, and from the workplace din of the park maintenance facilities further back.

### **Character-defining Features:**

Feature:	Administration Area
Feature Identification Number:	139048
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Residential Area
Feature Identification Number:	139050
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Superintendent's Residence Area
Feature Identification Number:	139052
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Maintenance Area
Feature Identification Number:	139054
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing

### **Land Use**

Historic Condition (through 1952):

Agriculture in the Shenandoah Valley began following the immigration of English, Scots-Irish, and Germans, eastward from Pennsylvania (Maddux et al., 1992:7-2). Dependent upon farming, these early settlers extensively cleared much of the fertile valley and adjoining piedmonts, creating arable land necessary for crop production. The land comprising the Headquarters site was farmed until the mid-1930s, when the park purchased 259.16 acres consisting of thirteen tracts of residential farmlands (Property Map of Headquarters Area, SHEN 5462). The twenty-four acre developed site, nestled at the base of the western slope of the Blue Ridge Mountains, is located three miles west of Thornton Gap and four miles east of Luray, Virginia (National Register 1997:7-6).

Development of the project area for use as park administration, service and maintenance, and residential uses began in the early 1930s with the realignment and paving of a road built on a pre-existing farm road, by the CCC, to facilitate access to the site's early maintenance yard. In 1939, construction of the buildings began, and in 1940 the park headquarters moved out of a rented building in Luray to the newly finished Headquarters (Lambert 1979:ii). The Headquarters site consisted of four sub-areas; the administration area, the residential area, the maintenance area, and the park's Superintendent Residence area.

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

The land use of the Headquarters site is consistent with that of the end of the period of significance, with the exception of several resident buildings that now serve an administrative use, including the Superintendent's Residence which is now the Natural Resources office. The Administration Building continues to function as a public contact station, and the maintenance area still serves its utilitarian purpose.

**Topography**

**Historic Condition (through 1952):**

The Headquarters site was located in the Blue Ridge foothills on gradually sloping terrain rising to the north from the administration area to the maintenance area. Between these two sub-areas were the residential area and the Superintendent's Residence situated on two separate knolls east and west of Headquarters Road.

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

The topography of the historic landscape has not been significantly altered since the historic period, except for associated grading with the construction of several new buildings and parking lots on the site at the maintenance and residential sub-areas.

**Vegetation**

**Historic Condition (through 1952):**

Vegetation in the region was significantly altered during the first two centuries of human occupation in the Shenandoah Valley, as Europeans deforested much of the valley and piedmonts' mature woodlands. Trees were cut down in order to cultivate the land for food as well as cash crops. In addition, numerous open fields were created, providing pasture for livestock grazing. Some existing vegetation remained as hedgerows, and new plantings were possibly installed for hedgerows served to subdivide adjacent properties and slow damaging

western winds.

Vegetation planted during the period of significance at the Headquarters site included elaborate foundation plantings for the Administration Building and residences, including woody ornamentals planted by the CCC, such as witch hazel, hazelnut, azalea, laurel, ninebark, elderberry, and spicebush. Individual woodland garden clusters of sweet fern, red bud and dogwoods were also planted throughout the residential areas and around the administration area. Perennial shrub masses consisted of boxwood, smooth sumac, and meadow spirea. The CCC also planted trees such as pines, oaks, hemlocks, tulips, maples, and black gum. Climbing and spreading perennial and evergreen groundcover, such as euonymous, bittersweet, and Virginia creeper, substituted for mowed turf around the residences. The area in front of the Administration Building was maintained as an open lawn, enhancing the building's visibility on Route 211. At the maintenance area, foundation plantings were installed around the Warehouse, including azaleas, dogwoods, red cedars, elderberry, redbuds, and mountain laurel. The overall planting scheme used a repetition of plant species to help unify the Headquarters site.

#### Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:

