Start Here

Scan One Time Only

And

Copy for Multiple Numbers

F-6-43

and

F-6-44

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

F-6-43

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Camp (1) Misty Mount Historic District

other names/site number:

2. Location

street & number: Catoctin Mountain Park ☐ not for publication

city, town: Thurmont ☒ vicinity

state: Maryland code: MD county: Frederick code: 021 zip code: 21788

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
☐ private	☐ building(s)	35	3 buildings
☐ public-local	☒ district		sites
☐ public-State	☐ site		1 structures
☒ public-Federal	☐ structure		objects
	☐ object	35	4 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
ECW Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/camp/institutional housing	DOMESTIC/camp
RECREATION & CULTURE/outdoor recreation	RECREATION & CULTURE/outdoor recreation
LANDSCAPE/forest	LANDSCAPE/forest

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
NPS rustic architecture	foundation stone walls chestnut log and chink waney board roof cedar shingles other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The proposed historic district is bounded on the east by the west edge of Park Central Road, from about 800 feet north and down to 2,000 feet south of the camp entrance road; from this southern terminus, northwest approximately 1,800 feet; then northeast, about 2,300 feet; and southeast about 750 feet to meet with the northern terminus of the boundary at Park Central Road. The roughly trapezoidal-shaped district encompasses 72 acres and contains buildings and structures that support overnight organized-camping activities. Among the contributing buildings are a dining hall/kitchen, administration/office, infirmary, staff quarters, helps' quarters, and craft shop/nature cabin. These serve as a hub of buildings shared by occupants of the three individual unit camps. Each unit camp is situated like a satellite group of buildings that includes a latrine, lodge, six 4-person camper cabins, and one or two leaders' cabins. A swimming pool, adjacent shower house/laundry and two unit latrines are modern, non-historic constructions. All contributing buildings in the district are related to two themes: the human and conservation efforts of New Deal programs, and the development of NPS-sponsored rustic architecture in concert with the rise of outdoor recreation. The quality craftsmanship and carefully articulated design of architecture and landscape architectural elements developed from 1935 to 1938 has been maintained, thus preserving the spirit and character in which the camp was conceived and built. The district includes 35 contributing buildings, three non-contributing buildings and one non-contributing structure.

* * *

[x] See continuation sheet

The public-use buildings and camp arrangements at Camp (1) Misty Mount were developed with a strong emphasis toward sensible uniformity, form and layout.

> In accordance with the size of the area--most of [the RDAs] contain from a few to several thousand acres--there are planned a number of organized camps. Each camp will serve a maximum of 150 people and will be divided into units, each accommodating not more than 30 people. A typical organized camp consists of a central kitchen and dining hall, a central wash and toilet house, an administrative building, staff quarters, service buildings and water and sewage facilities. The individual units of a camp consist of tents or shelters according to climate, a unit lodge with outdoor kitchen, a unit wash house and latrine.[1]

Misty Mount (camp 1-C, for coed) was planned in 1936, with plans and justifications forwarded to NPS Region 1 for approval in mid-October. Initially it was to serve as the permanent camp for the Maryland League for Crippled Children (MLCC), and this temporarily stalled its development. But the thick forestation and rocky terrain was determined to be too taxing for children in braces or using crutches, so construction proceeded and was completed according to NPS childrens' camp standards in early 1937. Approval for electrification, water and sewer lines followed shortly.

The layout of unit camps and the shared facilities at Misty Mount follow the standardized formats recommended by the NPS guidebook Park and Recreation Structures. Accordingly, unit camps A and B are situated east of the central dining hall and shared buildings; unit D (there are three units, no C) is on the west flank. A swimming pool occupies a central location, although this non-contributing structure is a replacement of the original pool constructed at the same time as other facilities.

Swimming pools were incorporated into organized camp settings as a "forced substitute" when man-made or natural lake

---

1 H. Ickes et al, p. 3-4.

frontage was lacking--as at Catoctin.[2] In this case, probably to encourage water safety, the pool is immediately surrounded by the requisite shower and pump houses, staff and helps' quarters, and leaders' cabins.

All the contributing public-recreation buildings are constructed of log and chink, or the irregular waney board siding--most commonly these are combined in uniform romantic compositions of one-story plans with low rooflines. The former provided the most judicious use of native wood and were derived from local building traditions, complemented by the waney board. The specs for waney board planed at Chopawamsic RDA at Triangle, Virginia, call for:

> Random widths popular (sic), pine or oak boards 1-inch thick. Exposed edge shall be wavy edged and interior edge shall be squared. Exposed surface shall not vary in width more than 2 inches. All boards shall be sufficiently lapped to insure tight joint after shrinkage.[3]

Additional buildings that compose the hub of Camp Misty Mount reflect thoughtful rustic styling. The elegant T-plan dining hall (1937, **photo 1, illustration 1**) "harmoniously combines masonry, logs, and slabs in a structure of great interest."[4] The open dining room from stone gable-end to gable-end is more than 100 feet, and combines a main block of vertical and horizonal waney board construction with telescoped sections of log and chink, each punctuated by hefty exterior stone chimneys. This design allowed the end alcoves to be closed off to serve as recreation lodges during the winter, for instance, without hampering use of the dining area. The interior of the dining room remains fitted with exposed rafters and hand-wrought iron chandeliers. Intersecting this block is

---

[2] Albert Good, "Organized Camp Facilities" reprint from Park and Recreation Structures (1938), p. 15.

[3] Virginia SP-22, Job No. 113-E, Staff and Help Latrine Specifications (undated).

[4] Good, reprint, pp. 62-63.

the frame service wing containing the kitchen, washing area and lavatories.

The administration/office (1937, **photo 2, illustration 2**) represents a typical arrangement that incorporates a trading post space. The gable-front block serves as a director's office, while the clerk operates out of an office in the wing. The styling combines log and chink with vertical and horizontal waney board, as well as a shed-porched entrance with stone foundation, and sash windows.

The staff quarters (1937, **photo 3**) is designed very much like the former building but reverses the application of log and board, and features a stone chimney at the cruck of the gable-front-and-wing plan. The windows are single and banked sash, with a single entry from the raised front porch.

The infirmary (1938, **photo 4**) also combines the two types of construction in a tenuated T-plan with a single rear arm and telescoped units off the main block. A stone chimney rises out of roofline, complementing the conspicuous stone foundation piers.

Three more camp buildings reflect a minimal rectangular plan varied through variation of the entryways. The craft shop/nature cabin (1938, **photo 5**) is six bays long with an off-center recessed entrance. Waney board construction distinguishes the bottom portion of the facade, atop which are banked four-light windows; a discreet detail is the rustic bracing of the doorway. Of similar conception is the storage building (1938, **photo 6**). Constructed completely of log and chink, and lacking fenestration any on the main facade, the wide recessed entrance nearly creates a U-plan underneath the roof. Original casements and wood shutters are extant on the gable end, including hand-wrought hardware. Last, the helps' cabin (1938, **photo 7**) is a small 348-square-foot building of log and chink, highlighted by matching, inverse shed porches enclosed by waney board; the identical building is found at Camp Greentop.

The unit camps are composed of three types of buildings: cabins, latrines and lodges. Design of the cabins at Misty Mount were based on a photographic study made of vernacular architecture in the region prior to camp construction, predominantly modest log structures with wide overhanging eaves.

