

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS ACTIVITIES IN THE  
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION OF THE NATIONAL PARK  
SERVICE  
National Capital Parks-Central  
Washington  
District of Columbia

HABS DC-858  
*DC-858*

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240-0001

## **HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY**

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**HABS No. DC-858**

- Location: Washington, District of Columbia; Arlington County, Prince William County, and Alexandria, Virginia; Prince George's County and Frederick County, Maryland.
- Present Owner: National Capital Region, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior
- Present Occupant: Various park units in the National Capital Region
- Present Use: Park and recreational facilities
- Significance: The Civilian Conservation Corps activities in the National Capital Region of the National Park Service illustrate the important role of this program in employing out-of-work youth to create a national recreation infrastructure during the 1930s. The National Capital Region work represents a mix of rural and urban projects indicative of CCC initiatives in metropolitan areas. While not as well-known as the rustic architecture built by the CCC for national parks in wilderness areas, the Washington-area CCC camps participated in many types of construction and tasks including parkways, picnic groves, erosion control, playgrounds, athletic fields, historical restorations, and Recreational Demonstration Area camping facilities. Many of these projects formed the basis for later expansion of recreational amenities in the National Capital Region.
- Historians: Lisa Pfueller Davidson (overview narrative), James A. Jacobs (inventory methodology)
- Project Information: This overview history and a detailed site inventory were undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey program of the National Park Service (NPS), Paul Dolinsky, Chief (HABS) and John A. Burns, Acting Manager (HABS/HAER/HALS division). The project was sponsored by the National Capital Region (NCR) of the National Park Service, Terry R. Carlstrom, Regional Director, at the initiative of the Cultural Resources History Office, Office of Stewardship and Partnerships, Gary Scott, Chief Historian. HABS historians Lisa Pfueller Davidson, James A. Jacobs, Virginia Price, and Catherine Lavoie completed archival research and fieldwork during 2002-2004. Collections Manager Martin Perschler assisted with the inventory database. Deidre McCarthy, Cultural Resources GIS Facility, assisted with the GIS component of the inventory.

## Part I: Historical Overview Narrative

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) activities in the National Capital Region of the National Park Service illustrate the important role of this program in employing out-of-work youth and creating a national recreation infrastructure during the 1930s. Between 1933 and 1942, the twelve camps located in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, and what is now defined as the NPS's National Capital Region, completed an impressive array of projects (Map 1). Enrollees working mainly with the Department of the Interior, but also the Department of Agriculture, built and maintained roads, parkways, picnic areas (Map 2), athletic fields, cabin camps, comfort stations, historical reconstructions of Civil War forts and canal locks (Map 3), and a bird sanctuary, in addition to planting trees, tree surgery, and erosion control. The variety of projects undertaken by the Washington-area CCC camps greatly expanded the recreational infrastructure of this region and formed the basis for later growth of the National Capital Region park units. While the rustic architecture built by the CCC in wilderness areas is better known, the National Capital Region projects represent a mix of project types indicative of the broad and diverse scope of the program in metropolitan areas.

### *Creating the Civilian Conservation Corps*

As a prominent part of his New Deal legislation, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt created an ambitious program of unemployment relief aimed at the millions of unemployed young men throughout the United States. The severe economic depression had brought unemployment to record levels, and one of Roosevelt's first initiatives upon taking office in 1933 was an ambitious series of government programs designed to provide work through useful civic projects. One estimate indicated that in 1933, of the almost fifteen million citizens known to be unemployed, five million were under the age of twenty five.<sup>1</sup> The Civilian Conservation Corps created work camps throughout the country where enrollees were given uniforms, shelter, food, and a nominal salary in exchange for manual labor on a variety of public works projects. Also a major public relations initiative for the Roosevelt Administration, the vocational training and self-improvement opportunities offered by the CCC program were often promoted as rigorously as the projects completed by the work camps.

Initially the Civilian Conservation Corps was part of the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Act approved on March 31, 1933. The bill's introduction explained its dual purpose of unemployment relief and forest conservation:

For the purpose of relieving the acute condition of widespread distress and

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<sup>1</sup>Olen Cole, Jr. *The African-American Experience in the Civilian Conservation Corps*. (Gainesville, F.L.: University Press of Florida, 1999), 9.

unemployment now existing in the United States, and in order to provide for the restoration of the country's depleted natural resources and the advancement of an orderly program of useful public works, the President is authorized, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, and by utilizing such existing departments or agencies as he may designate, to provide for employing citizens of the United States who are unemployed, in the construction, maintenance, and carrying on of works of a public nature in connection with the forestation of lands belonging to the United States or to the several States which are suitable for timber production, the prevention of forest fires, floods and soil erosion, plant pest and disease control, the construction, maintenance or repair of paths, trails and fire lanes in the national parks and national forests, and such other work on the public domain, national and State, and Government reservations incidental to or necessary in connection with any projects of the character enumerated, as the President may determine to be desirable.<sup>2</sup>

In addition to, in effect, attempting to rescue a generation of young men, the ECW Act addressed a desperate need for forest conservation. Deforestation and the resulting soil erosion had reduced the acres of virgin forest in the continental United States from 800 million to 100 million by 1933.<sup>3</sup> Directing underutilized manpower to low-skill, but vital, forest conservation work created a public works niche that did not compete with the construction industry and could indeed support the redevelopment of natural resources and recreational opportunities.<sup>4</sup>

Robert Fechner, a labor union official and Southerner, was the director of Emergency Conservation Work (ECW).<sup>5</sup> The Civilian Conservation Corps was officially created as a separate entity from ECW by another Act of Congress on June 28, 1937 and Fechner continued as its director until his death in 1939. The legislation transferred all the personnel, records, property, funds, and obligations of the ECW to the CCC. As in the original ECW Act, Congress specified that "no person shall be excluded on account of race, color, or creed." Congress also added details regarding camp administration and enrollee qualifications. Enrollees were to be between seventeen and twenty-three years old. Regular enrollees received \$30 per month, assistant leaders \$36, and leaders \$45, with a stipulation that enrollees send a large portion of

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<sup>2</sup>Conrad Wirth. *Civilian Conservation Corps Program of the United States Department of the Interior, March 1933 to June 30, 1943*. (Advisory Council, CCC, January 1944), 15.

<sup>3</sup>John A. Salmond, *Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942: A New Deal Case Study*. (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1967), 4.

<sup>4</sup>Substantial construction projects such as those funded by the Public Works Administration (PWA) and Works Progress Administration (WPA) utilized government contracts to employ private firms with skilled construction workers.

<sup>5</sup>Edward J. Roach, "Robert Fechner," American National Biography Online, <http://www.anb.org/articles/15/15-01297-print.html>

their earnings home to dependent family members.<sup>6</sup> CCC service was divided into six-month enrollment periods. The Department of Labor was charged with creating enrollment policies and processing eligible enrollees, although most of the actual selection and paperwork was done by state relief agencies. The War Department built and managed the camps, using their existing officer corps and supply bureaucracy. Project selection and supervision was done by the “technical agency,” often a branch of the Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture. The National Park Service was one of the most active technical agencies, receiving over \$82 million from the CCC just between 1933 and 1937.<sup>7</sup> Other projects were administered by the War and Navy Departments, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and the General Land Office. Separate camps for veterans or for Indians completed projects administered by the Veterans Administration and the Office of Indian Affairs.<sup>8</sup>

As one the signature programs of the New Deal, the Civilian Conservation Corps was closely identified with Franklin Roosevelt. The program built on Roosevelt’s lifelong interest in conservation and the desire to provide immediate relief to millions of unemployed young Americans. Although a bold step, the CCC was not without precedent. A similar, but less extensive program had already been implemented by the Forest Service in California and in Washington state. Roosevelt would have been aware of this program and similar schemes planned in other parts of the country. International programs also provided an example. According John Salmond’s history of the CCC, “by 1932 the governments of Bulgaria, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Austria, and Germany had established conservation camps for the unemployed.”<sup>9</sup> Perhaps most famous was the Labor Service in Germany, which had a militaristic quality, particularly after the Nazi Party took control, that caused FDR to reject any comparison between it and the CCC.

It is unclear what direct connection, if any, existed between the earlier international programs and the CCC. A contemporary publication on the CCC sponsored by the American Youth Commission outlined possible influences such as Harvard philosopher William James’ 1912 essay “The Moral Equivalent of War,” which proposed a peacetime conservation youth army, and the multinational International Voluntary Service established in 1920 to repair the damage wrought by World War I. While this account acknowledged the existing model of other national conservation programs established during the 1920s and early 1930s, it concluded that the American experiment was unique, stating that “international good will and national destiny were of deep interest to millions of Americans, including of course the President; but the CCC in

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<sup>6</sup>Conrad Wirth. *Civilian Conservation Corps Program of the United States Department of the Interior, March 1933 to June 30, 1943*. (Advisory Council, CCC, January 1944), 18-19.

<sup>7</sup>Harlan D. Unrau and G. Frank Williss. *Expansion of the National Park Service in the 1930s: An Administrative History*. (Denver, CO: Denver Service Center, September 1983), Chapter 3, Introduction, 1, online version accessed at [http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online\\_books/unrau-williss/adhic.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/unrau-williss/adhic.htm).

<sup>8</sup>Holland and Hill, 30-31.

<sup>9</sup>Salmond, 4-5. See also pgs. 6-8 for an account of Roosevelt’s conservation activities before the CCC.

its beginnings was never thought of by its sponsors or its officials as an agency for exploring social or political problems.”<sup>10</sup> The CCC did share with its European counterparts a desire to use hard work and contact with nature as an antidote to the effects of modern urban life on young men. Roosevelt emphasized this point in a message to Congress shortly before ECW legislation was considered:

We can take a vast army of these unemployed out into healthful surroundings. We can eliminate, to some extent at least, the threat that enforced idleness brings to spiritual and moral stability. It is not a panacea for all the unemployment but it is an essential step in this emergency.<sup>11</sup>

The benefits of honest labor, discipline, and fresh air were a common theme in CCC informational literature, as well as its images of healthy, well-fed young men. Although passed with bipartisan support and eventually quite popular with the general public, the CCC did attract and was shaped by some criticism. One common complaint was that a government-sponsored work program represented a step toward Socialism, a charge leveled against many of the New Deal initiatives. CCC officials were careful to promote the fact that enrollees were paid for their labor and that by sending money home they would stimulate the economy. There were concerns regarding the low wages and government intervention into the free market, but clearly the CCC would perform tasks that would not be undertaken by private industry. In fact, Socialist leaders referred to the proposed program of work camps as Fascist, joining the objections of organized labor. Labor leaders were suspicious of a government-sponsored program of subsistence wages. For example, American Federation of Labor President William Green objected to the enlistment of workers under military discipline and wages, which was seen as a trend that might subvert organized labor’s goals. The choice of Fechner, a former labor union official, as director was intended to appease this constituency.<sup>12</sup>

The role of the War Department in administering the camps also led to criticism of the CCC as too militarized. While the use of uniforms, strict discipline, and military-like work procedures was suggestive of the strong military influence, CCC public relations information took pains to point out that the enrollees were learning independence and self-respect, not receiving military training. A 1934 *Harper’s Monthly* article written from an anonymous Army officer’s point of view asserted that, while discipline was critical in a CCC camp, “too military a manner and method would be out of tune with the whole concept.”<sup>13</sup> The article included several

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<sup>10</sup>Kenneth Holland and Frank Ernest Hill. *Youth in the CCC*. (Washington, D.C.: American Council on Education, 1942), 23.

<sup>11</sup>Quoted in Salmond, 13.

<sup>12</sup>Holland and Hill, 27. Fechner was replaced by another union leader, James J. McEntee, in 1940. See also Salmond, 14-15.

<sup>13</sup>Captain X, “A Civilian Army in the Woods,” *Harper’s Monthly Magazine* 168 (March 1934): 492.

vignettes intended to make the distinction that true military discipline and training did not happen at CCC camps. An *Atlantic Monthly* article asserted:

The fact that there is no military discipline in these camps must be emphasized again. The Army early learned that CCC discipline must be secured and maintained through the personality of the reserve officers, through a few simple penalties - but maintained primarily by the boys themselves.<sup>14</sup>

However, it was hard to counteract the militaristic impression of young men in uniform marching in drill formation and living in Army barracks.

Another reaction to this charge was the emphasis on vocational training and educational opportunities. One publication pointed out that “. . . education of any organized kind [did not] seem to those in authority to be needful for the 250,000 young men whom they controlled. It was rather thought that healthful work and good scenery would be ample fare for enrollees.”<sup>15</sup> Critics objected to the hours of manual labor without mandatory educational programs, prompting a policy adjustment towards officially encouraging self-improvement activities such as vocational training courses or night classes. In November 1933, Roosevelt instituted a nationwide CCC education service, replacing the original scheme leaving educational activities under the direction of individual camp commanders. At their insistence, the Army camp commanders retained control of the content of the educational offerings and attendance remained voluntary. The courses varied greatly by camp, ranging from “wood chopping to empirical philosophy” and approximately evenly divided between vocational and academic offerings.<sup>16</sup> Officials took great pains to publicize the variety of enrichment activities available to motivated enrollees, a practice evident in the Washington-area camps.

Creation of the work camps and a management structure proceeded rapidly after the ECW Act was passed on March 31, 1933. An Advisory Council including the director and representatives from the Labor, War, Interior, and Agriculture departments met on April 3rd. NPS Director Horace Albright was the Department of the Interior representative. Recommendations from this initial meeting were codified in Executive Order No. 6101, issued on April 5, 1933. This order officially established the Civilian Conservation Corps. At first the Army's role was to be restricted to transporting the enrollees to camps built and run by the technical agencies. However it quickly became apparent that only the Army had the organization in place to meet the goal of establishing approximately 1,300 camps by July 1. The solution would be an expedient, but sometimes awkward division of authority within the camp between the Army commander and the technical agency superintendent. According to Salmond, “the Army accepted its expanded assignment without great enthusiasm, yet resigned itself to the fact

<sup>14</sup>F. A. Silcox, “Our Adventure in Conservation,” *The Atlantic Monthly* (December 1933): 720.

<sup>15</sup>Holland and Hill, 23.

<sup>16</sup>Salmond, 47-53.

that it was the only agency capable of accomplishing the task ahead.”<sup>17</sup> One Army captain recalled “far indeed is the cry from handling well-settled Regular Army men to handling undisciplined, habitually unemployed youngsters. But this was the job thrown at our Regulars last spring. The Army, unenthusiastic but undismayed, grappled promptly with three times its own strength.”<sup>18</sup> Quick mobilization was aided by the existing bureaucratic structure of nine regional corps areas; the Washington, DC region was included in the Third Corps, with a headquarters in Baltimore. The first CCC camp in the country was established by the Forest Service on April 17, 1933 in George Washington National Forest near Luray, Virginia and named Camp Roosevelt.<sup>19</sup>

### *The National Park Service and the CCC*

Given the emphasis on forest conservation, the CCC program offered an unprecedented opportunity to the agencies tasked with management of wilderness areas, particularly the National Park Service (Department of the Interior) and the Forest Service (Department of Agriculture). In 1933, three-quarters of the new CCC camps were in state and national forest areas.<sup>20</sup> NPS Chief of Public Relations Isabelle Story wrote a booklet in 1933, *The National Parks and Emergency Conservation*, just as the Service was beginning to expand its activities with New Deal funding. The NPS had only twenty-two parks and forty monuments when she wrote this account, but the array of activities was impressive and indicative of the major expansion just about to occur. A growing contingent of landscape architects was on hand to guide the development of park roads, trails, and buildings by the CCC and other programs. Even at this early stage (as of June 15, 1933), sixty-five camps had been established in the national parks and monuments and the NPS managed another 111 camps in the military parks, and state, county, and metropolitan parks. Story described the NPS approach as “conservation for complete preservation” in contrast to “conservation for use” by the Forest Service.<sup>21</sup>

In general the New Deal emergency work relief programs such as the CCC, Public Works Administration (PWA), Works Progress Administration (WPA), and Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) provided a massive infusion of personnel and funds to accomplish long-term development projects that had been previously contemplated for the parks, but unfunded. Between 1933 and 1940 the NPS received approximately \$218 million for emergency conservation projects, almost double the regular appropriations of \$132 million during the same period.<sup>22</sup> The Park Service was also instrumental in the Recreational Demonstration Area (RDA) program, which reclaimed barren farmland near metropolitan areas as organized camps and

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<sup>17</sup>Salmond, 32-33.

<sup>18</sup>Captain X, 487-88.

<sup>19</sup>Stan B. Cohen, *The Tree Army: A Pictorial History of the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942*. (Missoula, MT: Pictorial Histories Publishing Co., 1980), 9.

<sup>20</sup>Hill and Holland, 25.

<sup>21</sup>Isabelle F. Story, *The National Parks and Emergency Conservation*. (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, 1933), on-line version accessed at [http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online\\_books/ecw](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/ecw).

<sup>22</sup>Unrau and Williss, Chapter 3, Introduction, 1.

recreational areas for city-dwellers. Typical facilities included picnic groves, cabin and tent camping sites, hiking trails, and constructed lakes. Assistant Director Conrad Wirth began promoting the RDA program in 1934 as a representative on a presidential land planning committee. The Federal Surplus Relief Administration purchased the land and the Park Service supervised conversion into park and recreation areas. In 1935, the land acquisition function was transferred to the Resettlement Administration of the Department of Agriculture. Executive Order 7496 on November 14, 1936 transferred the entire program to the National Park Service. Eventually forty-six demonstration areas were established, many later becoming state or local parks.<sup>23</sup> RDAs near Washington, DC were Chompawamsic, Virginia (now Prince William Forest Park) and Catoctin, Maryland (now Catoctin Mountain Park and Cunningham Falls State Park), both within an hour drive of the city. This program also included “waysides” or picnic areas along main highways, including examples in Virginia such as Stafford Wayside. By June 1939, nearly 375,000 acres had been acquired by NPS for the Recreational Demonstration Area program, providing sixty organized camps and numerous picnic facilities. Director Cammerer enthusiastically promoted the program’s accomplishments in a memorandum dated September 18, 1939:

These areas were purchased and developed for the purpose of demonstrating a better type of land use and to provide recreational facilities where in many cases there existed great deficiencies in such facilities. Today the majority of these areas represent a most effective demonstration in better land use. They have had considerable effect upon local economy. . . . they have made possible outdoor recreational opportunities to hundreds of thousands of people who would not have had such experiences had it not been for these areas and facilities.<sup>24</sup>

The activities of the CCC at the Washington-area RDAs will be discussed in more detail below.

The availability of emergency funding and relief labor also coincided with a major expansion of the NPS’s responsibilities in 1933. Executive Order No. 6166, issued June 10, 1933, transferred all of the national military parks, battlefield sites, and national monuments administered by the War Department or the Department of Agriculture to the National Park Service. The number of NPS park units increased from sixty-seven to 137, including a nearly fourfold increase in the number of historical areas.<sup>25</sup> This transfer included the National Capital Parks in the Washington, DC region, such as the National Mall, Rock Creek Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway, and the Custis-Lee Mansion (Arlington House), in addition to sixty other miscellaneous memorials, monuments, and structures around the city (See Map 4 for an illustration of CCC work along the George Washington Parkway). Since 1925 these sites had been the responsibility of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital,

<sup>23</sup>Sellars, 135. See also Unrau and Williss, Chapter 4, Section I. Recreational Demonstration Areas.

<sup>24</sup>Quoted in Unrau and Williss, Chapter 4, Section I. Recreational Demonstration Areas, 6.

<sup>25</sup>Unrau and Williss, Chapter 2, Section C, Reorganization of 1933, 8.

an independent Executive Branch office that acquired many of these sites from the War Department.<sup>26</sup> According to an administrative history of the NPS in the 1930s:

Important as it was in terms of numbers, the impact of Executive Order 6166 cannot be discussed in terms of size alone, for the location and diversity of the areas was just as important. Inclusion of the National Capital Parks brought the National Park Service into metropolitan urban parks. George Washington Memorial Parkway represented a new type of unit in the National Park System, one which was predominantly neither historical nor natural, but recreational.<sup>27</sup>

The CCC activities in the National Capital Region emerged from this expansion and represented a new direction towards development of recreational amenities in urban areas for the NPS. During the years between 1934 and 1939, the addition of seven natural, seventeen historical, and six recreational areas would further expand the National Park Service's responsibilities. In the Washington area, these included Chesapeake and Ohio Canal (September 23, 1938), Catoctin Mountain Park (October 13, 1936), and Prince William Forest Park (November 14, 1936).<sup>28</sup> Another New Deal program, the Civil Works Administration (CWA) employed 1,429 workers under the National Capital Parks project between November 28, 1933 and April 28, 1934 to build swimming pools, landscape park areas, improve roads and paths, and plant trees and shrubs.<sup>29</sup>

Given the growth of historical areas and acquisition of non-wilderness sites, the National Park Service did not restrict CCC camp projects to forest conservation. Often even in wilderness areas, the camps were responsible for creating a recreational infrastructure of trails, cabins, picnic groves, and other amenities. In *Preserving Nature in the National Parks*, Richard Sellars assesses the New Deal legacy to the NPS:

Overall, the National Park Service responded eagerly to the variety of New Deal opportunities in national recreational planning and development, as well as in the expansion of historical programs....the Service pursued very seriously -and very idealistically- the development of national, state, and local parks. Its assistance to the nation's park systems and its nationwide surveys and planning laid the foundation for expanding recreational opportunities throughout the country - a contribution that later generations would find easy to forget or take for granted.<sup>30</sup>

Sellars identifies a growing tendency to embrace recreational development of natural areas, rather

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<sup>26</sup>Unrau and Williss, Chapter 1, Section E, National Capital Parks, 1.

<sup>27</sup>Unrau and Williss, Chapter 2, Section C Reorganization of 1933, 8.

<sup>28</sup>Unrau and Williss, Chapter 2, Section D Additional Areas, 1934-39, 1, note 118.

<sup>29</sup>Unrau and Williss, Chapter 3, Section C. Civil Works Administration, 1.

<sup>30</sup>Richard West Sellars. *Preserving Nature in the National Parks: A History*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997), 139-40.

than strict study and conservation, during the 1930s. The CCC activities in the National Capital Region represent a major effort to expand existing facilities and create new recreational areas. In general the CCC-related projects in the National Parks would develop the first generation of recreational infrastructure, an effort that would not be equaled until the Mission 66 improvement campaign of 1956-66.

Existing master plans and other planned efforts for national parks, military parks, and monuments were used to quickly develop a list of projects for the mobilization of the CCC camps. Similar information was solicited for the state parks program administered for the NPS by Conrad Wirth. The types of work approved by Fechner and the CCC for NPS camps in state parks reflected a belief in creating an expanded recreational infrastructure as an integral part of forest conservation. Approved types of work included construction and repair of structures, picnic ground facilities, bridges, water supply and sewer systems, park roads, dams, and fire towers. National Park Service oversight of the state park and other local CCC camps resulted in a relatively uniform approach to these projects. The Washington Office of the planning or forestry division ultimately controlled approval for any project. In his administrative history of the National Park Service and the CCC, John Paige described their oversight duties as “defin[ing] limits on certain projects according to type of work, funds to be expended on structures and equipment, need for skilled labor, and impact on park land.”<sup>31</sup> The NPS superintendent was responsible for overseeing the progress of the ECW camps in his park; in addition he was sometimes assigned to supervise nearby camps working outside of park boundaries. His staff prepared work plans and progress reports that were sent to Washington. The state park-based camps were administered from NPS district offices established in Washington, Indianapolis, Denver, and San Francisco during 1933. During this period, the National Park Service emerged as a key leader in park and recreational development for both federal and state lands.<sup>32</sup>

The impact of the NPS on park development extended to the design and construction of facilities for the new park and recreational areas. A rustic aesthetic adapted from earlier park architecture and suited to labor-intensive construction methods emerged as typical of New Deal construction in the National Parks. The use of rough hewn logs, rubble stone, and whimsical naturalistic details was intended to mitigate the presence of new structures and amenities in parks. This approach was compiled into *Park and Recreation Structures*, a three-volume 1938 publication prepared by Albert Good, a landscape architect in the Washington office. This book was an outgrowth of Good’s original one volume 1935 edition published with Civilian Conservation Corps funding. It is the classic source book for the rustic architecture that characterized park development during the New Deal. The three sections provided examples and simple construction details for “Administration and Basic Service Facilities,” “Recreational and

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<sup>31</sup>John C. Paige, *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-42: An Administrative History*. (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1985), 39.

<sup>32</sup>Paige, 40-41.

Cultural Facilities,” and “Overnight and Organized Camping Facilities.” According to Unrau and Williss:

Each volume discussed structural undertakings appropriate to natural park and recreational area environments, both in the national and state park systems, complete with drawings, plans, and photographs. The volumes were designed to provide data to the many persons involved in ECW and public works projects who had little expertise in constructing park facilities.<sup>33</sup>

The rustic aesthetic codified in *Park and Recreation Structures* characterized the work of many New Deal-funded construction programs including the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration.

While WPA funds employed both unskilled and skilled labor, depending on current relief regulations, most CCC enrollees would arrive at the camp lacking construction experience. In 1935, the U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Education prepared a series of fifteen vocational manuals designed for use by camp educational advisors, company commanders, or other CCC instructors. Ideally the enrollees would learn proper techniques to complete their immediate duties and gain the long-term vocational benefits of new skills. Many of the topics covered in the series were relevant to construction projects, such as carpentry, concrete construction, house wiring, plane surveying, elementary masonry and bricklaying, and mechanical drawing. Manuals were also available on agriculture, automobile repairing, automotive electricity, cooking, conservation of natural resources, forestry, photography, radio servicing, and soil conservation, all areas where CCC enrollees could have the opportunity to gain and utilize practical experience. In 1936, James Hart, a CCC foreman from Ithaca, New York published *Practical Construction Methods for the C.C.C. Enrollee*. Although released by a private publisher, an editorial board of NPS officials advised on its content and endorsed its use for enrollee study. In addition to many of the construction topics covered in the vocational education series, Hart’s book included information on excavation, waterproofing, plastering, and painting.<sup>34</sup>

Between 1937-41, the Department of the Interior also issued a series of mimeographed “project training” manuals. These manuals were also intended as how-to guides for National Park Service projects and as textbooks for educational programs. While covering many of the same topics as the earlier series, the “P.T. series” also included booklets covering other areas relevant to NPS CCC projects such as construction of trails, signs and markers, lawns,

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<sup>33</sup>Unrau and Williss, Ch. 4, Section F. National Park Service Activities Relating to Park, Parkway, and Recreational-Area Study, 1936-1941, 2.

<sup>34</sup>Copies of selected vocational series guides were available in RG 4 - Civilian Conservation Corps, National Park Service History Collection, Anthony Hall Library and Archives, Harpers Ferry, WV; James W. Hart, *Practical Construction Methods for the CCC Enrollee*. (Ithaca, N.Y.: The Cayuga Press, 1936).

construction of relief models, and landscape conservation. The series also included several booklets about job training methods and philosophy with titles such as "Job Training is a Business Proposition," and "Responsibility for Job Training." Clearly this material would have educational value for technical service supervisors and motivated enrollees, but the main purpose of all of these efforts seemed to be providing the CCC work crews with the basic techniques and vocabulary to do their jobs effectively.<sup>35</sup>

*Typical Organization and Administration of National Park Service CCC Camps*

The number of camps under the supervision of the National Park Service varied throughout the life of the CCC program. The location and duration of CCC camps in the Washington area was the combined result of work project needs and the ebb and flow of ECW funding. Park Service employees oversaw CCC camps in NPS areas as well as those in state, county, and municipal park and recreation areas. During the enrollment period from October 1, 1934 to March 31, 1935 there were 79 camps in NPS areas and 293 in related state and other areas. During fiscal year 1938 "the Park Service had technical supervision over 52,600 CCC enrollees in 324 camps, down from 444 camps in operation during the preceding year."<sup>36</sup> The rules varied during the program, but generally enrollees were eligible for two years, or four six-month enrollment periods. Project funding was also divided into six-month enrollment periods, giving the entire operation a purposely temporary character. There was discussion of establishing the CCC on a permanent basis during 1937, but the new Civilian Conservation Corps legislation simply extended the program formerly under the ECW for three more years.

After the Labor Department, working through local relief agencies, selected and assigned the enrollees, they traveled to the CCC camp location. The War Department organized this transportation and procured and distributed uniforms and other supplies. Each camp had a military commander, usually a captain or first lieutenant in the Regular Army or Army Reserve. Since the vast majority of these commanders were college-educated reservists (97 percent by 1936) rather than full-time military men, the military command on the CCC camps was somewhat tempered by civilian influences. This commander was responsible for creation and operation of the camp itself, including its construction, personnel administration and discipline, and enrollees services such as mess and first aid. He was assisted by a few younger officers, usually serving as quartermaster, medical officer, and/or finance officer, and leaders selected from among the enrollees. The military personnel at each camp worked through the supply system and chain of command in their corps area; the Washington region was part of the Third Corps, headquartered in Baltimore. The Army commander could assign groups of enrollees to assist with any of these tasks. This practice sometimes caused friction between the military commanders and NPS project supervisors regarding the most effective use of enrollee labor.<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>35</sup>Copies of selected project training series guides were available in RG 4, Harpers Ferry, WV.

<sup>36</sup>Unrau and Williss, Chapter 3, Section A, 5, 7.

<sup>37</sup>Salmond, 85-86.

A National Park Service project superintendent in each camp coordinated the work projects, including equipment and technical assistance. The ideal field organization included, under the project superintendent, an engineer, technical forester, landscape architect, and various wildlife and historical technicians. Monthly pay varied from up to \$187 for superintendents to \$115 for foremen. Foresters, engineers, and landscape architects were paid up to \$212 a month and historical technicians up to \$170. The company of enrollees was divided into sections and subsections, each led by one of these men and performing its own particular function. In 1939 the Park Service was directed to reduce the number of supervisory personnel involved with CCC work. In order to avoid losing the ability to complete work projects, Wirth created regional office central service units to handle design and technical matters, thereby abolishing these positions within individual camps. Regardless, many professionals were hired by the Park Service as a result of emergency relief funding, aiding the expansion of the its duties. This number peaked in 1935 with nearly 7,500 employees supporting the work of the camps.<sup>38</sup>

In addition to the military officers, Park Service supervisors and technicians, and the enrollees, the camps also included older, more experienced workers from the surrounding vicinity, or Local Experienced Men (L.E.M.). The L.E.M.s acted as assistants to the technical supervisors, particularly when they were experienced woodsmen supervising the green enrollees. This practice both aided the actual work projects and overall acceptance of the ECW program. An April 1933 letter to Roosevelt from the ECW Advisory Council and officials stated "it is clearly impossible to import into forest regions non-residents even from within the same state, and have peace there unless local unemployed laborers, accustomed to making their living in the woods in that very place are given fair consideration as concerns their own means of livelihood."<sup>39</sup> The initial recommendation to increase the enrollment to include nearly 25,000 such men was approved by the President. The technical agencies such as the NPS and the Forest Service benefitted from the extra supervisory help and this move helped garner support for the CCC in the areas where the camps were mobilized.

The enrollees were grouped into companies that varied in standard size from 150 to 200 men. The exact rules for eligibility varied slightly throughout the program, but generally the enrollees were unmarried men between the ages of 18 and 22 whose families were on the public relief rolls.<sup>40</sup> In addition, the selection agent was looking for U.S. citizens who were not attending school, in good physical condition, not on probation or parole, and willing to allot a portion of their earnings to their families. As the program evolved from a strictly work relief to a job training agency, agents also were to look for enrollees of good character, as defined by less specific criteria such as "maturity, dependability, mental alertness, and interest in the Corps as a

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<sup>38</sup>Salmond, 87; Memorandum, "Supervisory Positions to be Filled in National Park Service in Connection with Emergency Conservation Work," (2 June 1933), Box 3, Entry 38, RG 79, NARA; Paige, 27-28, 45.

<sup>39</sup>Quoted in Salmond, 35.

<sup>40</sup>Salmond, 30.

work and training opportunity.”<sup>41</sup> When one sample of enrollees was asked why they enrolled in the CCC, the most frequent responses were wanting to help family and tired of having nothing to do.<sup>42</sup> Many came from urban or metropolitan areas with high unemployment rates and had little experience with camp conditions and outdoor labor. The general rule is that enrollees were sent to a camp about 200 miles from home - too far for weekly visits, but close enough for monthly leave. One synopsis of the “typical enrollee” went so far as to describe a young man between 17 and 18 years old, 145 pounds, and five feet, eight inches tall, from a household of six children with no telephone, refrigerator, or running water.<sup>43</sup> Most of the enrollees at the Washington area camps were from the Mid-Atlantic or upper Southern states.

The CCC included African-American enrollees who were typically placed in segregated camps, although small numbers of black enrollees were integrated into some camps. Segregation was practiced in the Washington, DC area, with three camps for black enrollees - one at the National Arboretum and two at the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Approximately ten percent of the Corps enrollees were black, a disproportionately small percentage when compared with the relief needs.<sup>44</sup> The preexisting widespread poverty in the African-American community made it especially vulnerable to the Depression and in need of the opportunities offered by the CCC. According to Salmond, “in 1933 [African-American] unemployment rates were double the national average, and more than two million [African Americans] were on relief, twice as many as there should have been in terms of national population figures.”<sup>45</sup> Despite the clause in the ECW Act specifying that eligibility would not be limited by race or creed, reports began to reach Washington, DC that selection agents were excluding African-American applicants in desperately poor areas of the South. After considerable pressure, local officials in states such as Georgia, Florida, and Mississippi enrolled a token number of black youths.

The ECW leadership also had to contend with the fact that black camps were not welcome in most localities. These complaints came from all over the country, despite Fechner’s insistence that there had not been “one single case where the conduct of Negro enrollees in the CCC camps had disturbed the peace and quiet of any community.”<sup>46</sup> He tried to quell fears by instituting a rule that black enrollees would not be transported outside of their home state (a rule not always followed) and their camp locations would be approved by the state’s governor. If protest persisted, Fechner would relocate the camp to an Army reservation or cancel it. In October 1934, Fechner received a petition from a group of Washington residents protesting the establishment of a black camp “near a residential area where ‘women are left alone.’”<sup>47</sup> This

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<sup>41</sup>Holland and Hill, 48.

<sup>42</sup>Holland and Hill, 47.

<sup>43</sup>Holland and Hill, 58.

<sup>44</sup>Cole, 14. Cole’s study focuses on the African American CCC experience in California.

<sup>45</sup>Salmond, 88.

<sup>46</sup>Quoted in Salmond, 93.

<sup>47</sup>Ibid.

letter probably refers to the first “colored” camp in the DC area at the National Arboretum, a large agricultural reserve located adjacent to a residential neighborhood in Northeast Washington, DC. Quotas limiting the number of black enrollees continued to restrict the participation of African Americans, but those that did successfully participate tended to stay an average of fifteen months, compared to ten months for white enrollees.<sup>48</sup>

Physically, the typical CCC camp was a neat, but modest assemblage of wood structures. Often the first phase of occupation required the enrollees to live in Army tents while simple wood barracks, mess halls, and other structures were erected. Army procedures for construction, sanitary requirements and camp layout were prevalent, while the actual labor often came from the enrollees themselves. While not strictly standardized, the construction and arrangement of structures was generally similar from camp to camp. Camps had four or five barrack buildings, each 100 feet long by twenty feet wide. Other typical buildings included a mess hall, recreation hall, administration building, officers’ quarters, first aid/hospital building, and a garage. These buildings were usually arranged in a U shape around a grassy area and covered with tar paper or coated with creosote. The buildings had rudimentary electric lighting. Earlier structures used heavier cuts of wood, often cedar and were referred to the Army records as being of “rigid” construction. In 1936, Fechner decided that all future CCC camps would be built with pre-cut lumber and designed for portability. He further standardized the camp buildings to four barracks, one mess hall, one schoolhouse, bathhouses, one latrine block, and twelve officers’ and service buildings. Enrollees often added gravel paths between the buildings, built rustic gates and fences, and created amenities for the camp such as swimming pools, gardens, and fireplaces.<sup>49</sup> In October 1939, “revised Standard Plan No. 1 for Civilian Conservation Corps camps” was modified to allow for a fifth barracks. The revised memorandum informed all of the cooperating agencies:

The standard plan adequately provides for the normal requirements of any camp and there is no authority to supplement the camp with other buildings, or supplement the specifications of the buildings as approved except in unusual cases for which it is necessary to obtain the Director’s specific approval in each case. If any additional buildings are required by the Technical Service within the camp area, they will be constructed by the Army from Technical Service funds. Salvaged lumber from existing rigid buildings may be used to erect rigid building

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<sup>48</sup>Salmond, 101, note 56. Other enrollee categories included American Indians and veterans. American Indian CCC camps were run by the Office of Indian Affairs on reservations. Veterans were selected by the Veterans Administration and worked in camps run by various agencies. These older men were grouped in separate companies from the youth enrollees. Their inclusion in the CCC was enacted by Executive Order 6129 on May 11, 1933. See Salmond, 33, 35-36.

<sup>49</sup>Salmond, 136.

in excess to those authorized in the approved standard camp, provided the Director's approval has been obtained for the extra buildings.<sup>50</sup>

The Washington-area camps will be described in more detail below.

### ***CCC Camps in the National Capital Parks - Enhancing Parks and Parkways***

#### ***Camp NP-6-VA - Fort Hunt, Virginia***

The first Civilian Conservation Corps camp established for the National Capital Parks was Camp NP-6-VA at Fort Hunt in Virginia. This camp was active from October 15, 1933 (2<sup>nd</sup> enrollment period) until September 30, 1941 (17<sup>th</sup> enrollment period). Its status then was changed to civil defense camp NP (D)-6 until March 1942. The camp first housed Company No. 1241 consisting of enrollees from New York and Virginia. The Camp Commander was Captain E. C. Marshall (U.S. Army Reserve) and the NPS Superintendent was R. W. Martin. In August 1935, a group of enrollees from Pennsylvania, Company No. 2339, came to Fort Hunt, enlarging the work force at the camp. In October 1937, Company No. 2387 replaced Company No. 1241. Located along the edge of the new George Washington Memorial Parkway at the site of a former military installation, this camp was indicative of both the links between military sites and CCC camps and the typical recreational projects of a metropolitan area-based camp. Camp NP-6-VA is also one of the best documented of the National Capital Parks CCC camps and so provides a useful case study.<sup>51</sup>

Fort Hunt is located on a bluff near the Potomac River and Mount Vernon. The former farm land became a Coastal Defense fortification in 1893. The post was operational during the Spanish American War in 1898. Structures included gun emplacements, officers' quarters, and barracks. The post was officially named "Fort Hunt" on April 13, 1899. The U.S. Army declared Fort Hunt surplus in 1924 and the post was abandoned for four years. From 1928 until 1931, the Army stationed the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade there. From 1929 until 1932, the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway (later George Washington Memorial Parkway) was built through the eastern side of Fort Hunt. Fort Hunt was transferred to the National Park Service in 1933, as part of Executive Order 6166 reorganizing administration of the National Mall and memorials under the National Capital Parks, as well as other former War Department property now considered of historic or recreational importance.<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>50</sup>Memorandum, "Camp Building Construction," (21 October 1939), Box 1, Entry 63, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>51</sup>Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 October 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA. See also Matthew R. Laird, *"By the River Potomac": An Historic Resource Study of Fort Hunt Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Mount Vernon, Virginia* (August 2000).

<sup>52</sup>Kay Fanning, "Fort Hunt - George Washington Memorial Parkway, Cultural Landscapes Inventory," National Park Service, (draft - 2001), Part 1, 13-14.

The CCC camp structures occupied the same area as the former military post, with the concrete bunkers, a frame hospital, and a few officers' quarters surviving from the Army period. At first the members of Company No. 1241 lived in tents and the remaining Army structures. A September 30, 1935 site plan shows the coexistence of former Army, CCC camp, and CCC picnic area projects at Fort Hunt.<sup>53</sup> Picnic areas 1-3, with their associated parking area, trails, and latrines are shown at the southeastern edge of the site near the parkway. The four gun batteries are roughly lined up across to the top of the bluff. Just north of the batteries a baseball field was located on the former parade grounds. Many of the remaining Army structures were located east and north of the former parade grounds. The old hospital, now labeled infirmary, was located at the east end. In addition to the ball field, this plan shows other recreational facilities for the enrollees, including a tennis court and swimming pool. Superintendent Watson reported on October 1, 1935 that a "new camp is being erected on the grounds at Fort Hunt."<sup>54</sup> This change followed the transfer of a Pennsylvania company to replace the group of Virginia enrollees at Camp NP-6-VA. By October 1935, eighteen new CCC buildings stood at Fort Hunt. Many of structures had coal stoves, sewer and water connections, and wiring for electricity. Only two of these were considered of permanent construction - the frame officers' mess and a small brick oil house.<sup>55</sup>

Another site plan from February 1938 shows a series of CCC buildings arranged roughly in a U-shape at the west end of the former parade grounds (Figure 1).<sup>56</sup> Four long, rectangular barracks were arranged with their short ends facing the common area in the center. The kitchen and mess building was situated across the west end of the grouping. A fewer smaller buildings, an officers' mess, and a first aid building completed the ensemble. Other buildings at Fort Hunt scattered around the irregular grid of roads were a CCC headquarters building, blacksmith shop, Army headquarters, motor repair shop, tool and equipment house, and model building shop.

Photographs of the camp illustrate the wood frame structures typical of CCC camp construction (Figure 2). The barracks were long rectangular structures with doorways on the short gable end. Wood steps led up to the double doors, with the entire structure raised on wood posts with lattice covering the openings between the sill and the ground. The barracks were sheathed with thin clapboards on the exterior and had single-sash, nine-light windows that tilted inward when opened. Exterior views also indicate electrical wires connected to the peak of the gable and embellishments to the basic structure, such as window boxes and signs with the same profile as those used on the George Washington Parkway. Photographs from 1940 also indicate

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<sup>53</sup>Site plan, "Picnic Area at Fort Hunt," (30 September 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, Record Group 79, NARA.

<sup>54</sup>Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 October 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>55</sup>Kay Fanning, "Fort Hunt - George Washington Memorial Parkway, Cultural Landscapes Inventory," National Park Service, (draft - 2001), Part 2, 2-3; Laird, 75-77.

<sup>56</sup>Electrical Distribution System Changes, Fort Hunt, VA, Branch of Engineering, National Park Service, (1938), File No. 117.6-23, TIC, Denver Service Center.

site improvements, such as brick pathways, young trees, and shrubs (Figure 3). Interior views of the Fort Hunt barracks illustrate that these spaces were unfinished, with exposed trusses and thin panels between the visible studs (Figure 4). The enrollees slept on metal Army cots. Simple wood cupboards for personal items were hung along the walls between the tilt-in windows. Uniforms and other clothing were hung on closet poles suspended between pairs of cupboards. The boys had Army-issued bedding and stored their shoes underneath their cots.<sup>57</sup>

The recreational activities of the Fort Hunt enrollees are also well-documented. Photographs of “camp life” from 1940 show enrollees in the recreation/library building, reading, writing letters, or playing board games (Figure 5). The structure had an interior similar to the barracks, with exposed studs and tilt-in single-sash windows. Like many CCC camps, Fort Hunt enrollees participated in organized sports, including basketball and baseball teams for inter-camp play. The Fort Hunt baseball team won the CCC league championship in 1936. A concrete swimming pool, built by the enrollees, provided another popular activity at Camp NP-6-VA.<sup>58</sup>

Like many CCC camps, the enrollees prepared camp newspapers. An microfiche copy of several *Potomac Post* issues is available at George Washington Memorial Parkway headquarters. Published by Company No. 2339 at Camp NP-6-VA during March 1936, these issues offer an interesting snapshot of the activities and personnel at the Fort Hunt camp. The Army Commander was Captain K. M. Uglow, assisted by Adjutant Lt. John B. Sponsler, Exchange Officer Lt. Roy E. Rountree, and Camp Surgeon Lt. Wesley Fry. John Watt was the educational advisor, C. S. Watson NPS project superintendent, and Mr. Macy superintendent of the Model Department. The newspapers talks about enrollees visiting Mount Vernon, a recent fifteen-inch snowfall, the upcoming baseball season, flood emergency response, and the demolition of several “Old Fort Hunt” buildings. Improvements to the recreational offerings are discussed, including redoing the floors and building new furniture for the recreational hall, plans for a barbeque, and hosting a dance. A March 1938 inspection report favorably described the recreational options at Fort Hunt:

This camp is exceptionally favored with opportunities for athletic activities and outlets. There is an excellent ball field, fine tennis court, facilities for the playing of badminton, croquet, horseshoes, softball and volleyball. There is also an exceptional swimming pool within the camp grounds. The recreation hall provides pool tables, ping pong, checkers, card tables, reading room.<sup>59</sup>

<sup>57</sup>Photographs showing Camp NP-6-VA structures and camp life are in Boxes 3, 28, 29, and 38, Record Group 35-G, Photographs of CCC Activities, taken by Walter J. Mead, 1937 and 1940-42, and Folder 6, Box 1, Record Group 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37, Still Pictures Branch, NARA.

<sup>58</sup>Photographs showing recreational activities and camp life at Fort Hunt are in Boxes 3 and 28, Record Group 35-G, Photographs of CCC Activities, taken by Walter J. Mead, 1937 and 1940-42, and Folder 6, Box 1, Record Group 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37, Still Pictures Branch, NARA.

<sup>59</sup>Patrick J. King, Special Investigator, Supplementary Report - Company 2387, Camp NP-6, Fort Hunt, Virginia, (9 March 1938), Box 222, RG35, NARA.

Also, a diverse list of classes were offered to the enrollees, such as American history, arithmetic, auto repairing, biology, dancing, drawing, first aid, house wiring, journalism, literacy, group singing, tree surgery, orchestra, radio, typewriting, and political science.

The Fort Hunt CCC companies completed a variety of work projects between 1933 and 1941. Fort Hunt was both the location of the CCC camp and the site of its most extensive project. The Camp NP-6-VA enrollees began the process of redeveloping the former military installation into a roadside recreation area. As planned, the project included six picnic areas, complete with rustic tables and fireplaces, comfort stations, parking areas, hiking paths, and a constructed lake (lake plans dated January 1936). The site plan for the Fort Hunt Picnic Area was developed by landscape architects with the NPS Eastern Branch of Plans and Design in May 1935 (Figure 6). In the plans, Picnic Areas 1-3 were clustered at the center of the site and interspersed among a series of looping trails with log foot bridges. Each picnic area had a parking area with twenty spaces along the edge of the access road. Two comfort stations were planned for this area. Work was begun, but later abandoned, to create a constructed lake between picnic areas 1, 2, and 3.<sup>60</sup> A meadow area separated these wooded picnic groves from similarly wooded sites for picnic areas 4 and 5. One comfort station was to be located at the edge of the meadow between area 4 and area 5. Slightly larger parking areas located at the end of two small loop roads indicate that these picnic areas were planned for larger, organized groups while the others were more suitable for families. Picnic Area 6 was smallest, located in a grove of trees adjacent to the gun batteries and featuring a five car lot along the access road.

Photographs of the completed picnic areas show signs pointing the way to “Tables” or “Picnic Area,” constructed of an approximately six-foot section of log lying horizontally on the ground, still covered with bark except for a burnished cut used to create a surface for the white letters (Figure 7). Rustic log rails lined the parking areas. Cooking fireplaces in the picnic area were constructed of rough-hewn stone lined with fire brick and supporting a metal grate (Figure 8). These fireplaces were partially recessed into the ground and built according to plans later published in the booklet “Camp Stove Details” (Figure 9).<sup>61</sup>

In addition to the work at Fort Hunt itself, Camp NP-6-VA enrollees did a variety of projects in locations along the George Washington Parkway between Fort Hunt and Arlington. During the second CCC enrollment period from November 14, 1933 until March 31, 1934,

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<sup>60</sup>Photographs in Folder 6, RG 79-CCC, Still Pictures Branch, NARA show the site of the lake and excavation in progress with steam shovel and by hand. A plan of “Lagoon in Picnic Area, Fort Hunt, VA” (January 9, 1936), is located in the Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service. This plan also was prepared by the Eastern Division, Branch of Plans and Designs.

<sup>61</sup>Photographs in Folder 6, Box 1, RG 79-CCC, Still Pictures Branch, NARA show details of the completed Fort Hunt picnic areas. See also *Camp Stove Details*. (Washington, D. C.: National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, 1939), Type 1. RG 4, Civilian Conservation Corps, National Park Service Library, Harpers Ferry.

superintendent R. W. Martin submitted a progress report that provides insight into the execution of projects. A crew of about fifteen boys pruned trees along the “Boulevard” from Mount Vernon to Alexandria, under the supervision of Mr. Ellsworth, a local enrollee who was considered “very efficient and capable on tree work.” Another crew supervised by “Cultural Foremen” James Sparks and Palmer Kidwell cleared shrubs and debris along the same area. The resulting 100 loads of firewood were donated to the Welfare Society in Alexandria. When the roadside clean-up project was complete, they began supervising work on demolishing the Norton Plant, a reinforced concrete factory building along the waterfront. Material from the demolition was reused as erosion control in gullies along the “Boulevard” and waterfront. A detail of enrollees working 3,059 “man days” built an eight-foot-wide bridle path from Memorial Avenue Bridge (originally called Boundary Channel Bridge) parallel with the parkway for six miles towards Alexandria. This project included construction of a retaining wall four feet high and 150 feet long, and two ten-foot span bridges. Irvin Ady and Paul Day worked as landscape foremen supervising this project. Another project was remodeling existing buildings at Fort Hunt to be used as a National Park Service office and a shop. James Branegan, another L.E.M. who previously was employed as a caretaker at Fort Hunt, supervised clean up and maintenance around the post. Erosion control of the riverfront included operation of a quarry by Roy Herring and a local enrollee to supply for stone for rip rap work along the waterfront and for the retaining wall along the bridle path. Another erosion control crew hauled top soil and planted seed along the riverfront and was supervised by Gerald O’Brien and Harry Poss, L.E.M.s working as a “miscellaneous construction foreman” and a “clean-up foreman.” A landscaping detail worked on cultivating shrubs and small trees near the Columbia Island (now Lady Bird Johnson Park) end of the parkway. In addition, 1,725 “man days” and 171 “team days” (mule teams) were spent clearing and plowing 100 acres of Columbia Island. Planting was planned for the next enrollment period. This mix of ephemeral projects, such as tree pruning and brush clearing, with those having more lasting, tangible results, such as the bridle path, seems to be typical of National Capital Parks CCC crews. The final breakdown reported that 14,423 man days had been spent on “actual conservation work” compared to 2,555 man days for “camp housekeeping.”<sup>62</sup>

Superintendent Martin’s report also mentioned a work category unique to his camp, a model-making shop. In this first period, a Mr. Macey supervised six enrollees. From November 1933 to November 1938, six to eight museum technicians and twenty enrollees constructed relief models, museum exhibits and dioramas for various eastern parks. A similar workshop at a CCC camp in Berkeley, California did work for the western parks.<sup>63</sup> The model shop at Fort Hunt was

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<sup>62</sup>General Report of ECW Work for Second Enrollment Period, R.W. Martin, Camp Superintendent, Fort Hunt NP-6-VA, to Director, National Park Service, (9 April 1934), Box 12, Entry 42- Narrative Reports Concerning ECW (CCC) Projects in National Park Service Areas, 1933-35 , RG 79, NARA. This reports includes a number of snapshots of the enrollees at work. A blueprint map annotated with the location of Fort Hunt work projects in August 1935 is located in Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>63</sup>Unrau and Williss, Ch 3, Section A, 6.

housed in a one-and-a-half story frame building of more substantial construction than the CCC barracks. It stood on brick piers, and featured a brick chimney, double hung windows, and painted clapboards. The original section of this building was probably a renovated Army structure. In spring of 1935, the CCC boys constructed an annex and enlarged the capacity of the model shop.<sup>64</sup> The superintendent's report described the project as "lengthening of present model shop to connect with old guard house at Fort Hunt, to accommodate extension of model-making projects."<sup>65</sup> Also in April 1935, Superintendent Watson reported that "an average of ten men was assigned to educational work, such as Model Shop, Auto Mechanics, Photo Laboratory work in National Park, and clerical work on ECW in National Park offices." An elevation plan and photographs of the interior of the model shop were included with the October 1, 1935 report.<sup>66</sup> Two photographs show model makers working on a geological relief models and operating power tools (Figures 10 & 11).

While the work remained similar to its initial enrollment period, Camp NP-6-VA gradually moved on to new projects at Fort Hunt and along the parkway. By mid-1935, completed projects included work around the Roaches Run Bird Sanctuary, such as a constructing a concrete parking area with concrete curbing and a log guard rail, a bridle path, feed storage building, a chain link fence, and removing nuisance water plants (caltrop). A head gate was constructed at the culvert leading to the lake at Roaches Run, in order to control the height of the water. The camp spent 1,584 man days planting 500 trees around Roaches Run, including *Larix occidentalis* (western larch), *Betula nigra* (river birch), and several species of white ash, willow, dogwood, juniper, and pine. No longer extant, the feed storage building was a one-story wood frame structure with an asymmetrical gable roof. CCC enrollees also assisted carpenters from the regular National Capital Parks shops in the construction of a frame cabin for the game warden at the bird sanctuary. This CCC camp also worked on the ruins of Abingdon, the Nellie Custis house located in the median of the parkway near Gravelly Point, site of Washington National Airport. They landscaped the grounds and built a twenty-car parking lot and a new twenty-foot-long cinder access road with concrete gutters from the parkway to the site of the ruins. The CCC also built a reproduction well cover "as close as possible to the design of the well house which was in use when Nellie Custis lived there."<sup>67</sup>

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<sup>64</sup>Folder 6, Box 1, Record Group 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37, Still Pictures Branch, NARA.