Since the period of significance, successional plant communities have evolved on portions of the Headquarters site, such as the growth of black locust and black walnut trees, along with blackberry, bittersweet, and native redbud as an understory. Many of the originally installed plantings around the buildings have not survived, but some of the original specimen trees and shrub plantings still remain. At the administration area, a tulip tree and an oak tree near the visitor parking lot date to the period of significance, as well as some of the foundation plantings, consisting of dogwoods and Eastern red cedars. The area in front of the Administration Building continues to be maintained as an open lawn dotted with shade trees (Figure 13). Adjacent to the lawn is a grove composed of walnut, white pine, Eastern red cedar, and Virginia pine, which may contain period plantings. At the maintenance area, plantings that date to the period of significance include specimen trees such as pitch pine near the entrance gates, flowering dogwoods and redbuds along the eastern and southern facades of the Warehouse, and a planting of eastern red cedars as a windbreak along the western side of the tennis court (Figures 14, 15). Around the residential area, surviving trees from the period of significance consist of a tulip tree by the Fire Management building and a Virginia pine within the roadway loop of the residential area (Figure 16). The periphery of the residential area contains stands of mature trees including pines, tulip trees, oaks, maples, walnut, dogwoods, and red cedars. At the Superintendent's Residence area, original tree plantings include a tulip tree and a silver maple. The area is maintained as an open lawn in keeping with the historic character of this landscape component, but boxwood hedges have been added around the house and patio that are non-historic (Figure 17).

In general, all four sub-areas of the Park Headquarters site are now planted in a similar manner. The groundcover is predominantly mown turf grass, and the areas around the buildings are planted with a mix of specimen trees, both deciduous and evergreen. This creates an open feeling to the landscape, and one that is fairly orderly in appearance. There is a mix of mature specimens and younger trees.

**Character-defining Features:**

Feature: South Lawn (Administration Area)  
Feature Identification Number: 138918  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Tuliptree (Administration Area)  
Feature Identification Number: 138920  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Red Oak (Administration Area)  
Feature Identification Number: 138922  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: White Oak (Administration Area)  
Feature Identification Number: 138924  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Red Cedars (Administration Area)  
Feature Identification Number: 138926  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Grove on South Lawn (Administration Area)  
Feature Identification Number: 138928  
Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Lawn Areas (Residential Area)  
Feature Identification Number: 138930  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Shade Trees and Shrubs (Residential Area)  
Feature Identification Number: 138932  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Lawn Areas (Superintendent's Residence)  
Feature Identification Number: 138934  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Tuliptrees (Superintendent's Residence)

Feature Identification Number: 139040

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Boxwoods (Superintendent's Residence)

Feature Identification Number: 139042

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Lawn Areas (Maintenance Area)

Feature Identification Number: 139044

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Red Cedars (Maintenance Area)

Feature Identification Number: 139046

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 13. View of public parking lot with mature oak and tulip trees and open lawn south in front of the Administration Building (OCLP, 2008).*



*Figure 14. View of pitch pine trees and security perimeter fence at the maintenance area at the Headquarters site (OCLP, 2008).*



*Figure 15. View of redbuds and dogwoods along the west and south sides of the Warehouse in the maintenance area (OCLP, 2008).*





*Figure 16. View of mature tulip tree by a former residence building, now the Fire Management Office, in the residential area of the Headquarters site (OCLP, 2008).*



*Figure 17. View of open lawn at the former Superintendent's Residence (OCLP, 2008).*

### **Circulation**

Historic Condition (through 1952):

A curving, half-mile-long access road (Headquarters Road) led north from Route 211, and

terminated at the park's maintenance area. A portion of this route predates the period of significance, having served as an access road for the 1870 farmstead, which operated until the 1930s. Headquarters Road creates a central spine linking the site's four sub-areas. Starting with a wye intersection with Route 211, approximately 175 feet northward, is the Administration Building. Northward from the Administration Building, approximately 0.1 miles, two side roads branched off from either side of Headquarters Road. The east branch of Headquarters Road led to the Superintendent's ancillary garage, with a walkway joining the garage with the Superintendent's residence. This road included new construction and utilized a portion of the old farm road. The west branch of the Headquarters Road provided access to the park's staff residential area, consisting of a one-way drive aisle that created a kidney shaped loop, with a private driveway for each residence. Bluestone walkways connected the driveways to the residences. All roads were asphalt with a flush edge of mowed turf grass.

The NPS constructed two parking lots at the administration area, one for visitors in front of the building with thirty spaces, and an employee parking lot behind the building with twenty spaces. As for pedestrian circulation, there has never been a sidewalk or curb along any portion of Headquarters Road. At the administration area, a flagstone walkway led visitors from the parking lot to the building's main entrance (Figure 18). A path of stepping stones then connected the flagstone walkway to a set of steps on the west side of the building, which led to the employee parking lot.

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

Since the end of the period of significance in 1952, the circulation network of vehicular roadways and pedestrian pathways at the Headquarters site remains intact. Headquarters Road continues to serve as the main organizing circulation feature for the site, connecting all four sub-areas to each other and Route 211 (Figure 19). The width and paving material of Headquarters Road has also remained consistent. Only a clearing now reveals the portion of the old farm road leading to the 1870s farmhouse and abandoned in the 1940s.