Thus, the leaders' and four-person cabins (1937, **photo 8**) are built in versatile rectangular and square plans with gable-end or front-facing gables, extended front eaves and modest porches. Eight cabins represent the three-bay rectangular model of 288 square feet; 10 are five-bay square plans of 270 square feet. These were chosen to accommodate the landscape, air and vista available on each site. All are constructed with V-notched chestnut chinked with cement. Additional texture is provided by stone pier foundations and entry steps, cedar shingles, and irregular waney board ornamenting the roof gable. Good (**illustration 3**) credits this building's styling as "outstanding for its simple excellence and true craftsmanship."[5]

The unit washhouse/latrine (1937, **photo 9**) is a semi-open construction with two-thirds of the side facades enclosed, the front one-third open and supported by log posts with built-in shelves. The stone foundation is topped by poured concrete; walls are constructed of vertical waney board with the upper third filled by wood lattice that permits ventilation. The bilaterally symmetrical interior features toilets and trough lavatories. At 378 square feet, Good (**illustration 4**) considers this a fairly spacious building.[6]

The lodge here (1937, **illustration 5**) is a picturesque, seven-bay rectangular plan with a dramatic exterior stone chimney featuring an outdoor hearth. A variety of low, horizontal silhouettes are provided by the gable-end pavilion covering this secondary "kitchen" and the rear shed porch; this is enhanced by paired casement windows along the main facade. According to Good:

> The appeal to the eye made by this squared log structure. . .is unsurpassed by that of any unit lodge that has been pictured. It is not often economically logical to employ such expertly fashioned log construction in a building program having social objectives primarily. This is a great pity in view of the romance that a revival of pioneer methods can conjure up for youth.[7]

---

5 Good, reprint, p. 75.

6 Good, reprint, pp. 32-33.

7 Good, reprint, pp. 40-41.

x see continuation sheet

All contributing structures in the district are related to two themes: the human and conservation efforts of New Deal programs, and the development of NPS-sponsored rustic architecture in concert with the rise of outdoor recreation. The quality craftsmanship and carefully articulated design of architecture and landscape architectural elements developed from 1935 to 1938 has been maintained, thus preserving the spirit and character in which the camp was conceived and built. The district includes 18 cabins, seven staff cabins, three lodges, three latrines, a dining hall/kitchen, administration/office, infirmary, craft shop/nature cabin, pump house, shower house/laundry and swimming pool. There are 35 contributing buildings, three non-contributing buildings and one non-contributing structure.

* * * *

INVENTORY (* = **Non-contributing**)
Dates, dimensions and costs are taken from the March 1953 inventory located in park files.

Dining Hall/Kitchen (13, photo 1): banked stone, stone pier and concrete foundation; T-plan; V-notch chestnut log with concrete chinking, and vertical/horizontal waney board construction; 14 casement and 45 double-hung sash; telescoping main block with stone gable-end walls and exterior chimneys; double front doors accessed by raised central porch supported by round-log posts; central stone chimney in rear arm with concrete loading platform, stone steps; hand-wrought iron hinges; cedar shingles. **Interior:** dining area occupies top of T, tiled floor, exposed rafters; (6) hand-wrought iron chandeliers suspended by 3/4" steel chain, stone hearth; modernized kitchen includes stainless steel fixtures and appliances. Built 1937; 3,430 square feet; original cost $9,550. [Good, p. 63]

Administration/Office (15, photo 2): stone and stone pier foundation; 5-bay gable-facing rectangular plan with cutout shed-roofed porch, stone foundation, squared log posts; V-notch chestnut log with concrete chinking, and vertical/horizontal waney board construction; 6/6 and 1/1 sash; asphalt roof. Built 1937; 429 s.f.; $900. [Good, p. 25]

x see continuation sheet

Infirmary (16, photo 4): stone pier foundation; irregular T plan; main block of V-notch chestnut log and concrete chinking construction, with extended arms of vertical/horizontal waney board; gable roof with cedar shingles; off-center stone chimney; (16) double-hung 6/6 sash, some screened; screened-in front porch with stone floor. **Interior:** built-in closets, two half bathrooms, asphalt floor tile. Built 1937; 1,010 s.f.; $2,900.

Staff Quarters (17, photo 3): stone pier foundation; V-notch chestnut log with concrete chinking, and vertical/horizontal waney board construction; 3-bay T plan with raised, shed-roofed porch, wood deck, squared log posts; stone steps, central chimney; paired and banked 8-light casements and 1/1 modern storm windows; cedar shingles. Built 1937; 952 s.f.; $2,200.

Helps' Cabin (18, photo 7): stone pier foundation, steps; rectangular plan with partially enclosed, central front and rear shed-roofed porches, log rails and post; V-notch chestnut log with concrete chinking, and vertical/horizontal waney board construction; gable roof with cedar shingles; single wood and screened doors. Built 1937; 348 s.f.; $800.

Storage (19, photo 6): stone pier foundation; rectangular/cross plan with recessed central entryway; V-notch chestnut log with concrete chinking, and vertical/horizontal waney board construction; gable roof with cedar shingles; wood frame windows with casement shutters; hand-wrought iron hinges. Built 1938; 424 s.f.; $950.

Craft Shop/Nature Cabin (20, photo 5): stone pier foundation, front and rear steps; 7-bay rectangular plan with recessed off-center entryway; vertical/ horizontal waney board construction; gable roof with cedar shingles; 4-light wood frame windows; double wood door with hand-wrought iron hinges. Built 1938; 469 s.f.; $900.

Pump house (22): banked stone foundation and lower portion of structure, upper portion constructed of vertical waney board; 1/3-bay rectangular plan; central double wood utility doors; concrete floor; gable roof with cedar shingles. Built 1940; 308 s.f.; $1,200.

Cabins A Unit: (26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31)
Cabins B Unit: (36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41)
Cabins D Unit: (46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51)
4-person occupancy; stone pier foundations, front steps; V-notch chestnut log with concrete chinking, and vertical/horizontal waney board construction; some feature porch railings of log; gable roof with cedar shingles. Two alternating plans change entry and orientation to accommodate site topography:
a) cabins 27, 29, 39, 41, 48, 49, 50, 51: 3-bay rectangular gable-end entry; 288 s.f.; $700; and
b) cabins 26, 28, 30, 31, 36, 37, 38, 40, 46, 47: 5-bay square plan with side entry; 270 s.f.; $700.
All built 1937. [Good, p. 75]

Leaders' Cabins: (A-25; B-34, 35; D-44 [photo 8], 45): stone pier foundation, front foundation; V-notch chestnut log with concrete chinking, and vertical waney board gables; 1-bay gable-front rectangular plan with overhanging eaves; central wood door with hand-wrought iron hinges; cedar shingles. Built 1937; 195 s.f.; $600.

Unit Lodge: (A-23; B-32; D-42): stone pier foundation; V-notch chestnut log with concrete chinking, and vertical waney board construction; 7-bay rectangular plan with gable-end stone chimney featuring a secondary outdoor "kitchen" hearth, gable-roofed pavilion with stone floor; rear, partial shed-roofed porch; hand-wrought iron hinges; cedar shingles; 13 pairs 8-light wood casement windows, screened. Built 1937; 1,042 s.f.; $2,500. [Good, p. 40]

Washhouse/latrine (D-43, photo 9): stone and concrete foundation; gable-front rectangular plan with one-third open porch, round-log posts; vertical waney board construction; wood lattice on upper third of elevation; cedar shingles.
Built 1937; 378 s.f.; $750. [Good, p. 33]

* **Showerhouse/Laundry** (193): concrete foundation, floor; wood frame construction; flat, wood-shingled roof. Built 1969.

* **Latrine**: (A-242; B-243): concrete block foundation; frame structure; gable roof with asphalt shingles. Built 1983.

* **Swimming pool**: rectangular; dates to WPA construction in 1937-38, but since modernized beyond recognition.

__ see continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:
☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☒ locally

F-6-43

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒A ☐B ☒C ☐D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐A ☐B ☐C ☐D ☐E ☐F ☐G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture	1935-38	1937
Entertainment/Recreation		
Conservation		

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Significant Person: n/a

Architect/Builder: WPA, NPS laborers

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Camp (|) Misty Mount Historic District qualifies for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C, for state and local significance. All contributing buildings in the park are 50 years or older and represent a single property type--public-recreation. The grouping of 35 contributing buildings is intact and representative of two themes: the human and natural conservation efforts of New Deal programs, and the development of NPS-sponsored rustic architecture in concert with the rise of outdoor recreation--both movements of the 1930s. While not individually noteworthy, the collective buildings of this organized cabin camp represent a design harmony with the natural and man-made landscape, as well as homage to indigenous materials, vernacular styling and a hand-crafted aesthetic.