<sup>65</sup>Narrative Report for October 1, 1934 to March 31, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 April 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>66</sup>Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 October 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>67</sup>See Narrative Report for April 1, to June 30, 1934, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (5 July 1934), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA; Narrative Report for October 1, to December 31, 1934, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 January 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA; Narrative Report for October 1, 1934 to March 31, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 April 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Work also continued with planting and landscaping Columbia Island during 1935 and shifted to focus more on the picnic grounds redevelopment of Fort Hunt. Superintendent Watson's report for April 1 through September 30, 1935 described the work done during 1,946 man days on Columbia Island and other river bank protection:

Approximately 800 tons of rip rap wall was placed along Columbia Island and 600 tons along the banks at River View. I consider this the most useful and essential work done from this camp as the soil erosion caused by the tides in the Potomac have been doing extensive damage for years tearing down the banks and destroying trees. Hundreds of loads of broken concrete and brick bats were hauled from Washington by contractors and dumped behind our walls along Columbia Island making this a perfect barrier against future erosion.<sup>68</sup>

Watson's account provides an illustration of the emphasis on soil erosion projects by many CCC camps. Photographs included with the report show enrollees moving wheelbarrows full of rocks (Figure 12). During this same period, Fort Hunt enrollees built a wood bridge for the bridle path along the parkway (Figure 13). Work proceeded on clearing paths and creating roads for the Fort Hunt Picnic areas, utilizing 1,858 man days. The report also mentions employing a carpenter to construct an oil house, blacksmith shop, and paint storage house at Fort Hunt, using materials from old buildings on the site.<sup>69</sup>

A letter from Daniel Cox Fahey, Jr., a landscape architect with National Capital Parks, illustrates the role of that profession in coordinating the work of the NPS-based CCC camps. In February 1936, Fahey provided a list of proposed projects for the upcoming 7<sup>th</sup> enrollment period:

Projects 6-1 through and including 6-9 and 6-11-12-13 are for the completion of the picnic area at Fort Hunt. The necessary plans for this work have been cleared through the respective Branches and it is anticipated that the best part of this work will be completed by the end of the 7th period. Project 6-10 calls for continuation of the work in the Model Shop. Project 6-14 calls for maintenance of the nursery at the old Norton Plant. Projects 6-15 and 6-16 are set up for the maintenance of trees, shrubs and turf along the Mount Vernon Boulevard. Project 6-17 for tree surgery is set up to take care of the removal of dead wood and treatment of trees which have been damaged by wind storms, etc. No cavity work is planned. Project 6-18 for the planting of trees and shrubs is requested as a replacement project of those plants which have died. Projects 6-19-20-21 are for shore

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<sup>68</sup>Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 October 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>69</sup>Plans for the Oil Storage House at Fort Hunt (dated 6 March 1937) are located in the TIC collection at Denver Service Center.

protection work at points where the bank is being undermined by tide action. Project 6-22 is for two comfort stations to serve picnic area at Fort Hunt. Plans are in progress for these comfort stations and will be cleared later through the interested Branches, including the Public Health Service.<sup>70</sup>

As various work details completed projects, additional work would be planned or new projects added. More substantial construction such as the Fort Hunt picnic groves and comfort stations required design input and other expertise from government officials, while simpler projects, such as tree surgery and erosion control, continued with less official scrutiny.

The proximity of Camp NP-6-VA to the nation's capital also brought unusual duties and experiences. Fort Hunt boys helped create a sandbag dyke to protect the Lincoln Memorial and other government buildings during the St. Patrick's Day flood of 1936. In 1937, the CCC boys were tasked with preparing the site of the old Norton plant, near the present day location of the Pentagon, for a major Boy Scout Jamboree gathering. They removed debris and laid drainage pipes to improve sanitary conditions for the Boy Scouts camping in the field. When this event was complete, the site was converted into a nursery to provide plant material for NPS sites and CCC projects. Between July 1, 1937 and March 9, 1938, Camp NP-6-VA boys also completed soil preparation and seeding for approximately 100 acres "in and near Washington, covering damage done by the Boy Scout Jamboree."<sup>71</sup>

The camp location and good reputation also attracted visits from foreign dignitaries and officials curious to see a "typical" CCC camp. One December 13, 1938, former British foreign secretary and future Prime Minister, the Right Honorable Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P. briefly toured Fort Hunt while on an unofficial goodwill visit to the United States. On June 6, 1939, the Fort Hunt enrollees were visited by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth of England, who inspected the CCC camp and examined a photo display depicting its activities en route back to Washington from a visit to Mount Vernon. They were accompanied by Eleanor Roosevelt, Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King, CCC Director Robert Fechner, and NPS Director A. E. Demaray. To commemorate the royal visit, a pair of pin oaks were planted at Fort Hunt; one of these trees still survives today. The Fort Hunt camp was also visited by the Swedish Minister of Commerce, Gustave Möller, on June 29, 1939.<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>70</sup>Daniel Cox Fahey Jr., "Justification for 7th Period Projects - Camp NP-6," (25 February 1936), Box 12, Entry 42: Narrative Reports Concerning ECW (CCC) Projects in National Park Service Areas, 1933-35, RG79, NARA.

<sup>71</sup>C.S. Watson, Project Superintendent, Survey of Work Accomplished - Camp NP-6-VA, (9 March 1938), Box 222, RG 35 - Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Archives II.

<sup>72</sup>On the visiting dignitaries, see Laird, 82-86; Photographs of the royal and Swedish visits are located in Box 3, RG35-GE - Photographs of CCC Activities, 1933-40, Still Picture Branch, NARA. Additional photographs of the royal visit are in the NPS Historic Photo Collection, Harpers Ferry Center. The oaks were planted by Dr. Richard St. Barbe Baker, a forester who helped inspire FDR to create the CCC. Immediately following each stop on the royal visit, he planted a commemorative tree. One of two oaks planted at Fort Hunt still stands by the loop road in Area B. See Fanning report, Part 2b, page 4 of 16.

As the country moved toward entry into World War II, the Fort Hunt camp was redesignated a defense camp by the War Department and renamed NP (D)-6-VA. During the summer of 1941, part of Company No. 2387 worked as a temporary “side” camp completed base improvement projects at Fort Belvoir. Other enrollees worked to build recreational facilities for servicemen on leave, including a weekend camp for soldiers visiting Washington at the former location of Camp NP-8-VA in Arlington. The work included clearing the site of brush and debris, installing water lines, sewer lines, and septic tanks, and grading for tent sites, officers’ quarters, and concession buildings. The Fort Hunt CCC camp was discontinued in March 1942. During the war, the Army used the CCC facilities and constructed new infrastructure at Fort Hunt to house a military base. One of the functions of the fort was to run top secret operations including MIS-X, a program providing escape aid to American POWs held overseas via coded correspondence and escape kits disguised as humanitarian aid, and MIS-Y, a Joint Interrogation Center to obtain intelligence from captured German POWs. These classified activities precluded the public recreational use of the Fort Hunt picnic grounds, but this idea was revived by the National Park Service after it regained control of the site in 1948.<sup>73</sup>

*Camp NP-7-DC - Benning/Fort Dupont, Washington, DC*

The second CCC camp in the Washington area and the first in the city officially opened on October 23, 1933, also during the second enrollment period. It was located in Fort Dupont Park in the southeast quadrant of the city, east of the Anacostia River. Camp NP-7-DC was alternately referred to as Benning, after the neighborhood, or Fort Dupont after the nearby Civil War-era fortification. Entrances to the park were located on Pennsylvania Avenue, SE and Minnesota Avenue, SE. The CCC camp was in the northwest corner of the park near the intersection of Minnesota Avenue and E Street, SE. The camp was also one of the longest occupied in the DC area, continuing through the 18<sup>th</sup> enrollment period until March 16, 1942. This camp was redesignated as defense camp NP (D)-2 Fort Dupont from May 25, 1942 until July 26, 1942 (19<sup>th</sup> enrollment period).

Fort Dupont was part of a system of sixty-eight forts encircling and protecting the Union capital during the Civil War. Although it did not see any action, the fort was intended to protect the Washington Navy Yard on the opposite side of the river and the eastern approaches to the city. The fort is located on a ridge between the Anacostia River and Oxon Run. The historic fort occupies only a small portion of Fort Dupont Park, which was intended to be a large urban park similar to Rock Creek Park in Northwest and serving the growing neighborhoods east of the Anacostia River. An Act of Congress created the park in 1912; it was administered by the Chief of Engineers of the Army Corps of Engineers. During the early twentieth century, the Senate Park Commission Plan of 1901-02 envisioned preservation of the forts as parks and a Fort Drive parkway linking the sites. The National Capital Park Commission spent decades acquiring

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<sup>73</sup>Laird, 87, 91; Memorandum, (June 1941), Box 222, RG35, NARA; Laird, 113, 118.

property, but only small sections of the proposed ring road were ever completed. Many of these parcels remain as green space and are divided among three units of the National Park Service - Rock Creek Park, National Capital Parks - East, and the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Fort Davis Drive is one completed portion of the Fort Drive system that lies within the boundaries of Fort Dupont Park and was graded by the Camp NP-7-DC enrollees.<sup>74</sup>

For over twenty years, Fort Dupont Park had few amenities, was in a sparsely populated area of the city, and was accessible mainly by private automobile. From 1918 through the 1920s, the D.C. Street Trees and Parking Department was permitted by federal agencies to use the property for a tree nursery. Additional land was added to the park from 1926-28, although public use was still quite limited. In 1929, a comprehensive redesign of the park described the need to remove dead trees and underbrush, the scenic qualities of the stream valley, and proposed construction of two park drives, a golf course, picnic areas, playgrounds, and bridle paths. The overall conception was to reshape the heavily forested site into a naturalistic urban park. It also called for preservation of Fort Dupont. This plan by National Capital Park and Planning Commission landscape architect (and later National Park Service director) Conrad L. Wirth was the basis for the redevelopment plan approved on September 27, 1934.<sup>75</sup>

This plan was available to guide the work of Camp NP-7-DC. The availability of emergency relief funds and labor enabled the execution of park and recreation projects in the Washington area that had been planned but not yet funded. Fort Dupont Park was one of the sites transferred to the National Park Service in June 1933, as part of Executive Order 6166 reorganizing administration of federal properties under the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds. With the help of Camp NP-7-DC, the National Park Service continued to develop the naturalistic landscape features and recreational facilities planned for Fort Dupont Park. The park, although previously used informally, officially opened for public use in the spring of 1937. At this time, three-quarters of the city east of the river was undeveloped and it was "expected that the opening of a large park would hasten the lapsed development of the whole of East Washington just as Rock Creek Park had been a catalyst for development in Northwest Washington."<sup>76</sup> When establishing the first two Washington-area camps at Fort Hunt and Fort Dupont, NPS Director Arno B. Cammerer remarked that the enrollees could help reclaim undeveloped park land for recreation, for at sites such as Fort Dupont Park, Rock Creek Park, and the George Washington Memorial Parkway "there exists a fine chance for the young woodsmen to open up this picturesque territory for the enjoyment of the public."<sup>77</sup>

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<sup>74</sup>Robinson and Associates, Inc. *Fort Dupont Park Historic Resources Study* (100% Draft Submittal), Prepared for National Park Service - National Capital Region, (10 March 2004), 7, 59, 8.

<sup>75</sup>*Fort Dupont Park Historic Resources Study*, 105-118.

<sup>76</sup>*Fort Dupont Park Historic Resources Study*, 126.

<sup>77</sup>"Plans Indicate D.C. Will Harbor Forestry Camps," *Evening Star* (12 September 1933): n.p., quoted in *Fort Dupont Park Historic Resources Study*, 146.

Initially a small group of twenty-two men from Company No. 288 were transferred from Idaho to live in canvas tents and begin preparing the site for construction of Camp NP-7-DC. Under the leadership of Capt. Gregory Lavin, these enrollees arrived on October 19, 1933 to work with the National Park Service personnel assigned to the camp. They were joined on November 14, 1933 by 168 enrollees from Camp Dix, New Jersey, led by Capt. Harry Myers. The Fort Dupont Park CCC camp included utilitarian wood frame structures for 200 enrollees built according to Army specifications. Corps of Engineers records indicate that the Camp NP-7-DC buildings were completed on February 26, 1934. The buildings included a 120 x 20 foot mess hall with 20 x 42 foot kitchen ell, a 50 x 20 foot bathhouse, a 30 x 20 foot headquarters building, a 100 x 20 foot recreation hall (divided into five rooms), a 6 x 8 foot oil house (later enlarged to 18 x 6 feet), and six 110 x 20 foot barracks, five of which housed forty enrollees in one large room. The sixth barrack, presumably intended for supervisors, was divided into fourteen rooms, including a bathroom, and was planned to house eleven men. The Park Service built a number of buildings as well, including an office, two garages, a blacksmith shop, and "technical service quarters." All the buildings were frame structures of rigid construction and heated with coal stoves. The predominance of rigid, rather than lighter portable construction at this camp was consistent with facilities of earlier camps. Later a portable 20 x 130 foot educational building was added to the camp for a cost of \$1547.00. The camp was connected to the city water, sewer, and electrical systems. The camp included three officers, ten foresters, and approximately 200 enrollees.<sup>78</sup>

During the spring of 1934, the Fort Dupont enrollees continued to improve the camp. As reported by NPS superintendent J. H. Peterson, "considerable attention has been given to dressing up the camp proper, around National Park Service buildings, Recreation Building, Administration Building, etc., through landscaping, planting, and seeding of lawn areas. Use was made in the planting of local material such as Mountain Laurel, Virginia Pines, Dogwood, Sumac, etc [sic]."<sup>79</sup> Photographs included in his progress report show the enrollees landscaping around the camp buildings (Figure 14). Another later photograph of the camp shows a building, probably a barrack, with a tar-paper-covered gable roof and tar paper and wood batten sheathing (Figure 15).<sup>80</sup> Although similar to Fort Hunt, here the entrance is in the middle of the long side of the structure and sheltered by a small shed roof. This photograph also shows brick paths and gutters and carefully-tended hedgerows.

The Fort Dupont enrollees were provided with a mix of recreational activities similar to other area CCC camps, including sports, field trips, and games. They built themselves a baseball

<sup>78</sup>"General Report on Work for Second Enrollment Period - N.P. Camp #7, Benning, DC," (11 April 1934), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA; Camp NP-7-DC, Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings, Box 1, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA.

<sup>79</sup>"General Report on Work for Second Enrollment Period - N.P. Camp #7, Benning, DC," (11 April 1934), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>80</sup>Folder - "Retreat," Box 3, RG 35-GE Records of Civilian Conservation Corps Activities, 1933-40.

field that was complete in April 1934. The enrollees also constructed a 75x30 foot swimming pool with a ten-foot diving board. The pool was used as a handball court during the winter.<sup>81</sup> The camp had an outdoor beer garden and a well-stocked canteen with a drug-store type lunch counter.<sup>82</sup> The city's public library also set up a 300-book circulating library for the camp. Under the direction of educational advisor Albert S. Youngman, the members of Company No. 288 could take advantage of the educational opportunities in the Washington area, attending vocational and night school classes with District of Columbia schools or receiving scholarships for local business, art and civil service schools. Youngman also arranged for a series of vocational guidance lectures.<sup>83</sup>

In 1938 recreational activities included swimming, baseball, soccer, boxing, volleyball, basketball, tennis, pool, ping pong, horseshoes, camp dances, and "liberty parties" under escort. Religious services were offered every Sunday morning. Proximity to the city meant that movies and other recreation were only a short walk away. A 1940 report on the educational program at Camp NP-7 further explained its operation. Based on the needs, interests, and abilities of the enrollees, a program of classes was created with a minimum enrollment of five. At the time of the report, nearly sixty-nine percent of the 183 enrollee company was participating in voluntary class room work. The class schedule indicated that three classes, each one hour in duration, were offered from 5:30 to 8:30pm Monday through Thursday. Often the classes utilized the expertise of camp residents, with the camp doctor teaching first aid and individual enrollees teaching a number of the trade classes including woodworking, typewriting, and house painting. Outside instructors taught other subjects, such as Miss Crabtree's sculpting class and Miss Crique's "art painting" class. In addition to classes available at the camp, enrollees were taking sheet metal work, electric welding, typewriting, transcription, shorthand, art, music, and sculpture at evening schools easily accessible throughout the city.<sup>84</sup>

A camp inspection report from December 20, 1935 provides a concise overview of the personnel and activities at Camp NP-7-DC. Company No. 2351 had occupied the camp on July 26, 1935, having previously been located at Camp S-111 in Blaine, Pennsylvania. Company No. 288 was transferred to Fort Hancock, New Jersey as part of a regulation requiring all companies to stay in their respective Army Corps areas.<sup>85</sup> The company commander was Captain E. C. Dye of the Army Reserve; he was assisted by two additional Army Reserve officers. The NPS project

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<sup>81</sup>"'Home Made' Swimming Pool Pride of Company," (17 November 1934), n.p., clipping in Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA. The *Fort Dupont Park Historic Resources Study* indicates that the pool was located near the south edge of the camp.

<sup>82</sup>"More Like Paris Café Than Camp," (17 November 1934), n.p., clipping in Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>83</sup>"Scholarships Provided Men in D.C. Camp," (24 March 1934), n.p., clipping in Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>84</sup>CCC Camp Inspection Report, (12 October 1938), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA; Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, cite other 1941 education report and mention National Defense Classes.

<sup>85</sup>"N.P. Camp #7, Benning, DC, Narrative Report," (1 April 1935 - 30 September 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

supervisor was P. S. Jack, assisted by twelve NPS employees and sixteen local enrolled men. The camp housed 177 enrollees, with 143 of them assigned to work projects and twenty-six detailed to camp work. The all-white group of enrollees came from Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the District of Columbia, all part of the Army Third Corps area. The report described the camp's work project as "387 acres, DuPont National Park. Constructing Park drive, picnic grounds and recreational development, forest improvement and landscaping."<sup>86</sup>

General remarks in the report indicated "company operating under favorable conditions although some fault has been evident with the preparation of mess. Same has been under investigation by the army and is receiving proper attention." Apparently the members of Company No. 2351 had staged several food strikes to protest the quality of the mess. The investigation confirmed that the food preparation was unsatisfactory, due to an inexperienced Company Commander, Mess Officer, and cooks.<sup>87</sup> New cooks were to be provided as quickly as possible. While the special investigator's report found "no fault with the quality or quantity of food," a letter from one enrollee claims otherwise. On January 12, 1936, Nick Holowatch wrote to his mother in Simpson, Pennsylvania:

I think I am going to loose [sic.] more weight. For the last two days they kept me on a bread and butter diet and on supper the next day that I come in, I had to get up from the table and see the Captain to get something to eat. Don't be surprised if I drop in on you one day. You know I can take it but not when they starve me out, for them six days that I was home there were about fifteen fellows [that] left, about three and four each day. Our barrack is almost empty and just think they are putting more discipline on us.<sup>88</sup>

Mrs. Holowatch promptly forwarded her son's letter to CCC Director Robert Fechner, with her own concerns:

Here I am a mother of six children husband on relief most of the time. Children big enough to work went through high school. Can't get no work, nor can't stay in the camps because not enough to eat. What are we going to do? My boys are good so far, but if they will be out of work and will have to go traveling what will become of them then?

Signing herself "a worried mother," Mrs. Holowatch urged Fechner to investigate.

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<sup>86</sup>Camp Report, NP-7, (20 December 1935), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>87</sup>Letter Charles H. Kenlan, Special Investigator to J. J. McEntee, Assistant Director, Emergency Conservation Work, (20 December 1935), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>88</sup>Letter, Nick to Mother, (12 January 1936), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35)

Assistant Director McEntee's response assured Mrs. Holowatch that an investigation found all conditions at Camp NP-7 to be satisfactory. He wrote "I appreciate your letter and realize you are interested in the conditions under which your son is living in the camp, and we share with you a sincere desire that these conditions be of the best and that the boys in the camps benefit by the time spent there." However, the problem seems to have persisted, as indicated by a July 1936 letter to Fechner signed "A Veteran Enrollee":

I am not an agitator and yet I can't help but inform you that this Company is being managed tyrannically. The food for the past two months has been disgraceful. The quality poor and the quantity the smallest. Because of this the members of the Company are at the present time high strung and generally hungry. . . I have been in various Camps and I have seen a satisfactory amount and distribution of food. Some of these Camps were isolated. One would think that in the Nation's Capitol [sic.] and with a city at hand food of regulation quality would be in abundance.<sup>89</sup>

Certainly this glimpse of conflict at Camp NP-7-DC and the perceptions of enrollees and their families were not unique among CCC camps. While the positive image of the program was promoted and guarded very carefully by Roosevelt Administration officials, the reality of managing a complex bureaucracy that required unacquainted boys to live and work harmoniously would result in many examples of enrollee dissatisfaction or management problems at CCC camps. Another inspection report dated January 26, 1937 indicates that Camp NP-7-DC had a new company commander, Capt. J. L. DeWitt, Jr. of the Army Reserve. The new NPS Project supervisor was E. F. Joyce. All aspects of the camp were rated excellent, including the mess, and the remarks noted "morale of company good, camp shows continuous improvement and development," perhaps due to the change in leadership.<sup>90</sup>

Like the Fort Hunt camp, Fort Dupont enrollees both worked on projects in the area housing their camp and traveled short distances to other projects in the vicinity. During the second and third enrollment periods (October 1, 1933 through October 1, 1934), the work projects for Camp NP-7-DC were divided mainly between NPS tasks at Fort Dupont Park and work at the National Arboretum for the Department of Agriculture. Superintendent Peterson pointed out that approximately the same number of enrollees were assigned to each area, a split arrangement somewhat different from the usual NPS camp that necessitated additional supervisory personnel. At the National Arboretum, the Fort Dupont enrollees completed general clean-up, cut and stacked cord wood, and constructed a 1.5 mile cinder road on the property (Figure 16). They also built an office and tool house for the Arboretum by assembling the

<sup>89</sup>Letter, (28 July 1936), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA. note mentioning other inspection reports, if don't use in text

<sup>90</sup>Emergency Conservation Work Camp Report, (26 January 1937), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35; The company only had 152 enrollees at this inspection.

“sections at the Garage in Camp and haul[ing] to the Arboretum, a distance of five miles, the sections being bolted in place at the Arboretum. Makes quite a good looking and very necessary building for future work.”<sup>91</sup> During the third enrollment period, Camp NP-7-DC enrollees prepared the site and laid water and sewer lines for construction of Camp NA-1-DC/NP-11-DC, established at the Arboretum in October 1934. This project also gave some enrollees surveying experience.<sup>92</sup>

Between 1933 and 1937, Camp NP-7-DC’s enrollees worked on development of Fort Dupont Park’s recreational amenities, including picnic areas, comfort stations, park roads, bridle paths, a council ring, and play area. Plans for the work to be done in Fort Dupont Park were prepared by the National Park Service Eastern Division of Plans and Design.<sup>93</sup> In late 1934, Associate Director A. E. Demaray informed Fechner that general clean-up and some landscaping was completed during the first two enrollment periods and the enrollees were ready to “begin construction of certain physical improvements that will make the park accessible to the public.” He went on to elaborate:

We should like to point out that the ultimate development of Fort Dupont will be somewhat similar to Rock Creek Park, and the area will serve the large population of Northeast and Southeast Washington. At present we contemplate developing roads and picnic areas with Civilian Conservation Corps labor. The picnic areas present no problem, and will make an ideal type of project for the Conservation Corps.<sup>94</sup>

Photographs of the landscape work show before and after images of the proposed location of Fort Drive after brush clearing and removing useful shrubs for later replanting (Figures 17 & 18). A steam shovel was brought in for some of the heavier road grading work, providing another photo opportunity for some enrollees (Figure 19). L.E.M.s hired to assist with this work included power shovel operator James E. Bennett and stone-mason Donald Henderson, both union members. The mason supervised construction of stone headwalls at culverts along Fort Drive.<sup>95</sup>

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<sup>91</sup>“General Report on Work for Second Enrollment Period - N.P. Camp #7, Benning, DC,” (11 April 1934), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>92</sup>“Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC,” (1 July 1934 - 1 October 1934), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>93</sup>See C. Marshall Finnan, Superintendent, National Capital Parks to Arno B. Cammerer, Director, NPS (25 June 1934), RG79, NARA.

<sup>94</sup>Letter, Associate Director A. E. Demaray to Fechner, (8 December 1934), 79-66A-1097, Folder 5, Box 20, Federal Records Center, Suitland, MD.

<sup>95</sup>“Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC,” (1 October 1934 - 1 April 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA; “Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC,” (1 April 1935 - 30 September 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

A c. 1937 map of Fort Dupont Park shows the two gently curving park roads (Fort Davis Dr. and Fort Dupont Dr.) meeting at a Y intersection just south of the center of the park (Figure 20). The Pine Woods Picnic Area was located to the east of intersection, while the Ridge Picnic area was arrayed along the area to the southwest. The play field and council ring were located at the intersection. Bridle trails wound through both picnic areas and toward the historic fort at the southeast. All of these recreational areas were separate from the CCC camp at the northwest corner of the park.

The two Fort Dupont picnic areas included forty “table units,” each with between one and four tables. Two table units adjacent to the council ring and comfort station each had six tables and were intended for groups. The picnic area tables and camp stoves indicate the rustic aesthetic commonly associated with the Civilian Conservation Corps and National Park Service construction of the 1930s. Most of this construction was done during 1935 in the fifth enrollment period. The tables and benches constructed from rough-hewn boards and half logs were of the same type as those constructed for Fort Hunt (Figure 21). There appears to have been two types of rustic stone camp stoves at Fort Dupont Park. HABS fieldwork identified existing examples and ruins of low cut stone and firebrick stoves in the former Ridge Picnic Area. These stoves follow the plan for Type 6 published in the 1939 booklet “Camp Stove Details.” Period photographs indicate additional camp stoves of the more rough-hewn design used at Fort Hunt and labeled Type 1 in “Camp Stove Details” (Figure 22), perhaps in the Pinewoods Picnic area. Fort Dupont Park also had drinking fountains with pipes inside hollowed logs and log parking lot curbs and signs like those at Fort Hunt (Figure 23). The narrative report for the fifth enrollment period offered this description of the rustic appointments for the picnic areas:

The five drinking fountains erected in the picnic area, are very rustic in appearance and blend with the table and bench combinations much better than the usual stone variety. The pipes and bubblers are incased [sic.] in a hollowed log. . . . The table and bench combinations, are rustic in appearance and of very sturdy construction. Twenty-nine combinations have been completed and placed in the picnic area. Twenty-five for adults, and four, of two-third proportions, for small children. We feel that these as well as the drinking fountains offer something new in this type of equipment.<sup>96</sup>

Camp NP-7-DC continued to work on developing the Fort Dupont Park recreational amenities throughout 1936. Progress on the Fort Drive project was described by NPS landscape architect Daniel Cox Fahey, Jr.:

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<sup>96</sup>“Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC,” (1 April 1935 - 30 September 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA. *Camp Stove Details*. (Washington, D. C.: National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, 1939), Type 1. RG 4, Civilian Conservation Corps, National Park Service Library, Harpers Ferry.

Projects 7-10 through and including 7-22 are for new work on Fort Drive extending south from Fort Dupont Park towards Good Hope Road, a distance of one and one-half miles. Work on Fort Drive on E.C.W. program is being done on the basis that the actual paving will be done under contract at some future date, but that the road bed will be subgraded, having all culverts installed, and that the banks will be graded and planted. Thus when the paving does get down the road bed will have settled, and road sides will not present a raw unfinished appearance, which seems to be accepted as a matter of course with any new road. Very careful supervision has been given this road work, and it has been possible to gently blend these side slopes into the existing terrain in such a manner as to make them look as if they really belong there. This type of grading which is worked out on the ground is extremely difficult to secure under contract work, and the use of the C.C.C. has been invaluable in securing the results desired.<sup>97</sup>

The Fort Drive project is a good example of the role of CCC labor within a large project including oversight by NPS designers and the contract work of the construction trades when heavy equipment or expertise was needed.

In January 1937, the Fort Dupont Park enrollees were working on a typical mix of projects such as "landscaping, developing, construction of roads, recreational area, bridle paths, forest improvements, construction of dam."<sup>98</sup> The new picnic areas officially opened to the public in the spring of that year while work projects continued in Fort Dupont Park. By 1940 the camp built a nine-hole golf course in the park, removing trees and brush from 31 acres of fairway. Occasionally Camp NP-7-DC worked on the same projects as other area CCC camps, such as the Roaches Run Bird Sanctuary and Columbia Island along the George Washington Parkway. For example, NP-7-DC enrollees completed the river bank erosion control project at Roaches Run actually assigned to Fort Hunt (Figure 24). Fort Dupont Park enrollees also did clerical work for the Department of the Interior photo laboratory, Division of Engineering, and Bureau of Research, a few receiving full-time employment that enabled them to leave the CCC.<sup>99</sup>

In 1941 Camp NP-7-DC was converted into a defense camp, NP (D)-2. Even before Pearl Harbor, the focus of the CCC was shifting to civil defense and the military and industrial build-up reduced the CCC ranks. The CCC camp was terminated on March 25, 1942. Later that

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<sup>97</sup>Justification for 7<sup>th</sup> Period Projects Camp NP-7, (25 February 1936), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA; See also ECW Supplemental Work Project Progress Report, NP Camp #7," (March 1936), Box 44, RG 79, NARA. mention sources that talk more about comprehensive Fort Drive plans

<sup>98</sup>Emergency Conservation Work Camp Report, (26 January 1937), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA. company only had 152 at this inspection.

<sup>99</sup>"Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 July 1934 - 1 October 1934), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

year, the Fort Dupont area was again deemed critical to the defense of the capital city, although a portion of the CCC camp and the acreage Fort Dupont Park was retained by the National Capital Parks as a maintenance facility. On September 10, 1942, the Antiaircraft Artillery Command of the Military District of Washington occupied a fifty-one acre tract in the park, including the former CCC camp, for installation of an antiaircraft battery. On August 17, 1945 the War Department returned the land at Fort Dupont Park to the Interior Department, after demolition of the Army installation buildings and restoration of the grounds. Earlier that year, nine buildings occupied by a National Capital Parks maintenance crew were officially transferred back to the NPS (storage building, garage, blacksmith shop, two garages, a shop, an oil house, and two barracks). During 1946, temporary housing was constructed for veterans. These structures were demolished during the early 1950s. The nine-hole golf course built in 1938 was closed in 1971. The clubhouse near Ely Place was replaced with a sports complex offering tennis and basketball courts, athletic fields, a softball diamond, and an indoor skating rink. Fort Dupont Park currently is a unit of National Capital Parks-East and offers recreational facilities such as a hiker-biker trail, picnic tables, community gardens, and an amphitheater. Although the features built by the CCC have been replaced, the work of the enrollees still represents the foundation of developing Fort Dupont Park as an urban recreational location.<sup>100</sup>

*Camp NA-1-DC/NP-11-DC – U. S. National Arboretum, Washington, DC*

The U. S. National Arboretum was established by an Act of Congress in 1927. It occupies an approximately 450-acre site in Northeast Washington, DC and is administered by the Agricultural Research Service of the Department of Agriculture (formerly the Bureau of Plant Industry). Prior to establishing a CCC camp on Arboretum property, an allotment of approximately 80 enrollees from Camp NP-7-DC in Fort Dupont Park constructed a service road and bridges and prepared the site for additional work projects. Dr. O. M. Freeman, Associate Director of the National Arboretum, supervised this portion of the work. In this instance the National Park Service and the USDA both functioned as technical agencies for work projects done by the same CCC camp. Freeman then requested that a CCC camp be established at the Arboretum. The camp built at the National Arboretum continued this procedure of working on both USDA and NPS projects. Initially this camp received a Department of Agriculture designation of Camp NA-1-DC, but it also known by the Park Service designation Camp NP-11-DC. This camp was officially established on October 1, 1934 (4<sup>th</sup> enrollment period). While the 1942 inventory of National Capital Parks CCC camps indicates that Camp NA-1-DC/NP-11-DC was discontinued on April 1, 1936 (6<sup>th</sup> enrollment period), surviving documents show that the camp was active until at least August 1941.<sup>101</sup> Another major USDA CCC camp in the Washington area was located at the U.S.

<sup>100</sup>See letters in Folder 90 Structures, Box 20, 79-66A-1097, Federal Records Center for information about Army occupation and transfer back to NPS control. For additional information about later uses and development at Fort Dupont Park see the *Fort Dupont Park Historic Resources Study*.

<sup>101</sup>See "Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings - Camp NA-1-DC," Box 1, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA.

Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, Maryland, but that camp worked exclusively at the USDA site.

Camp NA-1-DC/NP-11-DC is also noteworthy as the first African-American CCC camp in the National Capital Parks area. Company No. 1360 was formerly located in Williamsburg, Virginia and included black enrollees from the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. In the case of racially segregated camps such as this one, white Army officers and technical service personnel supervised the black enrollees. Initially the Army officers were Captain Joseph P. Moore and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Robert C. Groves. These officers and 197 enrollees with Company No. 1360 arrived at the Arboretum camp on November 1, 1934 to find a partially constructed complex with the key buildings ready for occupancy. Camp NP-7-DC enrollees had been working on camp construction for NA-1-DC since August 29, 1934. All camp construction was complete on January 20, 1935. Technical supervisors were foremen Reuben T. Hall, George E. Creed, Rudolph R. Bartel, and Sidney N. Evert, all transferred from Camp NP-7-DC because of previous experience at the Arboretum site. Initially NPS Project Superintendent J. H. Peterson oversaw work by both camps, prompting him to compare the white and black enrollees:

Having charge of two camps - one a white camp, N.P. #7, and this, a colored camp naturally gives me an opportunity to draw a comparison. The colored boys re-act differently than the white boys, probably due to a great extent, because of less education. However, the results obtained in the field are commendable, and I am quite sure that the total accomplishments for the fourth period here will compare favorably with results obtained at my other camp.<sup>102</sup>

Despite his assessment of the black enrollees as less educated, Peterson was willing to give the black enrollees the benefit of the doubt when it came to completing their assigned work projects.

The narrative report submitted by Peterson in January 1935 also provides a concise description of the various agencies participating in construction of this CCC camp:

Plans for camp layout and camp utilities were prepared in the Office of the Project Superintendent [NPS]. Before construction was started these plans were approved by engineers from Army Headquarters, 3<sup>rd</sup> Corps Area, Baltimore, Maryland. Plans for such building as Superintendent's Office,

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<sup>102</sup>J. H. Peterson, "Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - January 1, 1935, N.A. Camp #1," (7 January 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG79, NARA.

Tool Room, Tool Repair Shop, Garage, and Gasoline and Oil House were also drawn up in Project Superintendent's Office, and these buildings constructed prior to arrival of enrollees.<sup>103</sup>

The report includes construction photographs of the camp from September 26, 1934, showing partially complete building frames (Figure 25). The superintendent's office, tool house and associated support buildings were built about 300 feet east of the camp proper (Figure 26). Skilled workmen built the tool repair shop, an eight-car garage, and gasoline/oil house between October 15-31, 1934. Muddy conditions during the camp's first winter necessitated construction of brick walks which the new Project Superintendent Sydney Evert said "added greatly to the appearance of this camp; and with planting of grass, shrubs, etc., this camp should be the prettiest in this vicinity."<sup>104</sup>

The original construction of buildings and utility lines at Camp NA-1-DC required 14,278 hours of labor which cost \$12,970.53 (\$2,931.07 for unskilled and \$10,039.46 for skilled labor).<sup>105</sup> The total cost for the camp including materials was approximately \$23,000.<sup>106</sup> In addition to the technical service buildings, Camp NA-1-DC featured a typical array of CCC buildings for the enrollees and military personnel. The camp had five 20 x 110 foot barracks, each housing 36 enrollees. The camp also had a 20 x 60 foot central bathhouse, a 20 x 152 foot mess hall/kitchen, a 20 x 110 foot educational building, a 20 x 110 foot administration building (housing the headquarters, officers quarters, and hospital), two army garages, a 20 x 100 foot recreation building (housing the camp exchange, senior leader's quarters, and recreational hall), and 20 x 60 foot technical service quarters (divided into five rooms plus bath). Additional sheds and storage buildings were constructed by the NPS and Bureau of Plant Industry (USDA) personnel. All of these building were of "rigid" frame construction, which is consistent with the 1934 construction date of the camp. A sixth barracks of portable construction for 20 occupants was added later. A 20-foot extension was added to the educational building in June 1941. The camp was connected to city water/sewerage, electrical, and trash collection service, while heat was provided by coal stoves.<sup>107</sup>

When Camp NA-1-DC was first established, Albert S. Youngman, the educational advisor for Camp NP-7-DC, was assigned to organize the educational activities. He

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<sup>103</sup>J. H. Peterson, "Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - January 1, 1935, N.A. Camp #1," (7 January 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG79, NARA.

<sup>104</sup>S. N. Evert, "Narrative Report Covering Fourth Enrollment Period - N.A. Camp #1, Washington, D.C.," (3 April 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>105</sup>"C.C.C. Camp NA-1 - Labor Recapitulation," (29 August - 9 November 1934), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA. This report also lists the start date and costs for each construction step of each building (i.e. sills, joists, interior).

<sup>106</sup>"Camp Report - NA-1, Company 1360," (10 November 1934), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>107</sup>See "Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings - Camp NA-1-DC," Box 1, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA.

arranged lectures by the technical foremen on topics such as engineering, surveying, natural resources, and economic problems. Youngman also arranged for the viewing of motion pictures available through the Department of the Interior and performances of professional plays sponsored by ECW. Interested enrollees were given transportation to night classes in Washington schools. By the end of the fourth enrollment period, Youngman was relieved by a "Prof. Edgar Brown, colored," presumably from Howard University, the local historically black institution.<sup>108</sup> During the first winter, sports activities were not available, but during the spring of 1935 plans were made for construction of tennis and handball courts and a baseball diamond.<sup>109</sup> Camp NA-1-DC had a successful basketball team and enrollees could make weekly trips to the YMCA for swimming and boxing (presumably the segregated Twelfth Street YMCA would be the only such facility available to the African American enrollees). The enrollees also enjoyed inter-barrack competition in pool, ping pong, cards, spelling, and quiz programs. Religious services were offered by a volunteer chaplain and other church groups.<sup>110</sup>

Inspection reports also provide insight into camp life and organization later during Company No. 1360's tenure. In February 1941, the company commander was Lieutenant William R. Carter and junior officer was Stanley J. Katinsky. Katinsky had been promoted from enrollee to junior officer in October 1940. Medical services were provided by Martin L. Cannon, a part-time contract surgeon. The project superintendent was Rudolph R. Bartel. The company had 156 enrollees, with four camp leaders, 6 assistant camp leaders, three project leaders, and 9 assistant project leaders, all chosen from among the ranks of the enrollees. The senior camp leader had served in the CCC since 1934 and as senior leader since September 3, 1937. At the time of inspection, two enrollees were AWOL and eight sick. Food supplies were procured from the Army Quartermaster and from local markets. The inspector remarked:

This camp is in generally good condition and is rated by the Army as the best camp in this area. Despite the high desertion rate the Morale seems to be better than at most of the other nearby camps. Despite the fact that some of the meals have been light they are spending all of the ration funds and savings in the mess have not been excessive.<sup>111</sup>

In the previous year, the company had 81 desertions, 33 dishonorable discharges, 46 honorable discharges before end of term, and 80 honorable discharges due to end of

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<sup>108</sup>J. H. Peterson, "Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - January 1, 1935, N.A. Camp #1," (7 January 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG79, NARA.

<sup>109</sup>J. H. Peterson, "Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - January 1, 1935, N.A. Camp #1," (7 January 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG79, NARA.

<sup>110</sup>"Camp Inspection Report, NA-1," (25 February 1941), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>111</sup>"Camp Inspection Report, NA-1," (25 February 1941), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

enrollment terms. The numbers are indicative of the high rate of enrollee turnover found in CCC camps, particularly later in the program with the increase in other job opportunities. In general black enrollees tended to stay in the CCC for longer periods than their white counterparts, probably because they had less opportunity for alternative employment.<sup>112</sup>

Detailed commentary on the condition of the CCC camp was also provided for the February 1941 inspection. The Army inspector praised the mess hall and kitchen at Camp NA-1-DC stating:

Three of the four cooks in this company are graduates of the New Cumberland School for Bakers and Cooks. This company has installed a bake oven and bakes its own pies and pastries. . . . The meal being prepared at the time of the inspection was excellent. . . . The tables in the mess hall were porcelain-topped and properly cleaned. . . . Mess hall windows were clean, walls nicely decorated.<sup>113</sup>

The report also provides some information about the interior appointments of other buildings. The bathhouse fixtures were white porcelain basins, stainless steel urinals, a shower room, and foot baths. The recreational hall was described as "well-painted and nicely decorated," with two pool tables, and small booths and serving tables built into one side. The camp exchange located at one end of this building sold soft drinks, ice cream, cigars, and cigarettes. The educational building included:

a library, with a fair amount of books, a reading room, well furnished, attractive in appearance, built in desk for writing, and a plentiful supply of magazines and reading material. . . . In addition, there were two classrooms with blackboards - roomy and with adequate seating capacity. A well equipped carpenter shop and work room. There are a number of power tools and a sufficient supply of small tools. The small tools are in glass cases, well arranged, and in good shape. The building throughout was very neat and presented a well policed appearance. The educational adviser evidently took great pride in the educational building and the educational program.<sup>114</sup>

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<sup>112</sup>Memorandum - Report of Inspection Camp NA-1-DC, Wm. P. Morse to CCC Officer, Third Corps Area, (27 February 1941), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA; Salmond, 101.

<sup>113</sup>Memorandum - Report of Inspection Camp NA-1-DC, Wm. P. Morse to CCC Officer, Third Corps Area, (27 February 1941), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>114</sup>Memorandum - Report of Inspection Camp NA-1-DC, Wm. P. Morse to CCC Officer, Third Corps Area, (27 February 1941), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

Approximately 60 enrollees were taking classes on auto repairing, paint spraying, cooking, carpentry, radio, electricity, pipe fitting, operation of heavy mechanized equipment, truck driving, acetylene welding, landscaping, care of tools, and defense training instruction. While the inspector's overall assessment of the camp was "superior" he did report a complaint about light bulb theft that he claimed was common among "colored" camps. Clearly no detail of CCC camp life was too small for comment and inspection, a fact vividly illustrated by a follow-up report in March that even mentioned the inspector "personally checked the dress of the enrollees and found that while they were properly covered, some of their underclothing needs to be cleaned."<sup>115</sup>

The records for Camp NA-1-DC also yield information about a few unfortunate incidents involving local CCC enrollees. The local press reported a fight caused by armed intruders at a Camp NA-1-DC dance on November 15, 1940, resulting in the hospitalization of one enrollee. A few days earlier, a Camp NA-1-DC enrollee was killed in a car accident while driven by a white enrollee from Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park) who was in violation of regulations against owning and operating an automobile. On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, an enrollee from an unnamed DC camp was arrested for a series of robberies. In response to these events and an embezzlement scandal at the Camp NP-6-VA, Fort Hunt post exchange, CCC administrators requested tighter discipline from the company commanders. While these kinds of problems were unusual, the challenge of maintaining discipline probably was heightened when camps were located adjacent to developed areas.<sup>116</sup>

Official work projects commenced within a few days of Company No. 1360's arrival on November 4, 1934, due to the advanced progress of the camp construction. During the fourth enrollment period, Camp NA-1-DC enrollees cleared brush and debris from 149 acres of the Arboretum, in the process cutting 400 cords of wood subsequently donated to the city wood yard. Enrollees also continued construction of Hickey Road, the access road begun by Camp NP-7-DC, including two log frame vehicular bridges over Hickey Creek (Figure 27). In total, from November 5, 1934 until April 1, 1935, 12,674 "man-days" were used in "actual conservation work" while 295 days were devoted to camp construction and 2,419 to camp "housekeeping."<sup>117</sup>

By May 1935, the original work schedule for Camp NA-1-DC had changed. The Arboretum officials had planned a major fence and road-building project which did not

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<sup>115</sup>Memorandum - Inspection of Camp NA-1, C. H. Kenlan to the Director, Civilian Conservation Corps, (13 March 1941), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>116</sup>Letter, Charles H. Kenlan, Assistant to the Director, to War Department Representative, CCC (19 November 1940), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>117</sup>S. N. Evert, "Narrative Report Covering Fourth Enrollment Period - N.A. Camp #1, Washington, D.C.," (3 April 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

receive approval. This rejection reduced the need for CCC enrollees at the Arboretum to one small detail of fifteen. With approval from the Department of Agriculture, most of the Camp NA-1-DC enrollees were shifted to work on National Capital Parks projects such as clean-up along the proposed acreage of Fort Drive.<sup>118</sup> By the end of that year, the camp designation had been changed to NP-11-DC, but later shifted back to NA-11-DC. The enrollees were working on minor roads and grading within the Arboretum, as well as working at several urban parks managed by the National Park Service. Projects included constructing the picnic grounds at Fort Mahan (Reservation 475), Brentwood Park (Reservation 495) and planting trees and constructing walks at Fort Bunker Hill (Reservation 443).<sup>119</sup> Camp NA-1-DC enrollees also worked on projects in cooperation with other camps, such as Camps NP-1 and 2-MD at the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Between May 1, 1936 and 1941, much of Company No. 1360's work was centered on landscaping, and road and other infrastructure building projects at the National Arboretum and projects at Rock Creek Park.<sup>120</sup>

*Camp NP-8-VA, Arlington/Rosslyn, Virginia*

In addition to Camp NP-6-VA at Fort Hunt, another CCC camp established along the George Washington Parkway fairly early in the program was Camp NP-8-VA. Camp NP-8-VA was located adjacent to the northwest side of the Memorial Avenue Bridge (originally called Boundary Channel Bridge). This location near the new parkway and Arlington Cemetery was convenient for a variety of work projects. This camp was established on November 14, 1934 and then discontinued on August 30, 1938 (4<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> enrollment period).

Photographs of the Camp NP-8-VA site on May 22, 1934 show an empty field, referred to on site plan drawings as "Arlington Farm."<sup>121</sup> Lieut. Kendall Hatke, previously assigned to camp construction supervision at the National Arboretum, also oversaw the erection of this camp.<sup>122</sup> Camp NP-8-VA was officially complete on January 10, 1935, at a cost of \$25,562.80 for the Army buildings. As an early camp, the buildings were all of "rigid" construction. The structures included four 112 x 21 foot barracks for 40 enrollees each, a fifth barrack divided into three rooms for thirty occupants, a 112 x 21 foot headquarters and infirmary, a 112 x 21 foot recreation hall, a mess hall, a 61 x 21

<sup>118</sup>Memorandum, Daniel Cox Fahey, Jr., Landscape Architect to Director, National Park Service, (10 May 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>119</sup>ECW Supplemental Work Project Progress Report - Camp N.P. #11, National Arboretum, (December 1935), Folder Ft. DuPont, Box 44, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>120</sup>"Work Project Supplement, Camp NA-1," (25 February 1941), and Memorandum - Inspection of Camp NA-1, C. H. Kenlan to the Director, Civilian Conservation Corps, (13 March 1941), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>121</sup>Folder 1, Box 1, RG79-CCC - Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

<sup>122</sup>J. H. Peterson, "Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - January 1, 1935, N.A. Camp #1," (7 January 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG79, NARA.

foot central bathhouse, 62 x 21 foot officers' quarters, and three-car Army garage. This camp, designed for approximately 150 enrollees, instead of 200, and without a complex of technical service garages and offices, was smaller than other area camps. Presumably the extensive National Park Service facilities at Camps NP-6-VA and NP-7-DC provided the technical supervisors and equipment for Camp NP-8-VA as well. Perhaps the recreation building also served as an education building. The buildings had coal stove heat and were connected to the city water and electrical systems. Sewage was collected in septic tanks and trash burned in a nearby incinerator. All of the major buildings were arranged in three straight lines parallel to the shoreline of Boundary Channel (Figure 28).<sup>123</sup>

An important project site near Camp NP-8-VA was Theodore Roosevelt Island. Roosevelt Island is located in the Potomac River near the mouth of Rock Creek and the Georgetown waterfront. In 1931 the Roosevelt Memorial Association purchased the property, then known as Analostan Island, from the Washington Gas Company and turned it over to the federal government in 1932 to be used as a public wilderness preserve. The RMA retained planning authority and hired landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. to prepare plans for reforestation and a designed landscape, including foot and bridle paths, tree plantings, and an overlook at the south end of the island. After approval by the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in May 1934, the National Park Service began working on the island with help from the CCC enrollees of Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt). The Olmsted plans called for reestablishing a native woodland as a memorial to TR's achievements in conservation policy. Olmsted directed the CCC enrollees to remove all fallen deadwood and certain weeds, including blackberry, sumac, Joe Pye weed, poison ivy, and Japanese honeysuckle. The stone ruins of John Mason's c. 1790 house, Analostan, were a point of controversy. While Olmsted's plan called for removal, NPS historians recognized their historic value. In 1936 as a compromise, archaeological excavation was done by CCC enrollees from Camp NP-8-VA and documentation was done by the Historic American Buildings Survey (Figures 29 & 30). Camp NP-8-VA enrollees then removed or buried the remains of Analostan. While work at Theodore Roosevelt Island was interrupted by World War II and the use of the island for O.S.S. and F.B.I. training, the CCC work here again represents the first modern effort toward establishing a recreational use for the site.<sup>124</sup>

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<sup>123</sup>“Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings - Camp NP-8-VA,” Box 2, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA; “General Layout - National Park Service CCC Camp at Arlington Farm,” n.d., Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>124</sup>Nan Netherton, “Delicate Beauty and Burly Majesty: The Story of Theodore Roosevelt Island,” type script, (National Park Service, March 1980), 80-82; Kay Fanning, “Theodore Roosevelt Island,” Washington, D.C. National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 2000. (U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.), Section 7, 4, 10; Section 8, 53. Above ground remains of the house were largely removed and the remaining material buried and incorporated in the landscape.

Other major projects for Camp NP-8-VA included recreational development of two of the remaining Civil War forts in Washington, DC - Fort Bunker Hill and Fort Stevens. The work at Fort Bunker Hill included developing a picnic grounds and assorted recreational features, such as tables and benches, and maintenance of trees and shrubs. In addition to grading, adding pipelines, and building walks and trails at Fort Stevens, the historic fort log structure was recreated in concrete. Each of these parks conserved the historic fort site as urban greenspace and served their respective city neighborhoods. Another project was "emergency dike construction" at West Potomac Park, presumably during the March 1936 flood. Camp NP-8-VA also demolished "old buildings" in Bethesda and a comfort station in Rock Creek Park. In 1936 the enrollees built a new comfort station for the park, which was a 18x26 foot stone addition to the Police Lodge. The Lodge had been built by the WPA in 1935 (Figure 31). They also worked removing debris and obstructions from Rock Creek and building 2.2 miles of horse trails in the park, including .3 miles of log hurdles (Figure 32).<sup>125</sup>

In 1938 Camp NP-8-VA was discontinued and reestablished as Camp NP-14-DC located in Rock Creek Park. By January 30, 1939, the Camp NP-8-VA buildings were listed as abandoned and burglarized; material from the camp buildings was salvaged by the NPS later that year. The site later became a temporary camp for returning servicemen, developed by Camp NP-6-VA enrollees.

*Camp NP-14-DC, Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC*

Camp NP-8-VA was immediately reconstituted as Camp NP-14-DC on August 30, 1938 and relocated to Rock Creek Park. Like its predecessor, Camp NP-14-DC frequently collaborated with other CCC camps on projects. While Rock Creek Park was already a major urban park established in 1890, the CCC played an important role in maintenance and improvement projects. The National Park Service took over management of Rock Creek Park from the Army Corps of Engineers in 1933 as part of Executive Order 6166. In addition to the CCC, other New Deal programs were improving Rock Creek Park, such as the PWA-funded restoration of Pierce Mill and construction of Piney Branch Parkway. Continuing the work started by Camp NP-8-VA, the new camp was located near the center of the park north of Fort DeRussy at the former site of Camp Goodwill (recreational camp relocated to Chopawamsic RDA). Camp NP-14-DC remained active until April 1, 1942 (11<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> enrollment period) and was then converted into defense camp NP (D)-1 until August 11, 1942 (19<sup>th</sup> enrollment period).

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<sup>125</sup> Charles H. Gerner, "Report of Civilian Conservation Corps Operations in the National Capital Parks, October 15, 1933 - June 30, 1942," (Washington, DC: National Park Service, June 1950), 99 [hereafter Gerner Report, 1950]; Robert M. Coates, "Inventory of Work Accomplished by CCC Camps Under the Jurisdiction of National Capital Parks, October 19, 1933 to January 1, 1942," (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 1942) 32, located in Folder - Progress Reports, Box 44, Entry 20 - National Capital Region Subject Files, 1924-51, RG 79, NARA [hereafter Coates Report, 1942].

Company No. 1391 was stationed at Camp NP-14-DC and included approximately 150 white enrollees. An inspection report from March 1941 indicates that the company included 154 enrollees, with 36 assigned to “detached service” at Fort Belvoir and 26 to “camp overhead.” Of the total enrollees, five were camp leaders, 7 assistant camp leaders, 5 project leaders, and 9 assistant project leaders. The company commander was V. A. Sharrett and the subaltern Howard F. Shire. The full-time camp surgeon was Morris Steinberg and the NPS project superintendent Henry Brown.<sup>126</sup>

Although Camp NP-14-DC officially replaced Camp NP-8-VA, its buildings were newly-constructed portable frame structures typical of later CCC camps. The camp included three 140 x 20 foot and one 130 x 20 foot barracks, two 36 x 20 foot bathhouses, a 160 x 20 foot mess hall/kitchen, a recreation building, an education building, a 30 x 20 foot headquarters building, a 40 x 20 foot supply room, 40 x 20 foot infirmary, 40 x 20 foot officers’ quarters, and two Army truck garages. The technical service buildings included two 60 x 24 foot garages of rigid construction, an oil house, blacksmith shop, and technical headquarters. The camp utilized city electrical and water systems and the garbage was hauled to a city incinerator. By December 1938, the education and recreation buildings switched functions, with a 70 foot addition for the new recreation structure (now 130 x 20 feet). An aerial photograph of Camp NP-14-DC shows five long structures (four barracks and mess hall/kitchen) lined up next to each other in a clearing and surrounded by a grid of pathways (Figure 33). A smaller bathhouse structure is located between each pair of barracks and the ell on the building furthest from the road indicate that it is the mess hall/kitchen. Other buildings are just visible through a break in the tree coverage.<sup>127</sup>

Interior photographs of the mess hall and barracks taken during a visit by CCC Director Robert Fechner show the typical utilitarian CCC structure with exposed trusses and bare lightbulb electrical fixtures (Figure 34). Additional photographs of a “baseball pep rally,” probably in the recreation building, and enrollee cooks in the mess hall kitchen show the Company No. 1391 enrollees inside the CCC structures (Figures 35 & 36). Later views of civil defense training drills in May 1942 provide exterior images of the garages and other support buildings (Figure 37). Additional photographs in this series also indicate that Camp NP-14-DC had a concrete swimming pool similar to the ones at Fort Hunt and Fort Dupont Park.<sup>128</sup>

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<sup>126</sup>See William Bushong, *Rock Creek Park: Historic Resource Study*. (Washington, DC: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, August 1990), esp. 143; “Camp Inspection Report - Camp No. NP-14,” (10 March 1941), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA; See Box 34, RG 69-N, Still Picture Branch, NARA for photographs of PWA repair of the Pierce Mill waterwheel.