Additions to the circulation system since the end of the period of significance include new parking lots north of the Administration Building along Headquarters Road, by the Archive Building, near the Community Dial Office and at the former Superintendent's Residence. Also, two new spur roads were constructed off of Headquarters Road for access to the Archive Building and a second entrance to the maintenance area. At the residential area, the vehicular circulation remains intact with additional driveways for residences built in the late 1950s and 1960s.

Note: Except for Headquarters Road, circulation features are organized by the site's four sub-areas. Names of features are derived from National Register documentation for the site, dated September 19, 1997, and are denoted with an \*. Additionally, National Register documentation from September 19, 1997 for the Skyline Drive Historic District, Boundary Increase, incorrectly lists the East Administration Building Parking Area as a contributing structure. This name should be West Administration Building Parking Area.

**Character-defining Features:**



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Feature: Headquarters Road \*,(HQ-01L)

Feature Identification Number: 138762

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82939

Feature: South Administration Building Parking Area \* (HQ-01C)

Feature Identification Number: 138764

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82853

Feature: West Administration Building Parking Area \* (HQ-01C)

Feature Identification Number: 138766

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82853

Feature: Administration Building Flagstone Walkway (HQ-01B)

Feature Identification Number: 138768

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82852

Feature: Administration Building Stepping Stone Path

Feature Identification Number: 138770

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: North Administration Building Parking Area

Feature Identification Number: 138772

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Spur to Residential Area \* (HQ-01K)

Feature Identification Number: 138774

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 83221

Feature: Spur to Superintendent's House \* (HQ-01I)

Feature Identification Number: 138776

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Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
IDLCS Number: 82868  
Feature: Superintendent's House Brick Patio and Walks  
Feature Identification Number: 138778  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Natural Resources Parking Area  
Feature Identification Number: 138780  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Spur to Maintenance Area \*  
Feature Identification Number: 138790  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
Feature: Spur to Archives Building  
Feature Identification Number: 138848  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing  
Feature: Archives Building Parking Area  
Feature Identification Number: 138850  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 18. View of flagstone walkway at the Administration Building (OCLP, 2008).*



*Figure 19. View of Headquarters Road from the maintenance area looking south. The edge of the tennis court area is to the left (OCLP, 2008).*

### **Buildings and Structures**

Historic Condition (through 1952):

The first building specifically constructed by the park for the Headquarters site was the

Administration Building, completed in 1940. The NPS designed the building as a two-story stone structure with a slate roof built on concrete foundations, based on the traditional “I” type house plan with separate single story gable-roofed sections on either side. The rough-faced, random laid stone work on the building’s facades was from locally quarried sandstone (National Register 9/1997:Section 7, 67). On the east and west sides of the Administration Building, the CCC constructed two stone retaining walls including one with built-in steps on the west side (Figure 20). The mortared stone walls varied in height and were constructed for soil retention and erosion control. At the visitor parking lot in front of the Administration Building, the NPS constructed a stone culvert system for drainage. The system was composed of head walls and drop gates, with two walls and two grates, and ran from the visitor parking lot to the opposite side of Route 211.

The residential area included four buildings from the period of significance, one of which was a farmhouse that pre-dated the park’s development. The farmhouse consisted of a two-story wood frame “I” type structure, constructed around 1916, with painted clapboard siding, a stone foundation and a gable-end exterior chimney, and a covered porch extending across half of the front façade (National Register 1997:7-8-9). There were also several associated buildings, including a garage and shed. G.E. Baughan, a landscape architect with the NPS, designed the other three residences which were constructed in 1941 and 1942. Influenced by local traditional architecture, Baughan designed two of the residences in the Colonial Revival style and the third in a vernacular cabin style (National Register 9/1997: Section 7, 8). All three buildings reflected local building traditions and had identical wood frame garages with segmented arched double doors and strap hinges. The residences were side gable structures with wood siding, slate roofs, and prominent sandstone chimneys (National Register 9/1997:7-9).

The Superintendent’s Residence was another pre-park building, originally constructed around 1870 as a farmhouse. The front portion of the residence was a traditional “I” type layout as well. However, the house extended to the rear in a two-story section with twin, cross-gable roofs and a projecting single story addition. Two ancillary buildings were located on the property, and were also contributing pre-park structures. The garage was a wood frame with board-and-batten siding with an adjoining carport on the east façade. The storage shed was a wood frame building with clapboard siding (National Register 9/1997:7-10).