* * *

Continuous occupation of the mountainous region above Maryland's Monocacy River Valley, where farming and timber harvesting were the primary economies from the 19th through early 20th centuries, severely depleted local natural resources. The recreational demonstration area program was instituted in the mid-30s to identify just such lands in close proximity to urban centers--on which to establish model resource-reclamation projects.

Development of Catoctin RDA/Mountain Park was initiated in 1934; public-use buildings were completed by 1938, natural resource development continued until 1941, when all work ceased due to the impending war. This was of 46 RDAs established nationwide, the only such facility in Maryland, and most exclusively, it was one of very few recreation projects designed for handicapped campers. The park gained added importance in

☒ See continuation sheet

1942 when FDR selected Camp (3) Hi-Catoctin as a secure presidential retreat, a function still maintained today.

The landscape and architectural designs are attributed to architects, landscape architects, and engineers of the National Park Service. Among the accomplishments of the many ECW programs were RDAs, which served a twofold purpose: to rescue land depleted of its natural resources, and to provide a recreation destination for underprivileged city children. The facilities were specifically developed to offer an out-of-doors experience to the greatest number of children with the least cost. The Catoctin camps hosted programs of the YWCA, WMCA and Maryland League for Crippled Children.

The organized-camp was a new genre of park facility in the 1930s. It features a central collection of buildings shared by all campers, including the dining hall, infirmary and craft lodge. Beyond this hub are situated individual unit camps made up of several camper cabins, a lodge, latrine and perhaps a leaders' cabin. A network of hiking trails links the buildings to miscellaneous sites, including campfire rings, playfields and a swimming pool. Such buildings and their arrangements are common to all organized camps, and vary only according to the natural elements incorporated into the layout.

The buildings are oriented to harmonize with native materials and local architectural styles. At Catoctin, chestnut logs and waney board reflect rustic traditions combined with building plans and elevations that are uniformly one-story, horizontal compositions nestled into the natural profile of the land. These are enhanced by the additional use of wood shingles and stone in the construction of steps, foundation piers and chimneys. Building features such as casement windows, braced posts, hand-wrought hardware and interior roof trusses contribute romantic, as well as realistic, highlights.

The interest in further construction of these rustic public-recreation facilities and the financial means to do so evaporated with World War II. This watershed event marked the end of federally sponsored park development and NPS-directed rustic architectural styling. Catoctin was completed just prior to the war and Misty Mount remains in its original condition as a working organized-camp facility.

__ see continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

F-6-43

See **Major Bibliographic References** of the Multiple Property Documentation Form for "Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park"

☐ See continuation sheet

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

Primary location of additional data:
- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 72

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	289800	4391120
B	18	290140	4391000
C	18	290070	4390770
D	18	290090	4390530
E	18	289900	4390240
F	18	289510	4390560

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated historic district is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked by the UTM reference points A through F.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the organized camp buildings and landscape features that have historically been part of Camp (1) Misty Mount that maintain historic integrity. There are no natural topographical features with which to align the border; Park Central Road does serve as the eastern border to allow the inclusion of a Hunting Creek tributary in the district.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sara Amy Leach - Historian
organization NPS-National Capital Region date 7 Sept., 1988
street & number 1100 Ohio Dr., SW telephone 202-485-9816
city or town Washington, DC state -- zip code 20242

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

F-6-44

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Camp (2) Greentop Historic District

other names/site number:

2. Location

street & number: Catoctin Mountain Park ☐ not for publication

city, town: Thurmont ☒ vicinity

state: Maryland code: MD county: Frederick code: 021 zip code: 21788

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
☐ private	☐ building(s)	22	5 buildings
☐ public-local	☒ district		sites
☐ public-State	☐ site		structures
☒ public-Federal	☐ structure		objects
	☐ object	22	5 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
ECW Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/camp/institutional housing	DOMESTIC/camp
RECREATION & CULTURE/outdoor recreation	RECREATION & CULTURE/outdoor recreation
LANDSCAPE/forest	LANDSCAPE/forest

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
NPS rustic architecture	foundation stone
	walls chestnut log and chink
	waney board
	roof cedar shingles
	other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The proposed historic district is bounded on the north by a border that extends about 400 feet east from the end of the camp entrance road, then turns south about 700 feet, continues due west for 2,000 feet, turns slightly northeast for 1,400 feet, and then slightly southeast for 750 feet to intersect with the sharp turn in the camp entrance road; the boundry line then drops southeast, then northeast, to meet the terminus of the camp road (600 feet each), forming an equilateral triangle-shaped wedge of land excluded from the district. The district encompasses about 40 acres and contains buildings that support overnight organized camping activities. Among the contributing buildings are the administration/office, infirmary, staff quarters, helps' quarters, craft shop/nature cabin and storage. These serve as a hub of buildings shared by occupants of the four individual unit camps. Each unit camp is situated like a satellite group of buildings that includes a latrine and three 10-person camper cabins. Two leaders' cabins, two laundrys and two lodges are interspersed to serve more than one unit camp. Four unit comfort stations and a storage facility are modern, non-historic constructions. A modern dining hall, swimming pool and related buildings are omitted from the district. All contributing buildings in the district are related to two themes: the human and natural conservation efforts of New Deal programs, and the development of NPS-sponsored rustic architecture in concert with the rise of outdoor recreation. The quality craftsmanship and carefully articulated design of architecture and landscape architectural elements developed from 1935 to 1938 has been largely maintained, thus preserving the spirit and character in which the camp was conceived and built. The district includes 22 contributing buildings and five non-contributing buildings.

* * * *

☒ See continuation sheet

The public-use buildings and camp arrangements at Camp (2) Greentop were developed with a strong emphasis toward sensible uniformity, form and layout.

> In accordance with the size of the area--most of [the RDAs] contain from a few to several thousand acres--there are planned a number of organized camps. Each camp will serve a maximum of 150 people and will be divided into units, each accommodating not more than 30 people. A typical organized camp consists of a central kitchen and dining hall, a central wash and toilet house, an administrative building, staff quarters, service buildings and water and sewage facilities. The individual units of a camp consist of tents or shelters according to climate, a unit lodge with outdoor kitchen; a unit wash house and latrine.[1]

Swimming pools were incorporated into organized camp settings as a "forced substitute" when man-made or natural lake frontage was lacking--as at Catoctin.[2] The original pool measured 25 by 75 feet, and had a depth of only 18 inches to 7 feet. It occupied the same site east of the main camp area, but it and surrounding buildings have since been totally rebuilt and thus are excluded from the historic district.

All the contributing public-recreation buildings feature stone foundations and are topped by cedar shingles. Their structure is log and chink, or the irregular waney board siding--and most commonly these are combined in uniform romantic compositions of one-story plans with low rooflines. The former provided the most judicious use of native wood and drew upon local building traditions. The specs for waney board planed at Chopawamsic RDA at Triangle, Virginia, call for:

> Random widths popular (sic), pine or oak boards 1-inch thick. Exposed edge shall be wavy edged and interior edge shall be squared. Exposed surface shall not vary in width more than 2 inches. All

---

[1] H. Ickes et al, p. 3-4.

[2] Albert Good, "Organized Camp Facilities" reprint from Park and Recreation Structures (1938), p. 15.

boards shall be sufficiently lapped to insure tight joint after shrinkage.[3]

The facilities at Camp Greentop vary somewhat from the standardized NPS organized-camp plans because of its specific orientation toward handicapped campers. As Camp Misty Mount was being completed in 1937, plans for Camp Greentop were being developed with guidance from its sponsoring organization--the Maryland League for Crippled Children (MLCC)--with modifications based on observations made during the first year of disabled-camper occupancy. These included the installation of a bathtub with a grab bar and the swimming pool. Also, all facilities had to be not farther than 600 feet from the dining hall--as the younger children "were severely taxed by long distances several times a day." The eight- to 10-person style of cabin was also specified, to house four youngsters on each side of a center leaders' room. Two unit lodges were deemed unnecessary and eliminated from the Greentop plan because the cabin porches and outdoor space were used so much, and these were supplanted by additional staff quarters.[4] Gravel surface trails linked cabins and dining hall for easier movement, and for the same reason underbrush was largely removed from areas around shade trees. The deviations from standard NPS layouts caused the maximum occupancy to fall to 98 campers plus staff, but the changes were ultimately considered flexible enough to oblige other populations.