<sup>127</sup>“Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings - Camp NP-14-DC,” Box 1, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA; CCC Camp No. NP-14, Box 1, RG35-GE, Civilian Conservation Corps Activities, 1933-40, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

<sup>128</sup>Box 31 and 32, RG35-G, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

John G. Byers, the Camp NP-14-DC educational advisor, described the educational program for Company No. 1391. Enrollees could take classes five nights a week, in a wide variety of subjects such as literacy, citizenship, journalism, "military hygiene," blacksmithing, carpentry, cooking and baking, photography, truck driving, business and social courtesy, first aid, and "how to get and hold a job." The instructors were Byers and other leaders in the camp including the physician, mechanic, and company commander Lt. Sharrett, as well as enrollees with specialized skills such as blacksmithing and cooking. "National Defense Classes" such as sheet metal, electricity, auto mechanics, woodworking, welding, and machine shop were provided by instructors at the Abbott Vocational School and McKinley Night School. Byers complained that the Park Service foremen seemed unable to properly teach what little job training was available, but also praised the progress of the enrollees:

Definite progress is being made in trade education, manual skills, use of leisure time, the training of mind and body and the desire to learn. Situated as this camp is any member who passes a trade course is placed in a paying position which is a powerful inducement toward the obtainment of trade skills and other forms of physical and mental training. The program works under the idea that show a member that a course of study or the acquirement of trade skills will benefit him and he will make a good student. . . . In addition. . . Markel Holt, [enrollee], is taking a full night schedule of business courses at the Strayers Business College, Washington, D.C.. . . Two members are taking correspondence courses in Radio Building and one is doing correspondence courses in Airplane Construction.<sup>129</sup>

His description illustrates the ideals of improving mind and body that informed the CCC, as well as the extra effort required to translate manual labor projects into real job training for many enrollees.

Byers's complaints about the work supervisors at Camp NP-14-DC in early 1941 were corroborated in a memorandum from Charles Kenlan to CCC Director Fechner. He confirmed reports that the work project progress of this camp was lagging due to insufficient supervision. The acting NPS superintendent Henry Brown was a former foreman called upon to fill a vacancy. While efficient and competent, with four years of CCC experience and a college degree, he lacked the support of proper technical supervisors. According to Kenlan:

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<sup>129</sup>"CCC Camp Educational Report - Camp No. NP-14," Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

A great deal of the work embraces engineering skill and requires competent supervision. Many of the important jobs are now being directed by CCC enrollees who have not had sufficient technical training or experience. The character of work includes - construction of recreational areas for two District schools [Taft and Takoma]; laying of water lines and sewer lines; rip-rapping; grading; landscaping; masonry work; and general park development.<sup>130</sup>

The foremen included two men on sick leave, two illiterate men, and the 75-year-old cousin of a District Commissioner, who was being paid an engineer's salary to pull weeds. Kenlan not only expressed concern regarding the progress of the work, but the potential for negative publicity.

Despite the supervisory troubles, work projects proceeded for Camp NP-14-DC, particularly continuing the work within Rock Creek Park. These projects included landscaping around the newly restored Pierce Mill, continuing to clean and clear channels in Rock Creek, additional construction of Beach Drive, construction of a field house, rip rap erosion control near the Massachusetts Avenue bridge, and survey work (Figure 38).<sup>131</sup> Camp NP-14-DC also continued work begun by Camp NP-8-VA on the restoration of Civil War Fort Stevens located near Georgia Avenue and Military Road just east of Rock Creek Park. The project involved a partial reconstruction of the fort including moat, banquette, revetment, gun platforms, and power magazine. Portions of the restored fort were constructed with concrete logs and timbers "to simulate the original log construction."<sup>132</sup> The recreated powder magazine was a "reinforced concrete construction with half oak log paneling. . . . Entire structure covered with clay and sodded."<sup>133</sup> This work is again indicative of the growing role of historical parks in the National Park Service, and the pairing of recreational and historical park feature development for many local CCC projects.

Other major projects included tree surgery in Arlington National Cemetery, construction of relief maps and models for the museum at Ford's Theater, and continuing development of the Fort Dupont golf course. These projects were probably the result of responsibilities shifted from the Fort Hunt camp in 1941 when a portion of that company was detailed to Fort Belvoir for military projects. This camp also worked on a number of neighborhood recreation sites such as Taft Recreation Center, Barnard Hill, Rose Park Playground, and Takoma Recreation Center. CCC activities within the city helped the

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<sup>130</sup>Memorandum, Charles H. Kenlan to Director, CCC, (7 February 1941), Box 42, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>131</sup>Gerner Report, (1950), 95-96; For a photograph of CCC tree planting at Pierce Mill see Folder 12 - Rock Creek, RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

<sup>132</sup>Coates Report, (1942), 16.

<sup>133</sup>Ibid.

National Capital Parks fulfill its unique role of providing recreational facilities for District of Columbia residents.<sup>134</sup>

The final enrollment period of Camp NP-14-DC focused on civil defense training. This training included extinguishing a fire bomb and chemical decontamination. Other defense activities listed in the Camp NP-14-DC job completion records are camouflaging Coast Artillery sites, such as at the National Arboretum, gun emplacements at Bald Eagle Knob Park, and operating a rock quarry in Kensington, Maryland for defense projects. The camp was finally abandoned in August 1942.<sup>135</sup>

***Recreational Demonstration Area Camps - Expanding Urban Recreation into the Countryside***

*Camp SP-27-MD/NP-3-MD – Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, Lantz, Maryland*

Catoctin was one of two Recreational Demonstration Areas which became part of the National Capital Parks. Catoctin RDA was located approximately an hour north of Washington, DC in Maryland, while the Chompawamsic RDA (now Prince William Forest Park) was about a half hour south in Virginia. The original acreage of Catoctin RDA is now divided between Catoctin Mountain Park, Cunningham Falls State Park, and the Camp David presidential retreat. RDAs were an innovative New Deal program established to convert tracts of underutilized farmland throughout the country into recreational facilities. As the program was drawing to a close in 1941, the National Park Service explained its mission in booklet entitled “An Invitation to New Play Areas:”

Like all public parks, recreational demonstration areas are for the use of the general public. They are available to individuals and families desiring to spend a day in the open for picnicking, fishing, boating, hiking, etc., and to responsible groups who wish to camp overnight or for a week-end as well as to agencies conducting seasonal camping programs. . . . The areas which lie closest to the large industrial cities are best known for their organized camping facilities which are used by hundreds of camping organizations. These camps were planned primarily to meet the needs of social and welfare and other non-profit agencies unable to finance the purchase of land and construction of their own facilities.<sup>136</sup>

Catoctin RDA was primarily designed with organized camping facilities to serve the children of Baltimore, Maryland, and Washington, DC. In 1941 it had 9,746 acres with picnic grounds, foot trails, fishing, three organized cabin camps, and one organized tent campsite. Catoctin was the

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<sup>134</sup>Gerner Report, (1950), 95-96.

<sup>135</sup>Ibid.

<sup>136</sup>*An Invitation to New Play Areas*, (Washington, DC: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, c. 1941), 1, RG 4 - Civilian Conservation Corps, National Park Service Library, Harpers Ferry.

only RDA in the state of Maryland. It met the criteria for a RDA of including a land mass of 2,000 to 10,000 acres; within 50 miles to a population center of 300,000 or more persons; plentiful water and building material; and interesting natural surroundings.<sup>137</sup> The CCC camps located at each area RDA played different roles in their construction. The CCC camp was not established at Catoctin until after many years of ECW-funded construction using local men, while multiple CCC camps were almost entirely responsible for building the facilities at Chopawamsic.

The Depression and a punishing drought in 1930 shattered the local agricultural economy and many local residents became dependant on the limited resources of private charities. The mountainous area near Thurmont, Maryland was first identified as a potential RDA in 1934 by the Maryland State Cooperative Extension Service based at the University of Maryland. A report found the land on and around Catoctin Mountain to be a top candidate for redevelopment because of good roads, proximity to the Appalachian Trail, the poor condition of the local forests, and the economic distress of local farmers. Efforts to assemble parcels proceeded slowly during 1935 due to local distrust of the government and bureaucratic complexity.<sup>138</sup>

Construction of Catoctin RDA began in January 1936, with funding from the new Works Progress Administration (WPA). Workers on the relief rolls, both local and some transported from distant communities, constituted the labor force. Proposals for a transient work camp were quickly abandoned, probably due to a desire to ease local antagonism regarding the project. The NPS was able to hire some additional workers with special skills from outside the relief rolls. Work proceeded on site clean-up, grading, and building support structures such as the garage, blacksmith shop, and administration building at Round Meadow.<sup>139</sup>

During 1936 construction also began on Camp No. 1, later called Misty Mount. The camp included rustic wood frame cabins, a dining hall, a craft cabin and other support buildings, all arranged along a linear road on a steeply sloping site. WPA workers used chestnut lumber and native stone for construction. Camp No. 1 was completed by June 25, 1937 and hosted an open house for the curious public. It was later used by groups such as the YMCA, YWCA, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. The second camp, later known as Greentop, featured similar buildings, but a very different site plan intended to accommodate campers from the Baltimore-based Maryland League for Crippled Children. Camp No. 2 was on a much flatter site and grouped around a loop road for shorter distances between buildings. It was constructed by WPA labor between 1937 and 1938, with the first handicapped campers using the new facilities that summer. In spite of lobbying by prominent African Americans from Baltimore, Catoctin did not provide facilities for black handicapped children and the entire project remained exclusively white.

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<sup>137</sup>Wirth, *Park, Politics, and People*, 186-88.

<sup>138</sup>Edmund F. Wehrle. *Catoctin Mountain Park: An Historic Resource Study* (March 2000), 157-58.

<sup>139</sup>Wehrle, 167-69.

Construction of a third camp, later called Hi-Catoctin, began in 1938 with 300 WPA workers. After 1941, Hi-Catoctin became part of FDR's World War II presidential retreat.<sup>140</sup>

A number of Catoctin structures were published in the 1938 edition of Albert Good's *Park and Recreation Structures*. Like the other published examples, these buildings were created using freely interpreted regional traditions and local materials, such as stone and wood, to sensitively integrate structures into the natural landscape. A four-person camper cabin at Catoctin, probably in the Misty Mount area, was depicted and noted as "outstanding for its simple excellence and true craftsmanship."<sup>141</sup> Good's focus was generally on the structures planned and construction managed by the National Park Service, and so does not distinguish between facilities built with WPA or CCC labor.

Camp NP-3-MD was officially established at Catoctin on October 1, 1939 and continued until November 7, 1941 (14<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup> enrollment periods). A CCC camp was approved for Catoctin in early 1936, but funding cuts and the decision to provide work to the local community deferred these plans. However, the Park Service organized many of the WPA projects with the expectation that CCC labor would eventually be available. By 1939 fewer local workers were on the relief rolls in Western Maryland and the CCC finally came to Catoctin RDA. The camp was located adjacent to the National Park Services offices and support structures at Round Meadow, just north of the central garage unit. Initially the camp received a state park designation of SP-7-MD, starting in April 1939. An advance detachment of thirty-five men and one officer from Company No. 1374 arrived that month to begin site preparation. The rest of the company, enrollees from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, arrived shortly thereafter and lived in tents while building the camp (Figure 39). The company was previously stationed at Quantico, Virginia working on the Washington Recreational Demonstration Area. By June 1939, the barracks, mess hall, hospital, and office were well underway and being painted. The same month more materials arrived for construction of the educational building, oil house, and two garages. In August, the enrollees began using the new mess hall and prepared to move into the barracks.<sup>142</sup>

Camp NP-3-MD construction was complete on September 15, 1939 and redesignated as a

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<sup>140</sup>Wehrle, 176-77, 180; Sara Amy Leach. "Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park, Multiple Property Documentation" Frederick County, Maryland. National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1988. (U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.), Section E, 10. See also Barbara Marshall Kirkconnell. "Catoctin Mountain Park: An Administrative History," (M.A. thesis, University of Maryland, 1988).

<sup>141</sup>Albert H. Good. *Park and Recreation Structures*. (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1938), (reprint 1990 Graybooks, Boulder, CO), 179. III-128-29 plan and photo of Administration Building - looks like Misty Mount unless Greentop is the same; III 136-37 plan and photo, camp unit latrine; 166-67 dining lodge/recreational building/kitchen combo; 178-79 4-camper cabin.

<sup>142</sup>Memorandum, Assistant Director to Demaray, (18 September 1936), Box 3, Entry 65, RG 79, NARA; Wehrle, 181-83. See the June 1939 and August 1939 issues of *The Mountaineer*, Civilian Conservation Corps folder, Catoctin Mountain Park files.

National Park Service camp on October 1. It had a standard array of CCC camp buildings including a 20 x 130 foot educational building, four 50-man barracks (20 x 65 feet), a 20 x 110 foot mess hall with a 20 x 30 foot kitchen ell, 20 x 100 foot recreation hall, 20 x 70 foot administration building, 20 x 40 foot officers' quarters, a 20x30 "hospital," foreman's quarters, oil house, and three garages. All of the buildings were of "portable" wood frame construction as was typical of CCC camps built after 1936. There was a 10 x 25 foot central heating plant with a coal-burning boiler to heat the barracks. The camp used well water and septic tanks and was connected to the local electrical system. Rather than the separate latrine and shower buildings common at most CCC camps, each barrack included a tile-lined bathroom at one end, with water heated in the central building.<sup>143</sup>

An aerial photograph of Camp NP-3-MD in the Catoctin Mountain Park files shows the site arrangement of the CCC buildings. All of the buildings were oriented parallel to each other in an open field north of the WPA headquarters buildings and central garage unit. The education building stood at the east end of the camp; to the west were two pairs of barracks with the heating plant at the center. The next row of buildings included the mess hall and recreation building, with the officers quarters', supply room and hospital beyond. There does not appear to be a parade ground or central field such as those at the Fort Hunt or Fort Dupont CCC camps. Other photographs of Camp NP-3-MD life show the typical long rectangular barracks with the entrance on the short gable end. The exteriors of the structures were sheathed with tar paper.<sup>144</sup>

Like other CCC camps, Camp NP-3-MD was run by a military officer under tight discipline, but also offered many educational and recreational opportunities. Enrollees could take night classes in Hagerstown or in camp on subjects such as reading, arithmetic, history, carpentry, painting, surveying, woodworking, photography, and shorthand. Company No. 1374 published its own newspaper, *The Mountaineer*, and had a 1,500 volume library, a film strip projector, and a 16mm movie projector. As usual, sports were another favorite activity, including horseshoe pitching, baseball, volleyball, and swimming. The first issue of *The Mountaineer* in May 1939 reminded the Company No. 1374 enrollees that:

The new camp which is the home of the members of the 1374<sup>th</sup> Company CCC is surrounded by many small communities and several large towns. Most of the members of the camp have already visited these towns and have found the people in them hospitable and sympathetic with the CCC. The camps which have been established in the vicinity for several years have built up a very fine relationship between the CCC and the community. It is a part of the duty of the members of

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<sup>143</sup>,"Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings - Camp NP-3-MD," Box 1, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA. Information about the bathrooms in May 1939 issue of *The Mountaineer*, Catoctin Mountain Park files.

<sup>144</sup>Only a poor quality photocopy of this aerial image was available at the park; the location of the original is currently unknown. Photographs of the camp buildings are in the folder CCC Personnel and Activities - Round Meadow, Catoctin Mountain Park files.

this camp to continue to develop the feeling of friendship between the members of the camp and the members of the nearby towns. . . . If a fine impression is made, the people of the community will be glad that we are here and will give us every opportunity for recreation and education in their organizations and activities.<sup>145</sup>

The enrollees did frequently avail themselves of activities in the local communities such as church services, bowling, movies, and barn dances. The education advisor, Bernard G. Harless, had been assigned to Company No. 1374 since January 1935 and proudly reported in August 1939 that his educational program for the camp would "attain all the objectives which have been set by the United States Office of Education."<sup>146</sup>

Most of the CCC's initial work at Catoctin involved clean-up and small dam construction along Hunting and Owen's Creeks to enhance the fish habitat, reforestation, and trail blazing. Plans for this work had been prepared in 1936 and 1937 by NPS and Maryland State Forest Technicians, but shelved until the arrival of the CCC. The Camp NP-3-MD enrollees also provided fence rails for use by the African-American CCC company stationed at Gettysburg National Military Park. WPA work continued simultaneously at Catoctin. On some projects the CCC and WPA workers would work side by side, such as resurfacing the central road from Thurmont to the park in the spring 1940. A 1941 report itemized the work completed by the CCC enrollees including 12.5 miles of power lines, a water supply system, the custodian's residence, two sewage systems, 4.5 miles of foot trails, one retaining wall along old Route 15, a bath house, four drinking fountains, .3 miles of roads, a filter system, two trail-side shelters (on the Appalachian Trail), and a forest fire danger station. CCC workers also fought fires, participated in other emergency work, planted trees and shrubs, developed 400 acres of "fire hazard reduction," and assisted with the preparation and transport of construction materials.<sup>147</sup>

An appendix to a report of all CCC operations in the National Capital Parks listed the CCC work at Catoctin RDA as taking place starting on May 3, 1939. This is due to the fact that from the arrival of Company No. 1374 in April 1939 until Camp NP-3-MD was officially established on October 1, the enrollees were working under the state park designation. The projects indicate a mixture of conservation projects (seeding, planting, selective cutting) and construction projects typical of CCC camps. In this instance, most of the substantial construction in what is now Catoctin Mountain Park had already been completed by WPA labor. However, the CCC enrollees did work in a variety of areas in the RDA. For example, they added drinking fountains and power lines to Camp 3-B, later known as Hi-Catoctin and eventually acquired for the presidential retreat. The CCC boys also built two trailside shelters of the "Appalachian Trail

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<sup>145</sup>Wehrle, 188-89. Photocopies of several volumes of *The Mountaineer* are available in the "Civilian Conservation Corps" folder, Catoctin Mountain Park files.

<sup>146</sup>Camp Inspection Report, Camp SP-7, (30 August 1939), Box 94, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>147</sup>"Work Project Report Supplement, Camp NP-3," (3 February 1941), Box 94, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA; Wehrle, 184-86; Kirkconnell, 86-93.

type” with stone foundations and log walls.<sup>148</sup>

The CCC was also largely responsible for developing the day use picnic facilities around Catoctin Manor along Route 15 (now part of Cunningham Falls State Park), a project originally planned for WPA labor. The Manor House (old ironmaster’s house) picnic area included CCC-built tables, benches, stone fireplaces, a parking area, a stone and wood picnic pavilion, latrines, and a stone wall to mark the entrance (Figures 40 & 41). As a large RDA project, Catoctin initially had an on-site project architect and landscape architect, but by 1939 plans for the Manor House area were being prepared in the regional office in Richmond, Virginia. Originally they included even more extensive recreation facilities such as an amphitheater, swimming pool, wading pool, bathhouse, beach, and playfield, but these were not fully implemented before the onset of World War II brought the CCC program and New Deal park development to a halt. The CCC also built an entrance gate of squared timbers and stone flanking wall at the Blue Blazes Contact Station (Figure 42). The materials and rustic aesthetic of the few CCC-built structures at Catoctin RDA were consistent with the projects completed by WPA workers.<sup>149</sup>

The CCC camp at Catoctin was discontinued in November 1941. The entire Catoctin RDA was closed to the public in 1942 with the establishment of Roosevelt’s wartime retreat at Camp 3, Hi-Catoctin, which he remodeled and renamed Shangri-La. A detachment of Marines and Navy men assigned to the Presidential security detail lived in the former CCC camp. Although federal legislation transferred the RDAs back to their respective states in 1942, Catoctin was one of four that remained part of the National Park system, due its War Department use and its proximity to the presidential retreat, renamed Camp David by President Eisenhower.<sup>150</sup> From 1942-47, half of Catoctin RDA was used by the War Department for troop training, including the special training of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). By mid-1947, the camping areas in the northern half of the RDA reopened to the public. By 1953 all of the land had been returned to the Department of the Interior. Currently Catoctin Mountain Park is approximately 5,700 acres, including the Misty Mount and Greentop cabin camps, Round Meadow administrative area, and numerous hiking trails. The southern portion of Catoctin RDA, including 4,446 acres containing the former Catoctin Furnace and Manor House area, Big Hunting Creek and its Cunningham Falls area, was transferred to the state of Maryland in 1954 to create Cunningham Falls State Park. In the same year, the name of the NPS section to the north

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<sup>148</sup>“Appendix F - Catoctin Recreational Area, Lantz, MD,” in Gerner, (1950), 56-72.

<sup>149</sup>Correspondence regarding the plans for the Manor House Day Use Area is located in the “Manor Area” folder, Catoctin Mountain Park files. Photographs of the picnic shelter are in “Building/Projects 1930-1960s” folder, Catoctin Mountain Park files. See also Barbara Marshall Kirkconnell. “Catoctin Mountain Park: An Administrative History,” (M.A. thesis, University of Maryland, 1988), 65-75. A WPA crew had done archaeological work around the historic furnace, but this was not part of the CCC duties at Catoctin.

<sup>150</sup>The other three are Chopawamsic (now Prince William Forest Park) in Virginia and land adjacent to Manassas National Battlefield Park (VA) and Hopewell Village National Historic Site (PA). See Paige, 120; see also Wirth, *Parks, Politics, and People*, 187.

was officially changed from Catoctin RDA to Catoctin Mountain Park.<sup>151</sup>

*Camps SP-22-VA, SP-25-VA, SP-26-VA/NP-16-VA, Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area, Joplin, Virginia*

The Chopawamsic RDA, now Prince William Forest Park, was established approximately thirty-five miles south of Washington, D.C. in Prince William and Stafford Counties, Virginia. Because of its proximity to Washington, D.C., the Chopawamsic RDA was viewed a model project for bringing the character-building benefits of group camping to underprivileged urban children. The park consisted of roughly 11,000 acres along the watershed of Quantico Creek, which when the RDA was established included an abandoned pyrite mine and submarginal farmland. Chopawamsic was the fourth largest RDA in the country and one of six located in the Commonwealth of Virginia.<sup>152</sup> Of all the CCC projects that contributed to the development of the National Capital Region, the recreational camps at Chopawamsic most closely followed the conventional understanding of CCC activities as building camping facilities in a rural setting, like other Virginia RDAs at Shenandoah National Park and Blue Ridge Parkway. CCC work took place at Chopawamsic from May 13, 1935 to June 30, 1941.<sup>153</sup> At the height of construction three CCC companies were located in Chopawamsic at camps designated SP-22-VA, SP-25-VA, and SP-26-VA (Figure 43). Camp SP-26-VA was converted from state to national park status in October 1939. The subsequent Camp NP-16-VA was officially active from October 1, 1939 until April 25, 1942 (14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> enrollment period). The project manager was William R. Hall; the CCC, WPA, and PWA programs provided labor, with a multi-company contingent of CCC enrollees executing the majority of the projects (200-300 CCC workers at the height of construction).<sup>154</sup>

When the Chopawamsic RDA was established, charitable groups in Washington, D.C., such as the Twelfth Street YMCA, Salvation Army, and Boys' Club of Washington, were already eagerly seeking adequate group camping facilities. The old facilities in Rock Creek Park were becoming increasingly unsuitable due to heavy day use. A key motivation behind the development of organized camping facilities in RDAs was to allow charitable organizations who could not afford to purchase land and build their own camps to rent the facilities needed to provide camping programs. A letter from National Park Service Director Arno B. Cammerer to National Capital Parks Superintendent C. Marshall Finnan described the importance of this rural land to the urban park system:

[The National Capital Parks are] in urgent need of an area qualifying for

<sup>151</sup>National Park Service. Catoctin Mountain Park - Cultural Landscapes Inventory, (2000), Part I, 8; Part II, 33-36.

<sup>152</sup>*Recreational Demonstration Projects: As Illustrated by Chopawamsic, Virginia.* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, c. 1940), 21.

<sup>153</sup>Gerner Report, (1950).

<sup>154</sup>Susan Cary Strickland. *Prince William Forest Park: An Administrative History.* (Washington, D.C.: History Division, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, January 1986), 3, 7-8, 14-15.

recreational use of private charity, semi-public, and other organizations serving the large population, particularly the low income group, in and around Washington, D.C.. You suggest that maintenance of submarginal lands in the vicinity of Quantico, Virginia, proposed for purchase by the United States under the land program, be assumed by the National Capital Parks, if purchased. The value of these lands to the low income groups of Greater Washington is immeasurable.<sup>155</sup>

Land acquisition began in February 1935; eventually forty of the poorest families would be relocated from their land within the RDA site while approximately 150 local households were impacted by the government program. The area had been identified as an "illustration in high degree of rural economic exhaustion," but of potentially "high public value" for recreational use due to its rugged, scenic, and healthful qualities.<sup>156</sup> Like at Catoctin, this government intervention did generate some controversy, but here land acquisition proceeded in a relatively smooth manner.

The Chopawamsic CCC camps focused their efforts on converting the property into group camping facilities including five multi-unit cabin camps, lakes and swimming areas, entrance and connecting roads, and hiking trails. By providing facilities for organized camping, the RDA program and National Park Service sought to extend the benefits of organized camping to all socioeconomic levels. A National Park Service publication, *Recreational Demonstration Projects: As Illustrated by Chopawamsic, Virginia*, described these humanitarian goals:

As the National Parks are places unattainable to certain millions, so even most State parks are beyond the horizons of many from the lower-income strata; and the bringing of outdoor recreation within their reach is the object of this program. Because of the financial status of these people it has been found that their recreation must be organized to insure economical vacations. . . Washington, the nation's capital, though one of the loveliest cities in the world because of its tree-arched streets and unusual park area, despite its variety and quantity of outdoor recreational facilities, has never had an adequate place where the lower-income families might go to rest and play, particularly in the summertime. . . In the majority of cases administration and maintenance of these areas is to be the responsibility of state park or conservation authorities and the administration of the camps themselves the business of the local welfare agencies, but in the case of Chopawamsic, it will be administered by the National Capital Parks, the Federal

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<sup>155</sup>Letter, Arno B. Cammerer to C. Marshall Finnan, (2 February 1935), Box 2, Entry 48 - Records Concerning Recreational Demonstration Projects, 1934-42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>156</sup>"Chopawamsic Project Report," (28 January 1935), Box 2, Entry 48, RG 79, NARA.

agency which administers the parks in the District of Columbia.<sup>157</sup>

The unique status of the city of Washington, DC as a federal enclave gave the National Park Service a continuing role at Chopawamsic while in other areas control of RDAs was transferred to state park systems.

The three CCC companies worked simultaneously from late summer 1935 until approximately mid 1938, the period of heaviest construction in the RDA. Although this arrangement would imply a workforce of around 200 enrollees per camp, the actual numbers were lower, an average of 100-120 per camp. WPA funds also were used to hire skilled workmen to supplement the labor force. The three camps were established in different areas of the RDA for easy access to adjacent work projects. CCC Company No. 1374 was the first to arrive, officially establishing Camp SP-22-VA on May 13, 1935. Construction of Camp SP-22-VA was complete on July 15, 1935. This camp was located near the northeast edge of the RDA, adjacent to the site of recreational cabin Camps 1 and 4 and remained active until April 24, 1939 when the site was converted into a ballfield for Camp 1. Next Company No. 2349 established Camp SP-25-VA on July 29, 1935, officially completing its construction on November 30, 1935. This camp was located near the west edge of the RDA adjacent to recreational cabin camps 2 and 5 and remained active until March 1938. This site also was converted into a ballfield, this time for Camp 2. The third Chopawamsic CCC Camp, SP-26, was established August 2, 1935 by Company No. 2383. Its construction was officially complete on October 29, 1935. This camp site saw the longest and most varied occupation, with Company No. 2349 moving from SP-25 for one six month enrollment period during 1937-38, and conversion to Camp NP-16-VA on October 1, 1939. Between 1941 and its discontinuation on April 25, 1942, Camp NP-16-VA was redesignated as defense camp NP (D)-12. Some remnants of this CCC camp including the education building and parade grounds are still extant at the park maintenance yard adjacent to Camp 3 (just south of the center of the RDA).<sup>158</sup>

As was typical for the CCC, the first order of business for the enrollees was building their own camp while living in canvas tents. This work proceeded through the summer of 1935, along with duties necessary to prepare for the establishment of the Chopawamsic cabin camps such as

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<sup>157</sup> *Recreational Demonstration Projects: As Illustrated by Chopawamsic, Virginia*. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, c. 1940), 3, 6-7.

<sup>158</sup> Several different sources provide slightly different dates for the Chopawamsic CCC camps. The information above was compiled from Strickland, 17; Sara Amy Leach. "Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Prince William Forest Park, Multiple Property Documentation" Prince William County, Virginia. (National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1988. U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.), Section E, 11; and the several versions of the relevant "Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings," Box 2 and 4, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA. According to a report for SP-26 for a 5<sup>th</sup> enrollment period, Camp SP-22 was divided in half on August 7, 1935 to assist with establishing Camp SP-26. See Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

grading, improving drainage, constructing trails and the main park entrance.<sup>159</sup> One report provides a useful description of the site preparation done by Camp SP-25:

The permanent site for Camp SP-25 was chosen adjacent to the area which had previously been selected for one of the recreational camps. . . . This proximity of the CCC camp to the work area was considered very desirable. An old abandoned logging road afforded the only means of access. The ground was very irregular and it was evident that a considerable amount of grading would be required before the buildings could properly be erected. The area which had been chosen for recreational camp buildings was still in the most primitive state, with heavy underbrush, leaning and fallen trees, and no approach road. Due to the fact that the CCC camp site had been planned for later use as a play field for the recreational camp nearby, it was considered desirable for the enrollees to assist with grading the site before erection of the portable buildings was commenced.<sup>160</sup>

Each CCC camp included the standard complement of buildings including four barracks, a recreation hall, a mess hall/kitchen, officer's quarters, administration building, and foremen quarters. As typical of other area camps, each Chopawamsic CCC camp had garages and an oil house constructed and used by the National Park Service personnel. The buildings at Camp SP-22-VA were all of more substantial "rigid" construction. Camps SP-25-VA and SP-26-VA had mainly "portable" type buildings, constructed with relatively lighter materials, with the exception of the National Park Service buildings such as the garages, oil houses, tool house (SP-26 only), and blacksmith shop (SP-26 only) (Figure 44). This shift from rigid to portable was indicative of changing Army construction procedures for CCC camps after the first two years of the program. Latrine and washroom facilities were provided in buildings separate from the barracks. Most of the buildings were heated with coal-burning stoves.<sup>161</sup>

At Camp SP-22, the barracks and other CCC buildings were arranged around a central parade ground, with the service buildings (garages, etc.) to the south (Figures 45 & 46). The short gable end of the barracks faced the parade grounds; a historic photograph shows these barracks to be of the typical gable roof form with tar paper and wood batten siding (Figure 47). At Camp SP-26/NP-16, the parade grounds was located between the first row of two barracks and the mess hall and technical personnel quarters (Figure 48). A parallel row of barracks, long side facing the parade grounds, stood to the southeast. The service buildings were located just northeast of the main CCC grouping. While the layout and buildings were not completely identical, the standardization of CCC camp site planning and construction via Army procedures

<sup>159</sup>Leach, "Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Prince William Forest Park, Multiple Property Documentation," Section E, 13.

<sup>160</sup>W. R. Hall, "Accomplishments of CCC Camp SP-25," typescript, (9 April 1938), File 6665, Prince William Forest Park.

<sup>161</sup>"Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings," Box 2 and 4, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA.

was clear. One historic photograph shows a rustic entrance sign over the road to Camp SP-26; presumably the other two camps constructed something similar (Figure 49).

The CCC enrollees at Chopawamsic were offered a variety of recreational opportunities, such as dances, shows, and lectures held in the recreation buildings. During the winter activities included basketball, pool, checkers, and card playing. A rotating group of twenty enrollees was allowed to travel to Quantico Marine Base every evening to watch movies. In 1936, the recreational and educational program at Camp SP-25 was ranked the best in the Fourth (Virginia) District, for activities that included academic and vocational classes, sports, hobby competitions, stag parties, sing-a-longs, and a weekly stunt night.<sup>162</sup>

While the CCC camp buildings were decidedly utilitarian, the recreational cabin camp buildings constructed at Chopawamsic were constructed and sited in a deliberately naturalistic manner intended to enhance the experience of the landscape. Like at Catoctin and other parks developed during the 1930s, National Park Service designers and site managers were developing a rustic aesthetic for recreational structures that utilized local wood and stone, as well as a set of modern standards for building types and site planning at an organized camp. Several buildings at Chopawamsic were included in the 1938 edition of *Park and Recreation Structures*, including an administration building, a unit lodge, a dining hall, a 4-camper cabin, a larger camper cabin, a staff cabin, and an infirmary (Figure 50). All of these structures featured wood shake shingle roofs and waney-edged exterior siding. The administration building was described as adequate for the typical organized camp with approximately 100 campers and having “a combination of waney-edged siding cut in between clustered vertical boards at the corners of the building [which] is typical of the Chopawamsic Area and gives its buildings a certain individuality.”<sup>163</sup> Applied both horizontally and vertically, the siding boards retained the irregular profile of the original log and gave a rustic variety to otherwise simple structures. While stone was not used extensively at Chopawamsic, many of the unit lodges and dining halls feature handsome stone fireplaces. A brown stained finish was given to the wood siding by coating it with creosote, which also acted as a preservative. Much of the structural and exterior lumber was produced from on-site materials with the CCC sawmill; flooring and interior woodwork were purchased locally.<sup>164</sup>

The organized camps at Chopawamsic each featured the standard set of buildings recommended by Park Service officials. Each camp was planned for approximately 150 people and divided into smaller units for about thirty campers each. Each camp included a group of

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<sup>162</sup>See references to CCC camp recreational activities in narrative reports, Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA; and Leach, “ECW Architecture at Prince William Forest Park, 1933-42,” Section E, 5.

<sup>163</sup>Good, III, 126-27.

<sup>164</sup>“Bi-monthly Narrative Report, Sixth Period, Chopawamsic State Park, S.P.-22,” (11 February 1936), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA. For example, see the materials list for Project 120 - Camp 1 Administration Buildings which is divided by “locally produced” and “materials for purchase” (File 3456, Prince William Forest Park).

buildings shared by all the camping units - a central kitchen/dining hall building, administration building, service buildings, staff quarters, central washroom/latrine, and water and sewage facilities. Each unit within the camp included camper cabins, leaders' cabins, a unit lodge, and unit washroom/latrine.<sup>165</sup> Rustic camp stoves and log-covered drinking fountains like those in other National Capital Parks were built at Chopawamsic as well. The standard camp stove designs were also published in *Park and Recreation Structures*.<sup>166</sup> It is not known exactly which designer was responsible for specific features, but a number of landscape architects, architects, and draftsmen were at work on the site, particularly between 1935-37.<sup>167</sup>

While providing an opportunity for nature-based recreation, the cabin camps were also carefully planned to meet modern sanitation standards. Most of the Chopawamsic buildings stood on concrete piers to allow proper air circulation. Care was taken to provide a standard amount of sleeping space for each camper and avoid overcrowding. Latrine facilities were carefully planned for healthful conditions and provided with a septic system. The camp buildings also could vary depending on the planned clientele, with Camp 3 including a nursery and facilities for family camping or larger cabins for grouping smaller children in the same structure with a staff member. One larger cabin featured in *Park and Recreation Structures* was described as: "The 'saddlebag' cabin at Chopawamsic is the arrangement recommended in camps for very small children. It brings eight children together under one roof in two four-room dormitories, separated by an entry and a sleeping room for two leaders. This permits one leader to be off duty at certain hours with no relaxing of supervision."<sup>168</sup>

Construction started with Camp 1-B(oys) (later known as Camp Goodwill) near the northeast corner of the site and Camp 2-G(irls) (later known as Camp Mawavi) near the southwest edge and these facilities were at least partially available during the summer 1936 camping season. Camp 1 eventually included the central kitchen/dining hall, an infirmary, staff quarters, administration building, a craft lodge, and a central washhouse along the access road, with four cabin units to the south closer the lake/swimming area created by a small dam in Quantico Creek. A number of dams were built at Chopawamsic to create scenic lakes and places for swimming. The Camp 1 dam was a modest "gully-stopper" made of natural and maneuvered rock and similar to those built for Camps 3 and 4. A more substantial engineered dam of concrete was built between Camps 2 and 5. Work began on clearing the 7.5 acre site for the largest dam in January 1936. Camp 2 was arranged and outfitted in a similar fashion to Camp 1,

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<sup>165</sup> *Recreational Demonstration Projects: As Illustrated by Chopawamsic, Virginia*, 3-4.

<sup>166</sup> For example see "Project Justification - Drinking Fountains, Camp 1-B," n.d. File 3467, Prince William Forest Park; in Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, see Volume I, "Drinking Fountains and Water Supply," and Volume II, "Picnic Fireplaces."

<sup>167</sup> Designers mentioned in Leach, "ECW Architecture at Prince William Forest Park," Section E, 17, include landscape architect Richard Hyatt, assistant architect Carl W. Zimmerman, draftsman Bernard J. Liff, and associate landscape architect Lawrence F. Murray.

<sup>168</sup> Good, III, 184-85.

with the central buildings clustered closer to the access road, and four camping units arranged in a semicircle to the east.<sup>169</sup>

Like other CCC camps, the Chopawamsic enrollees were assigned to work projects approved every six months and occasionally worked in conjunction with each other and WPA-hired laborers. Records describing the specific accomplishments of individual camps do provide some additional insight into the work procedures and progress. Upon discontinuation in the spring of 1938, an overview of the accomplishments of Camp SP-25 was filed with the regional office in Richmond and specified that the projects would be continued by Camp SP-26. This report describes the work of CCC Camp SP-25 enrollees on Camp 2, including preparing the construction and lake site, and building ten miles of foot trails during winter 1935-36. The first building construction job, twelve cabins, was approved in April 1936, followed by approvals for construction of the other camp buildings. A crew of enrollees was assigned to a saw mill operation that harvested and prepared lumber for the construction from a nearby timber tract, eventually producing over 100,000 feet of lumber. WPA crews were also working on some of the buildings. Camp 2 was occupied by groups from the Jewish Community Center of Washington, DC during early July 1936. While the recreational camp was in use, additional building construction ceased and CCC enrollees worked on excavating earth and rock for the foundation of the dam, including operating a stone crushing plant to prepare road surfacing material. CCC enrollees and WPA relief workers both worked on construction of the concrete dam through winter 1936 until late spring 1937. The Camp SP-25 report described completion of the dam: "On the morning of May 29, 1937, the lake had filled and the first rush of water went over the dam. This was the most complicated and credible job done by SP-25."<sup>170</sup>

Once Camp 2 and the dam were complete, Camp SP-25 enrollees moved on to construction at Camp 3-F(amily), to be used by "white mothers and children." They built a nursery, three cabins, two latrines, and an administration building. Additional construction at Camp 3 was done by Camp SP-22 and SP-26 enrollees and WPA relief workers, with the first campers arriving in July 1937. Plans for Camp 4-F(amily - for black campers), were approved in fall 1937 and construction included enrollees from all three camps until Camp SP-25 was discontinued in March 1938.<sup>171</sup> Camp 3 (later known as Camp Orenda) included three cabin units, two of which featured the larger 8-10 person cabins recommended for housing smaller children. Camp 4 (later known as Camp Pleasant) had five cabin units, but each had fewer cabins. In addition to the usual central buildings of dining hall, administration building, and infirmary, both of these family camps included a nursery and larger cabins (8-10) suitable for

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<sup>169</sup>Sara Amy Leach, "Chopawamsic RDA - Camp (2) Mawavi Historic District," Section 7, 6-7.

<sup>170</sup>W. R. Hall, "Accomplishments of CCC Camp SP-25," typescript, (9 April 1938), File 6665, Prince William Forest Park.

<sup>171</sup>W. R. Hall, "Accomplishments of CCC Camp SP-25," typescript, (9 April 1938), File 6665, Prince William Forest Park.

smaller children or family groups.<sup>172</sup>

Narrative reports for CCC Camp SP-22 describe a similar early focus on grading, access roads, and the adjacent recreational camp (in this case Camp 1). Camp SP-22 also started construction in May 1935 on a main administration building for the RDA, designed to “house technical staff, administration, procurement office, and provide for an engineers work room.”<sup>173</sup> Other major projects for Camp SP-22 during 1935 included 1,190 “man days” devoted to constructing five miles of truck trail and 1,048 “man days” for “preparation and transportation of materials” to be used in the various projects including saw milling, quarry work, dam, bridge, road and general building construction. By May 1936, the SP-22 enrollees had completed a major portion of recreational Camp 1, including seventeen cabins, two latrines, two unit lodges, the dining hall/kitchen, and a water tower. By fall 1936, Camp SP-22 enrollees were constructing additional buildings at Camp 1, such as the infirmary, Unit Lodge “D,” and a bathhouse.

One of the first major projects undertaken by Camp SP-26 in addition to foot trail construction within Chopawamsic RDA was the Stafford Wayside. Waysides were another aspect of the Recreational Demonstration program involving construction of small roadside picnic areas, often in places of scenic and historical interest. The wayside was more visible than the work taking place within the Chopawamsic RDA and reportedly received favorable attention from the public:

The location of Stafford Wayside project, being developed by this camp, has caused many thousands of people to notice it, some of which have stopped to admire the work. It lies on U.S. Highway #1, about a mile North of Stafford Court House, Virginia. In several instances tourists have stopped here to eat their meals and all comments heard have been favorable.<sup>174</sup>

Progress on this project also was described during the fall of 1935:

Work at Stafford Wayside continues to develop nicely. A beautiful foot trail traverses the length of the Area and where it crosses the creek, rustic bridges and foot logs have been constructed. . . . Denuded areas have been seeded and young trees and shrubs planted thereon. . . . Parking areas are being constructed with nature finish log guard rails to confine the area and to protect the cars from fills and slopes. The creek has been cleaned out and its banks beautified.<sup>175</sup>

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<sup>172</sup>Leach, Map 7 & 8.

<sup>173</sup>“Narrative Report Chompawamsic Recreational Area, Camp SP-22,” (1935), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>174</sup>“Narrative Report of Progress VA. SP-26,” (October-November 1935), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>175</sup>“Narrative Report of Progress VA. SP-26,” (October-November 1935), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

By March 31, 1936, Stafford Wayside featured four trail and bridges, seventeen camp stoves, fifty table and benches, a well, and a partially constructed latrine with septic system.<sup>176</sup> By 1938, Camp SP-26 enrollees were working on construction of Camp 5. Camp 5 (later known as Camp Happyland) was occupied by the Salvation Army during 1939 and represented a relocation of that organization's racially integrated family campground near Annapolis.

The work by the CCC camps at Chopawamsic also provides a good illustration of the variety of vocational training that could be provided as part of CCC projects. Project manager W. R. Hall remarked that the work programs "embrac[ed] several of the principal working trades, such as carpentry, automobile equipment maintenance and repair, concrete construction and finishing, handling of reinforcing steel, installation of plumbing, stone and brick masonry, saw mill operation and the production of lumber and shingles, stone quarry and crusher operation for the production of stone products, surveying and mapping, road and trail building, etc."<sup>177</sup> He proudly noted that many of the boys had secured good jobs upon leaving the CCC. Apparently each camp did selective cutting for fire hazard reduction and vista enhancement in a certain area and then alternated use of the sawmill to prepare their allotment of timber.<sup>178</sup> The public benefits gained from the work of the CCC camps also was noted, including fire fighting, fire hazard reduction (clearing brush, etc.), maintenance of public roads, and clearing timber and brush for a 500-acre rifle range at the adjacent Quantico Marine Base. Hall continued:

The principal benefit of course will come from the operation of the recreational camps. Each year these will provide a pleasant and profitable experience to many a city child who otherwise would not have an opportunity to go camping, and to learn the nature lore, handicrafts, and practices of good citizenship which are taught in the camps. The social benefits to the CCC boys, as well as the young organized campers and their parents, cannot be measured in terms of dollars and cents but will tend to broaden their outlook and improve their standard of living and conception of good citizenship.<sup>179</sup>

Historic photographs in the National Archives and in the Prince William Park files show the CCC enrollees engaged in various construction tasks. One image shows an enrollee working on a log with hand tools in front of a partially constructed camper cabin (Figure 51). Another shows two enrollees removing the formwork from a concrete foundation pier (Figure 52).<sup>180</sup>

<sup>176</sup>"Sixth Period Narrative Report Camp SP 26 VA," (31 March 1936), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>177</sup>W. R. Hall, "Accomplishments of CCC Camp SP-25," typescript, (9 April 1938), File 6665, Prince William Forest Park.

<sup>178</sup>"Narrative Report of Progress VA. SP-26," (October-November 1935), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>179</sup>W. R. Hall, "Accomplishments of CCC Camp SP-25," typescript, (9 April 1938), File 6665, Prince William Forest Park.

<sup>180</sup>In addition to photographs that accompany narrative reports, construction photographs of Chopawamsic are available in the Prince William Forest Park files, particularly 3455, 3458, 3753-3762, 3763-3769, 4030-4040, 7051-57 and Folder 70, Box 4, RG 69-MP; and Box 4, RG 35-GE in the Still Pictures Branch, NARA. Lack of specific

The five recreational camps at Chopawamsic were part of a larger master plan providing for a racially segregated use pattern. Camps 1 and 4, located near the northwest side of the property were designated for African-American boys and family groups, respectively. Camps 2 and 3 accommodated white girls and families. Access roads and entrances were kept entirely separate. In a narrative addendum to the 1938 master plan, Hall described segregation of the RDA:

The middle section was found to be favored with several excellent camp sites, with possibilities for dams and swimming ponds, play fields, and rugged foot trails. The north section was situated so that similar advantages might be developed and set aside for use by organizations for colored people, without fear of interference with white groups which would occupy the middle section. Thus it may be seen that the Chopawamsic Area was wisely chosen to serve the purposes of wild life encouragement, stream conservation and development, and provision for group camping and recreation by both white and colored welfare organizations.<sup>181</sup>

A few months later the proposed master plan was returned with instructions from the regional office to provide more information regarding separate and controlled entrances to the white and black portions of the RDA and plans for more extensive facilities. An internal road system was recommended, although only restricted maintenance roads would link white and black areas. While many of these features were built later or remained unbuilt, the original segregated zones of Chopawamsic are still apparent in the existing circulation system. Plans for adding day use areas were also presented in terms of providing segregated facilities. The regional office urged that swimming facilities be provided at the day use areas, stating that only picnic areas were available to white patrons at the Stafford Wayside and Manassas and Fredericksburg battlefields, while no "negro" day use facilities were available at all. This concession to the customs of the Jim Crow South was not without controversy within the Washington Park Service office, but the view of officials in Richmond prevailed.<sup>182</sup>

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dates or locations with Chopawamsic RDA reduces the usefulness of these photographs.

<sup>181</sup>W. R. Hall, "Report to Accompany Original Submission of the Master Plan for the Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area," typescript (1 January 1938), File 6553, Prince William Forest Park.

<sup>182</sup>Letter, Herbert Evison, Associate Regional Director, to S.M. Woodward, Inspector, (14 March 1938), File 3656, Prince William Forest Park. The regional office response listed a number of problems with the master plan as submitted, particularly a lack of comprehensive vision for the site, stating that "locations for group camps already built, or under construction, have been selected entirely on the merits of the individual sites alone and not because of any correlated planning or relation to the parks possible ultimate development as a whole. For further discussion of the segregation policy see Strickland, "Chapter Three - The Effects of Segregation on Park Management," 39-50. For more information regarding plans for expanding the recreational facilities at Chopawamsic, see Ira B. Lykes, "Report and Recommendation on the Operating Policy of the Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area," (1 November 1940), File 6612, Prince William Forest Park.

When the majority of the RDAs developed by the National Park Service reverted back to their respective states starting in 1939, Chopawamsic remained part of the National Capital Parks as originally planned. All five recreational camps were nearly complete by 1940. In 1941 Camp NP-16 enrollees built a park manager's residence, a modest Cape Cod structure similar to contemporary suburban architecture, and its two-car garage. The approach of World War II and the gradual shift of the CCC towards defense-related projects signaled the end of CCC recreational projects at Chopawamsic. By 1941, the only remaining CCC camp at Chopawamsic (NP-16) had been converted into a defense camp (NP (D)-12). On May 16, 1942, the War Department obtained a use permit for the entire area, including the former CCC camps and the recreational camps. Like Catoctin, Chopawamsic was used as a training area for Office of Strategic Services personnel, a precursor to the Central Intelligence Agency. During the fall of 1942, the War Department "winterized" the recreational camp buildings with new asphalt shingle roofs, Celotex lined tongue and groove wainscoting, and glazed sash windows. The Office of Strategic Services (precursor to the CIA) added a few structures to the recreational camps, such as the theater at Camp 4, but mainly adapted the existing structures. Military personnel were also being housed at the former CCC Camp NP (D)-12. At this time the Navy Department took over the wildlife preserve portion of the site south of Joplin Road for an extension to the Quantico Marine Base.<sup>183</sup>

During January 1946, it was agreed that the property would be transferred back to the Department of the Interior "without further restoration, provided that the additional buildings which have been erected, and the alterations and improvements which have been made, are permitted to remain."<sup>184</sup> Organized camping was resumed that spring and work progressed slowly on the park road system and a day use area near Camp 3. The Army Corps of Engineers assisted with park road and bridge construction from 1946-50. On August 20, 1948, the name was changed from Chopawamsic RDA to Prince William Forest Park. In 1950, the recreational camps were in high demand, with Camp 1 leased to the Twelfth Street YMCA (for "colored" boys from Washington), Camp 2 to the Camp Fire Girls, Camps 3 and 4 to the Washington Family Service Association for low income white and black groups, respectively, and Camp 5 to the Salvation Army.<sup>185</sup> The park was approximately 11,000 acres, with 5,000 acres in southern portion still controlled by Quantico Marine Base.<sup>186</sup>

***CCC Camps Developing Historic Resources in the National Capital Parks***  
***Camps NP-1-MD and NP-2-MD - Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Cabin John, Maryland***

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<sup>183</sup>Leach, Section E, 17; Inventory Form - Manager's Residence (QT-1), (September 1951), Folder 3015-21, Prince William Forest Park; Ira B. Lykes, Manager, "Narrative Report, Month of October, 1942, Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area, National Capital Parks," File 6665, Prince William Forest Park.

<sup>184</sup>"Declaration of Surplus Real Property - Chopawamsic RDA," (23 January 1946), File 6530, Prince William Forest Park.

<sup>185</sup>"Report of Camp Operations - Prince William Forest Park," (1950), File 6796, Prince William Forest Park.

<sup>186</sup>Strickland, 34-38

Stretching 184.5 miles from Cumberland, Maryland to Georgetown in the District of the Columbia, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal was an early-nineteenth-century transportation innovation for bringing coal and other raw materials from the hills of Western Maryland to the port of Georgetown. In its original vision, the canal was to serve as a link between the eastern United States and the western frontier of the Ohio and Mississippi River valleys. Decades after railroads surpassed canals as a means of commercial transport, the C&O Canal continued to operate, albeit on a much reduced basis. Finally in 1924, after years of dwindling profits and a final damaging flood, the C&O Canal was closed to commercial canal boat traffic. Earlier discussion of converting the canal right-of-way into a parkway or boulevard was revitalized by the closure.

With encouragement from Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission studied the possibilities of preserving the canal and building a parallel parkway on the adjacent hillside. A 1935 report from planner John Nolen, Jr. declared that:

There was unanimous agreement that the Canal should be preserved as a recreational waterway of great scenic and historical value for the full distance between Washington and the Monocacy and perhaps to Point of Rocks. . . We further concluded that the restoration of the canal as a scenic waterway was an ideal work relief project of almost boundless proportions.<sup>187</sup>

The idea of using work relief to restore the canal surfaced again in 1938. In June of that year, NPS Acting Director Demaray wrote:

As partial justification for the proposed purpose of the C&O Canal property, it has been stated that the said property is ideally adaptable to use for Civilian Conservation Corps purposes. We have in mind such CCC activities as erosion control, landscape and trail development, lock restoration, clean-up operations, etc.<sup>188</sup>

Demaray continued by informing Assistant General Counsel Daniel Willard:

It so happens that we have available at this time CCC camps which we would like to assign to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal project. If these camps are not started on this work now, we may not be in a position to utilize them on the canal project later. . . it occurred to us that you may be able to secure a clearance for our

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<sup>187</sup>Quoted in Barry Mackintosh, *C&O Canal: The Making of a Park*. (Washington, D.C.: History Division, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1991), 12; see Chapter One: Uncle Sam Buys and Canal, 5-20, for more details.