In the maintenance area, eight buildings were built during the period of significance, either constructed on site or moved to the Headquarters site (National Register 9/1997:Section 7, 11). The Warehouse, constructed in 1940, was comprised of rough-faced, ashlar sandstone with concrete roof shingles and concrete foundations. It consisted of a single story, rectangular section and a single story ell section originally intended to house lumber. The NPS also constructed two other buildings faced with sandstone, creating a unified assemblage of buildings. These included the Equipment Storage Building and Shed, and the Equipment Storage and Workshop. They were constructed of rough-faced, ashlar sandstone with concrete roof shingles and concrete foundations. The Gas and Oil Storage Building, constructed for the

Smithsonian Institution in 1943, was intended to have a stone façade, as evidenced by the presence of metal ties in the exterior walls.

Other buildings in the maintenance area were originally constructed elsewhere and relocated to the site, including the Sign Shop, constructed by the CCC as a paymasters office. The CCC also constructed a small wood frame Paint Shop at the Pinnacles site and a Workshop Garage at another location, both of which were later relocated to the maintenance area. In addition, the Storage Building is believed to have been originally located near the 1870 farmhouse and moved to its present location some time in the late 1930s.

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

Alterations of varying degrees have occurred on buildings from the period of significance, such as the Sign Shop which has been expanded by about twenty-six feet (National Register 9/1997:Section 7, 12). The Paint Shop has also been altered with the addition of a sliding wood garage door replacing the original door and one of the bay's windows (National Register 9/1997:Section 7, 12). After the period of significance, new construction reflected later styles. Six new residences were built in 1959 and 1960, designed in a ranch style with attached carports, consistent with the architectural aesthetic associated with Mission 66. A new Maintenance Building was constructed in 1995 and is the largest building on the site (Figure 21). Located in the center of the maintenance area, the building is now the most dominant feature in the maintenance area and appears out of scale in relation to adjacent buildings. The NPS constructed another new building, the I&M/Archives Building, located to the east of the main maintenance area. The building is constructed into a hill so that the east side of the building has two stories and the front west façade has one story. Both the Maintenance Building and the Archive Building alter the rectilinear spatial organization and scale of the maintenance sub-area. Additional buildings constructed at the maintenance area after the period of significance include six, small modern wood frame buildings (National Register 9/1997:Section 7, 12).

Note: Buildings and structures are organized by the site's four sub-areas. Names of features are derived from National Register documentation for the site, dated September 19, 1997, and are denoted with an \*. However, as uses of some buildings have changed since that time, current park names are provided in [brackets] where applicable.

**Character-defining Features:**

Feature: Administration Building \* (HQ-0101)

Feature Identification Number: 138938

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82850

Feature: Administration Building Culvert System (HQ-01E)

Feature Identification Number: 138940

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Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82855

Feature: Administration Building Retaining Walls (HQ-01A)

Feature Identification Number: 138958

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82851

Feature: Residence \* (HQ-0217)

Feature Identification Number: 138960

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82860

Feature: Garage for HQ-0217 \* (HQ-0324)

Feature Identification Number: 138962

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82861

Feature: Storage/Shed HQ-217 \* (HQ-0421)

Feature Identification Number: 138964

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Employees Residence \* (HQ-0203)

Feature Identification Number: 138966

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82864

Feature: Garage for HQ-0203 \* (HQ-0303)

Feature Identification Number: 138968

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82865

Feature: Employees Residence/Offices \* (HQ-0204)[Fire Management]

Feature Identification Number: 138970

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

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IDLCS Number: 82856

Feature: Garage for HQ-204 \* (HQ-0310)

Feature Identification Number: 138972

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82857

Feature: Residence \* (HQ-0208)

Feature Identification Number: 139914

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82858

LCS Structure Name: Employee Quarters

LCS Structure Number: HQ-2-8

Feature: Garage for HQ-0208 \* (HQ-0308)

Feature Identification Number: 139916

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82859

LCS Structure Name: Employees Quarters (HQ-0308) Garage

LCS Structure Number: HQ02C

Feature: Residential (HQ-0225)

Feature Identification Number: 139918

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Residential (HQ-0209) [Chief Rangers Office]

Feature Identification Number: 139920

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Residential (HQ-0202) [Interpretation Office]

Feature Identification Number: 139922

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Residential (HQ-0205) [Shenandoah National Park Association Office]

Feature Identification Number: 139924

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Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Residential (HQ-0207)