Final plans were approved in early 1938 and it was ready that same year for the first seasons' campers--who named it "Greentop" because of "their appreciation of the abundance of green trees on the top of the mountain."[5]

---

[3] Virginia SP-22, Job No. 113-E, Staff and Help Latrine Specifications (undated).

[4] Stanly Hawkins to Lisle (13 October, 1936) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 37.

[5] Mary E. Church, "Camping with Crippled Children at Greentop," The Child (May 1941), p. 311-15. U.S. Labor Library; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 41.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

The building deviations also resulted in a less programmatic layout. While each unit camp features four group cabins and a comfort station (originally a latrine), the only two leaders cabins and two lodges are placed so as to each serve two unit camps. Otherwise, the traditional site plan was in place.

All of the 10-person group cabins (1938, **photo 10**) are identical. The 11-bay T-plans feature a central doorway with flanking screened openings, which on the interior leads to the private room shared by the two counselors; four campers occupy the flanking dormitory spaces. The main block is constructed of V-notched chestnut logs chinked with concrete, with a rear wing of vertical waney board. Pairs of double-hung sash have since been replaced with 1/1 storm windows. These and most buildings are equipped with a concrete ramp with railing to accommodate handicapped campers.

The staff quarters (1938, **photo 11**) and helps' cabin (1938, **photo 12**) are identical to those constructed at Misty Mount. The gable-front portion of the former building is constructed of vertical and horizonal waney board, while the wing is log and chink; the shed porch is supported by squared log supports. A stone chimney is located at the cruck of the plan and stone piers support the building. Contemporary storm sash have been added here, as well. The helps' cabin is primarily log and chink, with matching inverse shed porches on both main facades. Remaining rustic details include log supports and railings as well as paired eight-light casement windows.

Two lodges and two laundrys serve all four unit camps. Good Luck Lodge (1938, **photo 13**) is typical of those at both camps, featuring a main four-bay log block with massive exterior gable-end chimney that dually serves as an outdoor "kitchen." This area has a stone foundation protected by an open, gable-roofed pavilion. The other lodge is somewhat larger with a partial shed porch on the rear facade and some original casement windows, though many have been replaced with contemporary storm sash.

The laundry building (1938, **photo 14**) is a semi-open structure of vertical waney board with a poured concrete foundation. Two-thirds of the side facades are enclosed, with the front portion open under the gable-front roof and supported by log posts; banded and fixed four-light windows occupy the upper part of the walls to allow light.

x see continuation sheet

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

The craft shop (1938, **photo 15**) is a modest rectangular building constructed completely of waney board, with a full shed porch on the rear facade. The extra-wide doorway is off center, flanked on either side by fixed four-light windows; some wood casement shutters with original hardware are extant.

The office (1938, **photo 16**) and primary storage building (1938, **photo 17**) are similar incidents of two separate gable-end buildings--one frame, one chink and log--being joined to serve as one. The front, log portion of the office features a near-full shed porch supported by four squared posts, with a wood deck accessed by stone steps and a concrete ramp. To the rear facade is attached a rectangular waney board building of the same dimension; both are contemporary to the period of WPA construction. The frontal log storage building is identical to the one at Misty Mount (**photo 6**), featuring a deeply recessed entry with no fenestration on the main facade; off the rear is attached a frame rectangular building of the same dimensions.

The original dining hall/kitchen, all four latrines and the swimming pool have been replaced with modern constructions, and are excluded from the historic district.

All contributing structures in the district are related to two themes: the human and conservation efforts of New Deal programs, and the development of NPS-sponsored rustic architecture in concert with the rise of outdoor recreation. The quality craftsmanship and carefully articulated design of architecture and landscape architectural elements developed from 1935 to 1938 has been maintained, thus preserving the spirit and character in which the camp was conceived and built. The district includes 12 dormitory-style camper cabins, four comfort stations, four staff cabins, two lodges, two laundrys, two storage units, an administration/office, infirmary, and craft shop. There are 22 contributing buildings and five non-contributing buildings.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

INVENTORY (* = **Non-contributing**)

Dates, dimensions and costs are taken from the March 1953 inventory located in park files.

Office (56, photo 16): 11 stone pier foundation, steps; two rectangular 3-bay plan buildings joined by a hyphen to form an H plan; V-notch chestnut log and concrete chink construction, with vertical waney board on gable ends; partial shed roof on front facade, squared posts, log railings, wood deck and stone steps; cedar and asphalt shingles; off-center single door with flanking sash and casement windows. Concrete ramp and iron railings have been installed on main facade to accommodate handicapped campers. Built 1938; 3,014 square feet; original cost $1,100.

Infirmary (57): 24 stone pier foundation, steps; V-notch chestnut log and concrete chink construction, with vertical waney board on wings, gable ends; three original casement windows, 19 replacement single and banked 6/6 double-hung sash; waney board shed addition on rear houses hot-water tanks; off-center side porch entry and gable-end entry; cedar shingles. **Interior:** 6 rooms including full bath; built-in closets and cabinets. Concrete ramp and iron railings have been installed on main facade to accommodate handicapped campers. Built 1938; 1,028 s.f.; $2750.

Staff Quarters (58, photo 11): 20 stone pier foundation; irregular cross plan with central stone chimney; V-notch chestnut log and concrete chink, and horizontal/vertical waney board construction; shed roof on main facade with squared posts, log rails, stone steps; 19 contemporary 1/1 storm sash replaced casements; cedar shingles. Concrete ramp and iron railings have been installed on main facade to accommodate handicapped campers. Built 1938; 910 s.f.; $2,200.

Helps' Cabin (59, photo 12): 17 stone pier foundation; cross plan with partially enclosed front and rear shed-roofed porches, stone steps, log rails, wood deck; V-notch chestnut log and concrete chink construction, with vertical/horizontal waney board; gable roof with cedar shingles; single and paired fenestration with screens and casement shutters; hand-wrought iron hinges. **Interior:** built-in closets and bunks, exposed rafters. Built 1938; 347 s.f.; $800.

x see continuation sheet

Cabins A Unit: (68, 69, 70)
Cabins B Unit: (72, 73, 74)
Cabins C Unit: (76-photo 10, 77, 78)
Cabins D Unit: (80, 81, 82):
10-person dormitory cabin; stone piers; 11-bay rectangular gable-end T plan; V-notch chestnut log and concrete chink construction, with vertical waney board gable ends, rear wing; central, single door is flanked by screened window panels and wood siding; contemporary storm windows; cedar shingles. **Interior:** two large dormitory rooms flank central staff sleeping room; floors of random-width boards; exposed rafter beams; built-in closets and bunkbeds. Concrete ramp and iron railings have been installed on main facade to accommodate handicapped campers. Built 1938; 707 s.f.: $1,400.

* **Storage** (224): concrete block foundation; rectangular plan; hipped roof; frame vertical lapboard structure. Built 1980.

* **Comfort Station** (A-219, B-220, C-226, D-227): concrete foundation and floor; horizontal board siding; 4-bay rectangular plan; gable roof with wood shingles. Built 1978.

__ see continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:
☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒A ☐B ☒C ☐D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐A ☐B ☐C ☐D ☐E ☐F ☐G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture	1935-38	1938
Entertainment/Recreation		
Conservation		

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Significant Person: n/a

Architect/Builder: WPA, NPS laborers

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Camp (2) Greentop Historic District qualifies for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C, for state and local significance. All contributing buildings in the park are 50 years or older and represent a single property type--public-recreation. The grouping of 22 contributing buildings is intact and representative of two themes: the human and natural conservation efforts of New Deal programs, and the development of NPS-sponsored rustic architecture in concert with the rise of outdoor recreation--both movements of the 1930s. While not individually noteworthy, the collective buildings of this organized cabin camp represent a design harmony with the natural and man-made landscape, as well as homage to indigenous materials, vernacular styling and a hand-crafted aesthetic.