<sup>188</sup>Letter, A. E. Demaray, Acting Director, to Daniel Willard, Assistant General Counsel, (4 June 1938), File 650.03 C&O Canal, Box 2836, Entry 7 - Central Classified Files, 1933-49, RG 79, NARA, College Park, MD.

commencing CCC operations at once, notwithstanding the fact that the purchase contract for the canal property has not yet been executed by the Secretary.<sup>189</sup>

The C&O Canal was acquired officially by the National Park Service on September 23, 1938, from its debt-ridden owner, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The National Park Service used Public Works Administration funds to begin "extensive property, topographic, and hydrologic surveys. . . in connection with its acquisition and planned restoration and development as an historical and recreation area."<sup>190</sup>

At the same time, a pair of CCC camps was established near Cabin John and Carderock, Maryland, just outside of Washington, DC, to work on the canal project. This location was a central point in the area of the canal with the highest concentration of historic locks and lockkeeper's houses, due to the relatively steep elevation changes between Great Falls, Maryland, and Washington, DC. Camp NP-1-MD was established on September 19, 1938 by Company No. 325, shortly before official acquisition of the canal by the NPS. This camp continued until April 1, 1942 (11<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> enrollment period) and was then converted into a defense camp, NP (D) 3 from April 1, 1942 to July 29, 1942 (19<sup>th</sup> enrollment period). Camp NP-2-MD housed Company No. 333 enrollees from October 5, 1938 until November 15, 1941 (12<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> enrollment period).<sup>191</sup> Both of these camps were designated for African-American enrollees, representing the second and third segregated black camps established for the National Capital Parks.

Camp NP-1-MD was located near Cabin John and just upstream from the area of the canal known as Seven Locks (Locks No. 14-8 are grouped in relatively close proximity to each other). Construction of this camp was completed on October 25, 1938. Army Corps of Engineers records indicate that Camp NP-1-MD included the typical series of portable CCC buildings such as the T-shaped mess hall/kitchen, four 20x140 foot barracks, a 20x100 foot recreation hall, a 20x40 foot officers' quarters, a 20x80 foot technical service quarters (for NPS personnel), an educational building, two latrines for enrollees, office structures for both the army commander and the technical service supervisor, and a pump house as well as the usual project support buildings of garages and a blacksmith shop. While the enrollee barracks featured a one-room dormitory arrangement, the officers' quarters were divided into six rooms for five occupants and the technical service quarters into ten rooms for eight occupants. Bathrooms

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<sup>189</sup>Ibid.

<sup>190</sup>Edwin C. Bearss, "The National Park Service and Its History Program: 1864-1986 - An Overview," *The Public Historian* 9:2 (Spring 1987): 41; Unrau and Williss, Ch. 3, Section D, 2.

<sup>191</sup>Gerner Report, (1950), 84, and Coates, (1942), 1, both list June 18, 1938 as the starting date for Camp NP-1-MD while inspection reports indicate September 19, 1938. Perhaps this discrepancy in the records is due to efforts to obligate a CCC camp for the canal per Demaray's request in June 1938. A memorandum dated 6 August 1938 indicated that Willard had determined that "it will be possible to enter upon land for development purposes anywhere from six weeks to two or three months prior to the actual transfer of title to the canal property to the United States." See Memorandum, Hillory Tolson, Acting Director to Acting Secretary, (6 August 1938), File 650.03, Box 2837, Entry 7, RG 79, NARA.

account for the extra rooms in both quarters. The storage building and three garages built by the National Park Service were of rigid rather than portable construction. The education building was enlarged from 20x60 to 20x120 in 1939. At this time the commanding officer was 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. Edwin T. Arnold of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Reserves. Camp NP-1-MD had well water pumped into a tank tower, coal stove heating, and access to the city electrical system. The septic system had an outlet to the Potomac River and garbage generated by the camp was hauled away by a civilian pig farmer or burned in the incinerator at Camp NP-2-MD.<sup>192</sup>

An aerial photograph at the National Archives captured an excellent view of Camp NP-1-MD in late 1938 (Figure 53).<sup>193</sup> The camp was located near the south bank of the canal. The site was partially wooded with the CCC buildings arranged in orderly lines. The T-shaped mess hall/kitchen was visible closest to the canal. Two pairs of barracks were located to the north with the entrances on the short gable ends facing each other. Two latrine buildings were placed parallel between the two pairs of barracks. A group of five other supporting buildings was arranged in another parallel line to the north, with a few more located just west of the barracks and mess hall. A memorandum from December 1938 described the camp as “located on a rather heavily wooded bench above the river. Some clearing has been necessary, but the layout of the roads and buildings indicates that the larger trees have been saved and considerable thought was given to holding the clearing to the minimum. A temporary bridge has been thrown across the canal to gain access to the campsite.”<sup>194</sup> Drafted in response to a complaint about damage to area trees, this memorandum provides a useful account of the Camp NP-1-MD setting.

Camp NP-2-MD was located upstream a short distance from Camp NP-1-MD, close to the present Carderock picnic facility near the south bank of the canal. This camp was not officially completed until February 2, 1939. An oblique aerial photograph also taken in late 1938 shows Camp NP-2-MD still under construction (Figure 54).<sup>195</sup> The image shows rows of canvas tents still in use and the buildings in various stages of construction. The barracks appear to be most complete. The Potomac River is visible in the background and the canal in the foreground, indicating the camp’s location in the strip of land between these features. When complete Camp NP-2-MD had portable frame CCC buildings similar to those at Camp NP-1-MD. The four barracks were each 20x160 and divided into two rooms. A 20x10 bathroom included in the end of each barrack accounted for the size difference with Camp NP-1-MD. Also planned for approximately 200 enrollees, Camp NP-2-MD had a mess hall/kitchen, a 20x60 educational

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<sup>192</sup>“Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings - Camp NP-1-MD,” (January 1939, supplemental 4 October 1939), Box 1, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA.

<sup>193</sup>Folder - Camp Buildings - Aerials, Box 1, RG35-GE - Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Activities, 1933-40, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

<sup>194</sup>Memorandum for the Director, (10 December 1938), File 650.03, Box 2836, Entry 7, RG 79, NARA. This memorandum also describes both camps as having “only recently been established and manned, and construction of permanent housing facilities is just being completed.”

<sup>195</sup>Folder - Camp Buildings - Aerials, Box 1, RG35-GE - Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Activities, 1933-40, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

building, a 20 by 100 foot recreation building, a technical service quarters divided into thirteen rooms, and a seven-room officers' quarters. This camp also had a 20 by 100 foot building divided into a hospital, headquarters offices, and supply room. Initially all of the support buildings such as garages, blacksmith shop, and the pump house were portable, but later in 1939 the NPS built a "rigid" garage from salvaged material. A thirty-five-foot addition was constructed on either end of the educational building at this time as well. Utilities for Camp NP-2-MD were similar to its counterpart, with access to city electrical service, a septic sewerage system, and well water with a storage tank. By April 25, 1941 a garbage incinerator was housed in a 10 by 15 foot frame building for waste disposal. The company commander was 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. Everett D. Wilberger, 305<sup>th</sup> Calvary Reserves.<sup>196</sup>

Camp NP-1-MD and NP-2-MD enrollees, like those at other area camps, could participate in a variety of recreational and educational opportunities. Basketball, pool, ping-pong, boxing, and card games were offered the camps, as well as weekly movies and religious services and twice weekly recreation trips.<sup>197</sup> The inspection report for Camp NP-1-MD also indicated that many of the enrollees used the Twelfth Street YMCA, a segregated facility in the Shaw neighborhood of Washington, DC. Educational opportunities ranged from vocational training to academic subjects, including carpentry, truck driving, cooking, history, and teacher training. A description of the Camp NP-2-MD program described its results in glowing terms:

Numerous case histories can be cited of enrollees who have conquered illiteracy, other have erased common school deficiencies, others have developed vocational skills, some have broadened their occupational possibilities, some have secured jobs, and some have made a success in College and Trade Schools all of which is the result of some inherent factor or force found in the Camp's Educational and Training Program.<sup>198</sup>

Although the average daily attendance for educational programs was 34 out of 172 enrollees at this time, clearly the most motivated enrollees benefitted from this service. A National Archives photograph of enrollees from one of the Cabin John camps show nearly a dozen young men using woodworking machinery and tools, presumably as part of a carpentry training class being held in a CCC camp building (Figure 55). The tilt-in windows and exposed trusses are indicative of CCC construction. Another photograph shows a group of Camp NP-1-MD enrollees at a "national defense auto mechanics training class" being held in a school near Rockville (Figure 56). This photograph was taken on February 8, 1942, just a few months before the camp was

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<sup>196</sup> "Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings - Camp NP-2-MD," (April 1939, supplemental 25 April 1941), Box 1, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA.

<sup>197</sup> Camp Inspection Report - NP-2, (28 February-1 March 1941); Camp Inspection Report - NP-1, (2 February 1942), Box 94, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>198</sup> CCC Camp Educational Report - NP-2-MD, (25 August 1939), Box 94, Entry 115, RG 35.

converted into a defense camp.<sup>199</sup>

The two CCC camps focused their efforts on repairing and “rewatering” the twenty-two mile section of the canal between Washington, DC and Seneca, Maryland, including the area around historic Great Falls tavern.<sup>200</sup> The St. Patrick’s Day flood in 1936, which caused major flooding throughout the Northeast, inflicted considerable damage on the already neglected historic canal infrastructure. Photographs taken in 1938 show the dilapidated condition of the locks and lockkeeper’s houses and the effects of erosion and flooding on the towpath and canal (Figures 57 & 58).<sup>201</sup> The manual labor done by the enrollees was similar to other CCC camps - such as clearing brush and debris- but the main purpose of the C&O Canal-based camps was a noteworthy combination of historic preservation and recreational development. The list of CCC projects completed at the C&O Canal include reconstruction of “six room frame lockhouse,” as well as “razing undesirable structures” such as a five-room frame lockhouse.<sup>202</sup>

In addition to the associated structures, reconstruction of the canal itself was a major undertaking. The “excavation” project designation for C&O specified 50,700 cubic yards of work “shaping canal channel and repairing flood damage along towpath including breaks.” The enrollees hand placed 9,835 square yards of stone rip rap to protect the banks of the canal from erosion and to repair the “dry masonry walls adjacent to locks in flumes and along towpath in widewater.”<sup>203</sup> Widewater referred to an ancient river channel area incorporated into the canal design to function as a holding pool just below Great Falls and above the Seven Locks sequence (Figure 59). A progress plan from August 1939 indicates that water had been restored to the canal from Lock 5 to Georgetown and more limited progress at been made in other areas north to Seneca. Restoration of a small area directly north of Lock 20 at Great Falls was the next most complete, with the tow path and channel repaired.<sup>204</sup> During October 1939, much of the CCC focused on “repair of minor breaks in the towpath, clearing of underbrush, and the removal of deposits in the canal” in the Seven Locks area between Locks No. 8 and No. 14.<sup>205</sup> Much of the remaining work was completed during fiscal year 1940.

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<sup>199</sup>Photograph 35-G-41C-107B and Photograph 35-G-41C-1067, Box 41, RG35-G, Photographs of CCC Activities, taken by Walter J. Mead, 1937 and 1940-42, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

<sup>200</sup>Unrau and Williss, Ch 3, Section A, 9; See also Memorandum - Program for C&O Canal, (23 February 1939), File 650.03, Box 2836, Entry 7, RG 79, NARA. These notes following a meeting at the Director’s office emphasized the goals of developing recreational potential, with a focus on the Great Falls area, and keeping historic fabric as much as possible, with some necessary replacements.

<sup>201</sup>See Box 78, RG69-N - WPA, General Subject Series, 1933-44, and Box 2, RG79-G, NPS, Charles Porter Collection, 1928-1962, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

<sup>202</sup>Gerner Report (1950), 38.

<sup>203</sup>Ibid.

<sup>204</sup>Branch of Planning-National Capital Parks, “Progress Plan for the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, Georgetown, DC - Seneca, MD,” (1 August 1939), File 650.03, Box 2836, Entry 7, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>205</sup>“Report of Assistant Research Technicians Young and Jett, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Project,” (8 November 1939), File 650.03, Box 2836, Entry 7, RG 79, NARA.

Often the CCC enrollees worked in tandem with private contractors brought in with Public Works Administration funds to do more complex aspects of the project. This combined effort often makes distinguishing the exact work of the CCC from other participants difficult. A good example is the work completed at Locks 15 and 16 in the spring of 1940 (Figure 60 - check). In July 1939 National Park Service Branch of Engineering issued specifications for PWA Federal Project No. 712, which included “the furnishing and placing of earth fills and the construction of concrete retaining walls, spillways, culvert, stone walls, trestle and other work for the restoration of the C&O Canal in the vicinity of Widewater between Cropley, MD and Great Falls, MD.” This contract was awarded to Corson and Gruman of Washington, DC on September 8, 1939. Reconstruction of canal bypass flumes, intended to allow constant water flow and even water levels, was done in concrete for greater permanence than the historic log and earth construction. Portions of the concrete dam were covered with stacked logs to approximate the original appearance, as indicated in the plans that accompanied the specifications. While the heavy work on these locks was done by the contractor, considerable CCC activity in the area makes it likely that Camp NP-1-MD and NP-2-MD enrollees provided support for this effort.<sup>206</sup>

In the area around Great Falls, the CCC camps constructed several new structures in addition to their restoration work on the canal. The enrollees built a board and batten latrine building and the associated septic and plumbing near the historic tavern. The CCC also built a parking area for Great Falls, another important first piece of the C&O’s transition into a recreational amenity. Another new structure nearby was a two-story brick building housing a water filtration plant. The CCC also built a frame garage for the Army Corps of Engineers Washington Aqueduct maintenance yard adjacent to Great Falls. The garage included six equipment stalls, a repair shop, bulk storage, and office.<sup>207</sup>

Camp NP-1-MD and Camp NP-2-MD also received training and responsibility for fire protection along the Seneca to Georgetown portion of the canal.<sup>208</sup> Other duties for these camps included stocking fish in the canal, mosquito control, snow removal, and constructing the tennis courts at East Potomac Park. The enrollees also operated a rock crusher to obtain gravel for road and towpath repairs. As of January 1, 1942, 83,800 “man days” and \$25,100 in funding had been expended by Camp NP-1-MD on work projects and 74,900 “man days” and \$25,100 by Camp NP-2-MD.<sup>209</sup> Later that year the canal restoration was complete enough to allow the first

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<sup>206</sup>Branch of Engineering, Specifications - Public Works Administration Federal Project No. 712, (26 July 1939), File 650.03, Box 2 836, Entry 7, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>207</sup>Gerner Report, (1950), 39.

<sup>208</sup>See Raymond Sydansk, “Forest Protection Requirements Report for the C & O Canal Recreational Waterway Georgetown to Seneca Section,” Office of National Capital Parks, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, (April 1940). Typescript in files at C&O Canal headquarters in Sharpsburg, MD. The author thanks Marie Frias Sauter for bringing this document to her attention.

<sup>209</sup>Gerner Report, (1950), 101-102; Coates Report, (1942), 2.

recreational mule-driven canal boat rides to be offered with assistance from CCC enrollees.<sup>210</sup> After the United States entered into World War II, the focus of the remaining CCC camps shifted largely to civil defense training. Camp NP-1-MD was converted into a defense camp, NP (D) 3, for four months until it was discontinued on July 29, 1942. In October 1942 another flood damaged much of the repair work done by the CCC enrollees.<sup>211</sup> However, the work of the CCC enrollees was still instrumental in the conversion of the C&O Canal from a commercial to a recreational facility. The C&O was eventually made into a National Monument on January 18, 1961, marking its individual designation as a National Park Service unit beyond inclusion in the National Capital Parks. The C&O Canal then became a National Historical Park on January 8, 1971.

*Camp NP-4-MD, Fort Washington, Maryland*

One of the last CCC camps established in the Washington area before the program emphasis changed to civil defense was Camp NP-4-MD at Fort Washington in Prince George's County, Maryland. This camp was established on December 18, 1940 and terminated on December 20, 1941 (16<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup> enrollment period). Located on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River, Fort Washington was originally constructed in 1809 to protect the approach to the capital. Destroyed in 1814 to avoid falling into British hands, the fort was reconstructed by 1824 and expanded during the 1840s. Fort Washington was the only preexisting defensive installation of the ring of Civil War forts built around Washington, DC. Fort Washington was included in the transfer of Army property to the National Park Service in 1933 with Executive Order 6166, but the post was not fully abandoned until 1939.<sup>212</sup>

Camp NP-4-MD enrollees occupied the existing masonry barracks and a number of other Army buildings at Fort Washington. The large barracks building included sleeping quarters for 202 men, mess hall, commander's office, recreation hall, supply room, educational room, latrine and bathhouse. The three officers' quarters were four-room wood frame structures. Other Army buildings leased to the NPS for CCC use were the oil house, gymnasium, a ten-room barracks for the technical service quarters, and a six-room technical service office and tool room. The Park Service added a portable shop building and four portable 24 by 60 foot garages to the site.<sup>213</sup>

While the use of existing Army structures made the housing conditions better than average for CCC camps, supporting services were not as fully developed as at other, early CCC camps in the area. A letter from October 1941 indicated that company morale suffered due to a continued lack recreational and educational facilities. It was only a few weeks before closure in

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<sup>210</sup> A National Archives photograph (Photograph RG79-G-2P-34) published in Mackintosh, page 178, shows young men in CCC uniform assisting with boat operations. The *Canal Clipper* began service in Georgetown in July 1941. See Mackintosh, 181. Thank you to Rod Sauter for bringing this information to the author's attention.

<sup>211</sup> Macintosh, 46.

<sup>212</sup> Unrau and Willis, Chapter 1, Section E, 1.

<sup>213</sup> "Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings - NP-4-MD," Box 1, Entry 395, RG77, NARA.

December that a pool table was purchased and an educational advisor assigned to the camp. The gradual scaling back of the CCC and the shift to civil defense seems the likely reason for the scarce activities at Fort Washington.<sup>214</sup>

Before Camp NP-4-MD was established, Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt) performed an initial period of work at Fort Washington from April 1937 until September 1938.<sup>215</sup> Their efforts mainly focused on clearing brush, road construction, and improving drainage. Camp NP-4-MD continued these efforts and completed additional work projects at Fort Washington only. This camp demolished fifteen “undesirable” frame buildings and a 40x15x4-foot concrete wall (Figure 61). Other major duties for these enrollees included “reconnaissance,” landscaping, and maintenance of the grounds. Camp NP-4-MD also removed paint from some Fort Washington buildings, helped restore portions of the brick fortification, installed a heating plant, converted a storehouse into hangar, and manned a guide and contact station for the historic fort (Figure 62).<sup>216</sup> Additional historic photographs show the picnic tables and soil erosion prevention work done by the enrollees (Figure 63).<sup>217</sup>

With the start of World War II, the Fort Washington CCC camp was disbanded. The company strength had already dwindled by mid-October 1941, with only eight-one enrollees after sixteen recent departures to work in defense industries.<sup>218</sup> The Army Adjutant General’s training school relocated from Arlington Cantonment to Fort Washington in January 1942. Fort Washington served as a training school throughout most of World War II. In 1946 the property was again transferred to the U.S. Department of the Interior. The historic fort is now part of Fort Washington Park, a unit of National Capital Parks-East.

#### *Other Washington Area Civilian Conservation Corps Camps*

In addition to the twelve National Park Service CCC camps already discussed, several other CCC camps in the Washington area had some affiliation with the Park Service but did not work on National Capital Parks projects. In addition to utilizing the labor of Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt) enrollees, Fort Belvoir in Accotink, Virginia established two Army CCC camps in September 1935 - Camp Army-3-VA and Army-4-VA. These camps included a standard series

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<sup>214</sup>Letter, Charles H. Kenlan, Assistant to the Director, to War Department Representative, CCC, (13 October 1941); and Letter, Acting War Department Representative, CCC, to Director, CCC, (9 December 1941), both in Box 94, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

<sup>215</sup>Letter, S.M. Woodward, Jr., Inspector to Branch of Recreational Planning and State Co-operation, National Park Service, (17 May 1937), Box 44, Entry 20, RG79, NARA; Gerner (1950), 40, 93.

<sup>216</sup>Gerner (1950), 100.

<sup>217</sup>Photographs located in Folder 7 - Fort Washington, MD, Box 1, RG79-CCC- Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

<sup>218</sup>Letter, Charles H. Kenlan, Assistant to the Director, to War Department Representative, CCC, (13 October 1941), Box 94, Entry 115, RG 35, NARA.

of portable CCC structures.<sup>219</sup> NPS enrollees began working at Fort Belvoir in November 1940. One Fort Belvoir camp was redesignated Camp NP-1-VA from July 23, 1941 until July 24, 1942 (17<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup> enrollment period). The other became a civil defense camp - Camp NP (D)-6 - from October 1, 1941 until May 25, 1942 (18<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup> enrollment period). Most of the CCC work at Fort Belvoir involved “undifferentiated landscaping” of 297.1 acres, including “clearing underbrush, selective cutting, pulling stumps, and general cleanup of tactical area.”<sup>220</sup>

A state park camp, Camp SP-6-MD, located in Garrett Park, Maryland was established at the same time as Camp NP-14-DC in Rock Creek Park. Sponsored by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC), this camp was known as the Rock Creek Park Extension and mainly worked in the adjacent Montgomery County portions of the park under National Park Service supervision. It was active from April 16, 1938 until January 13, 1942 (11<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup> enrollment period).<sup>221</sup> Company No. 356, a group of white enrollees, was stationed at the camp. In addition to Rock Creek Park, this camp worked in Sligo Creek Park, and Kensington and Bethesda, Maryland. Camp SP-6-MD completed a number of major projects including five multi-plate arch vehicle bridges, 313 rods of guard rails, 118 signs, clearing and cleaning over 45,000 square yards of Rock Creek, and crushing and quarrying over 35,000 tons of rock for road construction.<sup>222</sup> In the fall of 1939, MNCPPC and officials in Kensington, Maryland requested that another CCC camp be established for work in Montgomery County, but CCC officials deferred action by saying that no new camps were being established at the present time.<sup>223</sup>

*Conclusion: Legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps in the National Capital Region*

By January 1, 1942, 885,500 man days and \$282,300 had been expended for work project materials by the National Park Service CCC camps in Washington, DC and immediately adjacent. The value of the CCC labor, at \$2 per day, was calculated as \$1,771,000. These figures do not include the extensive construction projects at the Recreational Demonstration Areas. The most productive camps were NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt) and Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park), with 257,000 and 224,600 man days of labor respectively. The largest expenditure for materials was by the Fort Dupont Park camp, \$83,100, with the next largest being \$56,300 spent by the Fort Hunt camp. The extent of the work done by these two camps far exceeded the approximately 80,000 man days of work each performed by Camps NP-8-VA (Arlington), NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), NP-1-MD, and NP-2-MD (C&O Canal). The smallest expenditure

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<sup>219</sup>“Historical Record of CCC Camp Buildings - Camp Army-3-VA and Army-4-VA,” Box 2, Entry 395, RG 77, NARA.

<sup>220</sup>Gerner, (1950), 42. For dates of occupation see page 94.

<sup>221</sup>Gerner, (1950), 85.

<sup>222</sup>Gerner, (1950), 73.

<sup>223</sup>See correspondence in Folder 2, Box 3, Entry 65, RG 79, NARA.

was at Camp NP-4-MD (Fort Washington) of 13,500 man days and \$3,300.<sup>224</sup>

Changes in the economy and the approach of World War II began to impact the CCC as early as 1939. That year another attempt to establish the CCC as a permanent federal agency failed to gain approval in Congress and the NPS was ordered to reduce the number of supervisory personnel involved in CCC work. According to Paige's administrative history of the CCC and NPS, "desertions among CCC enrollees were increasing as the ablest young men obtained employment outside the CCC and families became less dependent on the \$25 monthly allotment checks."<sup>225</sup> By 1940 many of the reserve military officers in charge of CCC camps were being called up for active military duty. The CCC educational programs were revamped to emphasize courses considered vital to national defense such as mathematics, blueprint reading, and basic engineering. During 1941, the CCC camps were gradually being scaled back due to a labor shortage and national defense preparations. By September 1941, the entire CCC was reduced to 900 camps and rules were adopted instituting twenty hours a week of mandatory defense training and drill in military formations. Some NPS camps were transferred to military reservations to do defense work or in the case of a number of National Capital Region camps, converted into official defense camps. The defense camps were located at Chopawamsic RDA, Fort Hunt, Fort Belvoir, Rock Creek Park, C&O Canal, and Fort Dupont Park. One major function of the remaining NPS CCC camps was construction of temporary recreation camps for military personnel on leave. Two of these tent camps were built for Washington, DC - one at the site of Camp NP-8-VA in Arlington and another in Anacostia Park.<sup>226</sup>

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and the declaration of war, the Park Service quickly reduced to 89 CCC camps, with 50 of these assigned to military and naval areas. In spite of Roosevelt's efforts to keep the program as part of the civil defense effort, the Civilian Conservation Corps program was officially terminated on June 30, 1942. On July 2, 1942 Congress passed a law ordering the CCC to liquidate its camp buildings, equipment, and supplies. This same authorization made all remaining National Capital Parks camps available for transfer to the War Department. An exception was part of Camp NP-7-DC at Fort Dupont Park, which was transferred back to the National Capital Parks for use as a maintenance headquarters. Conversion to civil defense camps also prolonged the use of selected sites.<sup>227</sup>

Wartime use and deferred maintenance often negatively impacted the new parks and recreational facilities created by the CCC. The military demands on the Washington area sites were particularly disruptive as many agencies and groups sought training or office space near the

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<sup>224</sup>Coates, (1942), 2. The camps included in this figure were NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park), NP-11-DC (National Arboretum), NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), NP-1-MD (C&O), NP-2-MD (C&O), NP-4-MD (Fort Washington), NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), NP-8-VA (Arlington), and NP (D)-1-VA.

<sup>225</sup>Paige, 28-29.

<sup>226</sup>Paige, 29-31; Gerner, (1950), 41.

<sup>227</sup>Paige, 32-33; Gerner, (1950), 4. See also Salmond, Chapter 12 - The Final Years, 200-217.

nation's capital. In spite of this set back, the Civilian Conservation Corps activities represent the most productive and widespread period of recreational development in the National Capital Region with the possible exception of the Mission 66 program during 1956-66. Even these later improvements built on the infrastructure and bureaucratic growth pioneered during the New Deal. Through conservation of natural resources, development of recreational facilities, and preservation of historic resources, the Civilian Conservation Corps activities represent an important step toward the diverse stewardship responsibilities of the National Park Service in future decades. While many of the projects completed by CCC enrollees in the Washington area were ephemeral in nature or have been altered, the collective effort of the camps helped establish the National Capital Region's first generation of modern recreational infrastructure.

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## **PART II: INVENTORY OF EXTANT CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS RESOURCES IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION.**

### **METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Between October 1933 and June 1942, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) employed boys and young men on projects in the National Capital Region (NCR) of the National Park Service (NPS). The CCC enrollees established a substantial amount of local park infrastructure and amenities, especially as urban amenities (Map 5). Unlike the Public Works Administration (PWA) and the Works Progress (“Projects” after 1939) Administration (WPA), whose larger scaled projects—buildings, bridges, airports, hard-top roadways, and others—survive with greater visibility and often without major alteration, the physical legacy of the CCC is more ephemeral and harder to locate in the present landscape. At some NCR locations, the CCC did create more substantial features and landscapes bearing greater potential for survival, for example parking lots, access roads, trails, picnic areas, drainage systems, tennis courts, and ball fields; however, natural degradation of materials, day-to-day maintenance, upgrades, repair, and replanting have impacted, obscured, and in many cases, eliminated the original outcomes.

Roaches Run Bird Sanctuary provides a good illustration of how resources constructed by the CCC in the NCR appear after seven decades of use and maintenance. Photographs dating from the 1930s show the parking area at Roaches Run, which runs parallel to the George Washington Memorial Parkway, during construction and after completion (Figures 64 & 65).<sup>228</sup> Fieldwork conducted as part of the inventory found the parking area’s general design still discernible, but the original “bituminous concrete surface” has either been removed or paved over with asphalt, and the log guard rails have been replaced by concrete curbing around the parking lot perimeter (Figure 66).<sup>229</sup> The CCC created the parking area and its associated elements, and these remain more-or-less in the same place and used for the same purpose; however, all material traces of the CCC work have been lost in the intervening decades.

For individual resources, survival rates are mostly dependent on the materials used in their construction. Stone fireplaces in picnic areas remain in a number of the parks, but early directional signs and guard rails have largely disappeared or been entirely replaced by modern equivalents. For example, an October 1936 photograph shows a table-and-bench unit at Fort Dupont Park, which was described in a contemporary account of CCC work as having “hand

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<sup>228</sup>Photographs located in Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>229</sup>Charles H. Gerner, “Report of Civilian Conservation Corps Operations in the National Capital Parks, October 15, 1933 – June 30, 1942,” June 1950, Washington, D.C., 43, for surfacing. A photocopy of what appears to be the original typescript, but bearing no citation noting where the original is presently located, can be found in a folder entitled “Ft. Hunt – Civilian Conservation Corps,” at the Virginia District Office and Library, George Washington Memorial Parkway offices, Arlington, Virginia.

hewn timber, structural members and plank top table construction, half log on timber supports for benches” (Figure 67).<sup>230</sup> The original tables are gone and have been replaced with table-and-bench combinations constructed of more durable materials, such as tubular steel and planks made of plastic or some other type of synthetic material (Figure 68). These examples demonstrate some of the limitations that affected the development of a methodology and an approach to fieldwork for this regional inventory of tangible CCC-era resources in the NCR.

These conditions also make it difficult to target sites for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places on the basis of CCC activity alone. Some sites have already been listed for CCC-related efforts, such as Camps 1, 2, 3, and 4, and other support structures, at Prince William Forest Park (Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area). Similarly, there are two 1930s cabin camps (Misty Mount and Greentop) already designated as National Register districts at Catoctin Mountain Park (Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area). Although similar to the camps built at Prince William, the WPA constructed the Catoctin camps prior to the establishment of the CCC in the area. Many sites included in this inventory possess clear remnants of the CCC, but few have structures or landscapes that retain enough integrity to warrant a National Register designation. There are a few exceptions, including a collection of extant buildings and features at the C & O Canal’s Great Falls visitor’s center, and Fort Bunker Hill and Fort Stevens parks.

#### **DOCUMENTARY BASIS FOR THE INVENTORY**

Two texts provide the documentary foundations for this regional inventory. Early in 1942, the NPS issued a report entitled “Inventory of Work Accomplished by CCC Camps Under the Jurisdiction of National Capital Parks, October 19, 1933—January 1, 1942” (hereafter “1942 report”).<sup>231</sup> Field Supervisor Ray M. Schenck explained the reason for its creation:

Since January 1, 1942, National Capital Parks CCC Camps have been engaged largely on defense work. This report, therefore presents a rather complete, up to date history of the CCC contribution to the advancement of park and recreational development programs for the District of Columbia and environs.<sup>232</sup>

Work summaries imbedded in job completion records for each CCC camp furnished the baseline information for the 1942 report.<sup>233</sup> Eight years later, the NPS issued a second document entitled

<sup>230</sup> Photograph located in Folder 1, Box 1, RG 79-TR, Pictures Division, NARA; Gerner (1950), 21, for description of construction.

<sup>231</sup> Robert M. Coates [for Ray M. Schenck, Field Supervisor], “Inventory of Work Accomplished by CCC Camps Under the Jurisdiction of National Capital Parks, October 19, 1933—January 1, 1942,” 1942, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., Folder Progress Reports, Box 44, Entry 20, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>232</sup> Memorandum, Ray M. Schenck to the Director of the National Park Service, 31 Mar. 1942, included in Coates (1942) after the title page and before page one.

<sup>233</sup> Gerner (1950), 12–14.

“Report of Civilian Conservation Corps Operations in the National Capital Parks, October 15, 1933—June 30, 1942.” Although reproducing the information and basic organizational structure of the earlier report, the later version broadened the scope of the earlier one.<sup>234</sup> New sections included: a brief contextual essay with a general history of the CCC; appendices noting legislation pertinent to the formation and function of the CCC; a list of occupancy periods for the various CCC camps; outline of enrollment periods for the CCC; and an index to individual job completion records. The 1950 report also expanded the number of sites, and chronicled work that occurred at the Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area, Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, Quantico, Stafford Wayside, and Manassas Battlefield.

In preparation for onsite fieldwork, the information contained in these reports was entered into a database created within the HABS/HAER/HALS Information System (HHIS). The inventory database, structured using FileMaker Pro software, was organized by site, with each entry page providing a location, units and description of the work, and a CCC job classification code. By cross referencing the “Index to Individual Job Completion Records” with the site-by-site list of work completed it was possible to link many projects with specific CCC camps.<sup>235</sup> The 1942 and 1950 reports are, at present, the most comprehensive known documentary sources on which to base this survey. Record groups at NARA accessed during research uncovered surviving individual job completion records for the camps, but chronological gaps exist, camp representation in the documentary record is uneven, and the information contained within the completed records varies from camp to camp.<sup>236</sup> The 1942 and 1950 reports enumerated and summarized the information contained in the job completion records at a time when the sources could still be considered current and were likely in a more complete series than at present.<sup>237</sup>

#### **SITE SELECTION FROM LOCATIONS INCLUDED IN THE 1942 AND 1950 REPORTS**

The CCC projects itemized in the 1942 and 1950 reports as occurring in the “National Capital Parks” did not necessarily happen at places presently owned and/or administered by the federal

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<sup>234</sup>Ibid., for its 1942 foundations.

<sup>235</sup>Ibid., 93–102, for “Index to Individual Job Completion Records.”

<sup>236</sup>Sharing manpower and expertise between CCC camps further grays the documentary record, as observed by project manager, J. H. Peterson in a 1934 narrative report of work completed. He wrote: “the work at Roaches Run was actually work assigned to N.P. Camp #6; but in order to help out there, we were requested to assist in the carrying out of their program.” J. H. Peterson, “Narrative Report July 1, 1934 - October 1, 1934, N.P. Camp #7, Benning, D.C.,” Box 13, Entry 42, RG79, NARA.

<sup>237</sup>While the reports provide the most comprehensive source for the work done by the CCC in the NCR, an April 1942 memo from Ray M. Schenck, the Field Supervisor for whom the 1942 report was compiled, to “All CCC Project Superintendents,” acknowledged gaps in information even among job completion records submitted to his office. He wrote: “recently, numerous completion records...have been received with important information lacking, greatly impairing their value and usefulness [*sic*].” These omissions stemmed in large part from a situation where “many camps have been terminated on short notice” with “personnel...separated or transferred, making it difficult to close the camp records with the time and personnel available.” See Memorandum, Ray M. Schenck to “All CCC Project Superintendents,” 22 Apr. 1942, Box 44, Entry 20, RG 79, NARA.

government. For example, the CCC worked at a number of the recreation centers and playgrounds now owned and managed by the District of Columbia. The following list indicates sites that were eliminated from the survey because they are not *currently* administered by the National Capital Region of the National Park Service.

**Abingdon (Nellie Custis Birthplace), Arlington County, Virginia**

The NPS maintained and administered the Abingdon site as a stop of historical interest along the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway/George Washington Memorial Parkway (Figure 69). In April 1935, a job completion report for CCC Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt) indicated that the enrollees had completed an improved access road, parking area for twenty cars, general landscaping, a concrete pad for a monument at the site, and a new well house, which officials conceived “as close as possible to the design...which was in use when Nellie Custis lived there.”<sup>238</sup> Not long after this intervention, the NPS turned over tracts for the construction of National Airport that included the Abingdon ruins. This construction required movement of the roadway, further isolating motorists from the historic site. It is currently marooned among parking garages for the airport and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority maintains the site.<sup>239</sup>

**Arlington National Cemetery (Department of the Army)**

**Banneker Recreation Center, District of Columbia**

**Boy Scout Jamboree—temporary installation, Arlington County, Virginia**

**Brentwood Park Recreation Center, District of Columbia**

**Chevy Chase Recreation Center, District of Columbia**

**Edgewood Playground, District of Columbia**

**Fort Belvoir, Virginia**

**Howard Playground, District of Columbia**

**National Arboretum (Department of Agriculture)**

**National Defense Projects**

Arlington, Virginia (U. S. Army Recreation Camps, temporary structures)

Anacostia Park, D.C. (U. S. Army Recreation Camps, temporary structures)

Fort Belvoir, Virginia (U.S. Army Reservation)

**Palisades Playground, District of Columbia**

**Quantico Marine Corps Reservation, Virginia**

**Rose Park Playground, District of Columbia**

**Stafford Wayside, U.S. Highway 1, Stafford County, Virginia**

**Taft Recreation Center, District of Columbia**

**Takoma Recreation Center, District of Columbia**

<sup>238</sup>C. S. Watson, Camp NP-6-VA Superintendent, to the Director of the National Park Service, 1 Apr. 1935, Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA, for summary of work.

<sup>239</sup>Matthew Virta, Cultural Resource Manager, George Washington Memorial Parkway, to author, electronic correspondence, 29 Aug. 2005.

### **Elimination of National Capital Region Sites**

Some work completed by the CCC at sites currently administered by the NCR fell outside the survey's scope. Landscape maintenance or sub-surface infrastructure projects, such as seeding and sodding grounds or laying water pipes, left few visible remains for a physical inventory, and in a few cases, more substantive work could not be verifiably located. The following NCR sites were eliminated from the inventory for this reason. *The number in parentheses following the site name specifies the page on which references to the site and related jobs can be found in the 1950 report.*

#### **Anacostia Park, Section F (31)**

"Clearing brush and grubbing stumps"

#### **Fort Davis (25)**

"General cleanup, grading and seeding slopes"

#### **Fort Drive (21, 97-98)**

The 1950 report notes work on Fort Drive in four different places. Only "Fort Drive, Reservation 518" warranted inclusion in the inventory and can be found under the heading for "Fort Dupont Park." The other Fort Drive entries are "Fort Drive, Reservation No. 497" (21) and two projects listed in the "Index to Individual Job Completion Records" referred to as Fort Drive "Section 1" and "Section 2" (97-98). These projects included: "grading roads," "head walls," "soil preparation," "seeding and sodding," "maintenance, roads and trails," "diversion ditches," "minor roads," "removal of trash and dead trees," and "selective cutting."

#### **Fort Stanton (24)**

"Removal of trash, dead and fallen trees"

"Grading to obliterate [borrow pit] scars"

#### **Fort Totten (24)**

"Removal of trash, dead and fallen trees, and selective cutting of brush and trees"

#### **Leiter Estate, Virginia (37, 92-93)**

Upon acquiring the Leiter estate, the NPS planned to turn the acreage "into a public recreation area...form[ing] a section of the George Washington Memorial Parkway."<sup>240</sup> Enrollees from Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt) engaged in "selective cutting to open up desirable vistas of the river." In addition to creating view sheds, they further enhanced visitor amenities with the construction of 2.5 miles of foot trails and fifteen table-and-

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<sup>240</sup>"Park Work Begun on Leiter Estate," *Evening Star* 20 Aug. 1936: A-2.

bench combinations, five of which were completed in February 1937.<sup>241</sup> This work probably occurred in what is now Turkey Run Park.

**Manassas Battlefield (53)**

Installation of 900 rods of “3 strand barbed wire” fencing  
“Temporary reviewing stand and band stand and press box”

**Reservation E-87 (26)**

“log curb”  
“ornamental shrub border”  
“sodding”  
“grading and topsoiling”

**Reservation No. 107 (26)**

“Regrading area and topsoiling”

**Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway (32)**

Work along parts of the parkway included excavation of the stream channel and rip rapping both banks, reducing slope gradient and improving soil for erosion control, construction of a wall, top soiling, fine grading, seeding, sodding, and planting 20,000 trees and shrubs.

**Other Sites and Work Completed**

Appendix H in the 1950 report notes “CCC Work Accomplishments Under the Supervision of the National Park Service” completed by “Maryland-Washington Metropolitan District MD, SP-6, Garrett Park, Maryland.”<sup>242</sup> The most substantial projects were a “multi-plate arch vehicle bridge” and a garage bearing the dimensions 87’ x 23’ x 14’, neither with a specified location.

The “Index to Individual Job Completion Records” in the 1950 report contains a section entitled “Miscellaneous Projects” most of which were landscape oriented, such as razing “undesirable” structures. This section also recorded CCC participation in model making, as well as clerical activities and lab work at the Department of the Interior. In this section, only the “swing bridge” built at Carderock met the criteria for inventory and is discussed in the section on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal CCC Camps.

**SITE INVENTORY AND FIELD SURVEY RESULTS**

The development of the fieldwork methodology, creation of the FileMaker Pro database, and specific onsite surveys were conducted between September 2003 and February 2005. Fieldwork

<sup>241</sup>S. M. Woodward, Jr., “E. C. W. Inspector’s Monthly Report, National Capital Park Camps NP-6, NP-7 and NP-8,” 1 Mar. 1937, Box 44, Entry 20, RG 79, NARA, for five table-and-bench combinations.

<sup>242</sup>Gerner (1950), 73.

activities included locating features known to have been created by the CCC. If found, the surveyors took digital reference images of surviving features and recorded the resource location with a GPS point. Through unique numbering, this data linked the electronic inventory in the HHIS and geographic information systems (GIS), allowing the spatial distribution of CCC resources to be examined. Surveyors identified each existing CCC resource from the documentation, then collected its location using global positioning systems (GPS). A satellite-based navigation system, GPS provides one way to collect accurate geographic coordinates for GIS map layers. Achieving sub-meter detail, GPS works by triangulating the position of a receiver on the earth using satellite signals. Once located, information about each CCC resource was attached to the GIS feature, for use in planning and analyzing the inventory results.

### **Golf Course Development by the CCC**

The construction of golf courses in the NCR by the CCC stood as one of the more ambitious job types and warranted its own section. The importation and popular embrace of golf in the United States occurred both swiftly and intensely. In 1896, there were eighty known courses of varying size and quality in the country, by 1929, there were 5,648.<sup>243</sup> Golf was generally an upper-class activity when it first appeared in North America; however, by the 1920s and 1930s municipal courses encouraged wider popularity and play among other social groups. The Great Depression stifled nearly all private golf course development, but the creation and expansion of public golfing facilities continued with WPA-sponsored projects, which employed up to 200 workers per course for grading instead of bulldozers and steam shovels.<sup>244</sup> Given land constraints at urban parks and depression-era budgets, new state-sponsored golf courses were probably similar to the American courses constructed in the first decades of the twentieth century, described in *The Architects of Golf*: “some early layouts had holes crossing one another. Nearly all greens were indistinguishable from fairways...[but] for all their shortcomings, American courses at the turn of the century were functional.”<sup>245</sup> Small and simple public courses could be economically built by occupying expanses of lawn, and easily “disappear” when the courses were later decommissioned.

Full or partial development of golf courses occurred in the NCR at five, and possibly six separate sites: Anacostia Park, Section D; Anacostia Park, Section G—Langston Recreation Center; East Potomac Park; Fort Dupont; and Fort Hunt (Map 6). Of these sites, only a considerably enlarged Langston Golf Course, now a private concession operated on National Park Service property, and similarly administered golf courses in East Potomac Park are currently in use. *Numbers in parenthesis refer to pages of relevant information found in two sections of the 1950 report:*

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<sup>243</sup> Geoffrey S. Cornish and Ronald E. Whitten, *The Architects of Golf: A Survey of Golf Course Design from Its Beginnings to the Present, with an Encyclopedic Listing of Golf Course Architects and Their Courses* (New York: HarperCollins, 1993), 36, for 1896, 84, for 1929.

<sup>244</sup> *Ibid.*, 106.

<sup>245</sup> *Ibid.*, 46.

*“Appendix A: Form No. 7, Classification Summary by Locations” and “Appendix O: Index to Individual Job Completion Records.”*

**Anacostia Park, Section D (30)**

One-hundred seventy feet of drain tile for golf course  
Two acres of soil preparation, providing for alteration to the existing golf course in the form of two greens and two tees.

Although no obvious trace remains, the flat ground extending to the northeast and southwest of the swimming pool and tennis courts (1930s WPA and CCC efforts, respectively) could have accommodated a course. In 1938, plans existed for an 18-hole course linking nine new holes in Fort Dupont Park, then under development, with nine existing holes in Anacostia Park.<sup>246</sup>

**Anacostia Park, Section G (98)**

Soil preparation for golf course development

**Langston Recreation Center (31)**

Moving and planting 200 trees at golf course  
Thirty-five acres of topsoiling for nine-hole golf course, including the grading of traps and tees  
Thirty-four acres of seeding and one acre of sodding at golf course

The documentary record provides separate listings for these courses, but they are grouped here on account of their geographic overlap. Langston will be discussed in more detail within the inventory. Presently, Section G includes parkland on both sides of the river, including Langston. If the “section” designations have remained consistent over time, it is possible that in the past two separate courses existed, one for black players at Langston on the west side of the river and one for white players on the east side. However, because Section D of Anacostia Park contained a course, almost certainly segregated for white players only, golf course development in Section G and at the “Langston Recreation Area” might refer to the same course.

**East Potomac Park (26)**

Four thousand feet of tile lines for surface drainage of golf course

A much-expanded and updated facility is located on national parkland and still in operation. It currently includes 18-hole and 9-hole courses, a 9-hole par-3 course, and a lighted driving range.

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<sup>246</sup>Fort Dupont Park Historic Resources Study, 169.

### **Fort Dupont (20, 96)**

Removal of thirty-one acres of trees and brush from golf course fairways  
“Developing (continuation)” of Fort Dupont golf course

In 1928, the National Capital Parks of the National Park Service generally targeted Fort Dupont Park for the site of a new District golf course.<sup>247</sup> As of 1939, no golf course had been built, but officials anticipated its construction sometime in the next five to ten years.<sup>248</sup> In 1940, the CCC enrollees worked on a grandiose scheme planned to connect nine new holes in Fort Dupont Park to nine existing ones in Anacostia Park, creating an 18-hole course.<sup>249</sup> This course was never completed as planned. A modified 9-hole course entirely within Fort Dupont Park’s boundaries opened in 1948, and remained in use until 1972 at which time the NPS redeveloped the land for other purposes.<sup>250</sup>

### **Fort Hunt (94)**

“Golf course development”  
“Golf course shelter”

The flat, open space at the park’s center currently occupied by ball fields might have been the location of Fort Hunt’s golf course. As of 1939, plans for completing the course were projected for the next five to ten years. World War II and the termination of the CCC interfered with these plans.<sup>251</sup>

## **Annotated List of Inventoried Sites**

### **Anacostia Park, Sections D and F (30, 31, 92, 94, 97-98)**

**Parkland running along both the east and west sides of the Anacostia River in Northeast and Southeast Washington, DC.**

Anacostia Park consists of 1200 acres along both sides of the Anacostia River. On the west bank, the park extends from the District-Prince George’s County line south to the Washington Navy Yard, and on the east bank from the same northern municipal boundary south to the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge. Between 1933 and 1942, the CCC engaged in a comparatively small amount of work at the park when compared with their more extensive activities at Fort Dupont, along the C & O Canal, and at Fort Hunt. In

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<sup>247</sup>Ibid., 168.

<sup>248</sup>Memorandum, C. Marshall Finnan, Superintendent, National Capital Parks, to Conrad L. Wirth, 30 Jan. 1939, Box 4, Entry 63, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>249</sup>Fort Dupont Park Historic Resources Study, 169-170.

<sup>250</sup>Ibid., 171, 174.

<sup>251</sup>Memorandum, Finnan to Wirth, 30 Jan. 1939, Box 4, Entry 63, RG 79, NARA.

Anacostia Park, landscaping activities occurred on nine acres of Section F. Enrollees at Camp NP-6-VA at Fort Hunt fashioned a model of this portion of the park. Section D saw the greatest CCC efforts. This section is bounded by the John Phillip Sousa Bridge on the north and the Martin Luther King Memorial (11<sup>th</sup> Street) Bridge on the south, along the Anacostia's east bank<sup>252</sup> In 1935, the National Park Service used funds from the Public Works Administration and expanded an existing recreation center by remodeling a field house to serve a newly-constructed swimming pool.<sup>253</sup> The CCC landscaped around this facility, built three tennis courts, and established a golf course and areas of lawn.

Fieldwork in 2004 found virtually no physical remnants of the CCC at Anacostia Park. The golf course in Section D does not survive and expanses of lawn and parking areas now surround the WPA-funded pool, obliterating their landscaping. Tennis courts located to the north of the swimming pool are surfaced in modern materials, are encircled by relatively new fencing, and have recently-installed, handicapped-accessible drinking fountains. These courts are possibly located, at least in part, on the site of the three courts created by the CCC in the 1930s.

**Summary:** Beyond the graded lawn surrounding the swimming pool and general tennis court location, a CCC presence in Anacostia Park has largely been obscured by decades of use, degradation, and redevelopment.

### **Barnard Hill (25, 93, 95)**

**An irregular precinct, roughly bounded by Eastern Avenue, and Randolph, Twenty-second, and Twenty-fourth streets, NE, Washington, DC.**

This park is located in the Northeast quadrant of the District of Columbia, straddling the border with Maryland along Eastern Avenue. The CCC developed the top of this hillside site into a picnic grounds covering one-sixth of an acre.<sup>254</sup> The picnic facilities featured six fireplaces constructed of stone and fire brick, and twelve table-and-bench combinations. The enrollees fine-graded the site, constructed a twelve-foot-wide "temporary" access road, and moved and planted trees and shrubs around the hilltop picnic area.

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<sup>252</sup>Camps NP-7-DC (1933-1942) and its short-lived successor NP (D)-2 (1942), both located at Fort Dupont, were responsible for the work completed in Section D.

<sup>253</sup>"Report on the Building Program from the Allotments of the Public Works Administration, 1933-1937, Eastern Division, National Park Service," compiled by J. R. Thrower for Thomas C. Vint, Chief Architect, Branch of Plans and Design, [National Park Service], 27, RG 4, Harpers Ferry, WV.

<sup>254</sup>Three camps are associated with two of the projects at Barnard Hill. Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt) is documented as responsible for construction of the six fireplaces. This camp was active from 1933 until 1941. Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), active from 1938 until 1942, and Camp NP (D)-1 (Rock Creek Park), active only in 1942, are recorded constructing the temporary entrance road.

The 2004 field survey found the picnic area's open space considerably expanded beyond the original one-sixth of an acre, and arranged around two distinct nodes, each with a few tables and trash receptacles. Stands of trees and a thick understory encircle this open landscape. A gravel road provides access to the site from the street and extends along the top of the hill. None of the original picnic tables, nor remnants of the grills appear to survive. Present picnic tables are modern replacements. The low stone grills might survive in the thick undergrowth of the woodland screen, but no remains could be located during the site visit.

**Summary:** The landscape interplay between the open hilltop picnic grounds and the ring of trees and shrubs that screen the area from the surrounding residential blocks is the only extant feature of CCC work at Barnard Hill Park

#### **Catoctin Mountain Park (54-55, 56-72) Frederick County, MD**

In 1939, three years after the start of construction, the CCC established Camp NP-3-MD to continue development of the Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area (RDA).<sup>255</sup> In addition to building their own camp structures at Round Meadow, the enrollees built a bath house, custodian's dwelling, trailside shelters along the Appalachian Trail, power and telephone lines, components of water and sewerage systems, retaining walls, and roads. They also graded, seeded, sodded, and planted trees and shrubs, and built the "Manor House Day Use Area," located near the Catoctin Furnace, a popular local historic site. This day-use area included a large picnic shelter with two adjacent fireplaces for cooking, a large parking area, a pump house, and a stone wall along Old U. S. Route 15 (Figures 70 & 71, see also 40).

Fieldwork in 2005 found few extant CCC resources in the portions of the Catoctin RDA that are now part of the NCR. The large picnic shelter (slightly altered) and adjacent parking area remain in use at "Manor House Day Use Area," but the site is no longer part of a NCR park. In 1954, the acreage formerly comprising the Catoctin RDA was split between Catoctin Mountain Park and Cunningham Falls State Park (Maryland), which included the Manor House area. Of the remaining CCC resources considered for the inventory, the bath house and drinking fountains (4) at Camp 3-B were subsumed by Camp David, the custodian's dwelling at Blue Blazes burned sometime after the 1930s, and the trailside shelters on the Appalachian Trail exist in Maryland state parkland. At Round Meadow, a few scattered foundation remnants of Camp NP-3-MD are purported to exist in the woods, but the camp site has been redeveloped as a year-round mobile home park.

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<sup>255</sup>See section on "Camp NP-3-MD Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, Thurmont, Maryland," for more information about the CCC at this site.

**Summary:** Few, if any, CCC-era resources survive at Catoctin Mountain Park. The only significant extant CCC work is located in the Manor House Day Use Area in the adjacent Cunningham Falls State Park (Maryland).

**Chesapeake & Ohio Canal (38, 101-102)**  
**Montgomery County, MD**

By the time of CCC's establishment, the C & O Canal ceased functioning as a part of regional commerce. The railroad and trucks supplanted canal boats for moving goods long distances, and a series of disastrous floods, particularly the one in 1924, contributed to its full closure. In 1938, the CCC set up two camps along the canal, NP-1-MD and NP-2-MD. Part of the rationale behind their formation and physical location likely related to additional, severe flood damage in March 1936. After the NPS formally took over the canal in September 1938, they concentrated on repair, reconstruction, and rewatering along its first twenty-two miles. A 1939 *Washington Herald* article explained: "immediate work on the long range restoration project which is expected to cover a period of three to five years will be carried on in the 22 mile stretch from the Georgetown terminal."<sup>256</sup> Their efforts included rip rap and the construction of dry laid masonry walls along the towpath in Widewater, and reshaping the canal prism at various points.<sup>257</sup> The enrollees also repaired and reconditioned locks, lock houses, dams, and stop lock water controls, and restored the towpath in areas damaged by the floods. Additional CCC efforts included survey work, fire suppression, studies for restoring the canal, mosquito suppression, road maintenance, stocking fish, snow removal, conducting a search party for "lost boys," and possibly help with the movement of boats through the refurbished canal.<sup>258</sup>

Exact details about the CCC work along the canal are not plentiful, and the physical remains of their work has been compromised by periodic flooding along the canal, most recently and seriously in 1996. Extant rip rap is evident along the towpath in the Widewater area, but it is not known how much has been repaired or replaced since the CCC worked there in the 1930s (see Figure 59). Enrollees reconditioned or restored a number of lock houses, but exactly what this work entailed is not known. They also assisted contracted firms with lock refurbishment and related reconstruction. For example, the CCC worked on the lock, bypass flume, and lock house located at Lock #15, a project whose principal construction was carried out by Corson and Gruman

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<sup>256</sup>"400 CCC Boys Building Park Along Canal," *Washington Herald* 21 Jan. 1939.