Feature Identification Number: 139926

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Residential (HQ-0226)

Feature Identification Number: 139928

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Storage Shed (HQ-4116)

Feature Identification Number: 139930

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Hose Shed (HQ-1603)

Feature Identification Number: 139932

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Superintendent House/N.R. Office \* (HQ-0218) [NCR]

Feature Identification Number: 138994

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82880

Feature: Garage for HQ-0218 \* (HQ-0323)

Feature Identification Number: 138996

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82882

Feature: Storage/Shed for HQ-0218 \* (HQ-0420)

Feature Identification Number: 138998

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82879

Feature: Equip.Storage/Workshop/Carpentry-Weld. \* (HQ-0401)

Feature Identification Number: 139000

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing



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IDLCS Number: 82876

Feature: Equipment Storage Shed \* (HQ-0403)

Feature Identification Number: 139002

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82871

Feature: Warehouse \* (HQ-0406)

Feature Identification Number: 139004

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82870

Feature: Gas & Oil Storage Building \* (HQ-0409)

Feature Identification Number: 139006

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82869

Feature: Workshop/Garage \* (HQ-0422) [Fire Cache/Auto Garage]

Feature Identification Number: 139008

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82875

Feature: Sign Shop \* (HQ-0426)

Feature Identification Number: 139010

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82872

Feature: Paint Shop \* (HQ-0427)

Feature Identification Number: 139012

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82873

Feature: Storage Building \* (HQ-0440)

Feature Identification Number: 139894

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

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IDLCS Number: 82874  
LCS Structure Name: Headquarters Smokehouse  
LCS Structure Number: HQ03E

Feature: Office (HQ-0102) [Mapping Office]  
Feature Identification Number: 139896  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Storage Shed (HQ-0477)  
Feature Identification Number: 139898  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Hose Shed (HQ-1602)  
Feature Identification Number: 139900  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Maintenance Building (HQ-0457)  
Feature Identification Number: 139902  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Archives Building (HQ-0103) [NCR/Archives]  
Feature Identification Number: 139904  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Materials Storage (HQ-0478)  
Feature Identification Number: 139906  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Chlorinator (HQ-1722)  
Feature Identification Number: 139908  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Shed for Sign Shop (HQ-0490)  
Feature Identification Number: 139910  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Community Dial Office (HQ-0454) [Telephone Exchange Building]

Feature Identification Number: 139912  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Barbeque Hut (HQ-4112)  
Feature Identification Number: 139034  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Trailer (HQ-0104)  
Feature Identification Number: 139036  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Storage Shed (HQ-1640)  
Feature Identification Number: 139038  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 20. View of stone retaining wall and steps at the west side of the Administration Building (OCLP, 2008).*



*Figure 21. View of the Maintenance Building constructed in 1995 with the Equipment Storage/Workshop beyond (OCLP, 2008).*

### **Views and Vistas**

Historic Condition (through 1952):

The only historical reference to views at the Headquarters site appeared on a planting plan from 1940 that proposed maintaining a view from the Administration Building to the southeast along Route 211, enhancing its visibility from the road and providing visitors their first glimpse of the building before reaching it.

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:

The view established during the period of significance from the southeastern corner of the Administration to the main road continues to be maintained.

### **Character-defining Features:**

Feature: View between Admin. Bldg and Rt. 233

Feature Identification Number: 138742

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

### **Small Scale Features**

Historic Condition (through 1952):

The CCC constructed several types of small scale features at the Headquarters site, including a boulder drinking fountain near the maintenance area and stacked stone grills at the residential area. These features were typical of site furnishings that reflected the NPS philosophy of

constructing elements that blended into the landscape using vernacular building techniques and local materials. In addition, seven light posts were installed along the access road to the Superintendent's Residence and the residential area in the 1940s. The light posts consisted of wood chamfered posts topped by black iron light fixtures, measuring a total of six feet in height. The NPS also erected a flagpole in front of the main entrance to the Administration Building. At thirty-five feet high, the flagpole was constructed in tapered sections set in a concrete base. The flagpole was a prominent feature of the site, creating a landmark visible from the road for passing motorists. Signage installed at the Headquarters site included a single square wood post with a panel hanging from metal strap hinges and located on Route 211 in front of the Administration Building. Additional features constructed at the Headquarters site included a concrete loading ramp in the maintenance area around 1940, and a tennis court southeast of the maintenance area in 1943.