* * *

Continuous occupation of the mountainous region above Maryland's Monocacy River Valley, where farming and timber harvesting were the primary economies from the 19th through early 20th centuries, severely depleted local natural resources. The recreational demonstration area program was instituted in the mid-30s to identify just such lands in close proximity to urban centers--on which to establish model resource-reclamation projects.

Development of Catoctin RDA/Mountain Park was initiated in 1934; public-use buildings were completed by 1938, natural resource development continued until 1941, when all work ceased due to the impending war. This was of 46 RDAs established nationwide, the only such facility in Maryland, and most exclusively, it was one of very few recreation projects designed

☒ See continuation sheet

for handicapped campers. The park gained added importance in 1942 when FDR selected Camp (3) Hi-Catoctin as a secure presidential retreat, a function still maintained today.

The landscape and architectural designs are attributed to architects, landscape architects, and engineers of the National Park Service. Among the accomplishments of the many ECW programs were RDAs, which served a twofold purpose: to rescue land depleted of its natural resources, and to provide a recreation destination for underprivileged city children. The facilities were specifically developed to offer an out-of-doors experience to the greatest number of children with the least cost. The Catoctin camps hosted programs of the YWCA, WMCA and Maryland League for Crippled Children.

The organized-camp was a new genre of park facility in the 1930s. It features a central collection of buildings shared by all campers, including the dining hall, infirmary and craft lodge. Beyond this hub are situated individual unit camps made up of several camper cabins, a lodge, latrine and perhaps a leaders' cabin. A network of hiking trails links the buildings to miscellaneous sites, including campfire rings, playfields and a swimming pool. Such buildings and their arrangements are common to all organized camps, and vary only according to the natural elements incorporated into the layout.

The buildings are oriented to harmonize with native materials and local architectural styles. At Catoctin, chestnut logs and waney board reflect rustic traditions combined with building plans and elevations that are uniformly one-story, horizontal compositions nestled into the natural profile of the land. These are enhanced by the additional use of wood shingles and stone in the construction of steps, foundation piers and chimneys. Building features such as casement windows, braced posts, hand-wrought hardware and interior roof trusses contribute romantic, as well as realistic, highlights.

The interest in further construction of these rustic public-recreation facilities and the financial means to do so evaporated with World War II. This watershed event marked the end of federally sponsored park development and NPS-directed rustic architectural styling. Catoctin was completed just prior to the war and Greentop remains in its original condition as a working organized-camp facility.

x see continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See **Major Bibliographic References** of the Multiple Property Documentation Form for "Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park"

☐ See continuation sheet

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

Primary location of additional data:
- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 40

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	287620	4391080
B	18	287740	4391040
C	18	287730	4390820
D	18	287140	4390850

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated historic district is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked by the UTM reference points A through G.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the organized camp buildings that have historically been part of Camp (2) Greentop that maintain historic integrity. There are no natural topographical features

☒ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sara Amy Leach - Historian
organization NPS-National Capital Region date 7 Sept., 1988
street & number 1100 Ohio Dr., SW telephone 202-485-9816
city or town Washington, DC state -- zip code 20242

UTMs continued:

	zone/easting	northing
E	18 - 287240	4391260
F	18 - 287440	4391180
G	18 - 287440	4391020

boundary justification continued:

with which to align the border, and a small area within the central camp area that contains new and replacement constructions has been excluded.

F-6-44

NPS Form 10-900-b
(Jan. 1987)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SEP 19 1988

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

See Survey Numbers:
F-6-43
F-6-44

This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park

B. Associated Historic Contexts

National Park Service Rustic Architecture

Development of Recreational Demonstration Areas

C. Geographical Data

Catoctin Mountain Park (**map 1**) is located approximately 2.5 miles northwest of Thurmont, and 13 miles east of Hagerstown, in Frederick and Washington Counties, Maryland. The 5,700-acre park is roughly coterminus with MD 540 and Owens Creek on the north, MD 77 on the south, and Quirauk School Road on the west. A park road winds horizontally through the lower middle portion of the property, of the south side of which are the cabin camps. The buildings that compose Camp (1) Misty Mount and Camp (2) Greentop are roughly situated between MD 77 on the south and Park Central Road on the north. This mountainous terrain is rocky and thickly forested, bisected by numerous creeks and their tributaries, as well as man-made hiking and horse trails.

☐ See continuation sheet

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Planning and Evaluation.

Signature of certifying official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

I, hereby, certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper of the National Register — Date

E. Statement of Historic Contexts

Discuss each historic context listed in Section B.

Three interrelated factors that got their start around the turn of the century led to the definition of new recreational goals in America and gave rise to the development of organized park and campground facilities. The first was a back-to-nature movement that grew up with the establishment of the National Park Service (NPS) in 1916; concurrent to which was the public's increasing amount of leisure time, and the belief that spending it in a natural, non-urban environment was a healthful and relaxing pastime.

The third impetus to the development of park systems was an ability to reach these facilities--the rise of automobility. Autocamping had been popular during the first two decades of the 20th century, either in the form of free municipal camps or in the custom of setting up a tent and stove along the road. By the 1930s it became evident that both practices were inappropriate. The quality of the municipal camps, founded by city fathers to generate local revenue, had greatly deteriorated and they were shut down. Roadside camping, the illegality of squatting on private property and the ongoing rise of auto traffic, left this gypsy-like tradition equally unsavory. The solution discovered by touring motorists was state and national forests.[1]

A 1941 NPS publication, A Study of the Park and Recreation Problem of the United States, reaffirmed the tenets under which that agency had developed for nearly a decade, that the untainted wilderness accessible in organized parklands was particularly crucial to the hassled and corrupt workforce incarcerated in American cities:

> Man's loss of intimate contact with nature has had a debilitating effect on him as a being[,] which can be alleviated only by making it possible for him to escape at frequent intervals from his urban habitat to the open country. . .He must again learn

---

[1] Warren James Belasco, Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910-1945 (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1971), pp. 71, 89, 126-27.

xx See continuation sheet

how to enjoy himself in the out-of-doors by reacquiring the environmental knowledge and skills he has lost during his exile from his natural environment.[2]

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal programs of the 1930s offered a solution to the dilemma. The Emergency Conservation Work Act (ECW), organized by FDR and approved by Congress on March 31, 1933, included under its auspices the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC); two months later, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) was allocated $500 million in direct relief money to be spent by state and local agencies. In June 1933, FDR signed the National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA), which included a $3.3 billion allocation for relief through public works to be dispensed by the president.

Concurrently, farmlands near population centers were identified as submarginal from an agricultural standpoint. At the time, however, federal monies could not generally be used for the purpose of land acquisition. In 1934 FDR sought to marry the two situations and established a program to retrieve the submarginal land. It called for the Public Works Administration (PWA) to allocate $25 million to the Federal Surplus Relief Administration to buy it. The money was then transferred to FERA's Land Program, to which interested government agencies could apply. In May 1935 the Land Program was transferred to the newly created Resettlement Administration, and the next year it was effectively turned over to the NPS.[3]

Henceforth, the NPS was responsible for surveying public needs, choosing desired locations, investigating the land, securing options on it, and recommending purchase and planning development. Once the land became federal property, WPA laborers began to fulfill a "development plan which [had] been

---

[2] NPS, A Study of the Park and Recreation Problem of the United States (Washington, D.C, 1941), p. 4.