<sup>257</sup>The "canal prism" is referred to as the "canal channel" in the 1950 report.

<sup>258</sup>Rod Sauter to author et al, electronic correspondence, 18 Jul. 2005, for information about CCC involvement with canal boat operations.

beginning in September 1939 according to National Park Service specifications (Figures 72 & 73, see also 58 & 60).<sup>259</sup>

**Summary:** The CCC engaged in projects along the C & O Canal that repaired and restored the canal prism and related locks, dams, and structures along its first twenty-two miles. Physical remains of their efforts are few in number, and their legacy is best understood as baseline efforts in the canal landscape's transformation from commercial waterway to recreational amenity.

**Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, CCC Camp NP-1-MD (1938-1942) and CCC Camp NP-2-MD (1938-1941) (38, 101-102)  
Montgomery County, MD**

These two CCC camps, located adjacent to one another near Carderock and Cabin John, Maryland were established in 1938, both for black enrollees.<sup>260</sup> Each camp comprised many of the standard, lightweight buildings found in most CCC camps, including: barracks, mess hall/kitchen, a recreation hall, officers' quarters, educational building, latrines, office structures, garages, a blacksmith shop, a pump house, and other support buildings. These two camps also included "technical service quarters" for NPS staff—the NPS acquired the C & O Canal in 1938—and were served by municipal electricity, a septic system, and well water. Hospital facilities and a garbage incinerator were also present at Camp NP-2-MD. A swing bridge built by the CCC near Camp NP-1-MD supplemented an historic culvert under the canal for access to the site.

Fieldwork found that virtually nothing survives from these camps. A capped wellhead remains in woodlands stretching between the C & O Canal and the Potomac River and provides the only extant physical evidence of Camp NP-1-MD. The stone supports for the swing bridge over the canal remain in good repair near this camp. The general location of Camp NP-2-MD is known. It is now part of the Carderock Recreation Area. As late as 1997, an aerial photograph taken during a mapping project revealed that outline of Camp NP-2-MD's clearing was still evident, even while half of the open space had been reforested.<sup>261</sup>

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<sup>259</sup>The structures at Lock #15 are highlighted because the CCC is known to have generally worked on diversion dams, lock houses, and specifically, "stop lock water controls, Widewater area," at whose northern end this lock is located. Additionally, two pre-restoration photographs of the grouping, dated September 1938 and located at the National Archives and Records Administration, provide a comparative view of "before" and "after." See Branch of Engineering, Specifications - Public Works Administration Federal Project No. 712, (26 Jul. 1939), File 650.03, Box 2836, Entry 7, RG 79, NARA, for Corson and Gruman.

<sup>260</sup>See the section on "Camps NP-1-MD and NP-2-MD Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Cabin John, Maryland" for more information about these CCC camps and this site.

<sup>261</sup>Rod Sauter to author et al, electronic correspondence, 18 Jul. 2005, for the 1997 aerial photography.

**Summary:** Only traces of CCC Camps NP-1-MD and NP-2-MD remain extant. The footings of a swing bridge over the canal and a well cap at Camp NP-1-MD, and some of Camp NP-2-MD's original clearing survive (Figure 74).

### **Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, Great Falls Development (39, 101-102) Montgomery County, MD**

After 1940, the CCC assisted in the creation of basic visitor amenities at Great Falls, which was slated to become "one of the main recreational centers...along the line of the canal."<sup>262</sup> This development was part of the plan to turn the canal's first twenty-two miles into what the *Washington Herald* envisioned in 1939 as a "recreation paradise."<sup>263</sup> The CCC-built structures included: a 29'-5" x 20'-0" board-and-batten latrine (comfort station) and its related water and sewage lines, and a two-story, brick, water filtration plant building measuring 25'-4" x 15'-10", with related, mostly subterranean, tanks and wells. These structures are located near the historic Great Falls Tavern. The CCC built at least a rudimentary parking area for visitors in the general vicinity, which required the razing of "undesirable structures" on the site. On a bluff just above these structures, the CCC also constructed a frame "Engineers Garage," 87'-6" x 24'-0" with a 13'-4" x 10'-4" ell, bearing six stalls, a repair shop, bulk storage, and an office. This construction also included a 440-square-yard service court and a 16' access road. As in a number of other National Capital parks, the CCC created much of the infrastructure necessary to establish a visitor center at Great Falls.

Although not noted in the 1942 or 1950 reports, the CCC likely constructed a boiler house providing heat for at least the nearby comfort station.<sup>264</sup> A tall square chimney rises out of the small brick structure, and it is similar in size, material, form, and function to an oil storage shed at Fort Hunt and a small heating plant constructed at Fort Washington, both resulting from CCC efforts.

There are two significant structures at this site that predate the CCC-era construction, both with Second Empire detailing. A large stone control gatehouse for the Washington Aqueduct constructed sometime between 1853 and 1863 stands next to the

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<sup>262</sup>"400 CCC Boys Building Park Along Canal," 21 Jan. 1939. Extant plans for a water and sewer system exist from 1940, and drawings for some of the buildings at Great Falls suggest that they were not approved until April 1941. Ginger Howell to Lisa Davidson et al, electronic correspondence, 19 Jul. 2005.

<sup>263</sup>"400 CCC Boys Building Park Along Canal," 21 Jan. 1939.

<sup>264</sup>James Perry, Park Historian, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, "Sites Associated with the Civilian Conservation Corps," 3 Dec. 2002. Citation included in Rod Sauter to author et al, electronic correspondence, 18 Jul. 2005.

comfort station.<sup>265</sup> A former dwelling, built in 1874-75 for the “gatekeepers at Great Falls” stands on the bluff above the control gatehouse.<sup>266</sup>

The 2004 survey found that the documented CCC-era structures and park amenities remain in a remarkably well-preserved state. The water filtration plant building is nearly pristine, and much of the original equipment appears to survive (Figures 75 & 76). The sheathing, windows, and wall-mounted radiators of the comfort station are reminiscent of the CCC era. Except for modern privacy fencing obscuring the entries and updated fixtures, the building retains its structural integrity (Figure 77). Unlike the CCC-era garages and utility yards constructed in other local parks, the one at Great Falls remains more-or-less unchanged on the exterior with the exception of modern overhead doors for the individual bays (Figure 78). Even the vertical board-and-batten sheathing is extant. The small, brick boiler house still provides heat for the comfort station, although the boiler has been changed from coal to oil, evidenced by a fuel oil tank standing on the rear (uphill) side of the building (Figure 79). The visitor parking area nearest these structures and Great Falls Tavern may occupy the site of the 1930s amenity, although it has been resurfaced and considerably augmented by a vast lot to the north.

**Summary:** The documented work and development completed by the CCC at the Great Falls visitor’s area along the C & O Canal remains almost entirely intact and is among the sites in the National Capital Region where the CCC-era structures retain a high degree of integrity. The water filtration plant, latrine, garage, and a related heating plant stand in excellent condition, and the parking area, garage access road, and service yard remain generally readable, despite more recent resurfacing. This concentration of buildings warrants inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, which defines sites “associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.” These structures are clear evidence of CCC activity in the National Capital Region, and specifically their efforts in creating a recreational infrastructure for the metropolitan Washington area.

**Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area (Prince William Forest Park)  
(45 50)  
Prince William County, VA**

Between 1935 and 1941, three CCC camps contributed to the creation of the Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area, with a total of 200 to 300 enrollees

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<sup>265</sup>Rod Sauter to author et al, electronic correspondence, 18 Jul. 2005, for date and function of control gatehouse.

<sup>266</sup>Harry C. Ways, *The Washington Aqueduct, 1852-1992* (Washington: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1996), 70, reference provided by Rod Sauter.

and skilled craftsmen working at the site during the busiest construction periods.<sup>267</sup> Their primary efforts resulted in five recreational camps, each with a central kitchen-dining hall, administrative building, infirmary, service buildings, staff quarters, and a washhouse (laundry), and some also containing a craft lodge. These structures were utilized by four or five satellite camp units composed of camper cabins, “leaders” cabins, unit lodges, and latrines. In developing the site, the CCC also built roads, bridges, planted trees, dammed Quantico Creek in a number of places to create swimming lakes, and constructed a main administrative building and a park superintendent’s residence.

Since the site’s importance as a legacy of the CCC and its physical integrity have been documented through inclusion on the List of Classified Structures and through a number of National Register of Historic Places historic district designations, it was decided for the purposes of this inventory to focus on a single representative cabin camp (Camp 2—Mawavi), and a few other miscellaneous CCC-era resources and sites at the park (Map 7). The structures at Camp 2 are well-maintained and have seen few, if any, disfiguring alterations. Places of obvious repair show that much care has been taken to match materials, such as the in-kind replacement of waney-edged siding (Figure 80). Although a number of the latrines have been updated with skylights, many of the original fixtures survive. The playfield latrine in this camp remains extant and mostly intact, but is no longer in use and abandoned. In general, this camp and others dating from the CCC era have been and remain well cared for, despite heavy use during the summer season.

**Summary:** Within the NCR, Prince William Forest Park contains the greatest number and some of the best preserved NCR resources constructed by the CCC. These structures and landscapes are well documented and their provenance is understood by the park and the region. Even though the site is heavily used in season, the structures are in fine shape, witness to both their initial construction as well as careful maintenance over the decades. As a representative example, Camp 2 fully conveys the layout, rustic design, and sturdy construction pursued by the CCC at one of two regional Recreation Demonstration Areas.

**Columbia Island (35, 92, 94)**  
**Washington, DC**

Separated from the Commonwealth of Virginia by only the narrow Boundary Channel, the construction of both Memorial Bridge and George Washington Memorial Parkway reconfigured Columbia Island prior to any CCC work. The enrollees were responsible

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<sup>267</sup>See section on “Camp SP-22-VA, SP-25-VA, SP-26-VA/NP-16-VA, Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area, Joplin, Virginia,” for more information about these camps and this site.

for cleaning up debris, clearing, grading, selective cutting, topsoiling, and seeding and sodding the open areas located between the waterways and various roadways, a large part of which was completed between October 1934 and March 1935.<sup>268</sup> CCC Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt) also rip rapped the island's southeastern shoreline along the Potomac River, a sea wall meant to lessen the effects of water erosion. An historic photograph taken from Memorial Bridge looking north and dated August 25, 1935, shows rip rapping and land filling being completed by Camp NP-6-VA (Figures 81 & 82). The enrollees also created an eight-foot-wide bridle path extending from Memorial Bridge and terminating six miles downstream in Alexandria (Figure 83). The portions of the bridle path located to the south of Columbia Island, and a related bridge, were included in the 1950 under the heading of "Mount Vernon Memorial Highway" (36).<sup>269</sup>

Columbia Island is now home to three precincts—Lady Bird Johnson Park, the Lyndon Baines Johnson Memorial Grove, and the Navy-Merchant Marine Memorial—and has been subject to periods of considerable alteration since the 1930s. A low sea wall extending along the Potomac River might include remnants of the one constructed by the CCC. The bridle path right-of-way remains in the form of a biking/jogging trail, although it has been resurfaced and does not fully follow the course of the original. A portion of this trail is bordered by a dry laid stone retaining wall that is believed to be extant work by the CCC.<sup>270</sup>

**Summary:** A rip rapped sea wall on Columbia Island along the Potomac might incorporate CCC-era work, and its presence, at the very least, references similar work pursued by the enrollees in the mid-1930s. Much of the bridle path right-of-way survives as a biking/jogging trail, both on and to the south of the island.

### **East Potomac Park (26, 93, 102)** **Washington, DC**

East Potomac Park is located on a constructed peninsula bounded by the Potomac River, Tidal Basin, and the Washington Channel. CCC work at the park included an upgraded golf course, and the construction of twelve tennis courts surrounded by a 10'-

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<sup>268</sup>C. S. Watson, Camp NP-6-VA Superintendent, to the Director of the National Park Service, 1 Apr. 1935, Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA, for date.

<sup>269</sup>Appendix O of the 1950 report refers to this roadway as both the "Mt. Vernon Highway" and "Mt. Vernon Blvd." See pages 93-94. In addition to the bridle path, the CCC work associated with the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway included general landscaping, rip rapping along the Potomac River, and the construction of a pistol range that was subsequently removed with the construction of National Airport.

<sup>270</sup>Matthew Virta, Cultural Resource Manager, George Washington Memorial Parkway, to author, electronic correspondence, 19 Jul. 2005.

0” high chain link fence. The CCC constructed the tennis courts, and by extension the chain link fence, between 1938 and 1942.<sup>271</sup>

Fieldwork conducted in 2004 found an extant, though significantly enlarged tennis facility, managed as a private concession. The number of tennis courts has increased from twelve to seventeen, with indoor courts in an adjacent structure. Aside from an entirely new enclosure with three courts and a practice wall to the rear of the facility, two earlier enclosures exist next to the parking lot, each encircled by two different types of chain link fencing. Ones bearing decorative finials might date from the CCC period.

**Summary:** The East Potomac Park tennis courts remain in use, but with the possible exception of some of the chain link fencing, the 1930s facilities have been entirely updated.

#### **Fort Bunker Hill (23, 95, 99)**

**A site encompassing a city block, bounded by Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Otis, and Perry streets, NE, Washington, DC**

Located within a suburban-like neighborhood of single-family houses built in the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s, Fort Bunker Hill Park was created by the CCC as a neighborhood amenity. The sharply sloping site featured a borrow pit resulting from the production of fill for other locations. By the end of 1935, CCC work had begun at the site with Camp NP-11-DC planting trees and constructing walks.<sup>272</sup> Work at the site continued into at least early 1937.<sup>273</sup> This Camp and enrollees from NP-8-VA (Arlington) and NP-14-DC (Rock Creek) ultimately developed a picnic ground and an amphitheater situated within planned and planted woodlands. A large, flat open area in the park’s southwest corner, its highest point, probably contained the picnic facilities, including twelve table-and-bench combinations. Planners located the amphitheater in a depression on the block’s east side. They designed it with a stage defined by a stone wall 65’-0” long and 3’-0” high, and an audience area extending up the hill towards the southwest with fixed log seats for 250, and an additional overflow area in which 150 could be seated on the ground or in movable chairs. Scattered throughout the site along the paths and staircases were four drinking fountains of the “rustic log-type with bubblers and faucet” (see Figure 20 for a historic image of this type of drinking fountain).

<sup>271</sup>Camp NP-1-MD (Chesapeake & Ohio Canal), active from 1938 until 1942, NP-2-MD (Chesapeake & Ohio Canal), active between 1938 and 1941, and NP (D)-3 (Chesapeake & Ohio Canal), active only in 1942, are recorded as responsible for the tennis court construction.

<sup>272</sup>ECW Supplemental Work Project Progress Report – Camp N.P. #11, National Arboretum (December 1935), Folder Ft. DuPont, Box 44, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>273</sup>S. M. Woodward, Jr., “E. C. W. Inspector’s Monthly Report, National Capital Park Camps NP-6, NP-7 and NP-8,” 1 Mar. 1937, Box 44, Entry 20, RG 79, NARA.

The 2004 field survey found a mostly intact, but unused site, which exists as an intriguing urban ruin. Pathways still cross the site, but the absence of even litter suggests that it is only being used by dog walkers, such as those observed during the field survey (Figure 84). The two major areas of the park—the picnic grounds and the amphitheater—are still easily located. Although overgrown, the stage is fully intact and its retaining walls appear to be in good order (Figures 85 & 86). Two tall standards on either side of the stage once provided stage lighting and spots for performances, but are rusted and no longer operable. It is not known whether the lights were part of the CCC work completed at the site; the documentary evidence makes no reference to them. While not in a usable state, the log seating extending up the hill to the southwest is also discernible. None of the four rustic drinking fountains survive.

**Summary:** The overall landscape created by the CCC is clearly readable at this abandoned neighborhood park, a landscape with two foci: the picnic grounds at the site's highest point and an amphitheater in a depression near its lowest. The amphitheater stage remains in particularly good shape. This neighborhood park warrants inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places as evidence of CCC activity in the National Capital Region under Criterion A, which defines sites "associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history." This park is evidence of CCC activity in the National Capital Region, and specifically their efforts in creating a recreational infrastructure for the metropolitan Washington area.

**Fort Dupont, including specific work done to "Fort Drive, Reservation 518" (10-20, 21, 96, 97-98)  
Washington, DC**

This park is located on the east side of the Anacostia River just to the south of East Capitol Street in Southeast Washington. The initial, roughly sixteen-acre land purchase encompassing the original section of Fort Dupont Park, including the fort, occurred in 1916.<sup>274</sup> In 1933, the site came under the purview of the NPS and they quickly advanced existing plans to enlarge the park.<sup>275</sup> They envisioned "that the ultimate development of Fort Dupont will be somewhat similar to Rock Creek Park" and "will serve the large population of Northeast and Southeast Washington."<sup>276</sup> Late in 1933, Camp NP-7-DC (Benning/Fort Dupont) began cleaning up and preparing the site in anticipation of starting "construction of certain physical improvements that will make

<sup>274</sup>*Fort Dupont Park Historic Resources Study*, 103.

<sup>275</sup>*Ibid.*, 102, for Park Service, 109-110, for first extension westward toward the Anacostia.

<sup>276</sup>A. E. Damary to Robert Fechner, 8 Dec. 1934, 79-661-1097, box 20, folder 5 (Admin., Maintenance & Protection), Federal Records Center, Suitland, MD.

the park accessible to the public.”<sup>277</sup> August 1935 found work proceeding quickly toward the “creation of the proposed pleasure park” and by March 1936, the enrollees had completed most of the work on the picnic grounds, the table-and-bench combinations, drinking fountains, and parking areas; the foot trails, guard rails, and stone fireplaces were well underway.<sup>278</sup> One year later, they built a playing field and a comfort station.<sup>279</sup>

A CCC-era map of the park completed sometime after 1937 depicts forty “table units” organized into two groupings called the “Ridge Picnic Area” and the “Pinewoods Picnic Area” (see Figure 20). These areas were both positioned near the intersection of the two roadways extending through the park. One curved north-to-south from Ridge Road on the park’s northern boundary to a proposed extension of Massachusetts Avenue along the southern boundary (present Fort Davis Drive). The other, entered from Minnesota Avenue at the park’s southwestern corner, arced to the northeast before it headed in a more-or-less eastern route until it intersected the other roadway (present Fort Dupont Drive). The playfield was located at this intersection. The Pinewoods Picnic Area sat to the east across the north-south road, and included: a small access road with turn-around, ten table units, a “council ring,” and a comfort station (Figure 87). Positioned to the south of the east-west artery, and west of the north-south artery, the Ridge Picnic Area contained considerably more table units (thirty) and its own subsidiary access drive, but no other amenities. The easternmost third of the park was criss-crossed with bridle paths. The CCC structures comprising Camp NP-7-DC stood in its northwest corner with its own access road extending eastward from the intersection of E Street SE and Minnesota Avenue.

The 1930s map also depicts another park road entrance situated at the end of a southward extension of the north-south roadway below Massachusetts Avenue roughly one-half a mile to Pennsylvania Avenue. The work was completed under the CCC heading of “Fort Drive, Reservation 518,” which refers to a narrow spur of parkland (now part of Stanton Park) containing this section of the roadway. “General cleanup” for this reservation occurred between October 1934 and April 1935, shown completed in an October 1935 photograph apparently taken before cutting and grading of the roadway was started (Figure 88).<sup>280</sup> The roadway extension through this reservation retains the road name “Fort Davis Drive.”

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<sup>277</sup> Ibid.

<sup>278</sup> “District Camp Comes to Front,” *Sunday Star* 25 Aug. 1935, sec. B: 3, for “pleasure park;” project and budget proposal for Camp NP-7-DC during the seventh enrollment period, April 1, 1936 to October 1, 1936, 12 Feb. 1936, and Progress Report, Camp NP-7-DC, Mar. 1936, both Box 44, Entry 20, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>279</sup> S. M. Woodward, Jr., “Inspector’s Monthly Report for April National Capitol Park Camps,” 17 May 1937, Box 44, Entry 20, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>280</sup> Paul S. Jack, “Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - April 1, 1935, N.P. Camp #7, Benning, D.C.,” Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

In creating the park landscape, the CCC built fifty-three stone fireplaces of two different designs, both with inset iron grilles (Figure 89, and see Figure 22), fifteen drinking fountains of the “rustic log type with bubblers and faucet” (see Figure 23), seventy-nine log table-and-bench combinations (see Figure 67), and thirty signs. The enrollees also created parking areas along two miles of roadway in the picnic areas, three-and-one-half miles of foot trails, a 50’ x 6’ stone retaining wall at the comfort station in the Pinewoods picnic area, sewage and water lines, as well as landscaping activities that included general cleanup, razing of “undesirable structures,” grading, seeding, sodding, planting, and “selective cutting for effect.” The report records enrollees from Camp NP-14-DC (1938-1942) and Camp NP (D)-1 (1942) working on the development of a golf course at Fort Dupont.

The 2004 fieldwork found that the essential character of Fort Dupont Park as created by the CCC stands largely intact. A comparison of present and historic maps show that the existing and proposed 1930s roadways and boundaries survive more-or-less unchanged. The only significant alteration is the absence of a spur of the east-west road, planned to cross over Minnesota Avenue and ultimately connect through to Anacostia Park along the river a few blocks to the west. If this spur was an extant feature on the 1930s map, then it likely disappeared with the subsequent construction of the Anacostia Freeway.

The Ridge Picnic area is essentially in place, including the unaltered course of its subsidiary access drive. Onsite investigation showed a decrease in the total number of individual picnic areas, although seven of the present table units featured CCC-era fireplaces with inset iron grilles, all of which were repointed to some degree; three additional fireplaces in fair-to-ruinous states were also located in abandoned units removed from the access road (Figures 90 & 91). The Ridge Picnic Area is now served by a public comfort station. Using the 1930s map, the bed of the subsidiary access road for the Pinewoods Picnic Area was located opposite the former playfield, but has not been used for some time given the intrusion of plants and trees. With the exception of a post-CCC directional sign noting the presence of table units, no other aspects of the picnic area—fireplaces, retaining wall, the comfort station, nor even an open area at the location of the former “council ring”—are readily apparent.

Although the area cleared and graded by the CCC for the playfield located at the northwest corner of the intersection of Fort Dupont and Fort Davis drives is evident, this play space has been given over to vegetable gardens, presumably tended by locals living nearby. No evidence of Camp NP-7-DC survives; its site has been largely redeveloped as a parking lot serving the park’s maintenance garages. Other more recent additions include a comfort station and picnic area straddling the original entrance located at the intersection of Minnesota and Massachusetts avenues, and an open

amphitheater and multiuse park structure located to the north of Fort Dupont Drive near the park's center.

**Summary:** The original CCC-era boundaries, principal park roads (including the spur connecting to Pennsylvania Avenue through Reservation 518), and a number of original park features, such as stone fireplaces in the picnic areas, at Fort Dupont Park survive intact from the time of the site's creation. Although it never achieved an intended status equivalent to Rock Creek Park, the park remains in active use, and is well served by its basic, largely CCC-created infrastructure.

**Fort Foote (37, 98)**  
**Prince George's County, MD**

Constructed as part of a ring of Civil War fortifications surrounding Washington, DC, and intended to replace the aging Fort Washington located a few miles down the river, Fort Foote is the best-preserved Civil War-era fort in the area. Some of its ramparts are fully readable and two massive Rodman cannon are still fixed on the river. The CCC constructed a sea wall below the fort along 958 feet of Potomac River shoreline.<sup>281</sup> Built to prevent erosion of the bluff on which Fort Foote sits, the rip rapping entailed 1942 tons of "one man" stone, a stone sized so that a single person could move it with reasonable ease. The resulting sea wall was 12'-0" wide at the base, 2'-0" wide at the top, 2'-0" high along the Potomac River, 3'-0" on the landside, and 6'-0" at its center. In addition to the sea wall, the enrollees removed seventeen acres of debris, dead timber, and "undesirable plant growth" from the site.

The 2004 fieldwork found that the sea wall, formerly 6'-0" in height at its highest and 12'-0" at its base, had eroded to the river's water level as, essentially, a rock beach. It is clear that the "beach" is not a naturally-occurring feature along the Potomac, and the much degraded height stems from roughly seven decades action by the river. On account of difficult terrain, the reduced sea wall was located with a single GPS point taken from a trail overlooking the water, about 60 feet from the edge.

**Summary:** The rip rapped sea wall constructed by the CCC late in the 1930s remains wholly discernible, but at a much reduced height on account of natural erosion.

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<sup>281</sup>Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont), active from 1933 until 1942, and Camp NP (D)-2 (Fort Dupont), active only in 1942, were the CCC camps responsible for creating the sea wall below Fort Foote.

**Fort Hunt (92-94)**  
**Fairfax County, VA**

The work completed by Camp NP-6-VA at Fort Hunt is among the most extensive for NCR sites (Map 8). Their efforts aimed to create picnic areas with stone fireplaces, an artificial lake, a golf course, a utility area, and various roads, parking areas, and trails (Figure 92). A considerable amount landscaping and related activities were pursued. These included cleanup, grading, planting, and cutting, not to mention the herculean excavation of the lake, the razing of seven “undesirable structures,” and the installation of a storm drainage system. The CCC built considerable picnic and recreational amenities, including: a public comfort station and its associated water and sewage systems, an open shelter (14' x 8'), eight drinking fountains of the “rustic log-type with bubblers and faucet” scattered throughout the park, twenty-five fireplaces of stone and fire-brick construction, forty-nine table-and-bench combinations, development of eight acres of picnic grounds (see Figures 6, 7, 8, & 9). A utility area was also created for maintenance purposes and necessitated such facilities as: an equipment and bulk storage building, a “maintenance dwelling” for the caretaker, and possibly some shop buildings, all of which were arranged around a large parking area. On the park’s western border, they also constructed a small, brick oil storage house with a slate roof (Figure 93). Officials anticipated that the jobs related to the picnic facilities (comfort station, trails, plantings, parking, fireplaces, table-and-bench combinations, drinking fountains, and lake excavation) would occur between April and October 1936.<sup>282</sup> Although these jobs may have been started at that time, a March 1938 status report noted that the construction of the comfort station and picnic grounds were still only 90 percent complete.<sup>283</sup>

The 2004 field survey found that Fort Hunt Park’s picnic and recreational grounds have been almost wholly redeveloped and considerably expanded with new comfort stations, shelters, grills, picnic tables, athletic fields, and parking areas. Although there is still a discernible utility area, any CCC-era buildings have been replaced or altered beyond recognition. The U. S. Park Police occupies structures within the park at its southern end.

Notable survivors of CCC-era construction include the oil storage house and five stone and fire-brick fireplaces located along a road/trail adjacent to what was to be the artificial lake (Figure 94). These features are located in the woodlands of an area called Section F that extends along the GW Parkway on the park’s east side. They probably

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<sup>282</sup>Project and budget proposal for Camp NP-6-VA during the seventh enrollment period, April 1, 1936 to October 1, 1936, 12 Feb. 1936, Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

<sup>283</sup>C. S. Watson, “Survey of Work Accomplished on Projects by this Camp [NP-6-VA] since July 1, 1937,” 9 Mar. 1938, Box 222, RG 35, NARA.

survived later redevelopment because the lake, though excavated, was never flooded. One of the grills is still in occasional use, but overall the lake and its associated picnic area have descended into disuse and ruin. None of the eight “rustic log-type” drinking fountains survive. When the fieldwork at Fort Hunt occurred, two large pin oaks survived on the park’s west side, near the oil storage house; one has since been cut down because it was dying (Figure 95). These trees were planted ca. June 1939 and marked a visit to CCC camp by King and Queen of England on 9 June. They stopped with President Franklin and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt on their way back from Mount Vernon.

**Summary:** Fort Hunt Park bears both considerable physical remains dating from the CCC period, as well as maintenance of the site as a large recreational facility, proof of the enduring spirit of much of the CCC work in the NCR. Tangible physical remains include: a brick oil storage building, five stone and fire-brick fireplaces, a dry lakebed, and a commemorative pin oak.

**Fort Mahan (24, 98)**

**An irregular precinct, roughly bounded by Benning Road, Minnesota Avenue, and Forty-second and Grant streets, NE, Washington, DC.**

The CCC tasked Camp NP-11-DC (National Arboretum) with transforming a hillside site in northeast Washington into a picnic grounds. In creating the grounds, the enrollees filled a borrow pit dug to provide fill for other area projects, channeled a spring, cleared trash and dead trees and brush, and graded the entire site. In terms of amenities, they built a 12’-0”-wide gravel road, one-quarter a mile in length, piped in water, and installed fifteen table-and-bench combinations. By December 1935, work had begun in earnest, with the table-and-bench combinations an estimated 36 percent complete; the picnic grounds 37 percent complete; and fine grading 34 percent complete.<sup>284</sup>

The 2004 field survey found that, although still cared for, Fort Mahan is no longer maintained as a picnic grounds. A walkway loops the site, and a stand of trees and a thick understory covers the hillside. The NPS mows the open space along the ridge of the hill for use as a football or soccer field. An access road extends westward up the hill from Forty-second Street, NE across from its intersection with Eads Street, NE. This road is not open for public use. There is no evidence of picnic tables or water hookup.

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<sup>284</sup>Progress Report, Camp NP-11-DC, Dec. 1935, Box 44, Entry 20, RG 79, NARA.

**Summary:** The open area of the former picnic grounds probably survives as the present athletic field. The extant service road might be the original entrance road constructed by the CCC.

**Fort Stevens (25-26, 95, 99)**

**A site encompassing a city block, bounded by Twelfth, Thirteenth, Quackenbos, and Rittenhouse streets, NW, Washington, DC.**

Ca. 1936, CCC enrollees reconstructed a portion of the Civil War-era fort—part of Washington’s defensive ring—using “concrete logs and timbers to simulate original log construction.”<sup>285</sup> This reconstruction included part of the fort’s moat, banquette, revetments, gun platforms, and an underground powder magazine, all set within a sloped lawn and accessed by gravel walks.

The 2004 field survey found that the reconstructed fort and magazine remain intact and in reasonably good shape. Access to the underground magazine has been blocked and the walkways at the site (save the perimeter sidewalks along the bounding roadways) have disappeared.

**Summary:** The CCC reconstruction of a portion of Fort Stevens remains extant and essentially intact from its 1930s state (Figures 96 & 97). This reconstructed fort warrants inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places as evidence of CCC activity in the National Capital Region under Criterion A, which defines sites “associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history,” and the first subpart of Criterion C focusing on properties embodying “the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.” Fort Stevens is evidence of CCC activity in the National Capital Region, and specifically their efforts in creating a park infrastructure and for the metropolitan Washington area. It also retains physical integrity as a period reconstruction of a previously disappeared structure meant to provide a degree of historical interpretation and understanding.

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<sup>285</sup> Gerner, (1950), 25, for quote. Three camps are associated with the work at Fort Stevens. Camp NP-8-VA (Arlington) is documented as responsible for the grading, parts of the fort reconstruction, laying out of the walks, and “tile lines,” like for drainage. This camp was active from 1934 until 1938. Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), active from 1938 until 1942, and Camp NP (D)-1 (Rock Creek Park), active only in 1942. A dedicatory plaque at the site is dated September 1936. Given that the Rock Creek Park camps were not established until 1938, it is likely that this plaque marked the beginning of construction, rather than the end.

**Fort Washington (40, 93, 100)**  
**Prince George's County, MD**

CCC work occurred during two periods at Fort Washington, first by Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), in 1937-1938, and later by Camp NP-4-MD (Fort Washington) in 1941-1942. The initial period of work mostly involved the creation of roads, drainage of swampy areas, and clearing unwanted foliate growth. The second period, extending to the close of the program, included the razing of fifteen buildings, upkeep of other structures, fire hazard reduction, and the construction of a heating plant.

The 2004 fieldwork documented a still-extensive landscape of historic buildings, modern service structures, and a road network. The only CCC-era resource that could be located with reasonable confidence was the probable site of the heating plant, installed in 1941-1942. A conversation with the current Park Manager, William Clark, and examination of some historic images offer two possibilities for remnants of this feature. The more likely location is within the historic fort. An extant concrete pad located near the barracks once provided the foundation for a diminutive, one-story brick structure with a flat roof and a tall square chimney, whose form is discernible in photographs. It is known to have once housed an oil storage tank, and historical images of the interior also depict a burner likely used for heating purposes. Similar structures built by the CCC are present at Fort Hunt and the Great Falls Visitor Center on the C & O Canal.

A less likely location for this feature is a structure situated in a former pumping station complex below the fort near Swan Creek. There were two surviving structures in the precinct, a frame shed and a concrete block building, but high chain-link fences and foliage prevent any close investigation. Since neither of these structures were known to be specifically related to heating, it is possible, but unlikely, that they are CCC constructs.

**Summary:** A concrete pad next to the barracks within the walls of Fort Washington is possibly a remnant of the heating plant constructed at the site in 1941-1942.

**Langston Recreation Center, probably encompassing "Golf course development, Sec. G, Anacostia Park" (31, 98)**  
**Located to the north of Benning Road between Twenty-sixth street and the Anacostia River in Northeast Washington, DC.**

Sometime between 1933 and 1942, but likely in 1938-1939, a recreation center focused on a nine-hole golf course was constructed for Washington's African-American community. This site resulted from specific petitions to the federal government made

by the Royal Golf Club (1927) and its sister organization, the Wake Robin Golf Club (1937).<sup>286</sup> Prior to its construction, there was only one golf course in the District, allowing black players. Langston Recreation Center's creation—backed by Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes—stood as both an answer to the petition as well as the opening salvo of a campaign aimed to integrate courses on federal parkland in the District, a movement overseen to completion by Ickes in 1941.<sup>287</sup> The CCC fully tasked enrollees with the construction of the (initial) nine-hole golf course and its related amenities. In creating the course, they prepared, seeded, and sodded thirty-five acres of land, installed 3360 linear feet of drain pipes, and moved and/or planted 200 trees. They also constructed a parking lot, installed 1000 feet of “bituminous concrete” walks, and built tennis courts. It is probable that the general “golf course development” noted in CCC records as occurring in Section G of Anacostia Park referred to Langston.

As with many sites in the NCR, fieldwork completed in 2004 found both the site and its original function intact, but with considerable physical alteration. The golf course expanded from nine to eighteen holes in 1955 and a clubhouse was built adjacent to the parking lot around the same time.<sup>288</sup> Maintenance and improvements have continually changed the course. Modern materials cover the parking lot, tennis courts, and walks.

**Summary:** Although few, if any, traces of CCC-work are extant, Langston Golf Course and related recreation facilities in Section G of Anacostia Park remain generally in their original locations and retain their intended functions.

### **Roaches Run Bird Sanctuary (43, 93) Arlington County, MD**

The considerable work completed by the CCC at this site followed the construction and opening of an adjacent segment of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Soon after the formation of Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), the enrollees started work at this site

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<sup>286</sup>The 1942 and 1950 reports include no specific date information about the work at Langston. A National Register of Historic Places nomination form for the “Langston Golf Course Historic District, Washington, DC,” dated 15 October 1991, and a “History of Langston” included on the Langston Golf Course website provided more detailed dating, at least in reference to the golf course construction. See National Register of Historic Places, “Langston Golf Course Historic District, Washington, DC,” PDF file accessed online, 15 Oct. 1991, <http://www.nr.nps.gov/>, and Langston Golf Course, “History of Langston,” accessed online, 23 Dec. 2004, [www.golfdc.com](http://www.golfdc.com).

<sup>287</sup>“Langston Golf Course Historic District,” nomination form, and “History of Langston;” see also Cultural Tourism DC, African American Heritage Trail Database, “Langston Golf Course and Driving Range,” accessed online, 23 Dec. 2004, [www.culturaltourismdc.org](http://www.culturaltourismdc.org).

<sup>288</sup>“Langston Golf Course Historic District,” nomination form, for increase in holes. Architectural analysis of its form and details, and an interview with the site's concession manager in 2004 established the general construction date for the present clubhouse.

with much of it completed between October 1934 and March 1935.<sup>289</sup> In regard to the lagoon, the CCC installed a tide gate to control flow from the Potomac River, cleared unwanted plants, graded the banks, and moved or planted 1265 trees and shrubs. For visitors, the enrollees built a parking area surfaced with bituminous concrete and enclosed by a concrete curb and log guard rails (see Figures 64 & 65). This parking area was linked to the Parkway by two short approach and exit spurs, with the ground between the parking and roadway seeded and sodded. Along the lagoon side of the parking area, they installed a bituminous concrete sidewalk that connected to two miles of foot trails that encircled the water. Original development of the site also included a gamekeeper's residence and feed storage house, although their exact locations are not known (Figures 98 & 99).

The 2004 fieldwork found the site much changed. While the approach and exit spurs and the parking area and its adjacent sidewalk remain in place and in use, they have been resurfaced and recurbed (see Figure 66). The tide gate's stone superstructure survives along the Parkway just south of the parking area.<sup>290</sup> Presently, visitors can walk from their cars down a short dirt path to the water, but the circumferential trails are no longer extant, nor is any visible evidence of the gamekeeper's residence and the feed storage structure. Communication with staff at the GW Parkway headquarters confirmed that the only NPS-administered portion of the site is the parking area and the landscape between it and the lagoon. Since the NPS does not own all of the land around the lagoon (a railroad right-of-way, for example, runs along its western edge), the CCC may have constructed the circumferential trails on parcels owned by others.

**Summary:** Although completely refurbished with contemporary materials, the overall form of the entrance and exit spurs and the parking area accurately represent what the CCC constructed at the site for automobile access. The stone superstructure of the tide gate also survives from the CCC-era.

### **Rock Creek Park (32, 93, 95-96, 99) Washington, DC**

Although Camp NP-14-DC (1938–1942) and Camp NP (D)-1 (1942), both named “Rock Creek Park,” conducted most of the documented CCC work at Rock Creek Park, NP-8-VA (Arlington) and NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt) provided additional assistance. The disparate work at Rock Creek Park ranged from significant construction to landscaping. In April 1937, Camp NP-8-VA built a stone latrine addition to one side of the extant

<sup>289</sup>C. S. Watson, Camp NP-6-VA Superintendent, to the Director of the National Park Service, 1 Apr. 1935, Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA, for date and extent of work.

<sup>290</sup>Construction photos of the masonry portion of the tide gate correspond with the extant feature. See Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA, for photos.

“Police Lodge” (see Figure 31); they were also responsible for the razing of an “abandoned comfort station.”<sup>291</sup> Substantial construction completed by Camp NP-14-DC/NP (D)-1 after 1938 included a field house, two garages, a section of Beach Drive of an undocumented length and location, and rip rap along the Rock Creek channel in the vicinity of the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge. They landscaped around Pierce Mill and Section II of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway overpass, conducted park surveys, engaged in experimental erosion control, emergency flood control, and fire training activities, set up and dismantled temporary grandstands, cleared the creek channel, removed “infected” trees, and crushed stone for use in various CCC projects. In an unknown year, Camp NP-6-VA created 2.2 miles of bridle paths (see Figure 32).<sup>292</sup>

Survey activities in 2004 found the 18’ x 26’ stone latrine addition to the Police Lodge no longer in use for that purpose (Figure 100). The field house was not located. Beach Drive still extends for two-thirds of the park’s length, although it is not known on which portion the CCC worked, and much of the roadway and its drainage system has been repaired and replaced over the decades, in part because of its flood prone location next to Rock Creek. Similarly, the bridle trails might also exist along their original routes, and rip rap is still evident near the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge, but again it might also be the work of later efforts.

**Summary:** As Rock Creek Park and the related Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway had been established decades prior to CCC activity at the site, unlike other parks and sites in the area, enrollee efforts were only part of a maintenance and upgrade continuum rather than actively establishing the park’s infrastructure and maintenance activities. Identifiable work includes the stone latrine addition to the Police Lodge and, possibly, rip rap near the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge.

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<sup>291</sup>S. M. Woodward, Jr., “Inspector’s Monthly Report for April National Capitol Park Camps,” 17 May 1937, Box 44, Entry 20, RG 79, NARA. In 1935-1936, using monies from the Public Works Administration, the National Park Service constructed the park’s “Police and Information Lodge” to which the CCC added the stone latrine. “Report on the Building Program from Allotments of the Public Works Administration, 1933-1937,” 29. As another example of the matrix of monetary and human resources employed in 1930s public works projects, the same NPS PWA arrangement that built the Police Lodge restored Pierce Mill elsewhere in Rock Creek Park, with the CCC enrollees engaging in landscaping at the site.

<sup>292</sup>In 1939, it was anticipated that over five to ten years in addition to various “revisions” to existing facilities, the CCC would work on the “development of [an] equitation field and facilities,” create “recreational facilities [at the] Brightwood Recreation Center,” and spearhead the “development [of the] Reno Creation Center.” These long-term plans were interrupted or abandoned with World War II. Memorandum, Finnan to Wirth, 30 Jan. 1939, Box 4, Entry 63, RG 79, NARA.

**(Theodore) Roosevelt Island (27, 92, 99)  
Washington, DC**

Although some natural woodland generation occurred prior to the 1930s, much of Roosevelt Island's vegetation and its original recreational infrastructure stem from work completed by the CCC beginning in 1934, although continuing through at least the end of the decade.<sup>293</sup> The island had been cleared and farmed in the nineteenth century, and dominated by Anastolan, the neoclassical house of General John Mason. By 1935, this developed landscape had reverted to what was described by the *Washington Post* as "an almost impenetrable jungle" in which sat "but two stark walls" of Anastolan.<sup>294</sup> In 1936, as part of the nascent Historic American Buildings Survey, the National Park Service funded historical research, on-site archaeological investigation, and reconstruction drawings for the ruins, although it can be inferred in the written report that the plans called for razing the above-ground portions.<sup>295</sup> Enrollees from Camp NP-8-VA engaged in the archaeological excavation, and in the end the National Park Service reburied the recovered artifacts in a concrete vault located within the house's extant cellar walls. This project was near completion by March 1937.<sup>296</sup> After the visible removal of Anastolan, CCC enrollees graded the island and planted and moved 35,736 native trees and shrubs. Additionally, they created foot trails, bridle paths, a picnic area, and an overlook area for recreational enjoyment of the island, and a four-stall equipment shed for its maintenance.

The most visible, yet hard to document, elements of the CCC work on Roosevelt Island are the thick stand of trees, shrubs, and other plant life. The general form of the trails may date from that period. Post-CCC signs, a later comfort station, and the large Theodore Roosevelt Memorial, provide the clearest examples of intervention on the island since the 1930s.

**Summary:** The woodland nature of the island, in physical terms, and its recreational emphasis, in functional terms, both originated out of the work conducted by the CCC.

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<sup>293</sup>Camp NP-6-VA began removing certain types of undesirable plants and deadwood in May 1934; however, work on Olmsted's plan proceeded slowly. In 1939, long-term plans for Camp NP-6-VA included "trails, planting, grading, and shelters" on Roosevelt Island, suggesting that this work had not yet been completed. Memorandum, Finnian to Wirth, 30 Jan. 1939, Box 4, Entry 63, RG 79, NARA. See section on "Camp NP-8-VA Arlington/Rosslyn, Virginia," for more information about the CCC and this site.

<sup>294</sup>"Washington's Jungle Island to Be a Model Park in 100 Years," *Washington Post* 3 Jul. 1935: 17.

<sup>295</sup>Stuart M. Barnette and Oscar F. Northington, "Recommendations for the Treatment of Architectural Remains of the Mason House, Analostan Island, District of Columbia," 1936, photographic files, George Washington Memorial Parkway Headquarters, Arlington, VA.

<sup>296</sup>S. M. Woodward, Jr., "E. C. W. Inspector's Monthly Report, National Capital Park Camps NP-6, NP-7 and NP-8," 1 Mar. 1937, Box 44, Entry 20, RG 79, NARA.

**Shaw Lily Garden (Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens), presently administered as part of Anacostia Park (33, 98)  
Washington, DC**

The CCC enrollees raised the dykes defining the lily pools eighteen inches to order to provide additional assurance that the Anacostia River would not overflow into them.

Fieldwork conducted in 2004 found that the trails used to navigate through the site are mostly located on the tops of dykes, some of which might have initially resulted from CCC work at the site.

**Summary:** The lily gardens remain intact and in good care, in part because of efforts by the CCC within a larger continuum of maintenance at the site.

**West Potomac Park (26, 93)  
Washington, DC**

The CCC enrollees graded, topsoiled, and seeded a one-and-one-half acre hockey field in West Potomac Park.

No physical remnants of the hockey field exist in West Potomac Park. A large soccer field/polo grounds to the northwest of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, and a number of baseball fields with backstops located to the southeast were more recently constructed.

**Summary:** The use of West Potomac Park as a place for sports and athletics was established in part by the CCC with construction of the hockey field.

**APPENDIX A: ILLUSTRATIONS**

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:

Figure 1: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), February 1938 Site Plan.

Source: Electrical Distribution System Changes, Fort Hunt, VA, Branch of Engineering, National Park Service, (1938), File No. 117.6-23, Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service.

Figure 2: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), Group Photo in Front of Barracks, c. 1935-40.

Source: Folder 6, Box 1, RG 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 3: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), "Camp Life: Enrollees Waiting for Retreat," June 4, 1940.

Source: Box 29, RG 35-G, Photographs of CCC Activities, taken by Walter J. Mead, 1937 and 1940-42. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 4: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), "Camp Life: Enrollees Dressing for Retreat in Summer Uniforms," June 4, 1940.

Source: Box 2, RG 35-G, Photographs of CCC Activities, taken by Walter J. Mead, 1937 and 1940-42. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 5: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), "Recreational Activities: Chinese Checkers," June 4, 1940.

Source: Box 28, RG 35-G, Photographs of CCC Activities, taken by Walter J. Mead, 1937 and 1940-42. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 6: Plan of Fort Hunt Picnic Area, May 1935.

Source: Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service.

Figure 7: Fort Hunt Picnic Area, View of Log Signs and Parking Lot Rail, c. 1935-37.

Source: Folder 6, Box 1, RG 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 8: Fort Hunt Picnic Area, Camp Stove, c. 1935-37.

Source: Folder 6, Box 1, RG 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 9: Camp Stove Details, Drawing for Type 1, c. 1938.

Source: *Camp Stove Details*. (Washington, D. C.: National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, 1939), Type 1. RG 4, Civilian Conservation Corps, National Park Service Library, Harpers Ferry.

Figure 10: Fort Hunt Model Shop, c. 1935.

Source: Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 October 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 11: Fort Hunt Model Shop, c. 1935.

Source: Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 October 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 12: Fort Hunt Enrollees Constructing Rip Rap Wall along Potomac, c. 1935.

Source: Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 October 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 13: Fort Hunt Enrollees Constructing Bridge on Bridle Path, GW Parkway, c. 1935.

Source: Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, C. S. Watson, Superintendent to Director, National Park Service, (1 October 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 14: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park), Landscaping Around Camp Buildings, c. 1934.

Source: "General Report on Work for Second Enrollment Period - N.P. Camp #7, Benning, DC," (11 April 1934), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 15: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park), "Retreat," c. 1935-40.

Source: Box 3, RG 35-GE, Photographs of CCC Activities, 1933-40. Still Pictures Branch, NARA.

Figure 16: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park) Enrollees, "Sub-grading Road at Entrance to New Camp in National Arboretum," c. 1934.

Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 July 1934 - 1 October 1934), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 17: "Looking North from Massachusetts Ave., Showing Condition of Area through which Fort Drive is Located, October 8, 1934"

Source: Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 October 1934 - 1 April 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 18: "Same View as in Previous Picture. After Clearing Right of Way of Proposed Road, November 19, 1934."

Source: Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 October 1934 - 1 April 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 19: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park) "Enrollees with Diesel Shovel at Freight Yard, March 13, 1935."

Source: Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 October 1934 - 1 April 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 20: Fort Dupont Park - Location of Picnic Groves, Plan c. 1937

Source: Federal Records Center, Suitland, MD.

Figure 21: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park) "Enrollees Preparing Timbers for Table and Bench Sets, June 19, 1935."

Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 April 1935 - 30 September 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 22: Fort Dupont Park - "Fireplace in Picnic Area, 23 September 1935."

Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 April 1935 - 30 September 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 23: Fort Dupont Park - "View of Picnic Area. Note Drinking Fountain" Located in Hollow Log, c. 1935.

Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 April 1935 - 30 September 1935), Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 24: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park) Enrollees Sloping Bank at Roaches Run Bird Sanctuary, c. 1934.

Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 July 1934 - 1 October 1934), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 25: Camp NA-1-DC/NP-11-DC (National Arboretum), Camp Construction, September 26, 1934. Note mess hall behind tents and corner of barracks on left.

Source: "Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - January 1, 1935, N.A. Camp #1," (7 January 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 26: Camp NA-1-DC/NP-11-DC (National Arboretum), Superintendent's Office in Background, 8-Car Garage in Foreground, November 13, 1934.

Source: "Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - January 1, 1935, N.A. Camp #1," (7 January 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 27: National Arboretum, View of Completed Bridge Over Hickey Run Creek, c. 1934.  
Source: "Narrative Report Covering Fourth Enrollment Period - N.A. Camp #1, Washington, D.C.," (3 April 1935), Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 28: "C.C.C. Camp at Arlington Farm - General Layout" (Camp NP-8-VA), c. 1934.  
Source: Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 29: "C.C.C. Boys Screening for Artifacts, August 12, 1936" Analostan, Theodore Roosevelt Island, Washington, DC  
Source: HABS No. DC-28, John O. Brostrup, Photographer, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress.

Figure 30: "View of C.C.C. Boys Excavating in Unit A, August 12, 1936" Analostan, Theodore Roosevelt Island, Washington, DC  
Source: HABS No. DC-28, John O. Brostrup, Photographer, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress.

Figure 31: Police Lodge in Rock Creek Park.  
Source: J. R. Thrower for T. C. Vint, Chief Architect, "Report on the Building Program from Allotments of the Public Works Administration, 1933-1937," Harpers Ferry Center.

Figure 32: Rock Creek Park, Bridle Path with Log Hurdles, c. 1935-37.  
Source: Folder 12, Box 1, RG 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 33: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), Aerial View, c. 1938..  
Source: Box 1, RG 35-GE, Civilian Conservation Corps Activities, 1933-40. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 34: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), CCC Director Robert Fechner "Talking to the Boys" Inside the Mess Hall, c. 1938-40.  
Source: Box 3, RG 35-GE, Civilian Conservation Corps Activities, 1933-40. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 35: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), Baseball Pep Rally, c. 1938-42.  
Source: Box 1, RG 35-SU - State Photographic File of CCC Activities. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 36: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), "Enrollee Chef Instructs Meat Cutters," c. 1938-42.

Source: Box 1, RG 35-SU - State Photographic File of CCC Activities. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 37: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), Civilian Defense Training, May 1942.

Source: Box 31, RG 35-G, Photographs of CCC Activities, taken by Walter J. Mead, 1937 and 1940-42. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 38: Rock Creek Park, Erosion Control, c. 1937.

Source: Box 1, RG 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 39: Tents at Camp NP-3-MD (Catoctin RDA), c. 1939.

Source: Catoctin Mountain Park files.

Figure 40: Catoctin RDA, Manor House Area Picnic Shelter, c. 1939-41.

Source: Catoctin Mountain Park files.

Figure 41: Camp NP-3-MD Enrollees Laying Field Stone Wall in Catoctin RDA, c. 1940.

Source: G. B. Arthur, *Project Training Series - Brickwork and Stonework*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, (June 1941).

Figure 42: Catoctin RDA, Blue Blazes Contact Station Gate, c. 1939-41.

Source: Catoctin Mountain Park files.

Figure 43: Map of Chopawamsic RDA showing CCC Camp Locations, c. 1935-39.

Source: Prince William Forest Park files.

Figure 44: Camp SP-25-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) Garage Under Construction, c. 1936.

Source: "Narrative Report, Camp Virginia SP-25, Chopawamsic Area," (12 February 1936), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 45: Chopawamsic RDA, Site Plan of Recreational Camp No. 1 and CCC Camp SP-22, c. 1935-39.

Source: Prince William Forest Park files.

Figure 46: Camp SP-22-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) Garage Area, c. 1935.

Source: "Bi-Monthly Statement, Chopawamsic State Park, Camp SP-22," (12 December 1935), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 47: Camp SP-22-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) "New Barrack Buildings," c. 1936.  
Source: "Summary Report, Fifth Period E.C.W., Chopawamsic State Park, Camp 22," (7 October 1935), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 48: Camp NP-16-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) Site Plan, 1940.  
Source: Prince William Forest Park files.

Figure 49: Camp SP-26-VA/NP-16-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) Entrance Sign, c. 1936.  
Source: "Narrative Report, Camp Virginia SP-25, Chopawamsic Area," (10 January 1936), Box 137, Entry 41, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 50: Infirmary, Chopawamsic RDA, c. 1938.  
Source: Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, Vol. III, 131.