**Post-Historic and Existing Conditions:**

Several small-scale features at the Headquarters site landscape date to the historic period of significance, such as the flagpole, clotheslines at the residential areas, the seven wood light posts, two stacked stone grills, and the boulder drinking fountain (Figures 22, 23, 24, 25). Other contributing features include a concrete loading ramp constructed in 1943 in the maintenance area along with the chain link perimeter fence, which has been replaced and modified with the construction of new buildings and a second entrance. The NPS also constructed a tennis court adjacent to the maintenance area, outside of the perimeter fence (Figure 26).

Other miscellaneous additions to the landscape respond to the change in site uses as well as changing recreational needs and infrastructure improvements throughout the site, including a baseball field, volleyball court, site lighting, dumpsters and recycling bins, bicycle racks, fire hydrants, an information kiosk, and other signage.

**Character-defining Features:**

Feature: Flagpole

Feature Identification Number: 138696

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 82854

Feature: Walkway Lights

Feature Identification Number: 138698

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Telephone

Feature Identification Number: 138700

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

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Feature: Wayside  
Feature Identification Number: 138702  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Granite Millstone  
Feature Identification Number: 138704  
Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Picket Fence  
Feature Identification Number: 138706  
Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Feature: Stacked Stone Grill at HQ-0203  
Feature Identification Number: 138708  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Stacked Stone Grill at HQ-0204  
Feature Identification Number: 138710  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Lights on Spur to Residential Area (four)  
Feature Identification Number: 138712  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Clotheslines  
Feature Identification Number: 138714  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Lights on Spur to Superintendent's House (three) (HQ-011)  
Feature Identification Number: 139944  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
IDLCS Number: 82868  
LCS Structure Name: Natural/Cultural Resources Office Road/Lights  
LCS Structure Number: HQ011

Feature: Boulder Fountain

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Feature Identification Number: 139946  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing  
IDLCS Number: 82866  
LCS Structure Name: Headquarters Boulder Fountain  
LCS Structure Number: HQ01G

Feature: Loading Ramp  
Feature Identification Number: 139948  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Tennis Court  
Feature Identification Number: 139950  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Perimeter Security Fence  
Feature Identification Number: 139952  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Tennis Court Fences  
Feature Identification Number: 139954  
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Volleyball Court  
Feature Identification Number: 139956  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Sand and Gravel Bins  
Feature Identification Number: 139958  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Dog Houses  
Feature Identification Number: 139960  
Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Baseball Field  
Feature Identification Number: 139962



Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 22. View of flagpole and flagstone walkway in front of the main entrance to the Administration Building (OCLP, 2008).*





*Figure 23. View of one of seven original wood lamp posts in the residential area of the Headquarters site (OCLP, 2008).*





*Figure 24. View of one of two stacked stone grills located in the residential area at Headquarters (OCLP, 2008).*



*Figure 25. View of boulder drinking fountain by the maintenance area at Headquarters. The concrete pads were added later (OCLP, 2008).*



*Figure 26. View of tennis court by the maintenance area (OCLP, 2008).*

## Condition

### Condition Assessment and Impacts

**Condition Assessment:** Good

**Assessment Date:** 07/20/2009

#### Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The condition of the Headquarters landscape is evaluated as “good,” which indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit’s cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

### Impacts

**Type of Impact:** Pests/Diseases

**Other Impact:** n/a

**External or Internal:** Both Internal and External

**Impact Description:** Continued spread of the gypsy moth and wooly adelgid diseases, as well as the sudden oak disease, may impact trees within the site’s boundaries and beyond them, and should be monitored.

## Treatment

## Treatment

**Approved Treatment:** Undetermined

**Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:**

The General Management Plan and Development Concept Plan were completed in 1983. However, these documents are considered out of date and the park superintendent now signs off on the treatment of all buildings and structures as they are added to or updated in the List of Classified Structures (LCS). A memo from the Superintendent states that all structures listed on National Register of Historic Places will be classified under the “Must Be Preserved and Maintained” management category. No specific landscape treatment for the site has been determined.