[3] Conrad L. Wirth, Parks, Politics and the People (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980), p. 189; Executive Order 7496, Nov. 14, 1936, confirming action of Aug. 1, 1936, when NPS actually took over responsibility. Ibid, coverleaf page.

carefully drawn during formative days."[4]

Four types of public facilities were slated: 1) wayside parks, 2) national park and monument expansions, 3) state scenic extensions and, 4) vacation developments near a city. This last category developed as recreational demonstration areas (RDAs), which Conrad Wirth, then NPS assistant director, felt was "one of the really successful New Deal programs."[5]

Criteria for an RDA included a land mass of 2,000 to 10,000 acres; a proximity of 50 miles, or a half-days' round-trip, to a population center of 300,000 or more persons; an abundance of water and building material; and generally, an interesting environment.[6] About 400,000 to 450,000 acres of land nationwide were slated for RDA development, to be purchased at an average cost of $10 per acre.[7] Ultimately, 46 RDA projects were created in 24 states, with Catoctin Mountain Park the only facility in the state of Maryland.[8] Work at these sites was to be done "principally by relief labor," and included conservation of water, soil, forest and wildlife resources, as well as the construction of public-recreation facilities.[9] The federal government established most RDAs with the intention of eventually turning them over to the respective states for management, which occurred in part at Catoctin.

---

[4] H. Ickes, A. Cammerer, R. Tugwell, et al. Recreational Demonstration Projects as Illustrated by Chopawamsic, Virginia (NPS: c. 1936), p. 3

[5] Wirth, pp. 176-78.

[6] Wirth, pp. 187-88; Ickes et al, p. 2.

[7] Ickes et al, p. 2.

[8] Thirty-two RDAs were "vacacation" destinations or organized campground facilities; the remaining 14 were roadside facilities or additions to existing state or national monuments. NPS, 1937 Yearbook: Park and Recreation Progress (Washington: GPO, 1937), p. 38.

[9] 1937 Yearbook, p. 2.

x see continuation sheet

Since RDAs represented a deliberate effort by the federal government to serve an urban audience and perform a civic-welfare function, they were not intended to replace or compete with state parks, which served a greater socioeconomic cross-section of people and were located in less-central geographic areas.

> [RDAS] are not national parks, state parks, county parks, metropolitan parks, or forests of any technical classification. They are newcomers to the recreation field--part of a recreational awakening. . . .Land unprofitable to farm due to lack of fertility, erosion, misuse [and] land, which because of its location, attains greater social and economic importance when dedicated to the recreation needs of congested populations.[10]

RDAs provided organized camps--as opposed to facilities aimed at unstructured habitation and leisure--for children, families, social organizations and especially lower-income groups, because "the organized camp seemed to offer the best solution to the problem of providing vacations and outdoor recreation at low cost to the maximum number of people."[11]

As its public-recreation programs grew, the NPS recognized the need to formalize design guidelines and improve job-related training of the men. In response, the NPS published Park Structures and Facilities in 1935. A collection of photographs, plans and analyses of architecture in national, state and federal-project parks, it served as a textbook for training new workers in the construction of park architecture.[12] The editor, architect Albert H. Good, offers what has become the definitive statement on rustic architecture prior to World War II:

> Successfully handled, [rustic] is a style which, through the use of native materials in proper scale,

---

10 Ickes et al, p. 2.

11 1937 Yearbook, p. 38.

12 William C. Tweed, Laura E. Soulliere and Henry G. Law, National Park Service Rustic Architecture, 1916-1942 (NPS, Western Regional Office, Cultural Resource Management, 1977), p. 92.

and through the avoidance of rigid, straight lines, and over-sophistication, gives the feeling of having been executed by pioneer craftsmen with limited hand tools. It thus achieves sympathy with the natural surroundings, and with the past.[13]

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

Fewer examples of "exaggerated rustic" were appearing. Many NPS residences built in the late 1930s made only minor concessions to their immediate settings. Quite often these were rather unexceptional wood-frame houses incorporating rustic siding and stone veneer foundations.[14]

The architecture represented at Catoctin is sincerely rustic, however, reflecting the log-cabin building tradition of the mountainous region.

* * *

The proposed multiple property area occupies the historic boundaries of Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, originally a 10,000-acre facility. Now called Catoctin Mountain Park **(map 1)** it is composed of 5,700 acres devoted to daytime and overnight recreation. The park is approximately bounded on the north by MD 540 and Owens Creek, on the south by MD 77, and on the west by Quirauk School Road. A single public-access

---

[13] Albert H. Good, Park and Recreation Structures, Part III: Overnight and Organized Camp Facilities (Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1938), p. 62.

[14] Tweed et al, p. 97.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

thoroughfare called Park Central Road cuts (east-west) through the lower portion of the property, below which are situated the two cabin camps **(map 2)**.

Catoctin Mountain Park is named for its location 1,400 feet above the Monocacy River Valley in the Catoctin Mountains, which occupy the eastern edge of the Appalachian range, on the western boundary of the Piedmont Plateau. The park originally included Big Hunting Creek and its Cunningham Falls, which leads into Hunting Creek Lake; these are now contained in the 4,446 acres given to the state of Maryland in 1954 to become Cunningham Falls State Park.

Farming and timber harvesting were the primary economies of Catoctin Mountain residents during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Several sawmills operated in the area, and wood--specifically the abundant chestnut--was used for fuel, railroad ties, staves and mine supports. Nearby Mechanics Town (now Thurmont) contained an edge-tool and nail factory, several tanneries, pottery, cooperage and garment factories. The local iron industry was decimated when the Catoctin Furnace converted to coal from charcoal at the end of the century, and closed not long after; concurrent to which ironworks opened in Baltimore and the depression of 1893 further eroded the local economy.[15]

After 1900, sawmills dominated the mountain industries in the production of barrel staves and mining car pins; the chestnut blight eliminated what remained of that species; and poor farming practices and slash fires contributed to the further decline of natural resources in the region. The Catoctin region was part of the 330 square miles of land in Maryland that the state conservation supervisor estimated had been displaced by erosion since Colonial times.[16]

"Rural Maryland seemed to fare [the Depression] somewhat

---

[15] Barbara M. Kirkconnell, Dr. Fred Kuss and Dr. Robert E. Kauffman, Catoctin Mountain Park: An Administrative History (Washington, D.C.: NPS, February 1988), p. 6.

[16] Charles Byron Marsh, "Soil Erosion" (10 May, 1939) University of Maryland, McKeldin Library, WPA Papers; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 7.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

better than the rest of the nation until the end of 1930," but state aid still proved insufficient to ease the economic woes. A survey of Maryland cities during the summer of 1933 convinced the governor that federal aid was necessary, so a special liaison, Frederick P. Lee, applied for Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC) funds. Maryland was one of eight states that had not heretofore applied for federal-relief funds.

> By 1934. . .a pro-New Deal Republican was elected governor and promised more cooperation with federal programs. But in general, Maryland officials continued in the mold of (Governor) Albert Ritchie's attitudes of non-cooperation with the federal government while taking handouts.[17]

The Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture was responsible for organizing the submarginal land-retirement program in each state. Locally, this role was filled in 1934 by Dr. Thomas B. Symons of the University of Maryland-College Park; and regionally, by A.W. Manchester, who was based in Vermont. Symons quickly identified the land in the Catoctin area of Frederick and Washington Counties, which contained "many submarginal farms and constituted a problem region."[18]

Symons submitted the Catoctin park proposal for consideration in December 1934, and early the next year it was approved by Conrad Wirth as Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Project, designated Maryland R-1.[19] In March 1935, the land-acquisition team arrived in Thurmont. Letters were sent to the 80 or so landowners in the 22,000-acre area being studied, explaining the program and offering to purchase acreage, timber and improvements at a fair price, as well as requests for deed descriptions and a query as to whether or not they would be

---

17 Kirkconnell et al, p. 8-9.

18 H.E. Weatherwax to A.W. Manchester (14 January, 1935) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 14.

19 Kirkconnell et al, p. 15.

willing to sell the property.[20]

By fall, the master plan for the park was initiated, along with a priority list of desireable parcels. According to the report, there were 50 families in the project area of which eight were making a subsistence living off the land, 26 were cutting timber, and 16 were on relief.

The scope of the project was hindered by setbacks, however. The land-purchase budget was reduced by about 25 percent to $155,000 and the development budget was cut in half, which necessitated a reduction in the scale of the future RDA. Offers had been acquired on about half of the 10,333 acres, almost all in Frederick County: "The team had been unable to put together a suitable land package in Washington County and that part of the project was abandoned."[21] The land was leased from property owners until the government paid for it in full.