Figure 51: "Chopawamsic - CCC Boys Building Cabins," 1935-41.  
Source: Folder "Structures," Box 4, RG 35-GE, Civilian Conservation Corps Activities, 1933-40. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 52: "Civilian Conservation Corps Boys Aiding the Construction at National Park, Chopawamsic, Virginia," c. 1935-41.  
Source: Folder 70, Box 4, RG 69-MP, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 53: Camp NP-1-MD (C&O Canal), Aerial View, 1938.  
Source: Box 1, RG 35-GE, Civilian Conservation Corps Activities, 1933-40. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 54: Camp NP-2-MD (C&O Canal), Aerial View, 1938  
Source: Box 1, RG 35-GE, Civilian Conservation Corps Activities, 1933-40. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 55: Camp NP-1-MD and NP-2-MD Enrollees in Woodworking Class, c. 1942.  
Source: Box 41, RG 35-G, Photographs of CCC Activities, taken by Walter J. Mead, 1937 and 1940-42. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 56: "Camp NP-1 (Negro) Cabin John, Maryland, February 8, 1942, National Defense Training - Auto Mechanics Class."  
Source: Box 41, RG 35-G, Photographs of CCC Activities, taken by Walter J. Mead, 1937 and 1940-42. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 57: "Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Lock and Old Tavern at Great Falls," c. 1938.

Source: Box 2, RG 79-G, Charles Porter Collection, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 58: "C&O Canal - View of Canal Lock North of Wide Water," September 1938.

Source: Box 79, RG 69-N, Work Projects Administration (WPA), General Subject Series, 1933-44. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 59: "CCC Repairs Towpath Break at Widewater, September 10, 1940."

Source: Mackintosh, *C&O Canal: The Making of a Park*, 47.

Figure 60: "CCC Reconstruction of Lock 15, April 4, 1940."

Source: Mackintosh, *C&O Canal: The Making of a Park*, 35.

Figure 61: Camp NP-4-MD Enrollee Demolishing Concrete Wall at Fort Washington, c. 1942.

Source: Box 1, RG 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 62: Fort Washington Restoration Work by CCC, c. 1942.

Source: Box 1, RG 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 63: "Picnic Ground Development - Fort Washington," c. 1942.

Source: Box 1, RG 79-CCC, Emergency Conservation Work (CCC) Projects, 1934-37. Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 64: Parking area at Roaches Run Bird Sanctuary while under construction, 1935.

Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 65: "Parking Area Completed, Roaches Run," 1935.

Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 66: Parking Area at Roaches Run, 2005.

Figure 67: "Table-and-bench combination," Fort Dupont Park, 1936.

Source: folder 1, box 1, RG 79-TR, NARA.

Figure 68: Picnic table, Fort Dupont Park, 2005.

Figure 69: The Abingdon ruins with the CCC-constructed parking area behind, 1934.

Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 70: Catoctin RDA, Manor House Day Area Picnic Shelter, 1939.

Source: Matthias C. Huppach Collection, Catoctin Mountain Park files; written on back:  
“Please Credit to Maryland State Department of Forestry.”

Figure 71: Catoctin RDA, Manor House Day Area, parking area under construction, ca. 1938.

Source: Matthias C. Huppach Collection, Catoctin Mountain Park files.

Figure 72: Restored lock house and bypass flume at Lock 15 along the C&O Canal, 2004.

Figure 73: Restored bypass flume and lock at Lock 15 along the C&O Canal, 2004.

Figure 74: Footings of the swing bridge constructed near CCC Camp NP-1-MD, 2002.

Figure 75: Downhill side of the water filtration plant building, Great Falls visitors area, C&O Canal, 2004.

Figure 76: Up-hill side of the water filtration plant building with extant, original equipment, Great Falls visitors area, C&O Canal, 2004.

Figure 77: “Latrine” (comfort station), Great Falls visitors area, C&O Canal, 2004.

Figure 78: “Engineer’s Garage,” utility area above the Great Falls visitors area, C&O Canal, 2004.

Figure 79: Heating plant building, Great Falls visitors area, C&O Canal, 2004.

Figure 80: A cabin in Camp 2 (Mawavi), Unit B in Prince William Forest Park, 2002.

Figure 81: Image of filling and rip rapping along the Potomac River Bank on Columbia Island, looking north from Memorial Bridge, 1935.

Source: RG 79-CCC, Folder 3, Columbia Island, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

Figure 82: View looking north from Memorial Bridge, 2005.

Figure 83: Photograph of the completed bridle path on Columbia Island, looking north toward Memorial Bridge, 1934.

Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 84: Footpath leading up to the former picnic area, Fort Bunker Hill Park, 2004.

Figure 85: Stone stairs and beginning of stone wall (left) in the amphitheater, Fort Bunker Hill Park, 2004.

Figure 86: Amphitheater stage, Fort Bunker Hill Park, 2004.

Figure 87: Council ring at Fort Dupont Park, 1935.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 88: View of Reservation 518, 1935.  
Source: Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 89: Camp Stove Details, Drawing for Type 6, similar to those found at the Ridge Picnic Area in Fort Dupont Park.  
Source: *Camp Stove Details*. (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, 1939), Type 6.

Figure 90: Fireplace ruin, Ridge Picnic Area, Fort Dupont Park, 2004.

Figure 91: Functioning fireplace, Ridge Picnic Area, Fort Dupont Park, 2004.

Figure 92: Design for the manmade lagoon at Fort Hunt, with the planned park layout inset at the upper right, 1936.  
Source: Lagoon in Picnic Area, Fort Hunt, VA, General Plan, National Park Service, (1936), File No. NCP-117.6-63, Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service.

Figure 93: Plan, section, and elevations of the Oil Storage House, Fort Hunt Virginia, 1937.  
Source: Oil Storage House, Fort Hunt, VA, National Park Service, (1937), File No. NCP-117.6-65, Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service.

Figure 94: Oil Storage House, Fort Hunt Park, 2004.

Figure 95: Commemorative pin oaks planted ca. June 1939, 2004.

Figure 96: Ca. 1936 historical reconstruction of Fort Stevens using “concrete logs,” 2004.

Figure 97: Reconstructed powder magazine, Fort Stevens, 2004.

Figure 98: Gamekeeper’s residence, Roaches Run, 1935.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 99: Feed storage building, Roaches Run, ca. 1935.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

Figure 100: Structure added to the two-year-old Police Lodge in Rock Creek Park in 1937 for use as a latrine, 2004.

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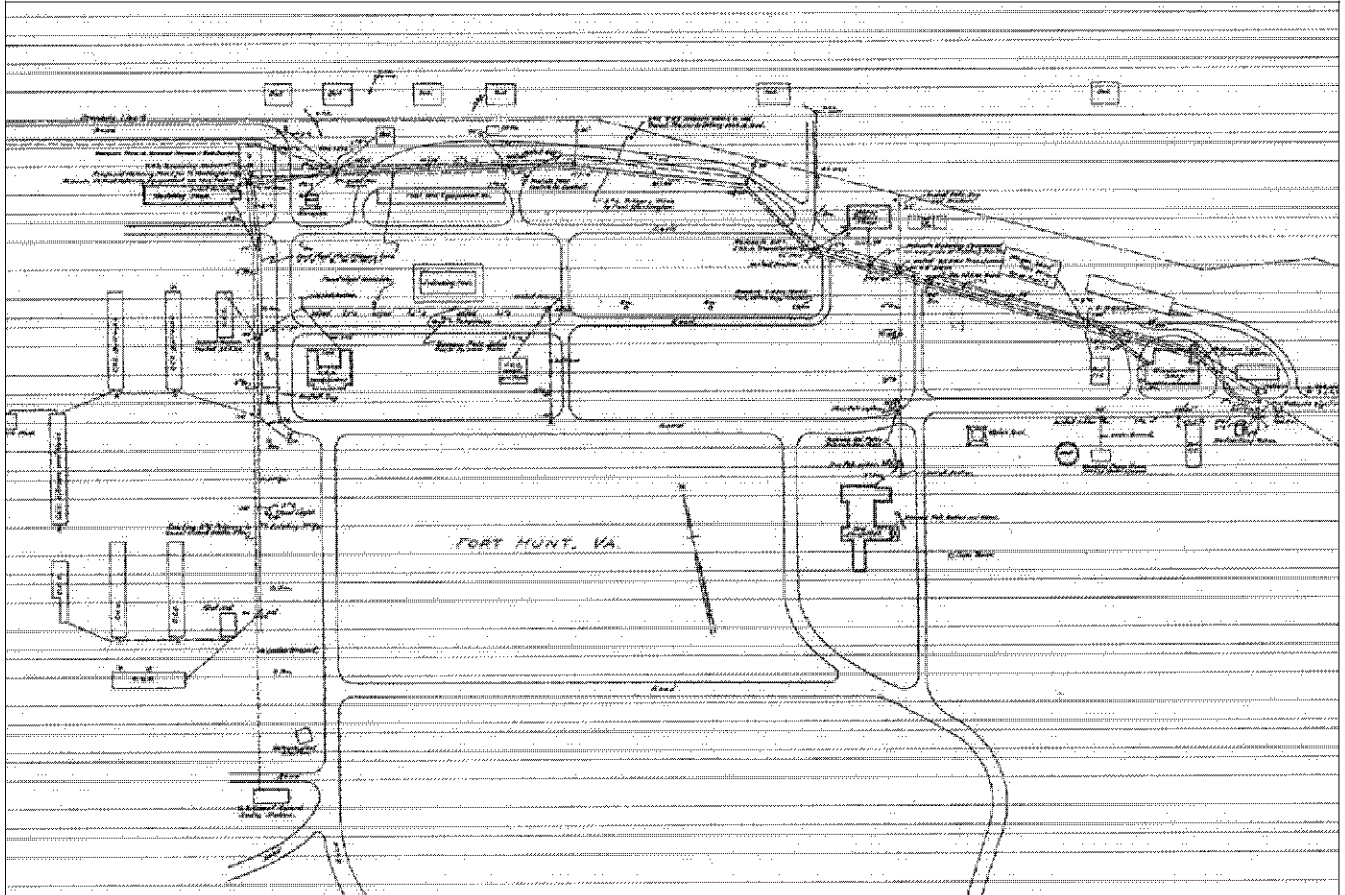


Figure 1: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), February 1938 Site Plan.

Source: Electrical Distribution System Changes, Fort Hunt, VA, Branch of Engineering, National Park Service, (1938), File No. 117.6-23, Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service.



Figure 2: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), Group Photo in Front of Barracks, c. 1935-40.  
Source: RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

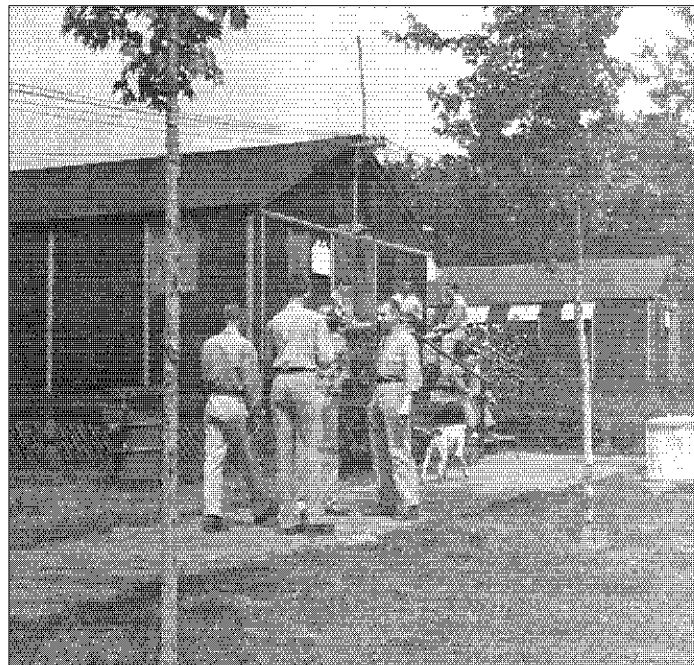


Figure 3: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), "Camp Life: Enrollees Waiting for Retreat," June 4, 1940.  
Source: RG 35-G, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 4: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), "Camp Life: Enrollees Dressing for Retreat in Summer Uniforms," June 4, 1940.

Source: RG 35-G, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 5: Camp NP-6-VA (Fort Hunt), "Recreational Activities: Chinese Checkers," June 4, 1940.

Source: RG 35-G, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

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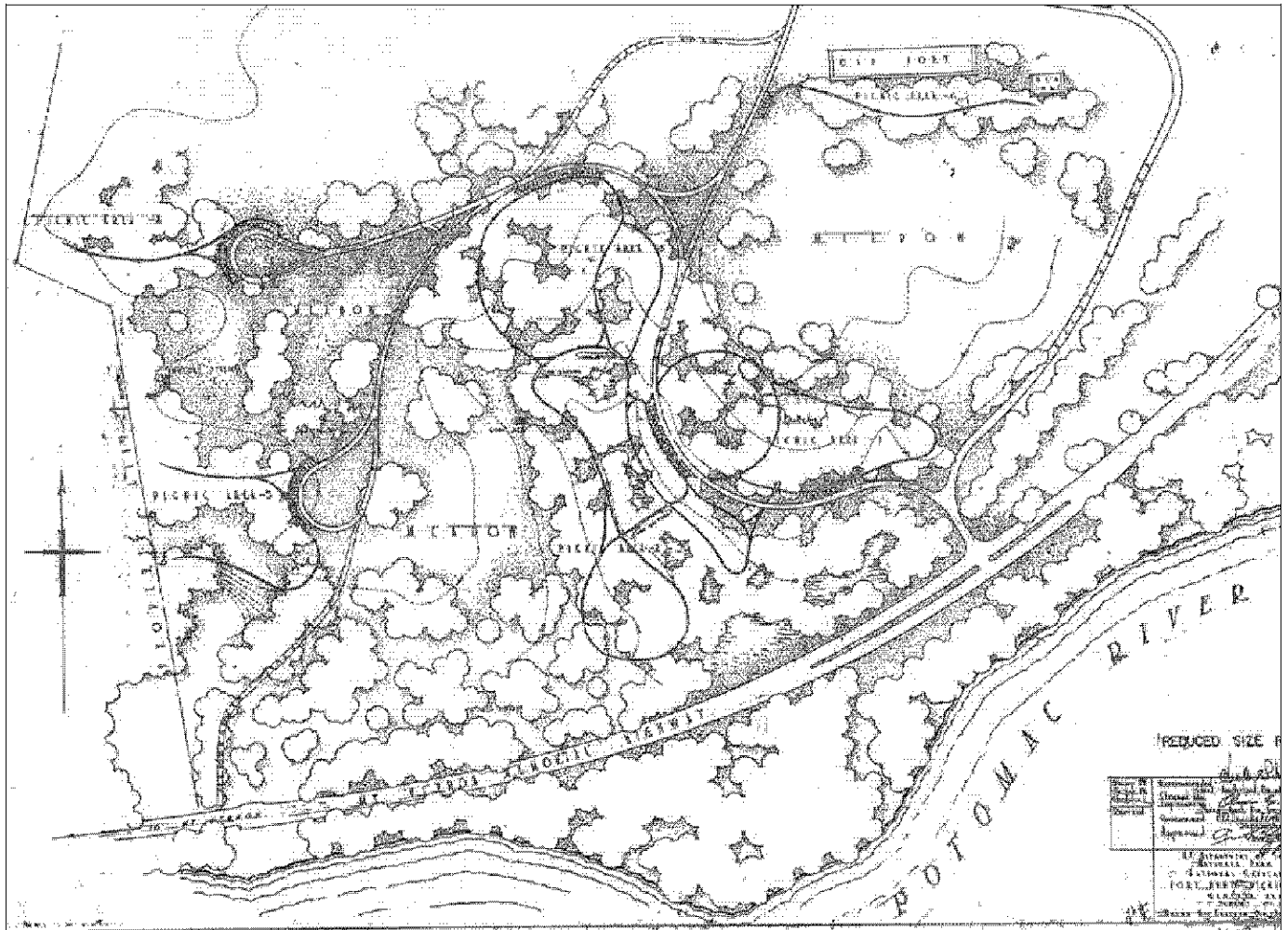


Figure 6: Plan of Fort Hunt Picnic Area, May 1935.

Source: Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service.



Figure 7: Fort Hunt Picnic Area, View of Log Signs and Parking Lot Rail, c. 1935-37.  
Source: RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 8: Fort Hunt Picnic Area, Camp Stove, c. 1935-37.  
Source: RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Source: *Camp Stove Details*. (Washington, D. C.: National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, 1939).  
Type 1.

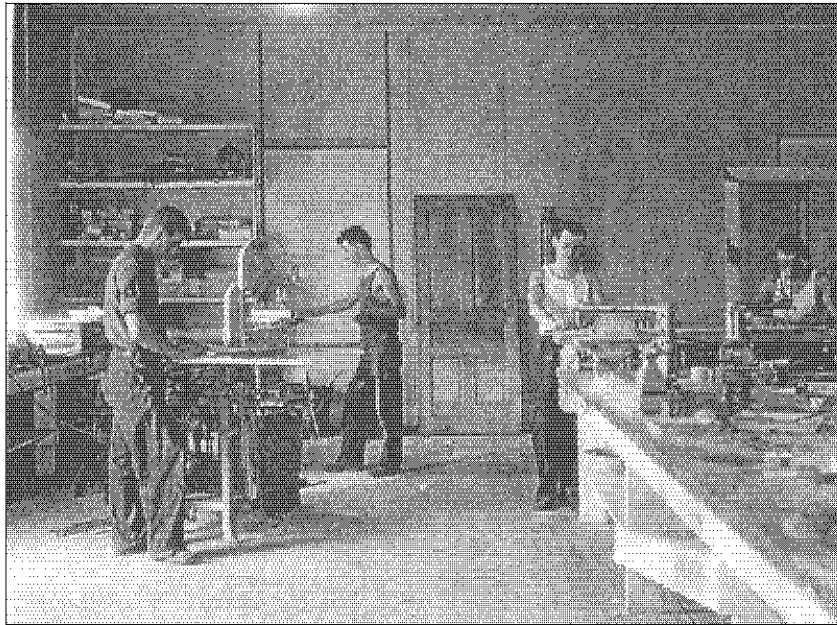


Figure 10: Fort Hunt Model Shop, c. 1935.

Source: Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, (1 October 1935), RG 79, NARA.

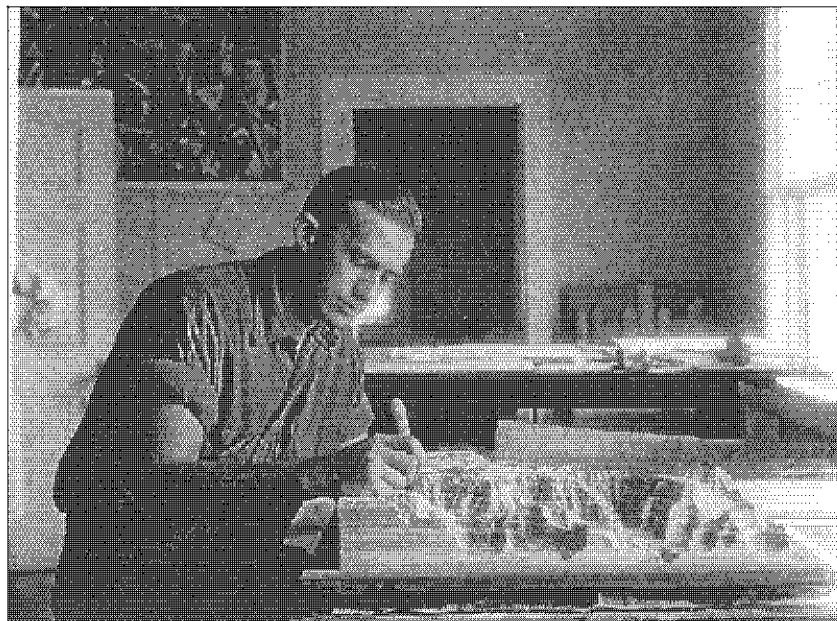


Figure 11: Fort Hunt Model Shop, c. 1935.

Source: Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, RG 79, NARA.

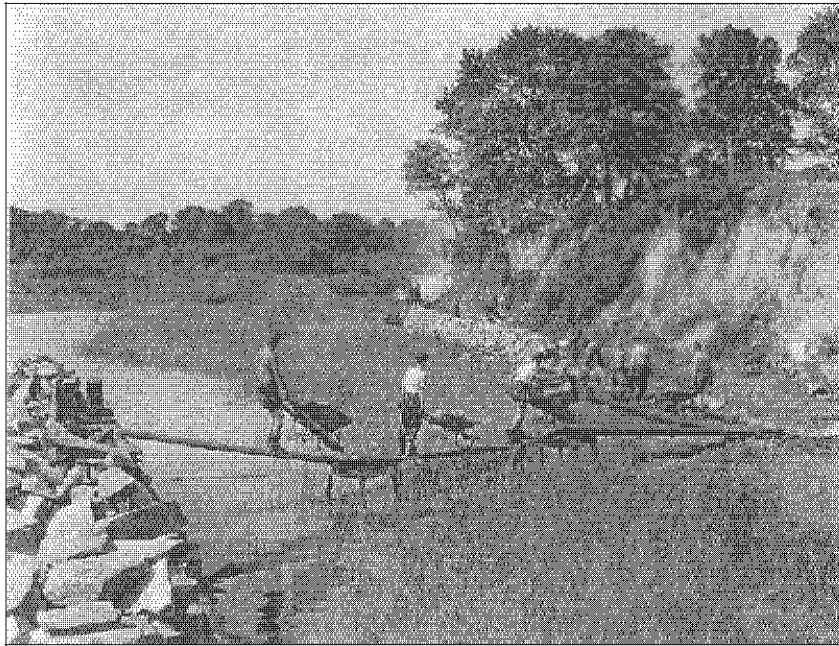


Figure 12: Fort Hunt Enrollees Constructing Rip Rap Wall along Potomac, c. 1935.  
Source: Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, RG 79, NARA.

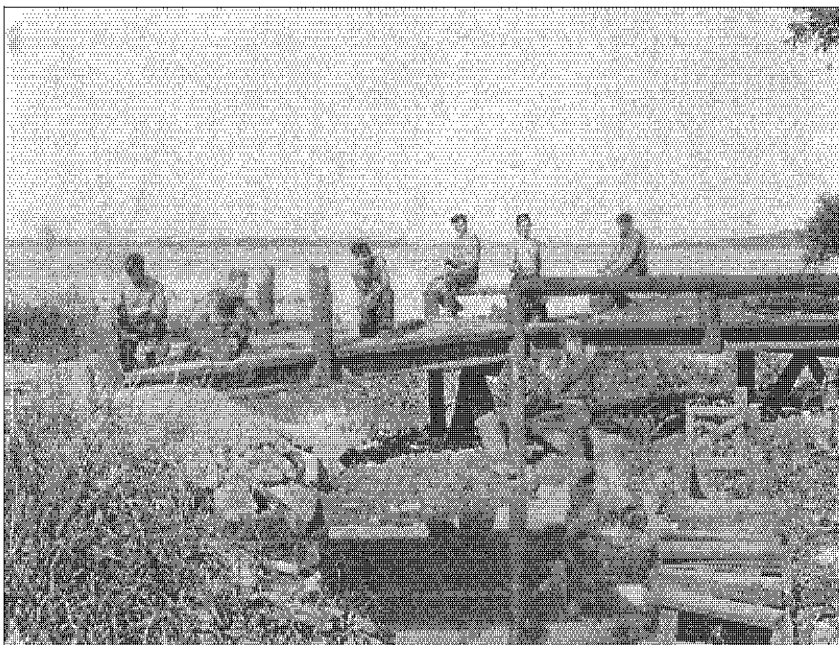


Figure 13: Fort Hunt Enrollees Constructing Bridge on Bridle Path, GW Parkway, c. 1935.  
Source: Narrative Report for April 1, 1935 to September 30, 1935, E.C.W. Camp N.P. #6, RG 79, NARA.

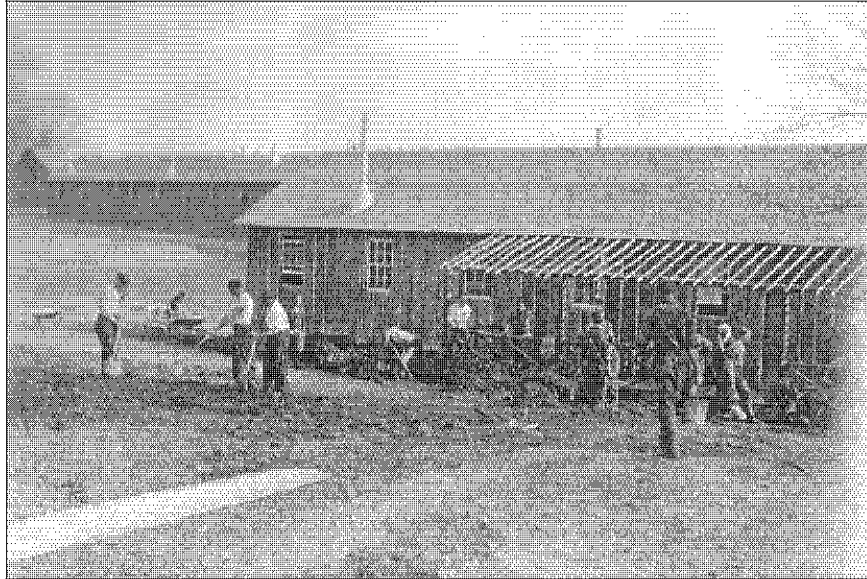


Figure 14: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park), Landscaping Around Camp Buildings, c. 1934.  
Source: "General Report on Work for Second Enrollment Period - N.P. Camp #7, Benning, DC," (11 April 1934),  
RG 79, NARA.

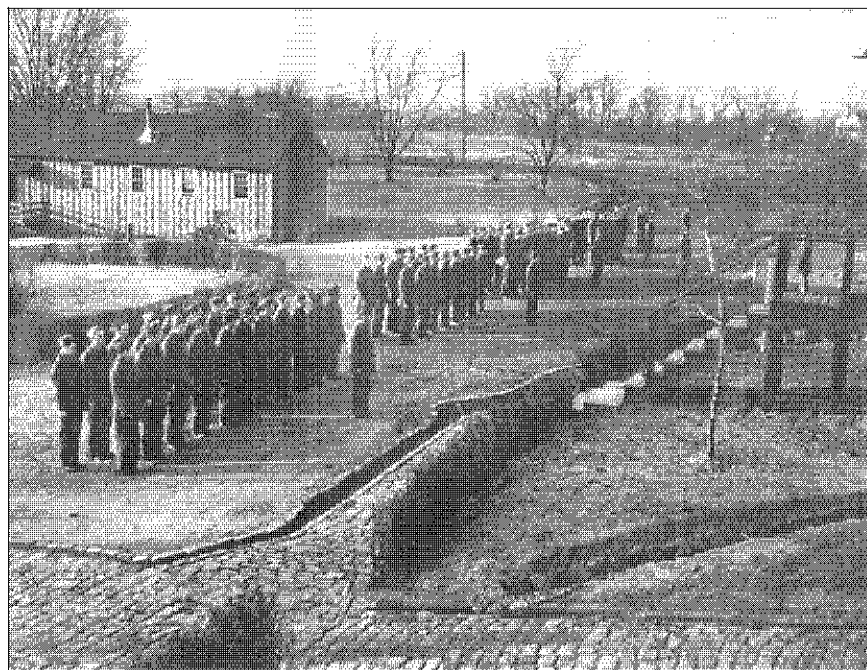


Figure 15: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park), "Retreat," c. 1935-40.  
Source: RG 35-GE, Still Pictures Branch, NARA.



Figure 16: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park) Enrollees,  
"Sub-grading Road at Entrance to New Camp in National Arboretum," c. 1934.  
Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 July 1934 - 1 October 1934), RG 79, NARA.



Figure 17: "Looking North from Massachusetts Ave., Showing Condition of Area  
through which Fort Drive is Located, October 8, 1934."  
Source: Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 October 1934 - 1 April 1935), RG 79, NARA.



Figure 18: "Same View as in Previous Picture. After Clearing Right of Way of Proposed Road, November 19, 1934."

Source: Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 October 1934 - 1 April 1935), RG 79, NARA.



Figure 19: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park) "Enrollees with Diesel Shovel at Freight Yard, March 13, 1935."

Source: Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 October 1934 - 1 April 1935), RG 79, NARA.

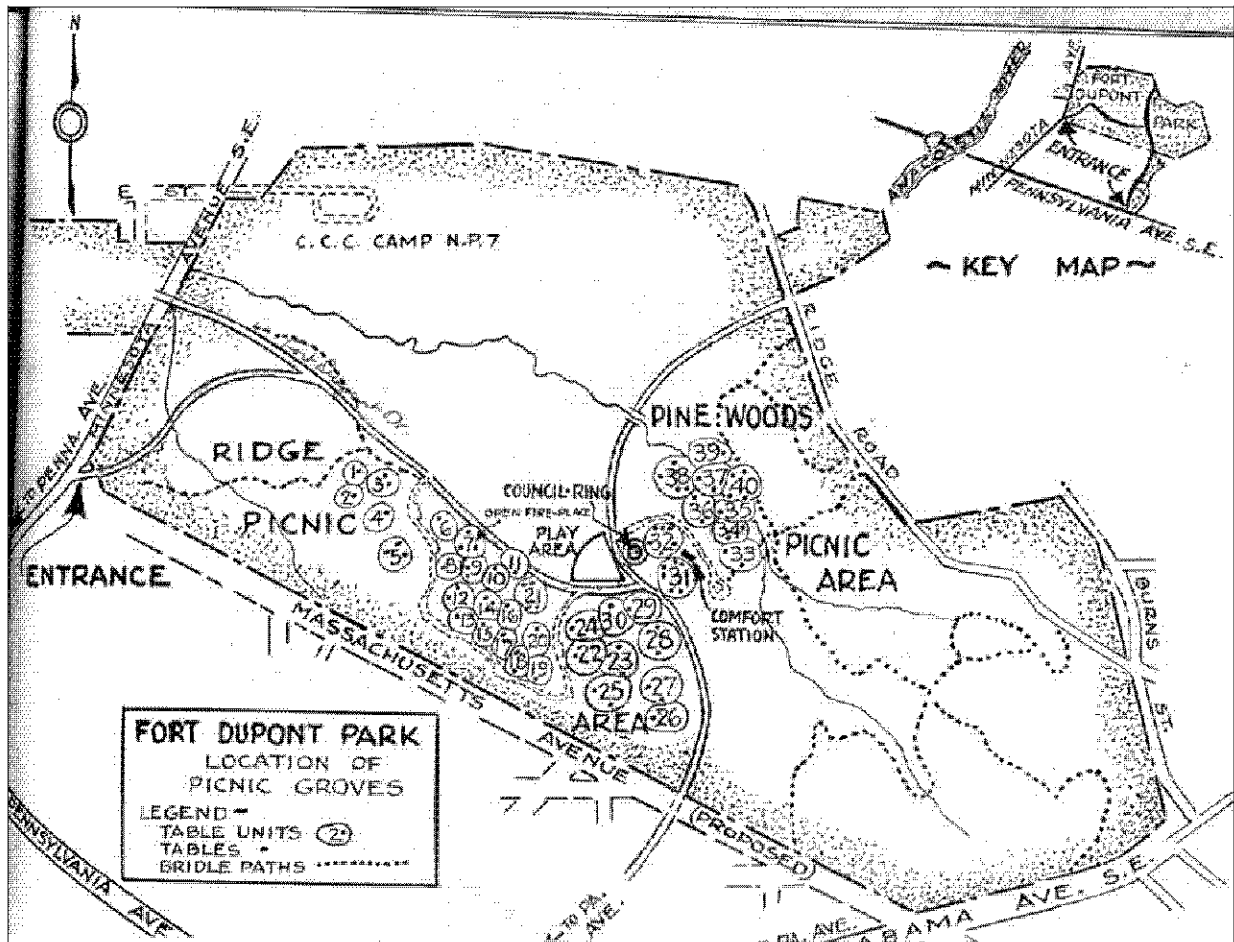


Figure 20: Fort Dupont Park - Location of Picnic Groves, Plan c. 1937.  
Source: Federal Records Center, Suitland, MD.



Figure 21: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park) "Enrollees Preparing Timbers for Table and Bench Sets, June 19, 1935."

Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 April 1935 - 30 September 1935), RG 79, NARA.

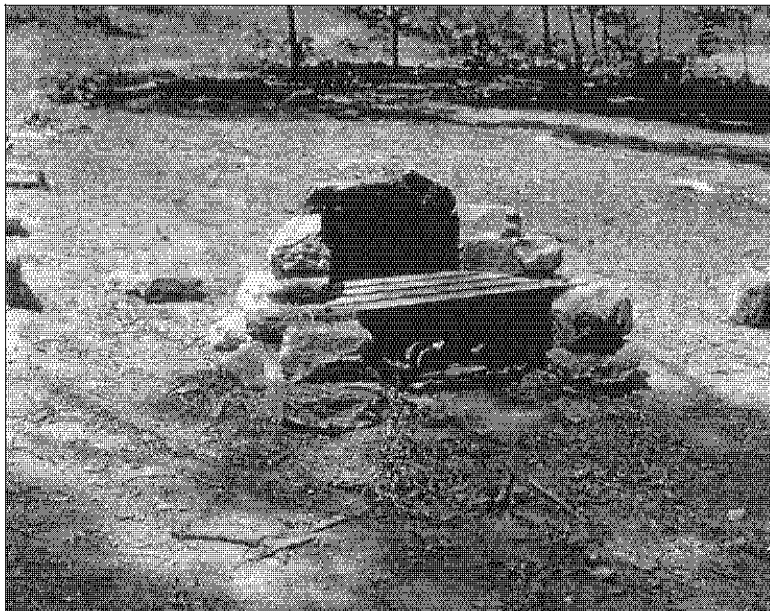


Figure 22: Fort Dupont Park - "Fireplace in Picnic Area, 23 September 1935."

Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 April 1935 - 30 September 1935), RG 79, NARA.

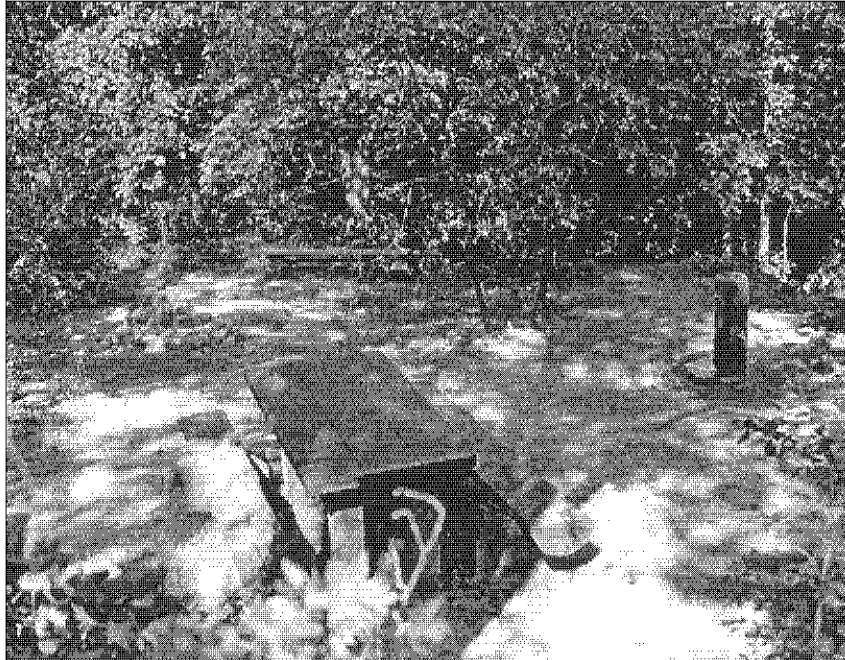


Figure 23: Fort Dupont Park - "View of Picnic Area. Note Drinking Fountain" Located in Hollow Log, c. 1935.  
Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 April 1935 - 30 September 1935), RG 79, NARA.

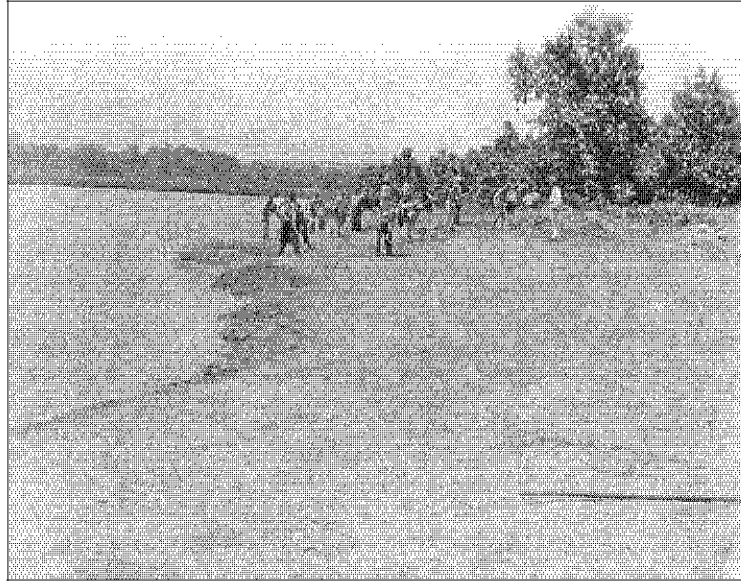


Figure 24: Camp NP-7-DC (Fort Dupont Park) Enrollees Sloping Bank at Roaches Run Bird Sanctuary, c. 1934.  
Source: "Narrative Report - N.P. Camp #7 Benning, DC," (1 July 1934 - 1 October 1934), RG 79, NARA.

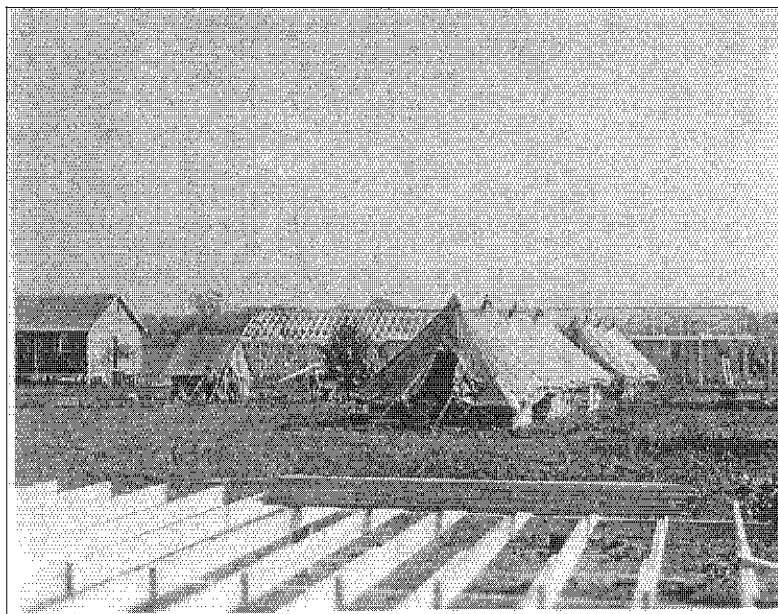


Figure 25: Camp NA-1-DC/NP-11-DC (National Arboretum), Camp Construction, September 26, 1934.  
Note mess hall behind tents and corner of barracks on left.  
Source: J. H. Peterson, "Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - January 1, 1935, N.A. Camp #1,"  
(7 January 1935), RG 79, NARA.

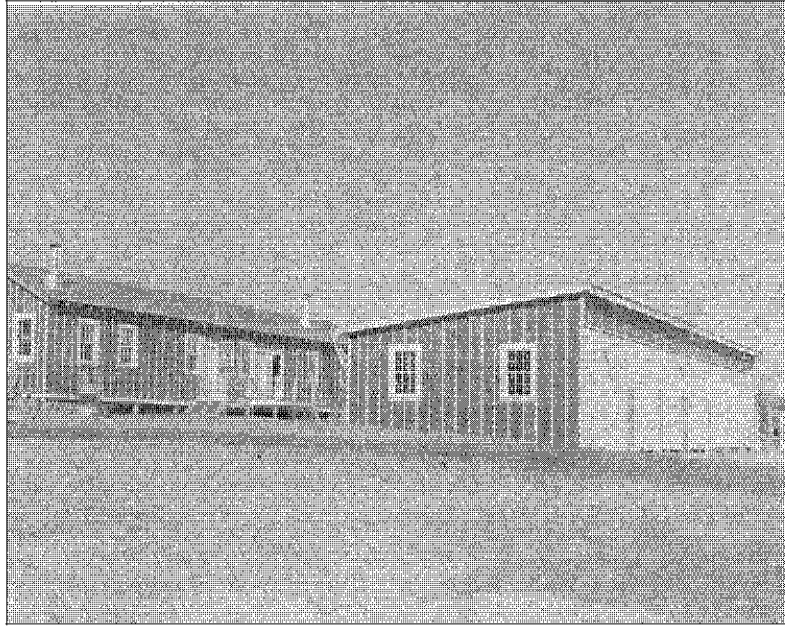


Figure 26: Camp NA-1-DC/NP-11-DC (National Arboretum), Superintendent's Office in Background,  
8-Car Garage in Foreground, November 13, 1934.

Source: "Narrative Report October 1, 1934 - January 1, 1935, N.A. Camp #1," (7 January 1935), RG 79, NARA.



Figure 27: National Arboretum, View of Completed Bridge Over Hickey Run Creek, c. 1934.

Source: "Narrative Report Covering Fourth Enrollment Period - N.A. Camp #1, Washington, D.C.," (3 April 1935),  
RG 79, NARA.

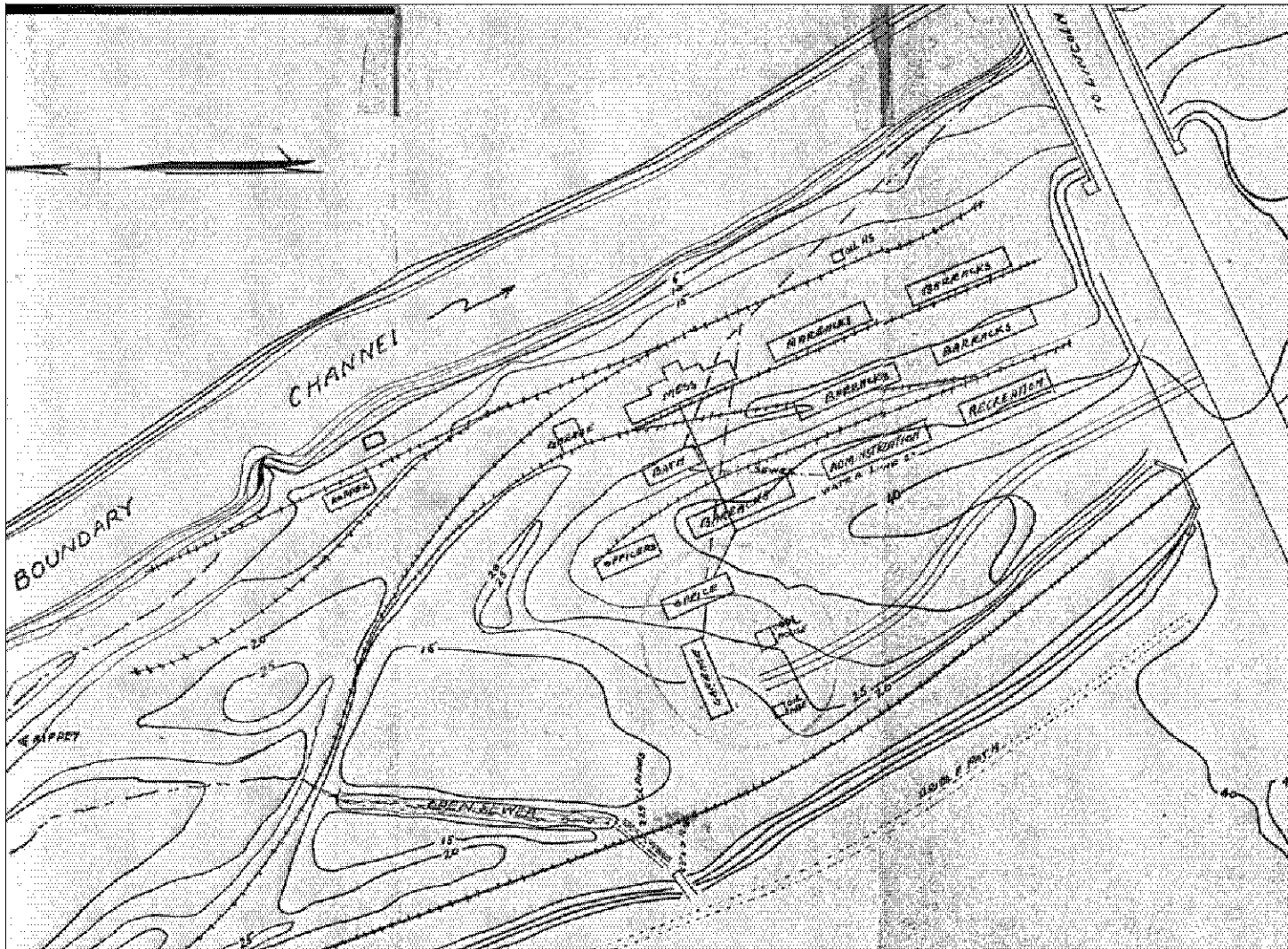


Figure 28: Detail of "C.C.C. Camp at Arlington Farm – General Layout" (Camp NP-8-VA), c. 1934.  
Note road on right labeled "To Lincoln Memorial" on original; Scale: 1 inch = 100 feet.  
Source: RG 79, NARA.



Figure 29: "C.C.C. Boys Screening for Artifacts, August 12, 1936" Analostan, Theodore Roosevelt Island, Washington, DC.  
Source: HABS No. DC-28, John O. Brostrup, Photographer, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress.

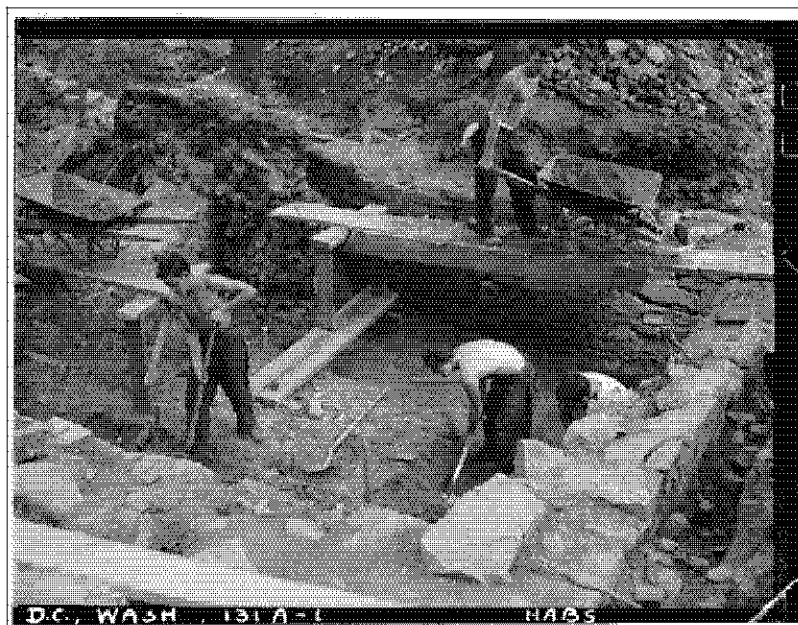


Figure 30: "View of C.C.C. Boys Excavating in Unit A, August 12, 1936" Analostan, Theodore Roosevelt Island, Washington, DC.  
Source: HABS No. DC-28, John O. Brostrup, Photographer, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress.

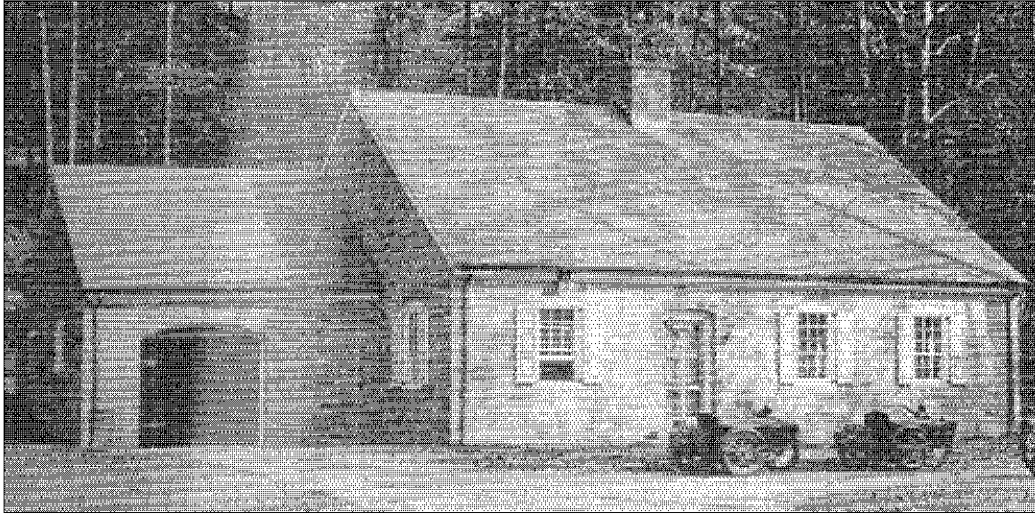


Figure 31: Police Lodge in Rock Creek Park, c. 1937.

Source: "Report on the Building Program from Allotments of the Public Works Administration, 1933-1937,"  
Harpers Ferry Center.

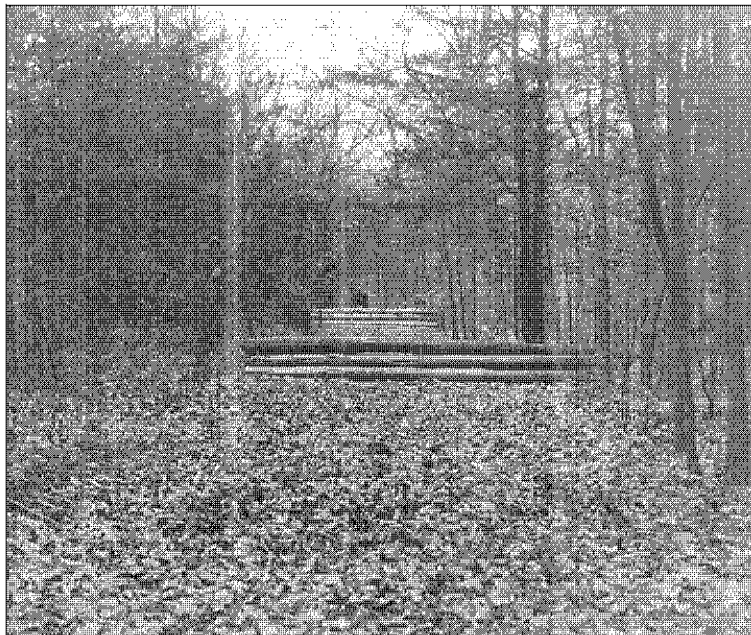


Figure 32: Rock Creek Park, Bridle Path with Log Hurdles, c. 1935-37.  
Source: RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 33: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), Aerial View, c. 1938.  
Source: RG 35-GE, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 34: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park),  
CCC Director Robert Fechner “Talking to the Boys” Inside the Mess Hall, c. 1938-40.  
Source: RG 35-GE, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 35: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), Baseball Pep Rally, c. 1938-42.  
Source: RG 35-SU, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

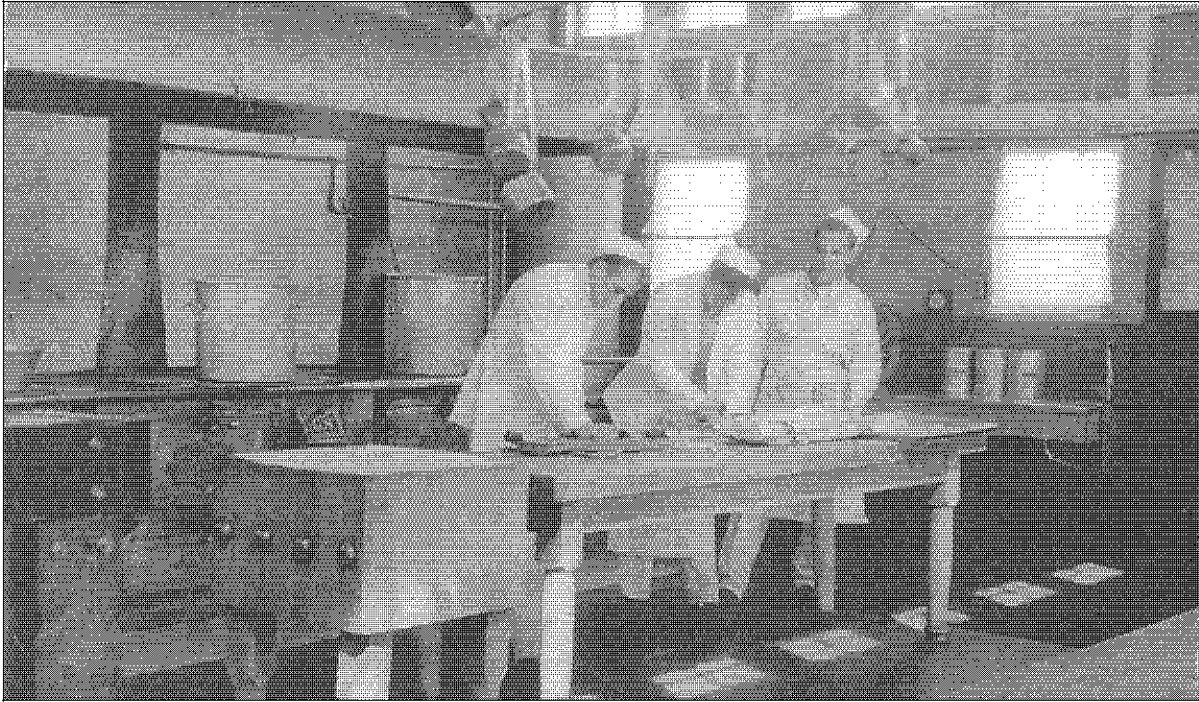


Figure 36: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), "Enrollee Chef Instructs Meat Cutters," c. 1938-42.  
Source: RG 35-SU, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 37: Camp NP-14-DC (Rock Creek Park), Civilian Defense Training, May 1942.  
Source: RG 35-G, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

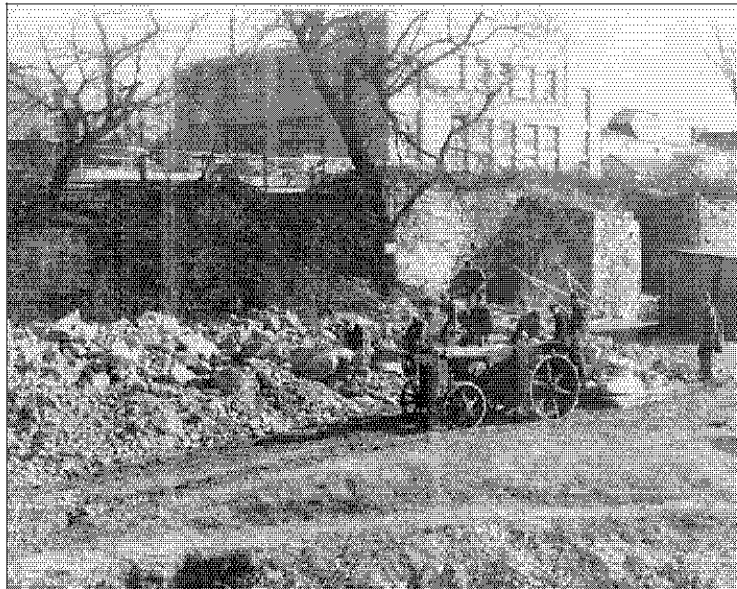


Figure 38: Rock Creek Park, Erosion Control, c. 1937.  
Source: RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 39: Tents at Camp NP-3-MD (Catoctin RDA), c. 1939.  
Source: Catoctin Mountain Park files.