The treatment identified for the twenty-nine features currently listed on the National Register is preservation. Superintendent concurrence dates identified in the LCS for the features are as follows:

- Headquarters Road (September 5, 2006)
- Administration Building Flagpole (August 22, 2005)
- Administration Building Retaining Wall (May 30, 2007)
- Administration Building Flagstone Walkway (May 30, 2007)
- Administration Building Parking Lots (August 22, 2005)
- Administration Building (April 25, 2005)
- Administration Building Culvert System (August 22, 2005)
- Road Lights (August 22, 2005)
- Natural/Cultural Resources Building (former Superintendent’s Residence) (August 22, 2005)
- Superintendent’s Garage (May 30, 2007)
- Superintendent’s House Shed (May 30, 2007)
- Farmhouse Quarters Carriage House (Garage) (April 25, 2005)
- Headquarters Residence Area Circulation Drive (May 24, 2007)
- Farmhouse Employee Quarters (April 25, 2005)
- Employee Quarters HQ-2-3 (April 25, 2005)
- Employee Quarters HQ-2-3 Garage (April 25, 2005)
- Fire Management Office (former employee’s residence) (April 25, 2005)
- Fire Management Garage (April 25, 2005)
- Employee Quarters (April 25, 2005)
- Employee Quarters Garage (August 22, 2005)
- Headquarters Boulder Fountain (April 25, 2005)
- HQ Equipment Storage Shed (August 22, 2005)
- Headquarters Shop Building (August 22, 2005)
- Headquarters Warehouse/Office (August 22, 2005)
- Headquarters Maintenance Gas and Oil Building (August 22, 2005)
- Headquarters Fire Cache (August 22, 2005)
- Headquarters Sign Shop (August 22, 2005)
- Headquarters Paint Shop (August 22, 2005)
- Headquarters Smokehouse (May 30, 2007)

**Approved Treatment Completed:** No

## Bibliography and Supplemental Information

## Bibliography

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**Year of Publication:** 1940  
**Citation Publisher:** TheRegional Review, Vol.IV, No.2,  
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**Citation Title:** “Shenandoah National Park Historical Overview”  
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**Year of Publication:** 2006  
**Citation Publisher:** Shenandoah National Park Association, Inc.
- Citation Author:** Engle, Reed L.  
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**Citation Publisher:** [www.mission66.com/documents/intro.html](http://www.mission66.com/documents/intro.html)
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**Year of Publication:** 1988  
**Citation Publisher:** Shenandoah Natural History Association



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**Citation Title:** Soil Survey of Warren County, Virginia  
**Year of Publication:** 1984  
**Citation Publisher:** U.S. Soil Conservation Service
- Citation Author:** Lambert, Darwin  
**Citation Title:** Administrative History, Shenandoah National Park, 1924-1976  
**Year of Publication:** 1979  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished NPS report
- Citation Author:** Lambert, Darwin  
**Citation Title:** "The Undying Past of SNP"  
**Year of Publication:** 2001  
**Citation Publisher:** Roberts Rineheart, Inc.
- Citation Author:** McClelland, Linda Flint  
**Citation Title:** "Building the National Parks"  
**Year of Publication:** 1998  
**Citation Publisher:** JHU Press
- Citation Author:** National Park Service  
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**Year of Publication:** 2007  
**Citation Publisher:** n/a
- Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** Cultural Landscape Inventory, Skyland, Shenandoah National Park  
**Year of Publication:** 2007  
**Citation Publisher:** n/a

- Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** List of Classified Structures  
**Year of Publication:** 1997  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished NPS report
- Citation Author:** National Park Service, Denver Service Center  
**Citation Title:** General Management Plan, Development Concept Plan  
**Year of Publication:** 1983  
**Citation Publisher:** NPS
- Citation Author:** National Park Service, Historic American Engineering Record  
**Citation Title:** Skyline Drive  
**Year of Publication:** 1996  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished NPS report
- Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** National Historic Landmark Documentation  
**Year of Publication:** 2008  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished
- Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** Skyline Drive Historic District National Register  
**Year of Publication:** 1997  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished
- Citation Author:** National Park Service  
**Citation Title:** Skyline Drive Historic District Boundary Increase  
**Year of Publication:** 1997  
**Citation Publisher:** Unpublished



- Citation Author:** Reeder, Carolyn and Jack  
**Citation Title:** “Shenandoah Secrets”  
**Year of Publication:** 1991  
**Citation Publisher:** Potomac Appalachian Trail Club
- Citation Author:** Robinson & Associates and EDAW, Inc.  
**Citation Title:** Shenandoah National Park: Historic Resources Study  
**Year of Publication:** 1997  
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- Citation Author:** Soulliere, Laurie, E.  
**Citation Title:** “Historic Roads in the National Park System” Special History Study  
**Year of Publication:** 1995  
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- Citation Author:** Spelman, H. J.  
**Citation Title:** Building Roads in Shenandoah National Park: Area in Virginia Blue Ridge Made Accessible by Recreational Parkway”  
**Year of Publication:** 1935  
**Citation Publisher:** Civil Engineering
- Citation Author:** Uhler, John  
**Citation Title:** “Shenandoah National Park Information, Stony Man Camp”  
**Citation Publisher:** <http://www.shenandoah.national-park.com/info.htm>
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**Citation Title:** Monacan Indian Nation  
**Citation Publisher:** <http://indians.vipnet.org/tribes/monacan.cfm>
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### Supplemental Information