The Catoctin project was redesignated "LD-MD-4." (Under the Emergency Relief Act of 1935 the "LD" RDAs were approved as federal projects with allocations made from WPA funds to the Resettlement Administration, although the NPS provided technical supervision; MD-4 was the number assigned to the project by FDR upon its approval.[22]) Construction was performed with WPA funds and directed by the NPS, beginning in winter 1936, with much of the project phasing devoted to timber harvesting until land acquisition was assured.[23]

Four public-recreation group camps and two picnic areas were planned for the facility: Camp Misty Mount (aka 1-C, coed), Camp Greentop (2-A/2-C), Camp Hi-Catoctin (aka 3-B, boys', Shangri-la, Camp David), and the never-completed Camp 4 (aka G, girls'). A

---

20 W.W. Simonds to Dr. Michael Abrams (28 March, 1935) Catoctin Mountain Park; cited in Kirkconnell, p. 18.

21 Kirkconnell et al, p. 21-22.

22 NPS-ERA, Administration Introduction (publication unknown) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 22

23 Timber Harvest Justification (23 April, 1936) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 28.

central garage unit (area service group) was built on the site now occupied by Camp Roundmeadow.

Several administrative and design professionals were assigned to the park. Michael Williams was project manager; A.R. Vanston, an inexperienced young man, was named project architect; Orin Bullock, assistant arachitect; a local engineer, William Renner; J.C. Milson served as landscape architect; and Clinton F. Waesche was hired as labor superintendent.[24] Hundreds of WPA workers were provided with much-needed jobs, from a maximum of 595 men in May 1936 when intensive logging, clearing and other unskilled labor was needed, to an average of 250 men of various skill levels as construction continued.[25]

After the building program was complete, CCC camps operated in the park from April 1939 to September 1941: SP-3 during the six-month period 5; SP-7, period 13; and NP-3/SP-7, periods 14-16.[26] The company occupied a camp located at the present Camp Roundmeadow, and was responsible for the construction of water lines, some stone walls and tree-trimming work. In contrast to the WPA laborers who were transported into the camp work sites, the CCC men lived at the RDA.

Administration of the CCC program was a cooperative effort among the U.S. Departments of War, Interior, Agriculture and Labor. The Labor Department recruited men in conjunction with each state, while the Army was responsible for the conduct and care of enrollees. During the workday, Agriculture and Interior directed the men. Each man received $1 per day as well as room, board and the opportunity for some education. Each camp was ideally composed of 200; the CCC ranks came from a quota of unmarried men (based on state population) age 18 to 25. They enrolled for fixed six-month periods and could re-enlist. CCC men worked on municipal, state, federal and private projects

---

[24] Kirkconnell et al, p. 27.

[25] T.W. Fergusen Jr. to Williams (10 April, 1936) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 29.

[26] John C. Paige, The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942 (NPS, Department of the Interior, 1985), p.190-91.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

nationwide. Besides work and a steady income, the CCC charged itself with the education, entertainment and edification of the men. Academic subjects were taught to combat illiteracy; vocational training aimed at teaching a skill for post-CCC employment; on-the-job instruction augmented in-camp teaching; in addition to which were organized athletics and recreation.

Initially, land was cleared of underbrush and timber for the camp sites, bridges were prepared to support heavy log-carrying vehicles, and an archaeological study was made of the Catoctin Furnace (which is now in the state park).

The first facility to be built was the administrative headquarters and central garage unit--now within Camp Roundmeadow--completed in July 1936. This complex included an administration office, covered bays to house trucks, a tool house-repair shop, grease pit, oil storage building and blacksmith shop (completed November 1936).[27] While this was under way, architect Vanson and landscape architect Milson designed the cabin camps.

Misty Mount was built in 1937 on 30 acres of land composed of tract numbers 3, 98 and 146. Greentop was built in 1938 on tract numbers 26 and 26a. Hi-Catoctin and the never-completed Camp 4-G were sited on and near tract 96c overlooking the Monocacy River Valley.[28]

These facilities were oriented toward the less-privileged visitors who would not have access to state parks, which accommodated travelers of moderate income or better, "thus throwing the entire burden of providing the low-income groups with recreation on local government agencies. The pleasure to be derived from recreation [in] large natural areas will be denied

---

[27] Various sources, cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 29-30; The administration building (aka Building 1, general store, quarters) currently houses the Catoctin Research Center of Mount St. Mary's College and the blacksmith shop (Building 4) serves as a maintenance shed; both are on their original site. The oil shed (Building 5) has been moved to a site near the blacksmith shop. No other structures from this period remain at the park.

[28] Various sources, cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 33.

x see continuation sheet

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

this large subsistence group unless special means of transportation can be devised."[29] As Catoctin was designed as an organized camp, a genre of recreation born out of the precedents of private and "educational and character-influencing organizations," most campers were bussed in by sponsoring groups.[30]

From the outset, facilities at Catoctin RDA were considered to accommodate the even more specific audience of physically handicapped children--a cause of particular interest to the polio-stricken FDR.. From the earliest announcement of the Catoctin project, the Maryland League for Crippled Children (MLCC) lobbied the Resettlement Administration, NPS and project manager Williams for such a facility there. And although the MLCC could not afford to finance their own camp, it had "the money in a special fund to equip it."[31] Misty Mount was to serve as the permanent MLCC camp, at first, then it was determined that the rugged terrain was too diffcult for children in braces or on crutches to overcome; the MLCC used it only that first year while the second camp was under construction. Henceforth the new Camp Greentop regularly hosted handicapped children.[32] Camp Misty Mount was then assigned to the YMCA and YWCA organizations.

As Camp Misty Mount was being completed, plans for Camp Greentop were being developed--with some modifications based on observations made during the first season of handicapped-camper occupancy. These included the installation of a bathtub with a grab bar, a swimming pool, and all facilities located not farther than 600 feet from the dining hall--as the younger children "were

---

29 NPS, "Park Use Study 1937, A Report on Attendance and Use at Eighty-six Selected Parks in Region 1" (Richmond: NPS, 1937), p. 34.

30 "Dumfries Camps to Aid D.C. Groups," Washington Post (March 1936).

31 Stanley Hawkins to Lisle (13 October, 1936) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 34.

32 William Renner, interview (15 March, 1987); cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 35.

x see continuation sheet

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

severely taxed by long distances several times a day." The eight- to 10-person style of cabin was also specified, housing four youngsters on each side of a center leaders' room. Two unit lodges were eliminated from the Greentop plan because the porches and outdoor space were used so much, and these were replaced by additional staff quarters.[33] The deviations from standard NPS camp layouts were ultimately considered flexible enough to oblige other populations. The final plans were approved in early 1938 and it was ready that same year for the first seasons' campers--who named it "Greentop" because of "their appreciation of the abundance of green trees on the top of the mountain."[34]

The development of Camp Hi-Catoctin began while the details of Camp Greentop were still being worked out in 1938. It was slated to be a "three-unit camp for children" according to standard organized-camp plans, with structures constructed of rough "waney board" siding rather than logs. This camp was to be used by boys, and another--Camp 4-G located about 1,400 feet from Hi-Catoctin--would host girls. (Plans for Camp 4-G were initiated in late 1938, but a lack of labor, funding and the imminent World War cancelled its continuation.[35])

By July 1938, units A and B at Hi-Catoctin were well under way, with the site of unit C being discussed. Many organizations came forward as interested sponsors, including one that sought "family" facilities that required the addition of some cabin partitions and coed latrine and washhouse orientation. The Federal Camp Council, which occupied Hi-Catoctin during the summers of 1939-41, offered "a wholesome program of recreation amid beautiful surroundings, with opportunities for the development of latent talents, and adequate provisions for rest

---

[33] Stanley Hawkins to Lisle (13 October, 1936) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 37.

[34] Mary E. Church, "Camping with Crippled Children at Greentop," The Child (May 1941), p. 311-15. U.S. Labor Library; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 41.

[35] Kirkconnell et al, p. 44.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

and relaxation."[36] After 1941, Hi-Catoctin became part of FDR's World War II retreat. All development of camping facilities at Catoctin ceased at this time.