Figure 40: Catoctin RDA, Manor House Area Picnic Shelter, c. 1939-41.  
Source: Catoctin Mountain Park files.

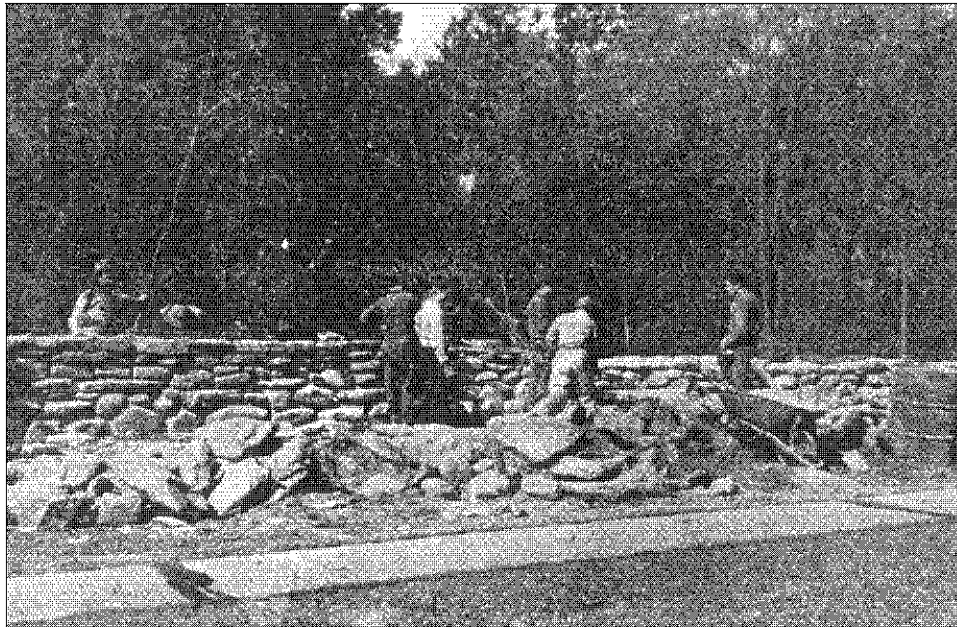


Figure 41: Camp NP-3-MD Enrollees Laying Field Stone Wall in Catoctin RDA, c. 1940.  
Source: G. B. Arthur, *Project Training Series - Brickwork and Stonework*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, (June 1941).

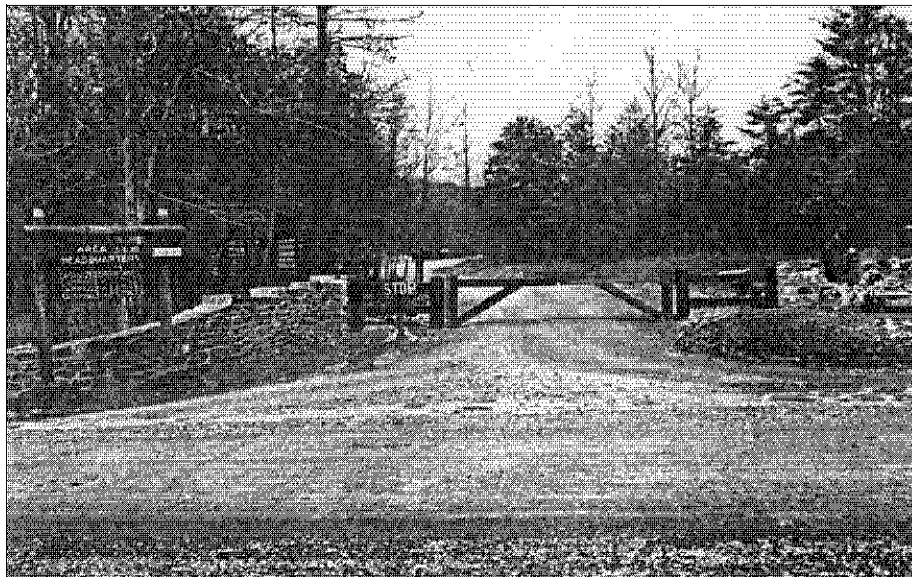


Figure 42: Catoctin RDA, Blue Blazes Contact Station Gate, c. 1939-41.  
Source: Catoctin Mountain Park files.

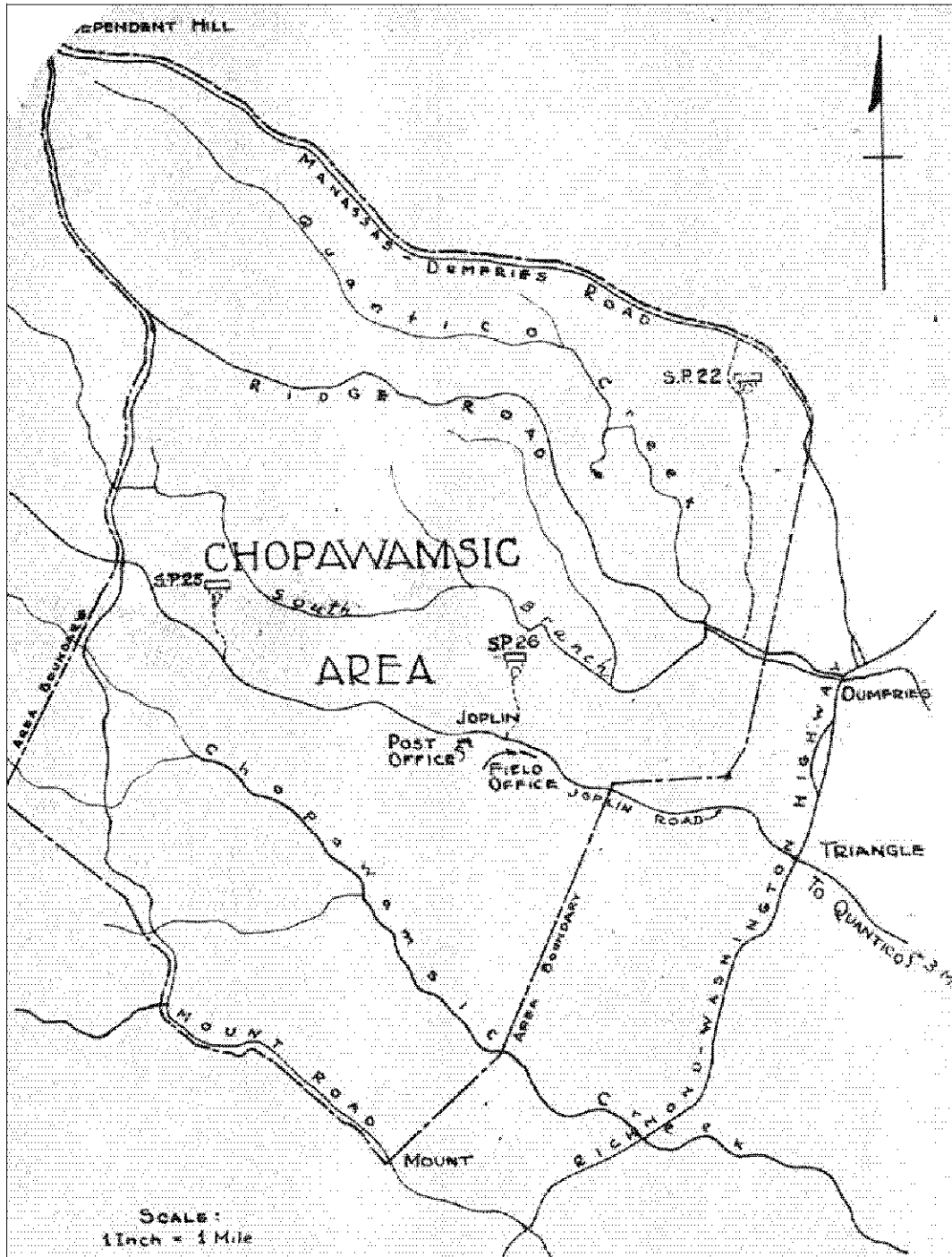


Figure 43: Map of Chopawamsic RDA showing CCC Camp Locations, c. 1935-39.  
Source: Prince William Forest Park files.

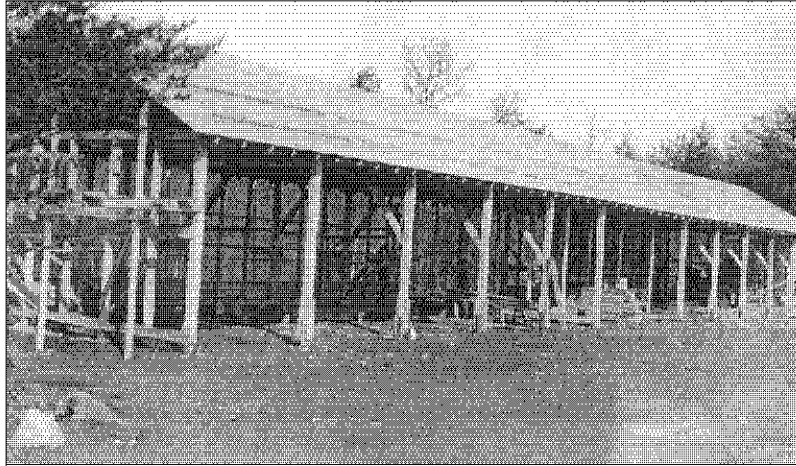


Figure 44: Camp SP-25-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) Garage Under Construction, c. 1936.  
Source: "Narrative Report, Camp Virginia SP-25, Chopawamsic Area," (12 February 1936), RG 79, NARA.

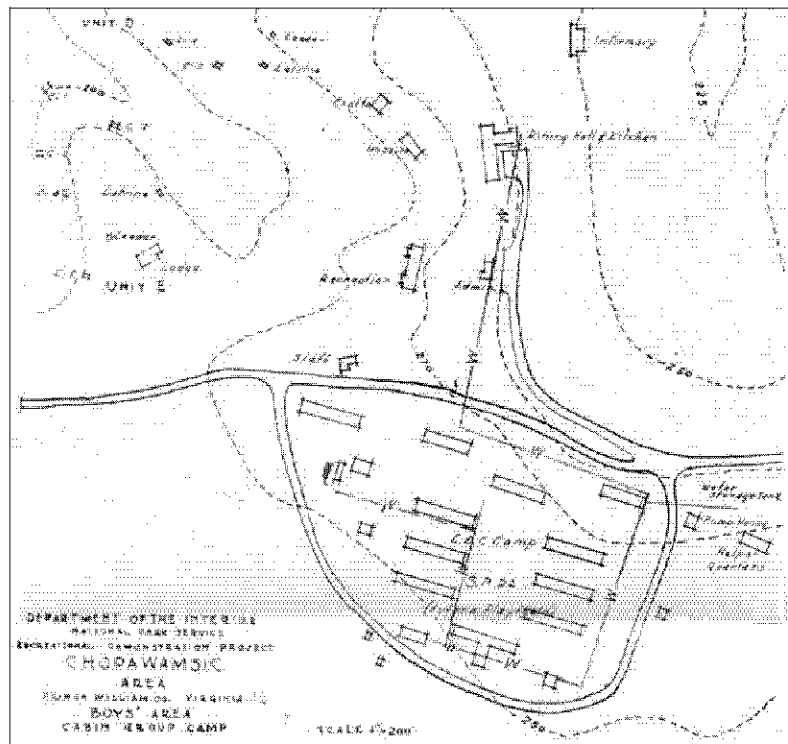


Figure 45: Chopawamsic RDA, Site Plan of Recreational Camp No. 1 and CCC Camp SP-22, c. 1935-39.  
Source: Prince William Forest Park files.



Figure 46: Camp SP-22-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) Garage Area, c. 1935.  
Source: "Bi-Monthly Statement, Chopawamsic State Park, Camp SP-22," (12 December 1935), RG 79, NARA.

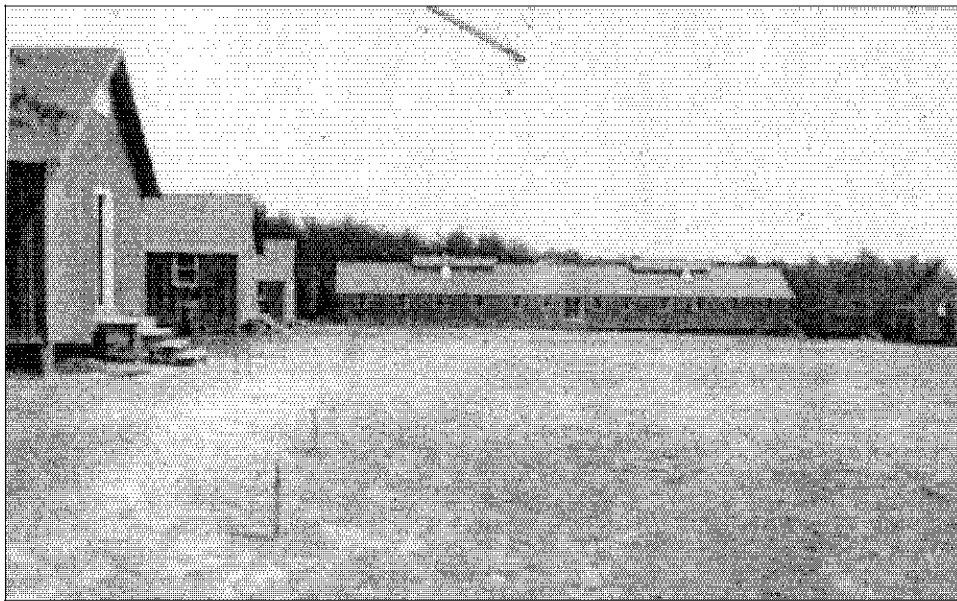


Figure 47: Camp SP-22-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) "New Barrack Buildings," c. 1935.  
Source: "Summary Report, Fifth Period E.C.W., Chopawamsic State Park, Camp 22," (7 October 1935), RG 79, NARA.

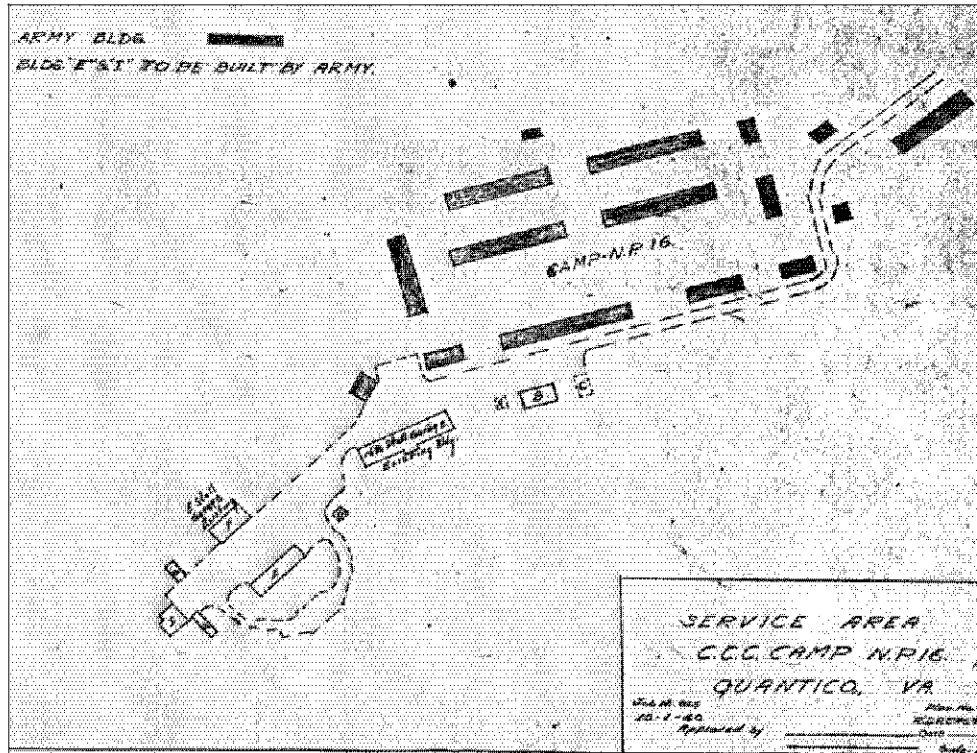


Figure 48: Camp NP-16-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) Site Plan, 1940.  
The parade ground is located between the buildings where the "Camp N.P. 16" label is placed.  
Source: Prince William Forest Park files.



Figure 49: Camp SP-26-VA/NP-16-VA (Chopawamsic RDA) Entrance Sign, c. 1936.  
Source: "Narrative Report, Camp Virginia SP-25, Chopawamsic Area," (10 January 1936), RG 79, NARA.



*Infirmiry, Chopawamsic Recreational Demonstration Area, Virginia*

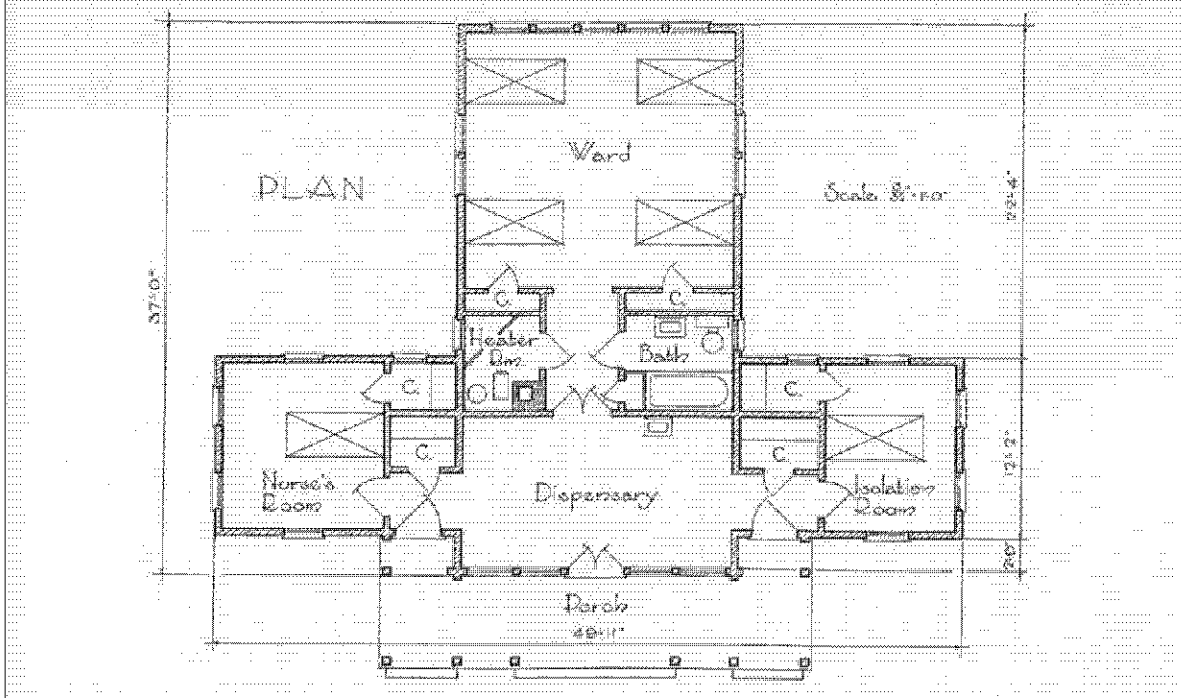


Figure 50: Infirmiry, Chopawamsic RDA, c. 1938.  
Source: Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, Vol. III, 131.



Figure 51: "Chopawamsic - CCC Boys Building Cabins," c. 1935-41.  
Source: RG 35-GE, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 52: "Civilian Conservation Corps Boys Aiding the Construction at National Park, Chopawamsic, Virginia,"  
c. 1935-41.  
Source: RG 69-MP, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 53: Camp NP-1-MD (C&O Canal), Aerial View, 1938.  
Source: RG 35-GE, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 54: Camp NP-2-MD (C&O Canal), Aerial View, 1938  
Source: RG 35-GE, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

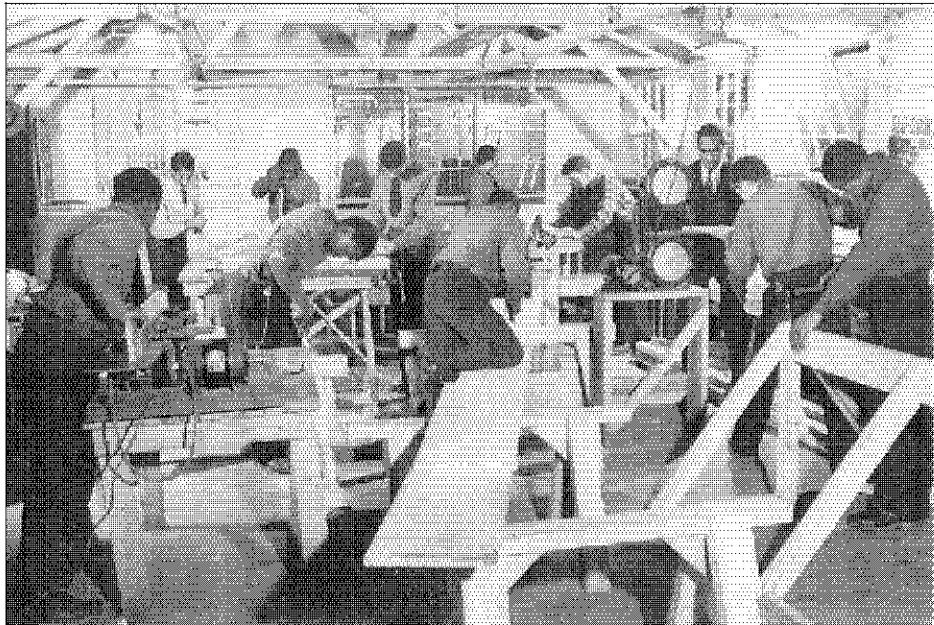


Figure 55: Camp NP-1-MD and NP-2-MD Enrollees in Woodworking Class, c. 1942.  
Source: RG 35-G, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

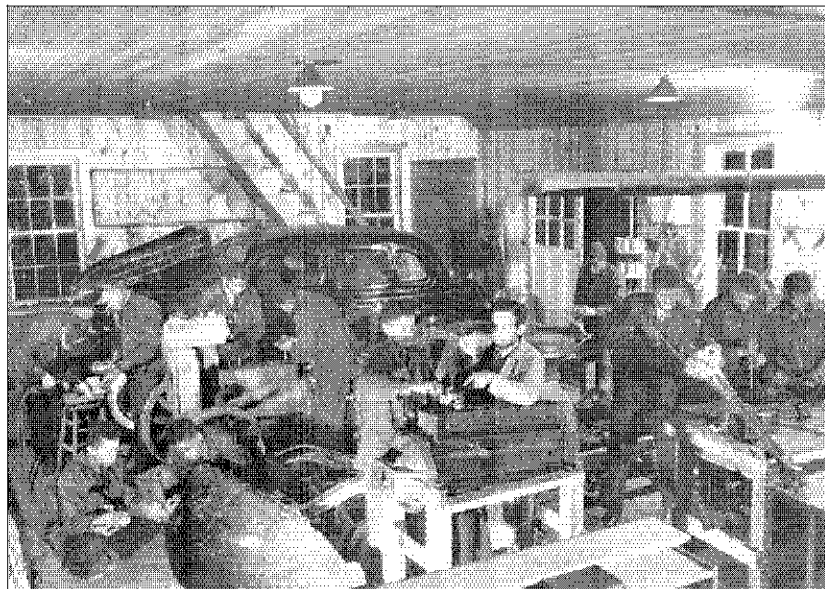


Figure 56: "Camp NP-1 (Negro) Cabin John, Maryland, February 8, 1942,  
National Defense Training - Auto Mechanics Class."  
Source: RG 35-G, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

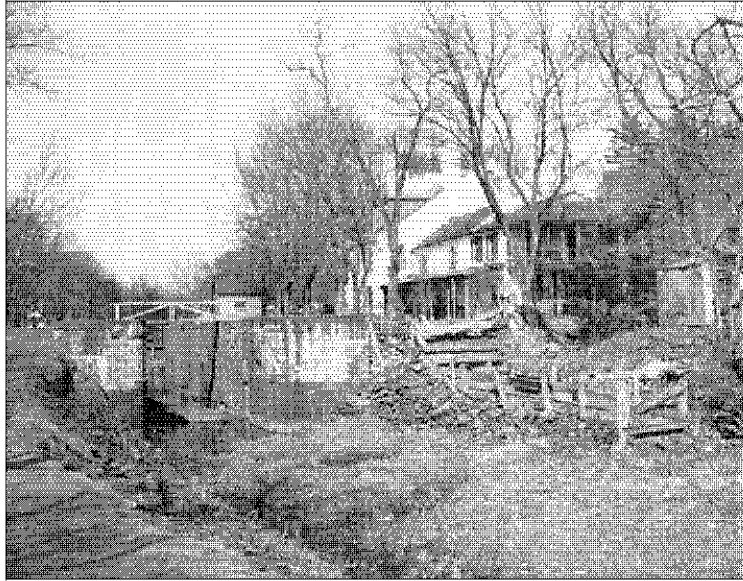


Figure 57: "Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Lock and Old Tavern at Great Falls," c. 1938.  
Source: RG 79-G, Charles Porter Collection, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

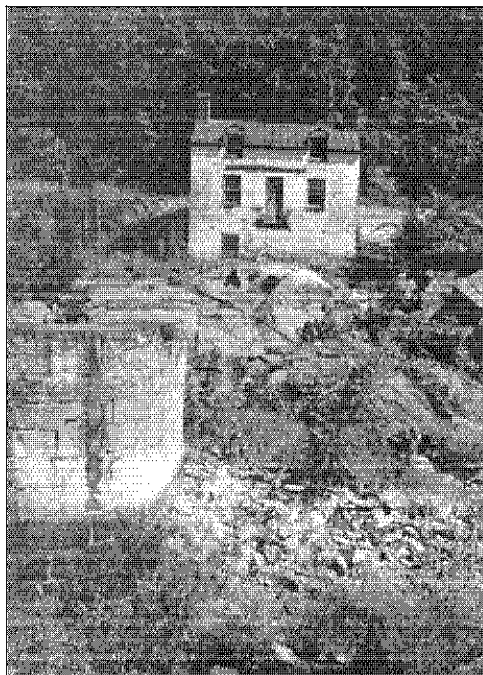


Figure 58: "C&O Canal - View of Canal Lock North of Wide Water," September 1938.  
Source: RG 69-N, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

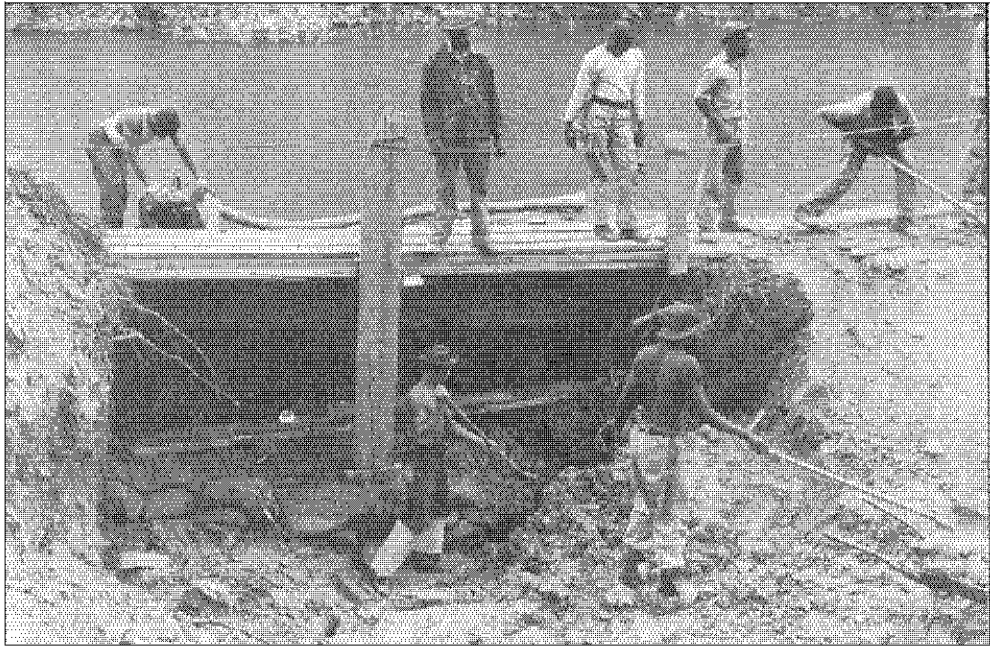


Figure 59: "CCC Repairs Towpath Break at Widewater, September 10, 1940."  
Source: Mackintosh, *C&O Canal: The Making of a Park*, 47.

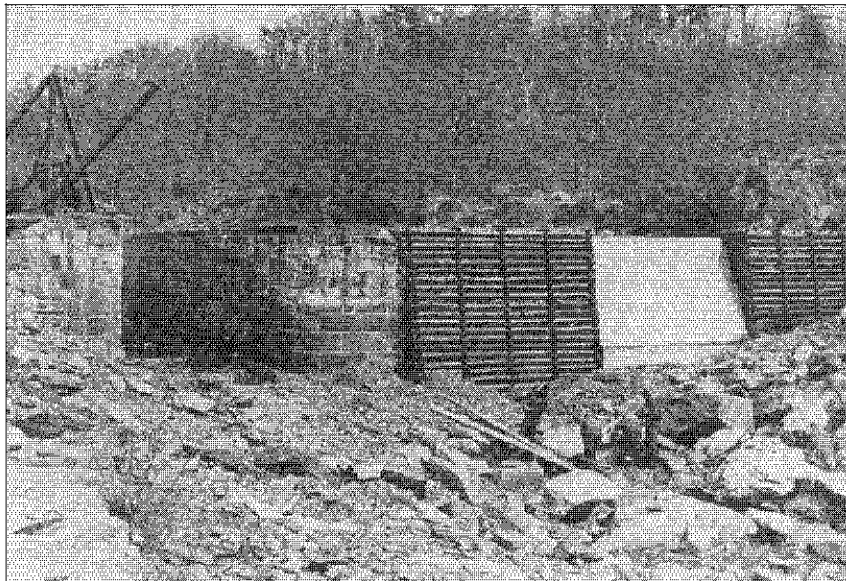


Figure 60: "CCC Reconstruction of Lock 15, April 4, 1940."  
Source: Mackintosh, *C&O Canal: The Making of a Park*, 35.



Figure 61: Camp NP-4-MD Enrollee Demolishing Concrete Wall at Fort Washington, c. 1941.  
Source: RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 62: Fort Washington Restoration Work by CCC, c. 1941.  
Source: RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

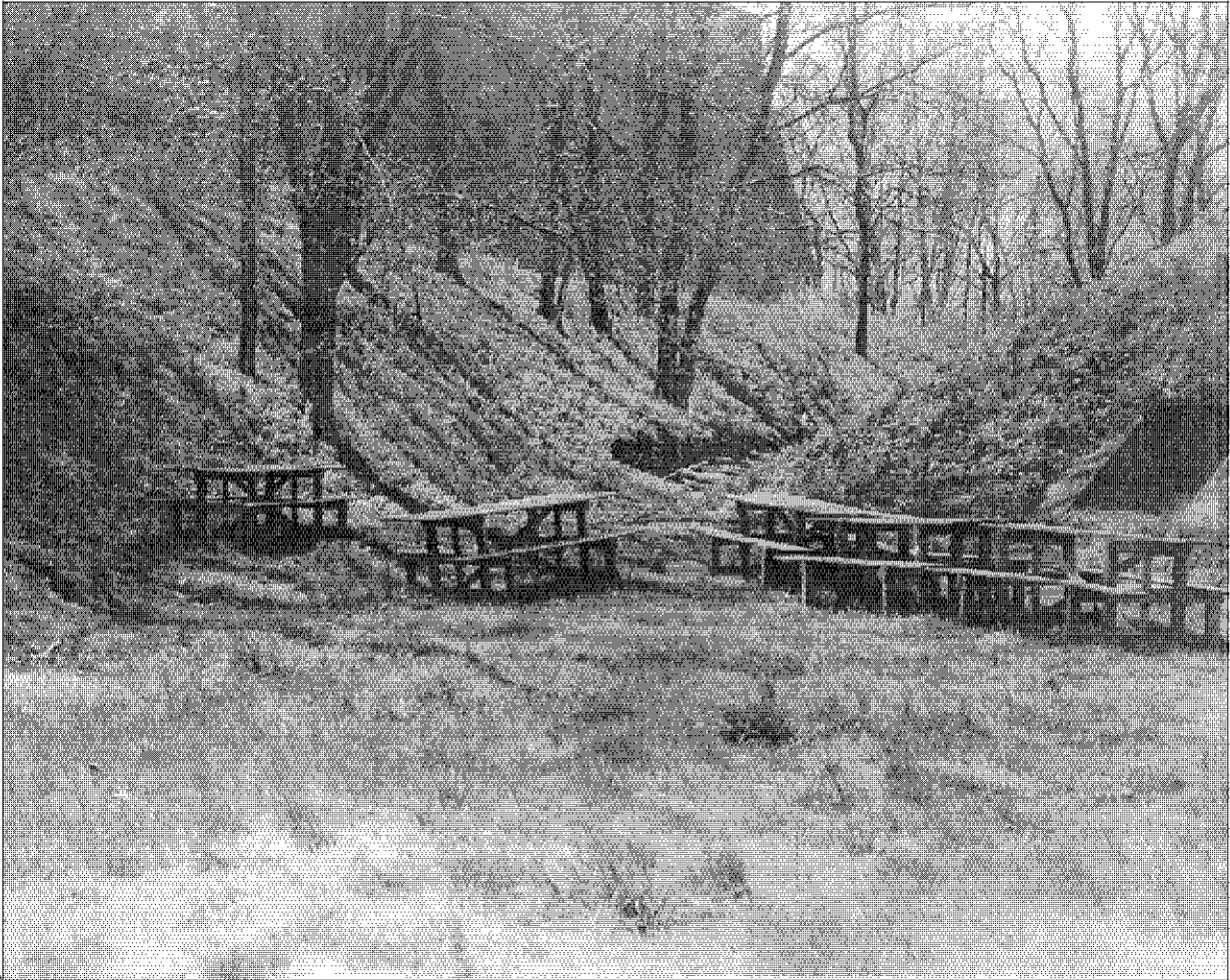


Figure 63: "Picnic Ground Development - Fort Washington," c. 1941.  
Source: RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.

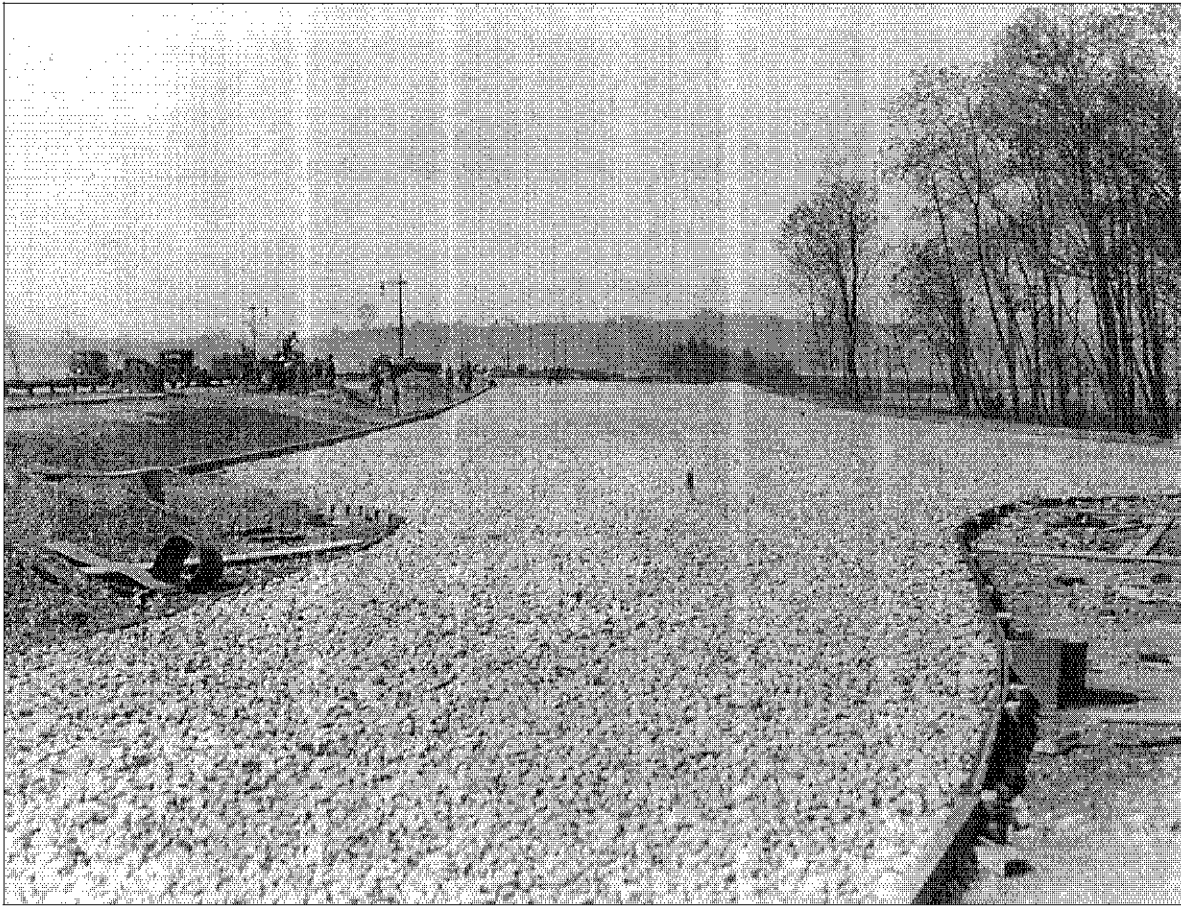


Figure 64: Parking area at Roaches Run Bird Sanctuary while under construction, 1935.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

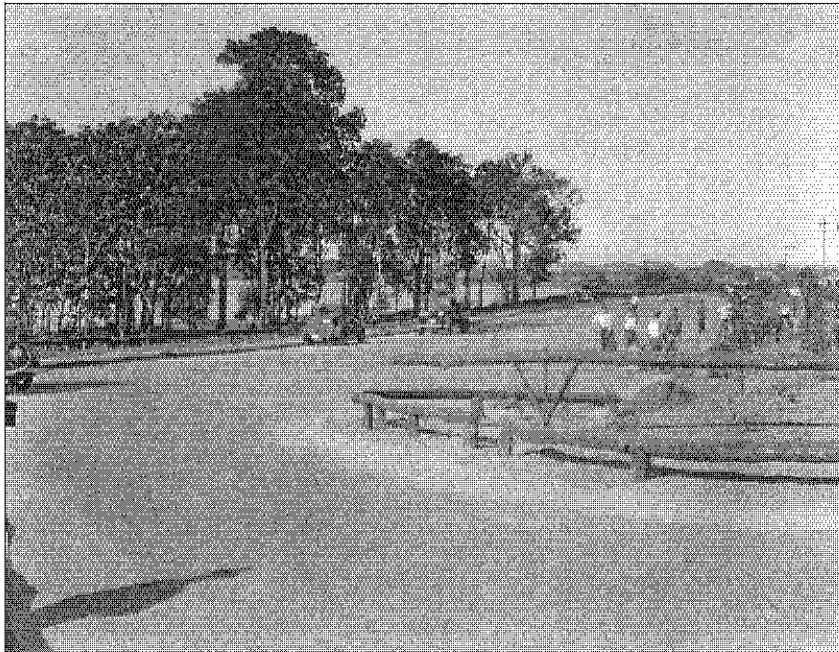


Figure 65: "Parking Area Completed, Roaches Run," 1935.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

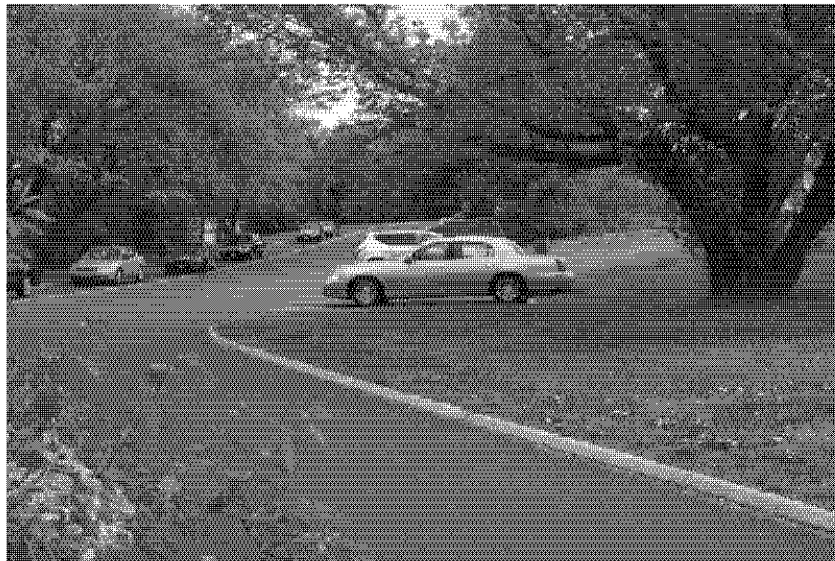


Figure 66: Parking area at Roaches Run, 2005.



Figure 67: "Table-and-bench combination," Fort Dupont Park, 1936.  
Source: folder 1, box 1, RG 79-TR.



Figure 68: Picnic table, Fort Dupont Park, 2005.

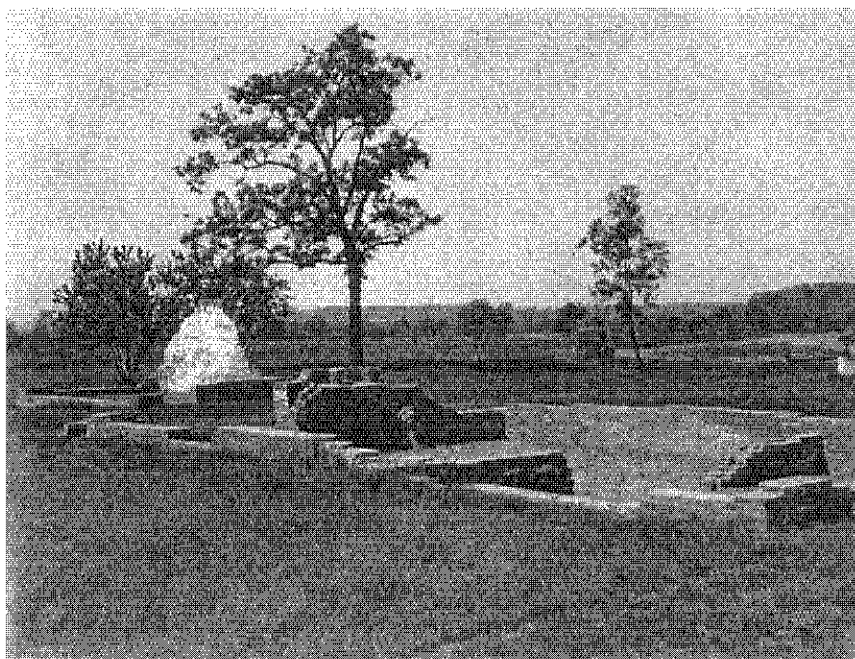


Figure 69: The Abingdon ruins with the CCC-constructed parking area behind, 1934.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.



Figure 70: Catoctin RDA, Manor House Day Area Picnic Shelter, 1939.  
Source: Matthias C. Huppach Collection, Catoctin Mountain Park files,  
written on back: "Please Credit to Maryland State Department of Forestry."



Figure 71: Catoctin RDA, Manor House Day Area, parking area under construction, ca. 1938.  
Source: Matthias C. Huppach Collection, Catoctin Mountain Park files.



Figure 72: Restored lock house and bypass flume at Lock 15 along the C&O Canal, 2004.



Figure 73: Restored bypass flume and lock at Lock 15 along the C&O Canal, 2004.



Figure 74: Footings of the swing bridge constructed near Camp NP-1-MD, 2002.

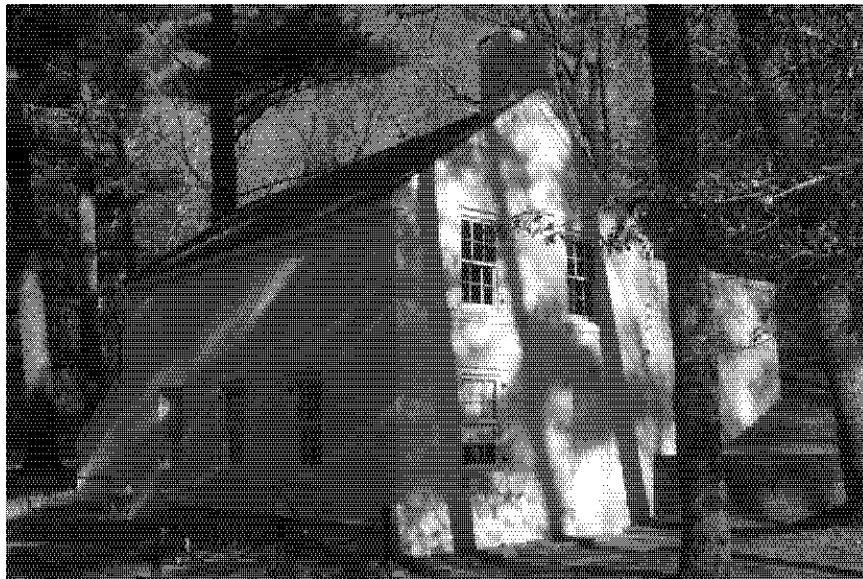


Figure 75: Downhill side of the water filtration plant building, Great Falls visitors area, C&O Canal, 2004.



Figure 76: Up-hill side of water filtration plant building with extant mechanical equipment, 2004.

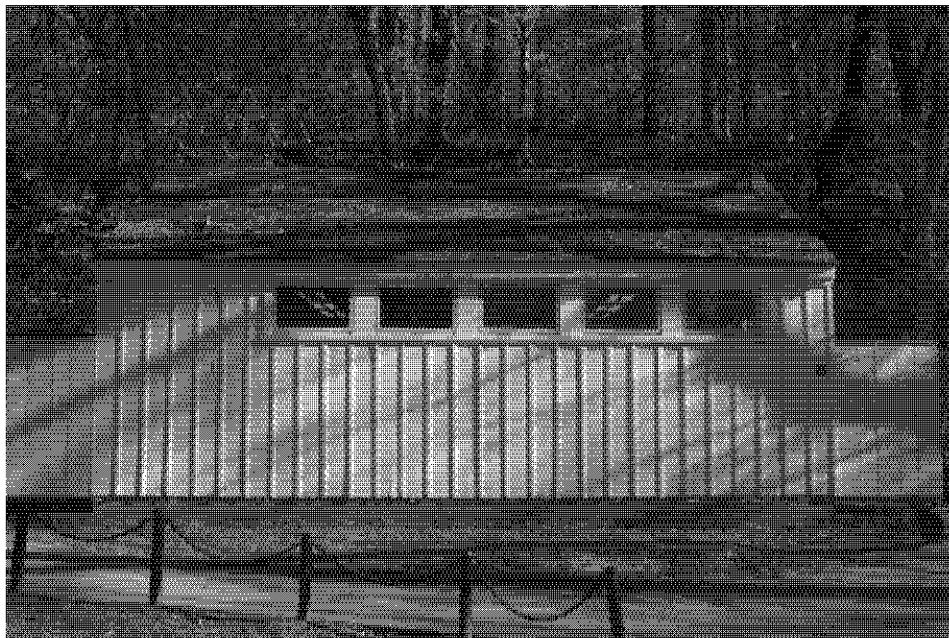


Figure 77: “Latrine,” Great Falls visitors area, C&O Canal, 2004.

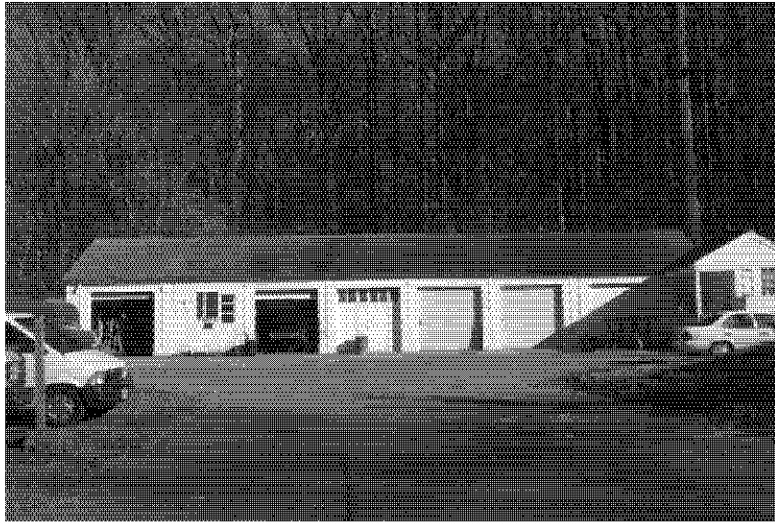


Figure 78: "Engineer's Garage," utility area above the Great Falls visitors area, C&O Canal, 2004.

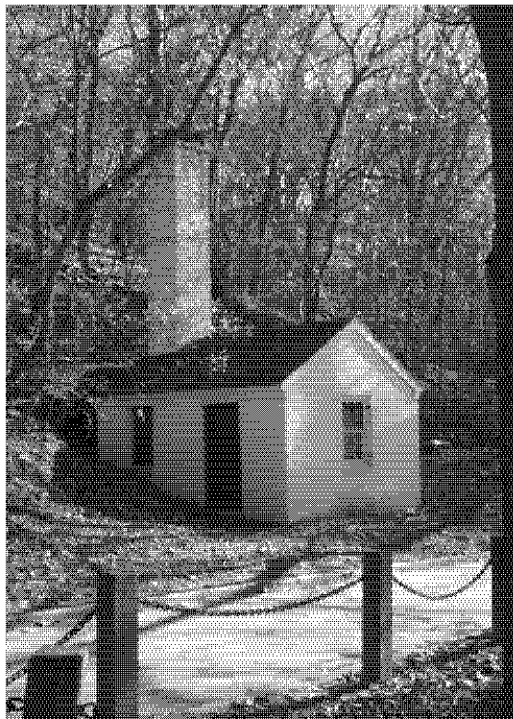


Figure 79: Heating plant building, Great Falls visitors center, C&O Canal, 2004.

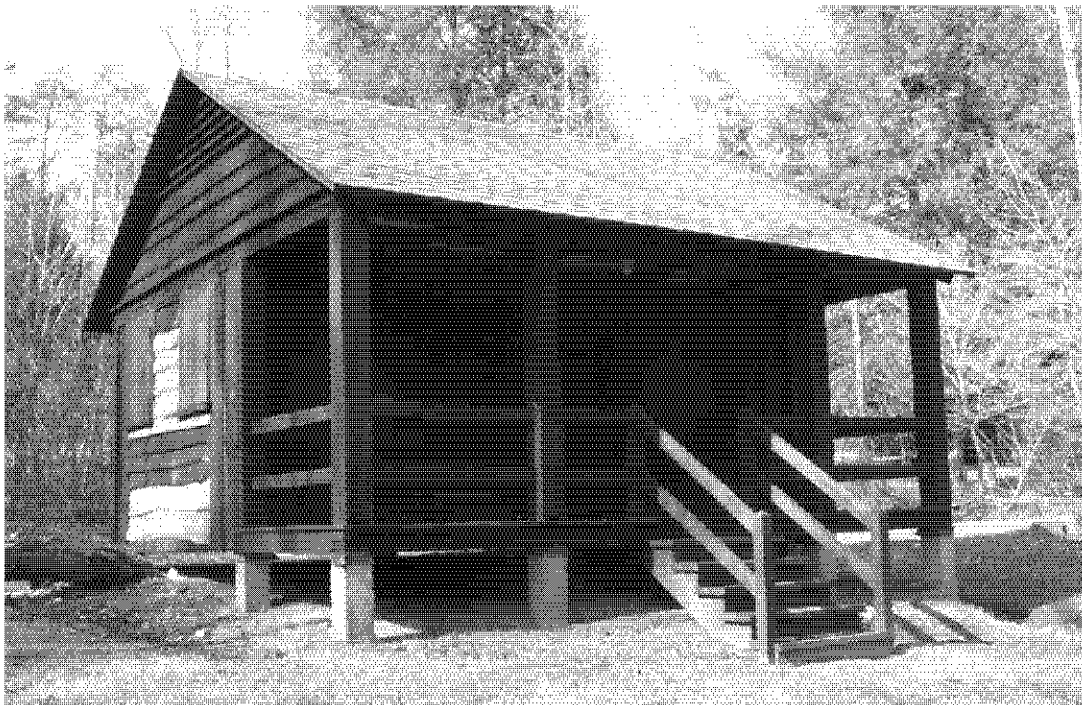


Figure 80: A cabin in Camp 2 (Mawavi), Unit B in Prince William Forest Park, 2002.  
Note the waney-edged replacement siding on the left side of the cabin.