- Title:** Carpenter Shop, 1941, SHEN 134-2152-A, Doc. Id.
- Description:** Architectural plan.
- Title:** Employee's Residence, 1940, SHEN 134-2197, Doc. Id.
- Description:** Architectural plans and details.
- Title:** Employee's Residence, 1958, SHEN 134-3019, Doc. Id.
- Description:** Architectural details for Mission 66 style employee residence at Headquarters residential area, includes small site plan.
- Title:** Equipment Loading Ramp, 1943, SHEN 134-5302, Doc. Id.
- Description:** Architectural plan and details for new concrete loading ramp in maintenance area.
- Title:** Equipment Storage Shed, 1940, SHEN 134-2176
- Description:** Architectural plan.
- Title:** Equipment Storage, 1940, SHEN 134-2154-A, Doc. Id.
- Description:** Architectural plan.
- Title:** General Development Plan, Employees' Residences, 1940, SHEN 134-2179A, Doc. Id. 336471
- Description:** Site plan
- Title:** Headquarters Area Development, 1959, SHEN 134-2391E, Doc. Id.
- Description:** Site plan showing building layout, utilities, and some vegetation
- Title:** Headquarters Development Plan, 1942, SHEN 134-2294B, Doc. Id.
- Description:** Site plan with proposed layout of buildings and circulation.
- Title:** Headquarters Existing Development, 1953, SHEN 134-2114, Doc. Id. 336100
- Description:** Site Plan showing existing layout of buildings, roadway, driveways, contours and some vegetation.
- Title:** Headquarters Master Plan, 1939, SHEN 134-1174, Doc. Id. 336343
- Description:** Proposed site plan showing layout of buildings and circulation.
- Title:** Headquarters Master Plan, 1939, SHEN 134-5363, Doc. Id. 336156
- Description:** Preliminary site plan

- Title:** Headquarters Water System Plan, 1938, SHEN 134-5356, Doc. Id 336548  
**Description:** Plan for water system and shows layout of buildings and structures
- Title:** Machine Shop, 1941, SHEN 134-2155-A  
**Description:** Architectural plan.
- Title:** Paint Shop, 1939, SHEN 134-2153, Doc. Id.  
**Description:** Architectural plan.
- Title:** Planting Plan for Residential Area, 1958, SHEN 134- 2469A, Doc. Id.  
**Description:** Planting plan including list of existing and proposed plant material, and proposed areas for family recreation and service areas for clothes drying.
- Title:** Planting Plan for Warehouse, 1940, SHEN 134-  
**Description:** Planting Plan
- Title:** Planting Plan, Administration Building, 1940, SHEN 134-2195, Doc. Id.  
**Description:** Proposed planting plan layout for grounds around Administration Building.
- Title:** Plumbing Shop, 1939, SHEN 134-2154, Doc. Id.  
**Description:** Architectural plan.
- Title:** Post and Rail Fence, 1943, SHEN 134-2035, Doc. Id.  
**Description:** Proposed design for post and rail fence along Route 211 south of the Administration Building, never built.
- Title:** Preliminary Sketches, Administration Building, 1938, SHEN 134-2025-Z1, Doc. Id. 336094  
**Description:** Architectural plans and renderings for Administration Building, including retaining site walls.
- Title:** Private Access Road, 1938, SHEN 134-2366, Denver Service Center  
**Description:** Preliminary site plan.
- Title:** Property Map of Headquarters Area, 1941, SHEN 134-5462, Doc. Id.  
**Description:** Plan showing thirteen tracts of land acquired for the development of Headquarters, including names of owners.
- Title:** Regional Context graphic showing the North District  
**Description:** Shenandoah NP website, <http://www.nps.gov/shen/planyourvisit/upload/north.jpg>

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**Title:** Street Lighting Plan, 1949, SHEN 134-8565, Doc. Id.

**Description:** Plan with layout of seven lamp posts and two details of the lamp post.

**Title:** Tennis Court, Park Headquarters, 1943, SHEN 134-

**Description:** Plan of tennis court near maintenance area.