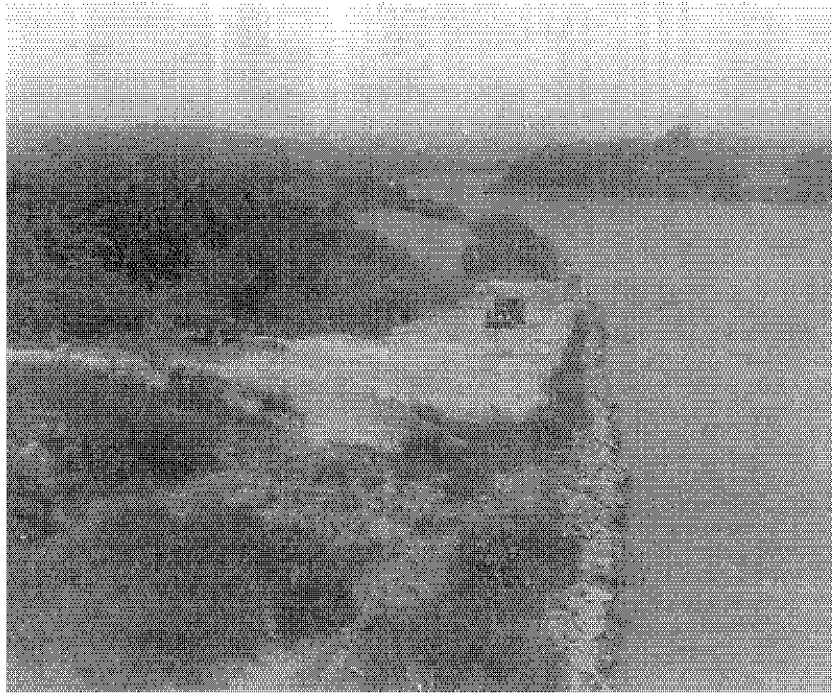


Figure 81: Image of filling and rip rapping along the Potomac River bank on Columbia Island, looking north from Memorial Bridge, 1935.  
Source: RG 79-CCC, Still Picture Branch, NARA.



Figure 82: View looking north from Memorial Bridge, 2005.  
Rip rap extends northward along the riverbank on Columbia Island.



Figure 83: Photograph of the completed bridle path on Columbia Island looking north toward Memorial Bridge, 1934.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.



Figure 84: Footpath leading up to the former picnic area, Fort Bunker Hill Park, 2004.



Figure 85: Stone stairs and beginning of stone stage wall (left) in the amphitheater, Fort Bunker Hill Park, 2004.



Figure 86: Amphitheater stage, Fort Bunker Hill Park, 2004.

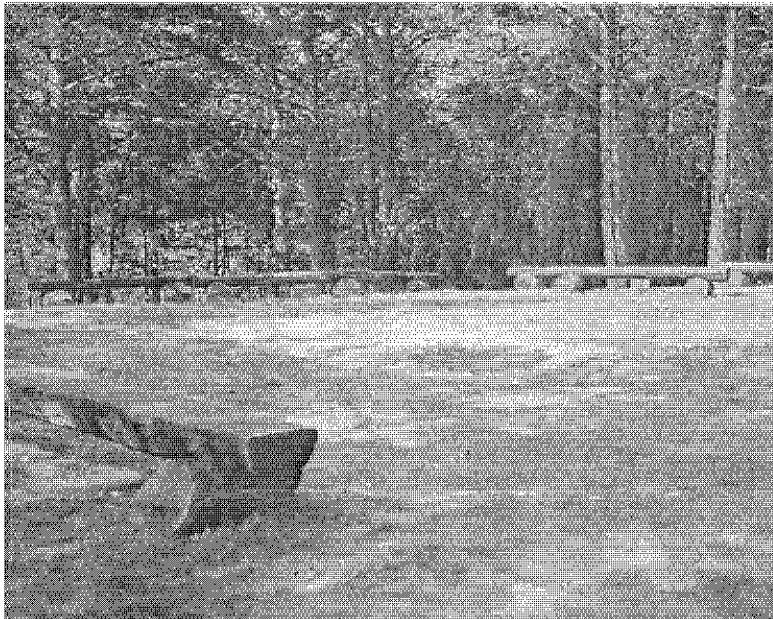


Figure 87: Council Ring at Fort Dupont Park , 1935.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.



Figure 88: View of Reservation 518, 1935.  
Source: Box 13, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

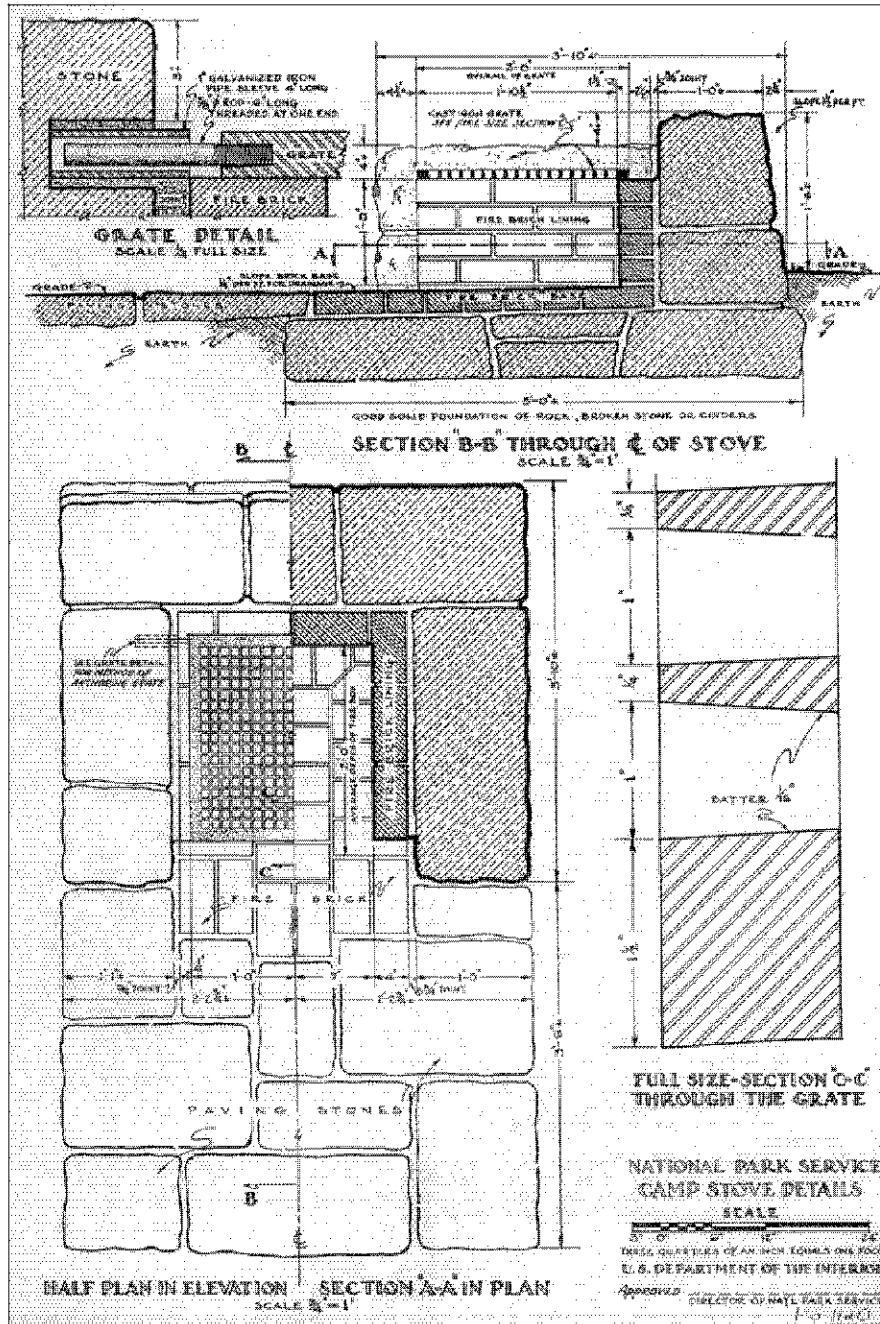


Figure 89: Camp Stove Details, Drawing for Type 6, similar to those found in the Ridge Picnic area at Fort Dupont Park.

Source: *Camp Stove Details*. (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, 1939), Type 6.



Figure 90: Fireplace ruin, Ridge Picnic Area, Fort Dupont Park, 2004.



Figure 91: Functioning fireplace, Ridge Picnic Area, Fort Dupont Park, 2004.

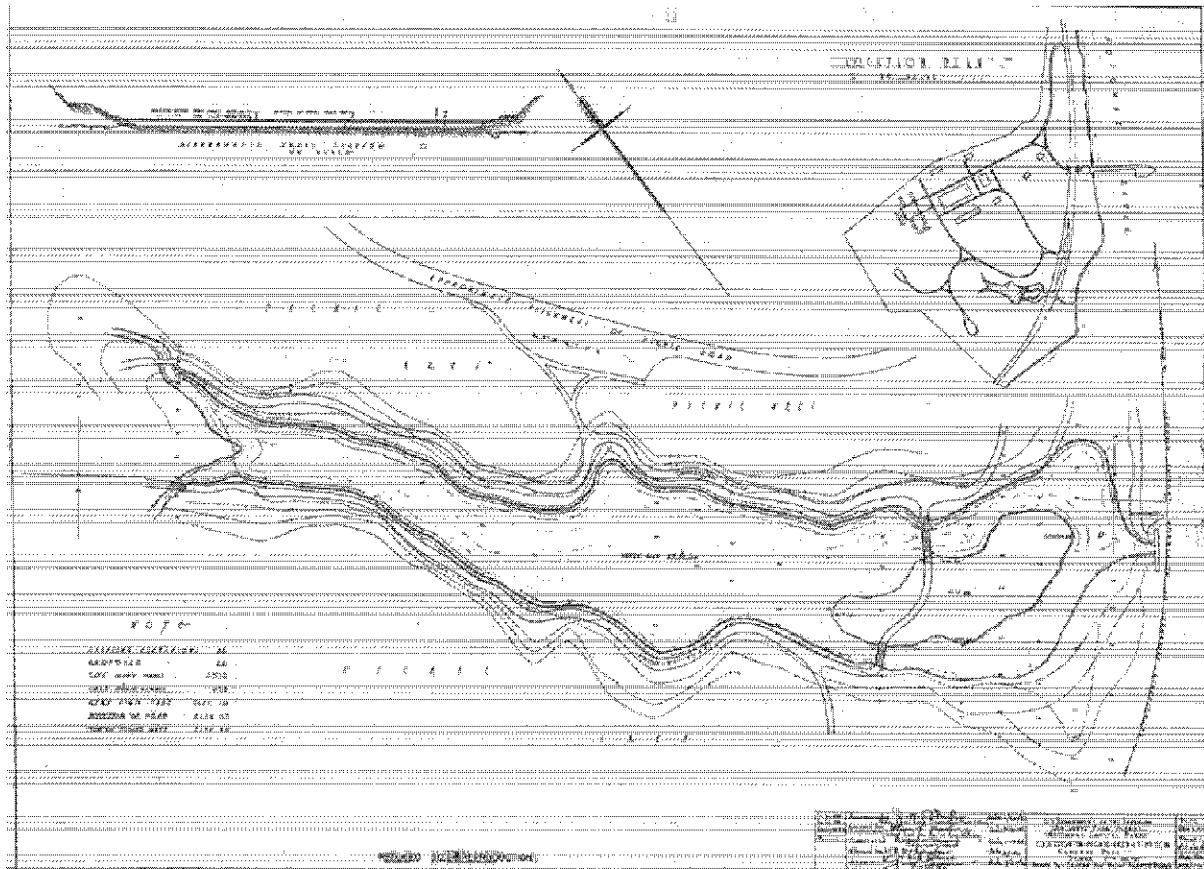


Figure 92: Design for the manmade lagoon at Fort Hunt, with the planned park layout inset at the upper right, 1936.  
Source: Lagoon in Picnic Area, Fort Hunt, VA, General Plan, National Park Service, (1936), File No. NCP-117.6-63, Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service.

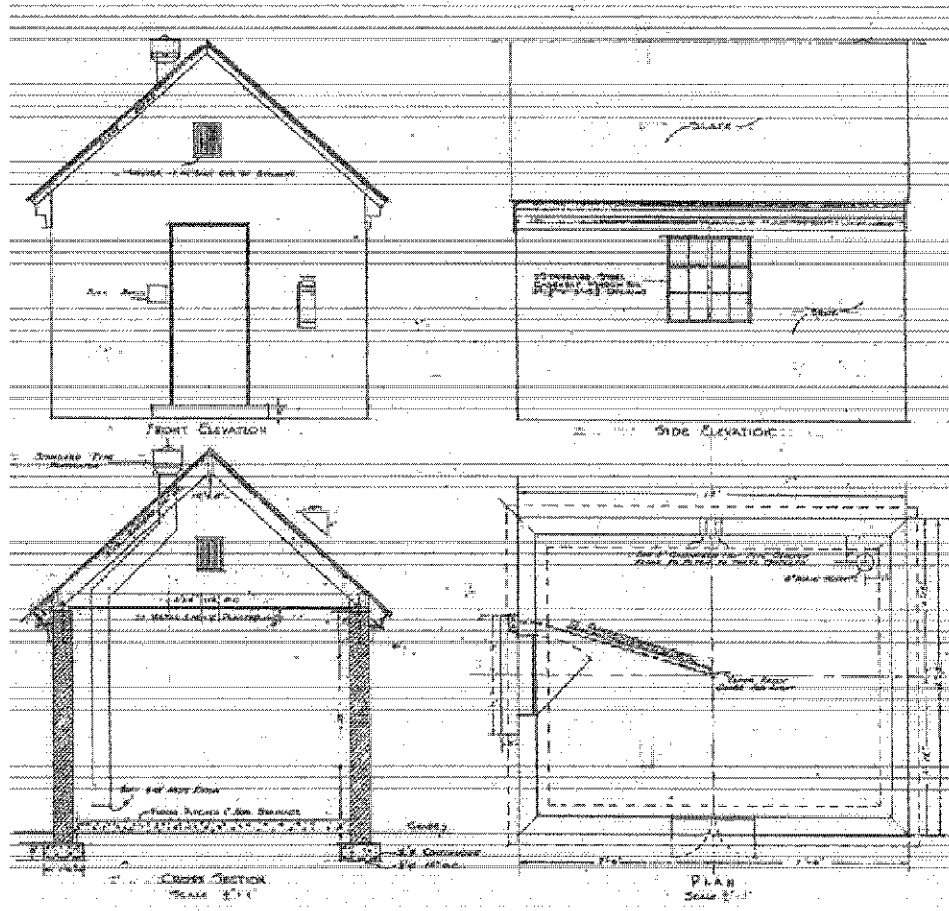


Figure: 93: Plan, section, and elevations of the Oil Storage House, Fort Hunt, Virginia, 1937.  
Source: Oil Storage House, Fort Hunt, VA, National Park Service, (1937), File No. NCP-117.6-65, Technical Information Center (TIC), Denver Service Center, National Park Service.



Figure 94: Oil storage house, Fort Hunt Park, 2004.



Figure 95: Commemorative pin oaks planted ca. June 1939, 2004.



Figure 96: Ca. 1936 historical reconstruction of Fort Stevens using “concrete logs,” 2004.



Figure 97: Reconstructed powder magazine, Fort Stevens, 2004.

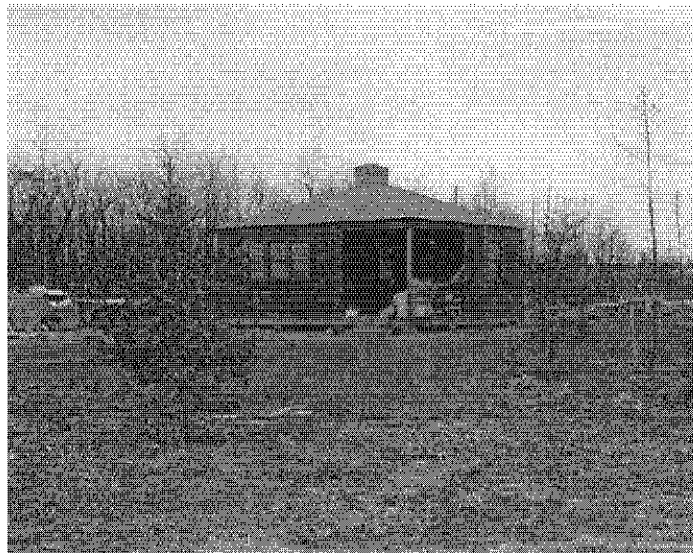
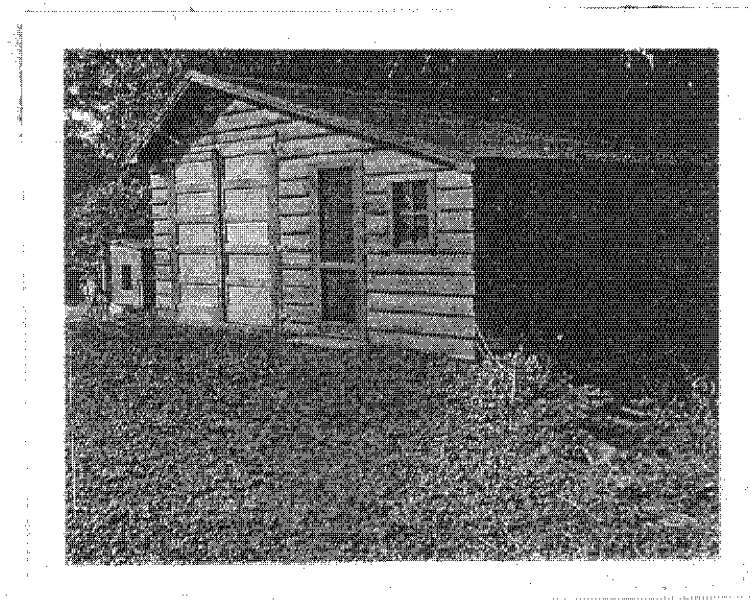


Figure 98: Gamekeeper's residence, Roaches Run, 1935.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.



Project #8, Feed Storage Building Completed, Roaches Run

Figure 99: Feed storage building, Roaches, Run, ca. 1935.  
Source: Box 12, Entry 42, RG 79, NARA.

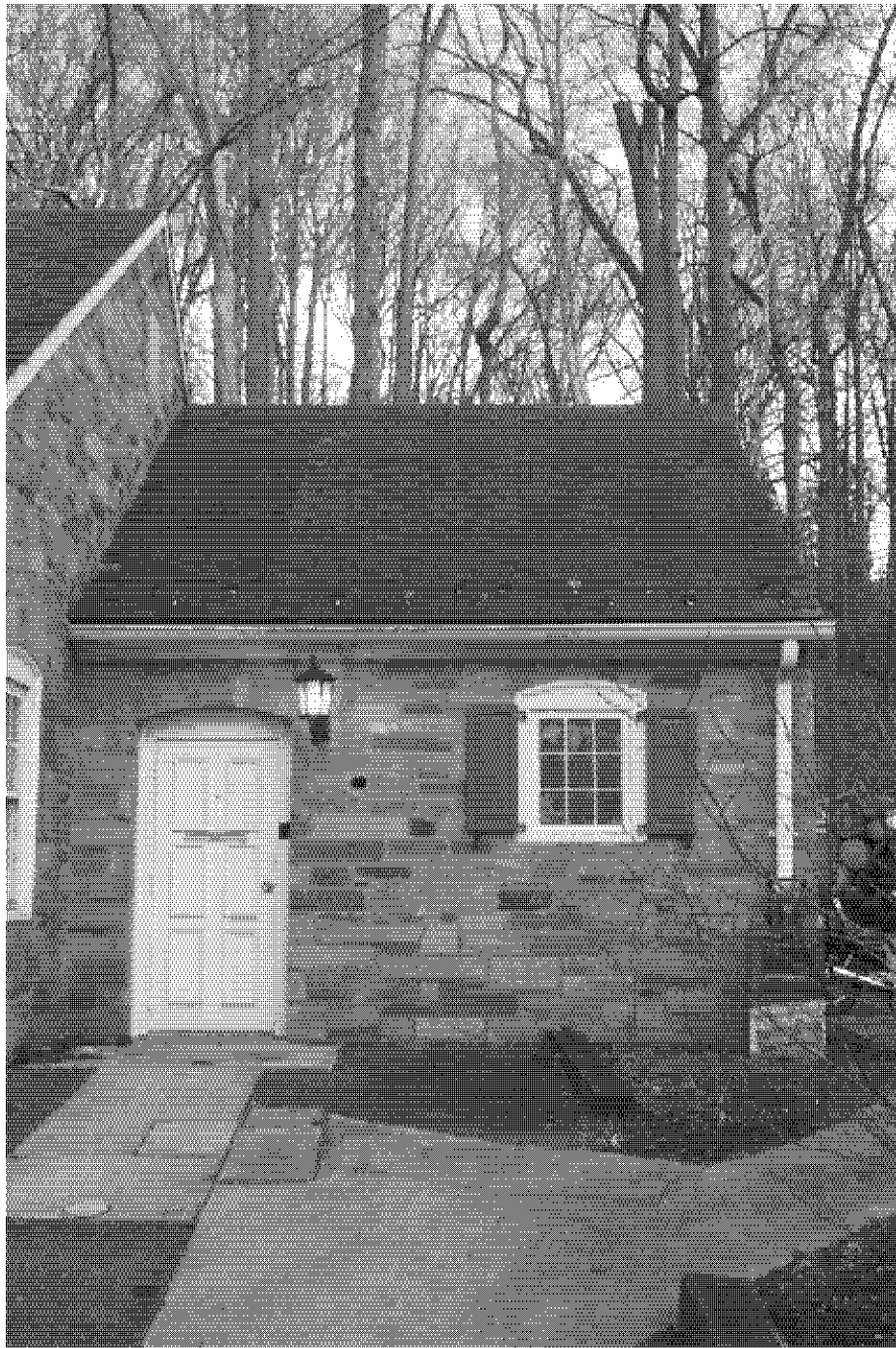


Figure 100: Structure added to the Police Lodge in Rock Creek Park in 1937 for use as a latrine, 2004.

**APPENDIX B: CCC INVENTORY MAPS**

LIST OF CCC INVENTORY MAPS:

Produced by Deidre McCarthy, Cultural Resources GIS Facility, 2005.

Map 1: Overview of CCC Camp Locations in the National Capital Region.

Map 2: CCC-Built Fireplaces and Picnic Areas.

Map 3: CCC Work on Historic Structures.

Map 4: CCC-Built Features Along the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Virginia.

Map 5: Urban Parks with CCC Involvement.

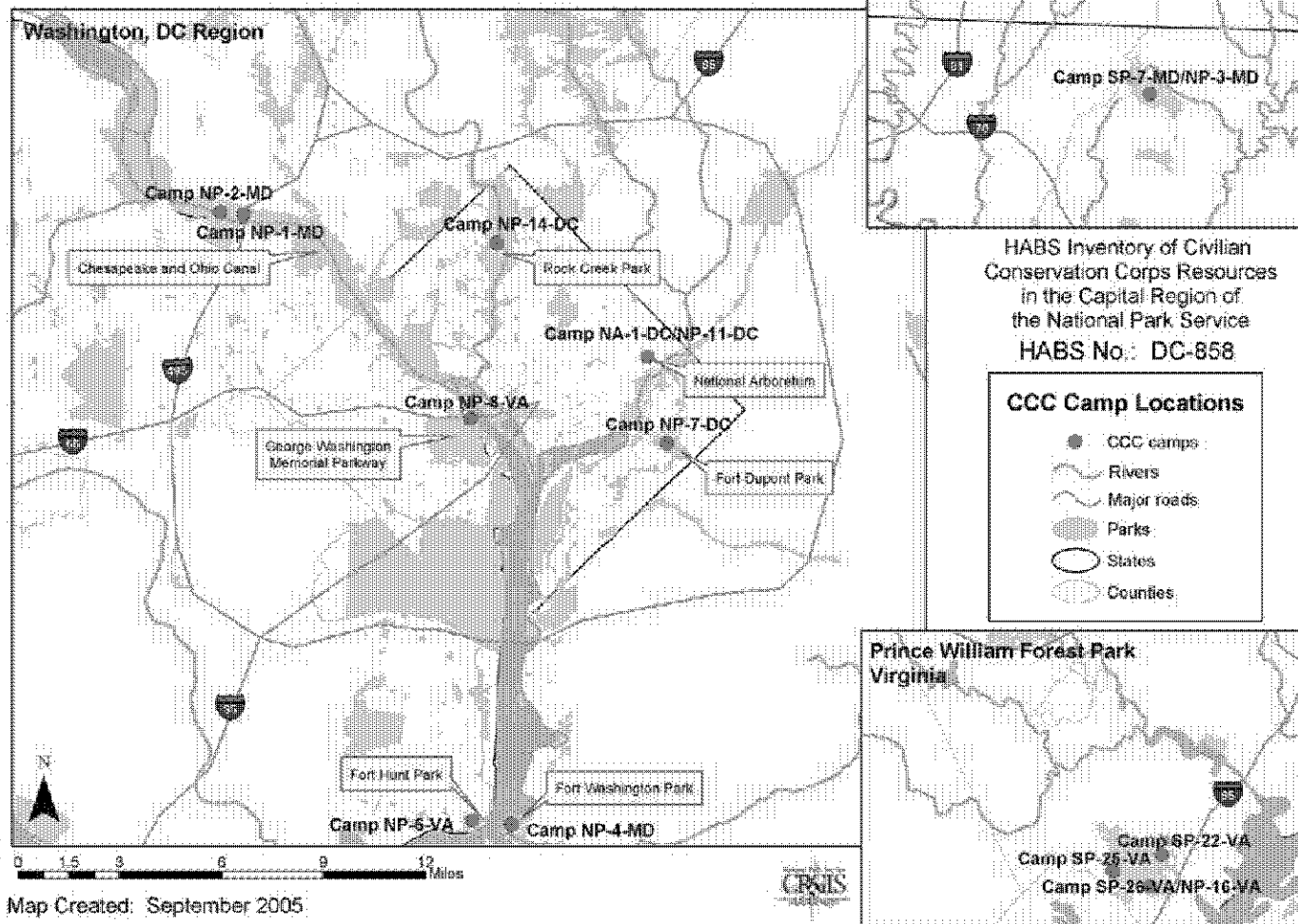
Map 6: Parks with CCC-Built Golf Courses.

Map 7: Cabin Camp 2 (Mawavi), Prince William Forest Park, Virginia.

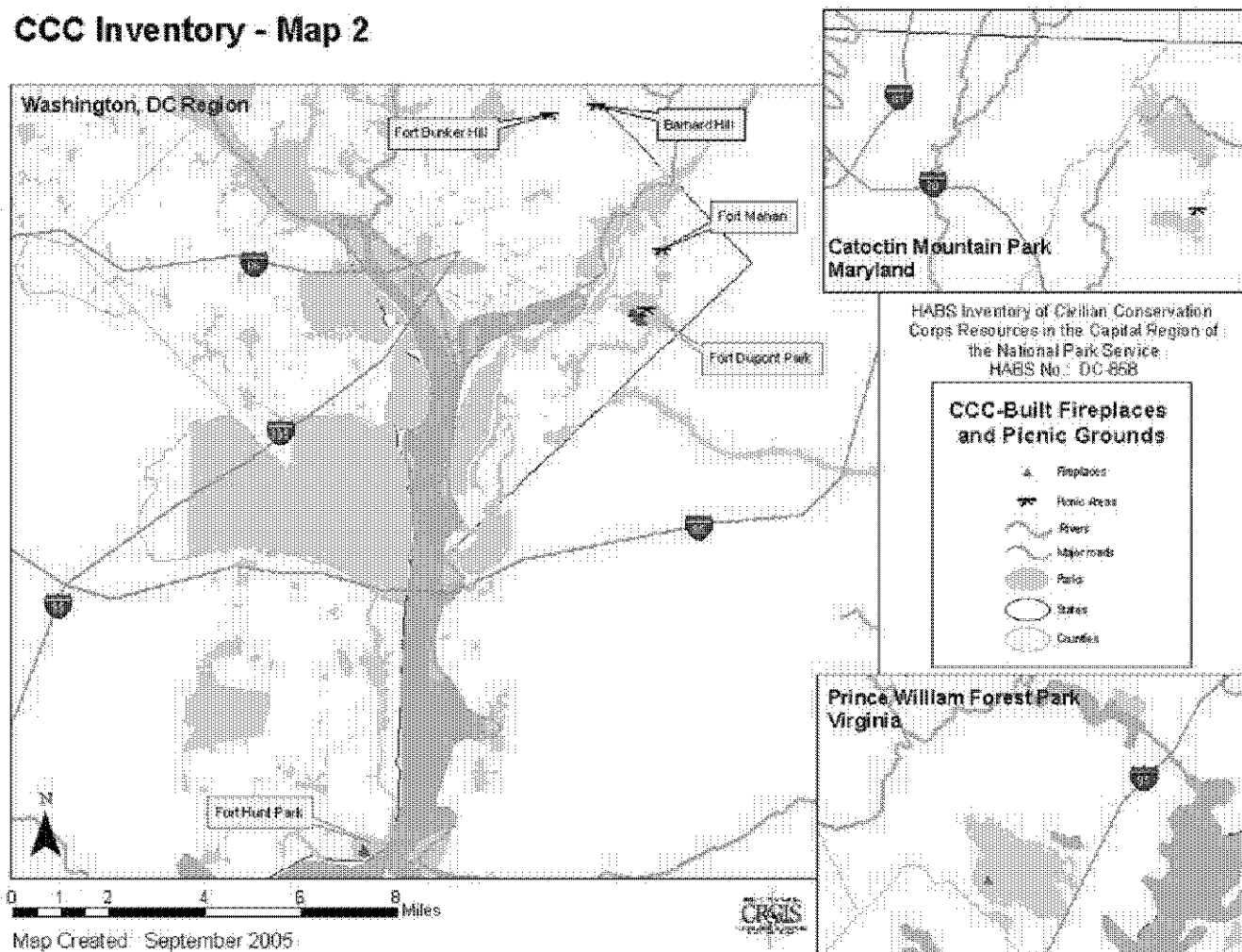
Map 8: Fort Hunt, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Virginia.

Map 1: Overview of CCC Camp Locations in the National Capital Region.

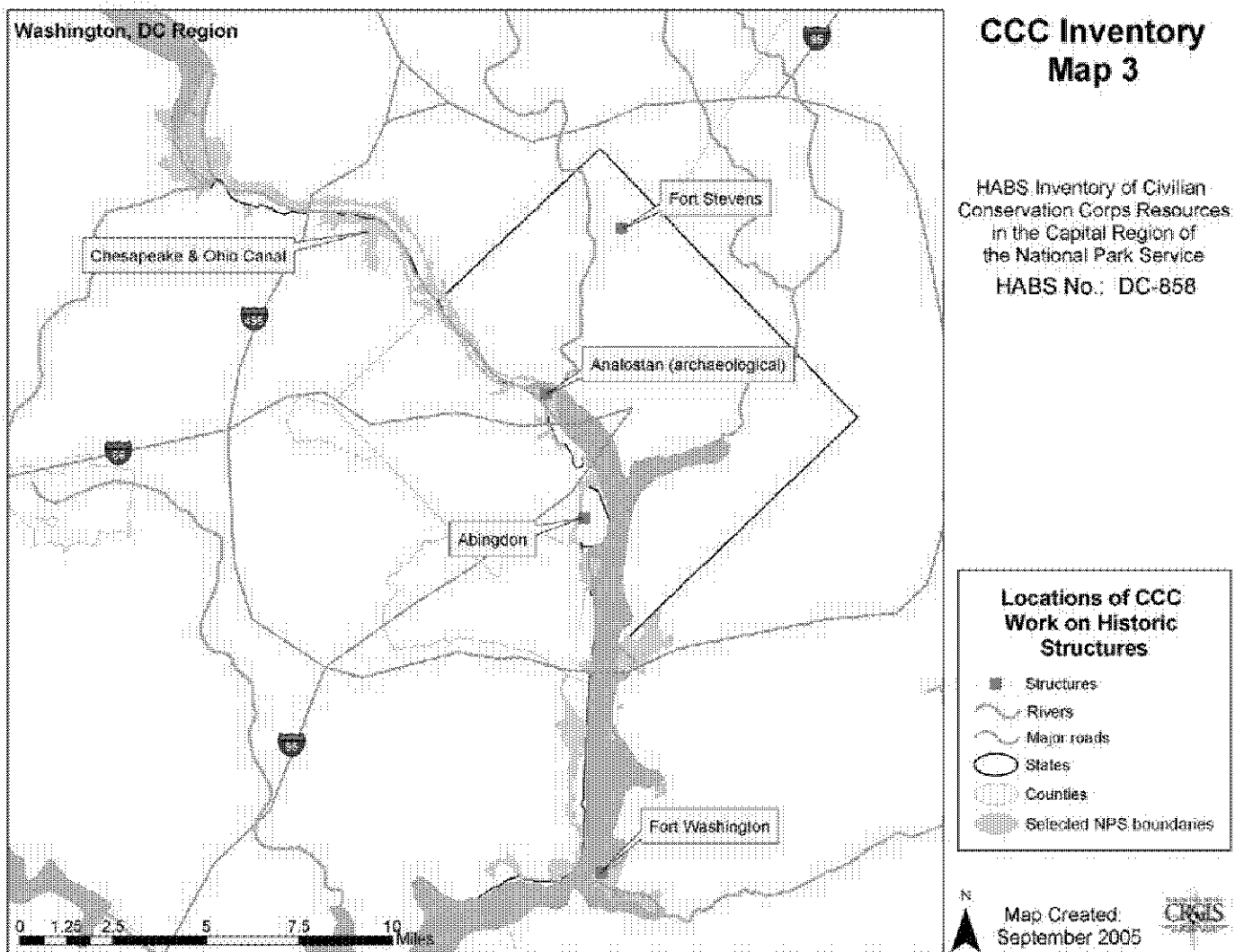
## CCC Inventory - Map 1



## CCC Inventory - Map 2



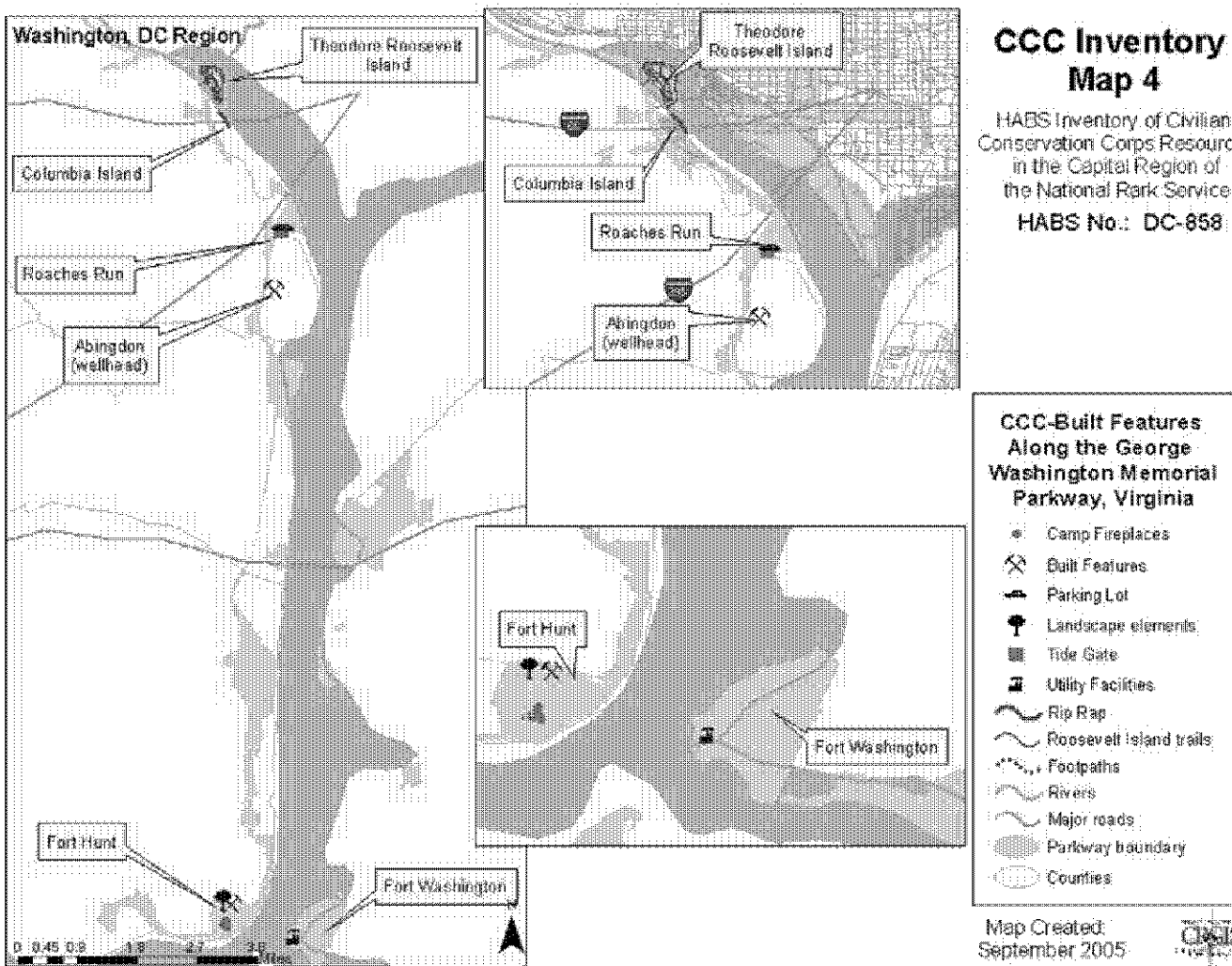
Map 3: CCC Work on Historic Structures.



## CCC Inventory Map 4

HABS Inventory of Civilian  
Conservation Corps Resources  
in the Capital Region of  
the National Park Service

HABS No.: DC-858

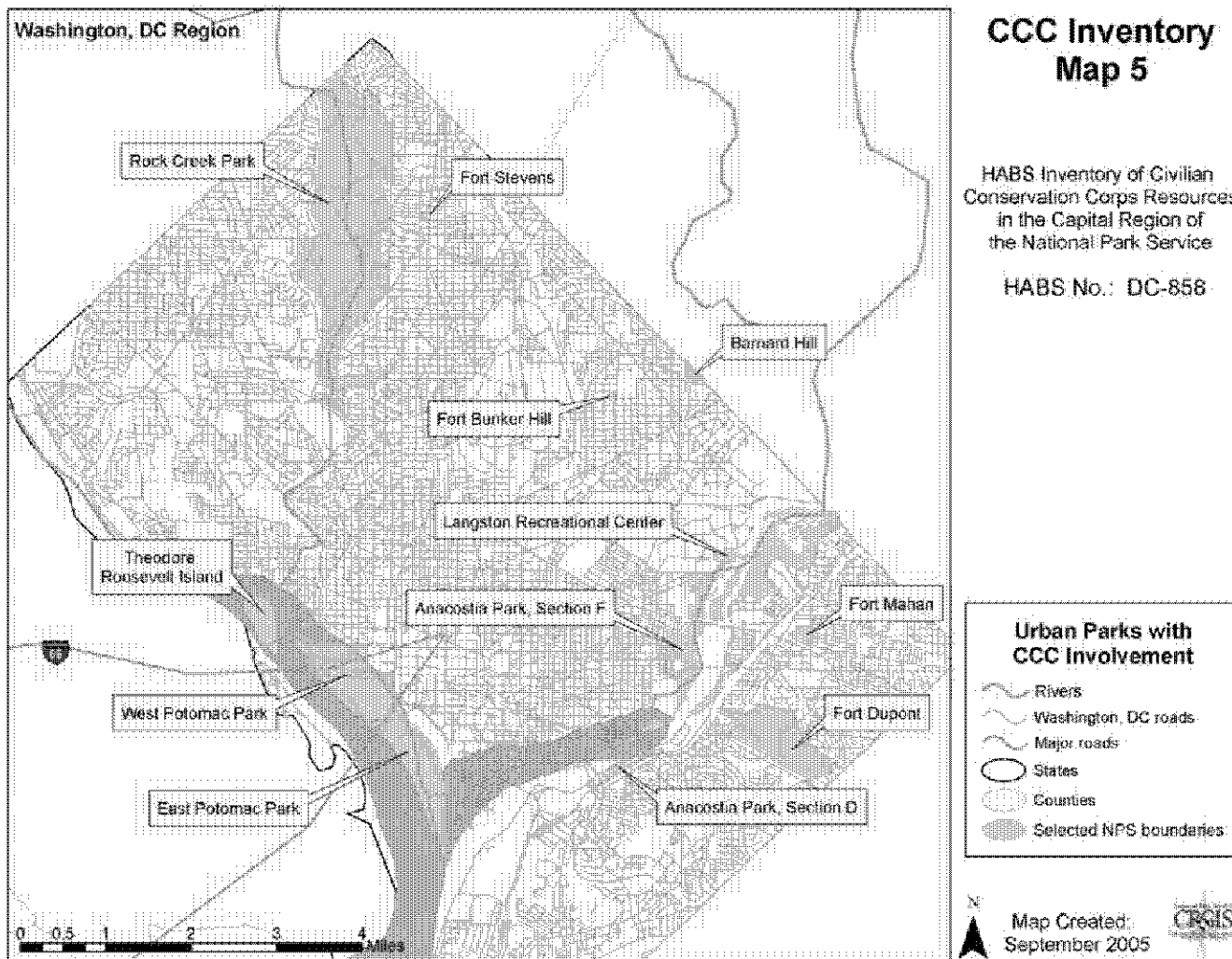


Map 4: CCC-Built Features Along the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Virginia.

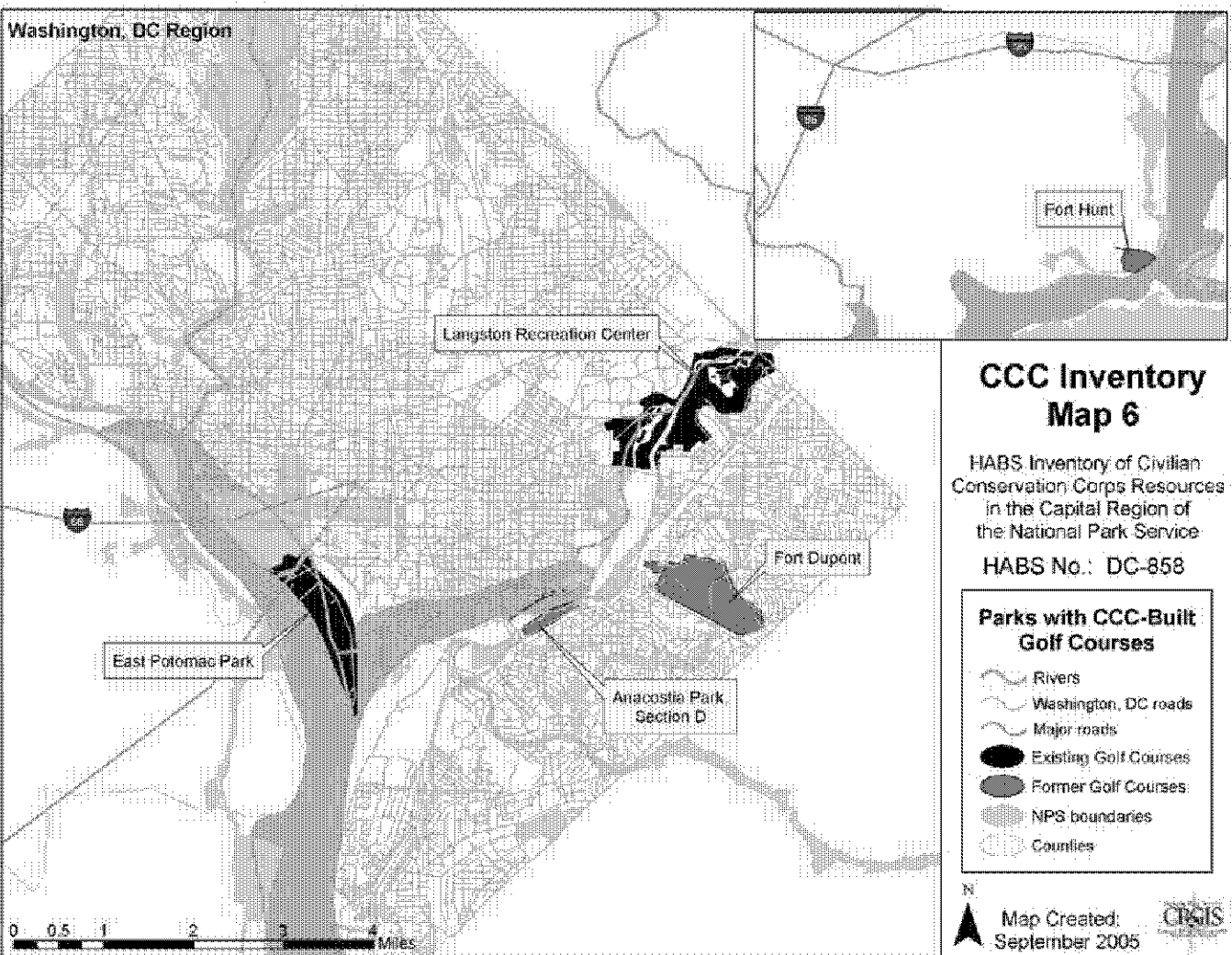
## CCC Inventory Map 5

HABS Inventory of Civilian  
Conservation Corps Resources  
in the Capital Region of  
the National Park Service

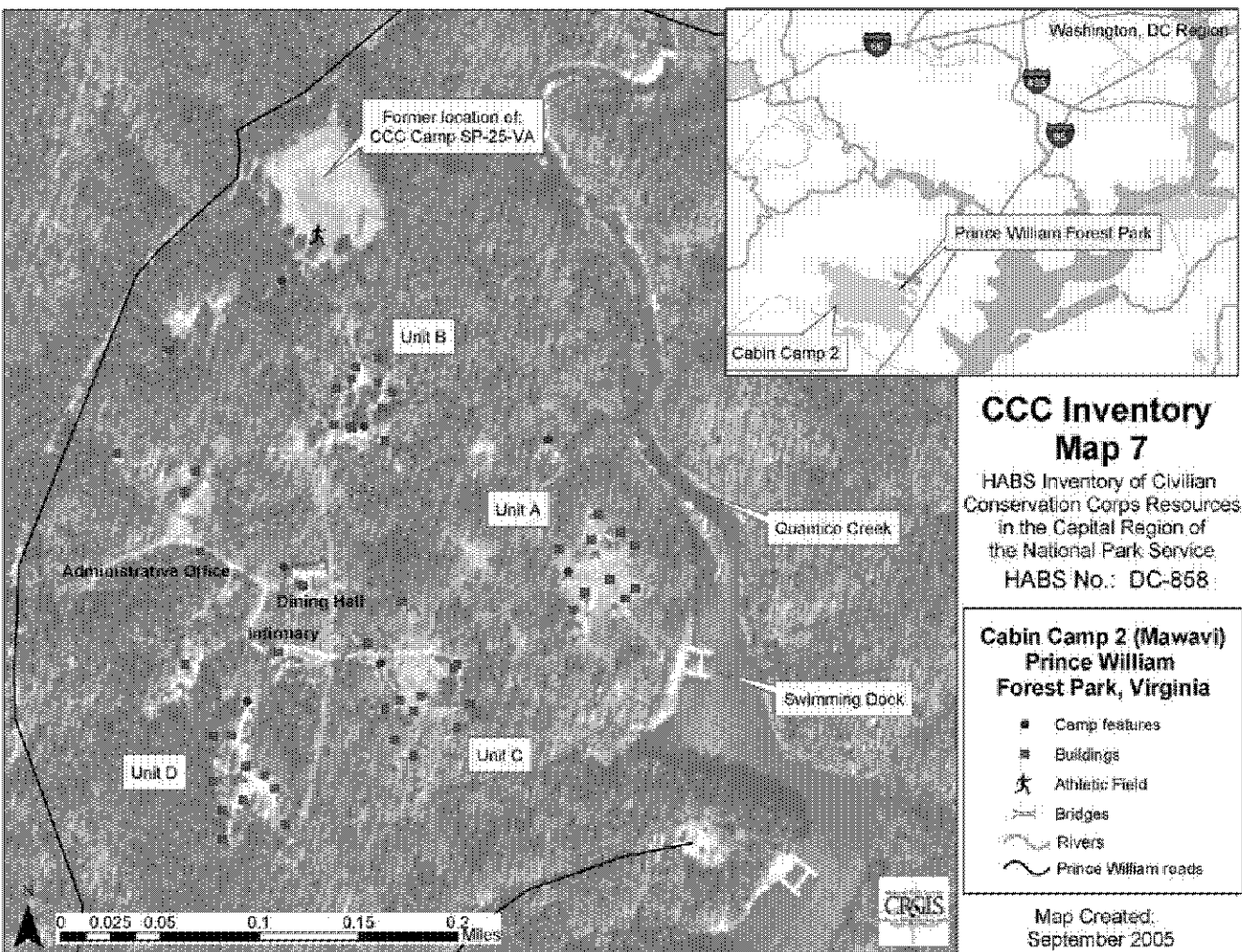
HABS No.: DC-858



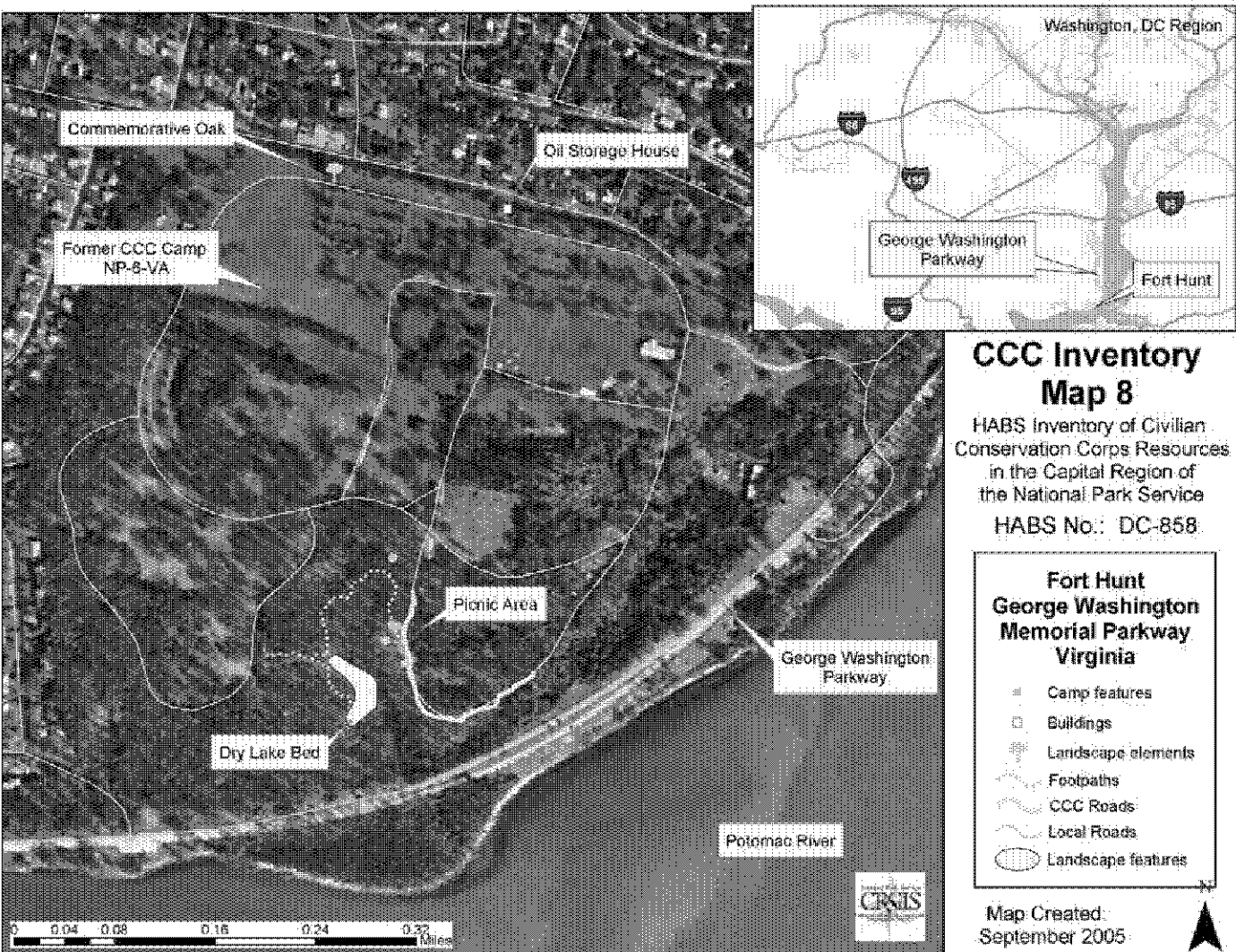
Map 5: Urban Parks with CCC Involvement.



Map 6: Parks with CCC-Built Golf Courses.



Map 7: Cabin Camp 2 (Mawavi), Prince William Forest Park, Virginia.



Map 8: Fort Hunt, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Virginia.