The Catoctin park has served special-interest groups over the years, as well. During the summer of 1941 for example, British sailors whose ship was in a Baltimore dry dock were bussed to the mountain retreat for a period of rest.[37] Concurrent to the work on Shangri-La during the war, the U.S. Army and U.S. Marines occupied the balance of the park for military exercises, causing a great deal of disruption to the environment. And after the war, the Marine Corps used Camp Greentop as a physical rehabilitation facility for men "returning to the U.S. after long periods of combat duty in the tropical islands of the Pacific."[38]

Despite the continuous and rugged use of Catoctin Mountain Park since its beginnings in 1934, the two remaining public-use camps are intact and reflect the principals of architecture and landscape architecture. Although "it is usually. . .necessary to forego any burden of cost that might be solely assessable to `imagination-stimulation' or `romantic appeal,'" at Catoctin the materials lent themselves to high-styled rustic ideals.[39]

The three original organized-camp facilities exemplify codified NPS design and layout. A trio of recognizable camp-building typology evolved: administration/service, recreational/cultural, and sleeping quarters. This is reflected in unit camps composed of one- to four-person cabins and eight- to 10-person cabins, a latrine(s) and lodge clustered together like a satellite, around a core of shared structures: dining hall, craft

---

[36] Aneta E. Bowden, "Report of Summer Season" (16 December, 1940) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 45.

[37] Kirkconnell et al, p. 71.

[38] U.S. Marine Corps request (3 July, 1945) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 90.

[39] Good, reprint, pp. 3, 5, 8.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

lodge, infirmary and office. Unit camps are defined as organized camps designed to accommodate 25 to 100 campers, broken into groups of 16 to 32 persons--with 24 the ideal number. The small groups invite personal attention, focused interests and the control of communicable disease.[40]

Small units could handle 24 to 32 persons; medium, 48 to 64 persons in two units; and large, 72 to 96 persons in three or four units. Privacy being a paramount factor, 600 feet is the recommended distance between cabins, except for those occupied by youngsters, where 50 feet between cabins and no more than 150 feet to a latrine, are suggested.[41]

The organized-camping units were planned to take advantage of light, prevailing winds and views from the cabins, while site terrain was used to best advantage for the pool and cabin foundations. Trees slated to remain in place were boxed to prevent injury during construction, and workers took equal precautions to protect the topsoil.[42] Horses hauled the logs to the sites rather than using wagons or trucks, to minimize disruption of the landscape.

The design of the structures was taken from Albert Good's Park Structures and Facilities (1935), for which the human and material resources of the area were ideally suited. The public recreation facilities were designed as log cabins, utilizing the fallen chestnut trees and those approved by state foresters for harvest. "Picturesque snags, approximately six per acre were to be left for aesthetic purposes and wildlife consideration."[43] The trees taken could be used in their entirety if squared off, notched and saddled, as opposed to planed into boards, for

---

[40] Albert Good, reprint "Organized Camp Facilities," p. 3, 5, 8.

[41] Ibid, p. 6.

[42] Fred T. Johnson to Michael Williams (18 February, 1937); Camp 1-C Justification (no date), CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 32.

[43] Herbert Evison to Williams (9 October, 1936) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 26.

which only 40 percent of the trees were suited. The logs were pinned on site with locust, and the 4- to 8-inch by 26-inch shingles were rived out of local red oak and laid in random courses. Oak was used for the interior tongue-in-groove floors, and interior trim was fitted out of chestnut, oak or hemlock.[44]

Three historic structures in the former central garage unit are extant: the administration office (Building 1), blacksmith shop (Building 4), and oil shop (Building 5, though moved from its original site). Due to the radical rehabilitation and new construction in this area, which now serves as the contemporary maintance area (which is closed to the public) and Camp Round Meadow, however, the context of WPA occupation is completely and irretrievably lost.

In June 1939, the NPS sought legislation that would orchestrate the return of most RDAs to their respective states, a process that continued up to the war. Catoctin Mountain Park, likes Chopawamsic RDA (today Prince William Forest Park, also NCR) south of Washington, was one of four RDA projects that remained in the national park system.[45] "The National Capital Parks are in urgent need of an area qualifying for recreational use of private charity, semi-public and other organizations serving the large population," according to NPS Director Arno Cammerer in 1935.[46] A more likely motive for keeping Catoctin in the system, however, was for the security measures associated with Camp David.

In 1942 Catoctin was closed to the public, but the greatest advocate of public recreation began making regular visits--President Roosevelt. Doctors grew concerned over his asthma and war-induced stress--particularly during the stifling summer months--and recommended an out-of-doors retreat, a prescription

---

[44] Justification and Specifications for Camp C-1, (no date) CMP; cited in Kirkconnell, p. 26.

[45] Paige, p. 120; the other two are the land adjacent to Manassas National Battlefield Park and Hopewell Village National Historic Site.

[46] Arno B.Cammerer to C. Marshall Finnan (February 2, 1935).

necessarily coupled with administrative concerns of security and the need to be close to Washington. Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes was alerted to the search for a suitable site within 100 miles of the White House, which he in turn delegated to Conrad Wirth, then NPS director of recreation and land planning. Three possible sites were named: one in Shenandoah National Park in Virginia; the other two were the unbuilt Camp 4 and Camp Hi-Catoctin in Maryland. Hi-Catoctin was selected after a presidential visit, with unit B lodge to become the retreat's nucleus, to be "revamped" at a cost of $25,000 to meet FDR's needs. It was renamed Shangri-La, after the fictional mountain retreat in the novel Lost Horizon--named, aptly, by author James Hilton after a site in London desimated during the German blitzkrieg.[47]

The lodge and other buildings at Shangri-La were substantially remodeled, including the installation of 11-foot exposed-beam ceilings, a bedroom wing and fire-escape features. Several cabins were were joined under one roof to serve as staff quarters, and a formal entrance was built from "hand-hewn post-and-rail fencing fabricated out of salvage collected from abandoned farms in the vicinity."[48] Protection was provided by 20 U.S. Marine sentry posts and 100 Marines when FDR was in residence; a 9-foot barbed-wire fence wired with an alarm; an intercom between posts and cabins; and a 250-watt receiver station.[49]

The secure retreat was visited by numerous political personalities in addition to FDR's staff, including ~~Prime~~ British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, who described the lodge

---

[47] Kirkconnell et al, p. 75-76.

[48] A Summary of the Development of "Shangri-La" (1942), p. 23, located in FDR Library; this and other sources cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 78-79.

[49] Michael Rielly to Asst. Sec. Gaston (27 May, 1942), FDR Library; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 80.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

as "in principle a log cabin with all modern improvements."[50] President Dwight Eisenhower changed the name to Camp David, after his grandson, upon assuming the office. And it has served the American presidents in search of a mountain retreat ever since.

All historic resources at Catoctin Forest Park maintain their integrity and reflect the New Deal period and programs of the late 1930s, with its emphasis on human and natural conservation. And although the construction of rustic architecture essentially ceased with World War II, its tenure fulfilled NPS goals:

> It allowed the development of necessary park facilities without needless disruption of the natural scene. It facilitated the separation of the parks from the rest of the world.[51]

---

[50] Winston S. Churchill, The Second World War, the Hinge of Fate, vol. IV (London: Cassell & Co. Ltd., 1951), p. 712; cited in Kirkconnell et al, p. 82.

[51] Tweed et al, p. 106.

F. Associated Property Types

I. Name of Property Type public recreation facility/campground

I. Description

All contributing park buildings are distinctively rustic: V-notched chestnut logs pinned with locust and chinked with concrete--in addition to, and in combination with--rough-sawn "waney board" used in vertical and horizontal arrangements. Stone is used for chimneys, steps and foundations; cedar shingles top the gable roofs. The public-recreation facilities are consistently modest, one-story variations on a rectangular plan with ells and porches. Window treatments include 6/6 and updated sash, 8-light casement, removable screens and hinged wood shutters. Camps Misty Mount and Greentop typify NPS organized-

III. Significance

The historic resources at Camp (1) Misty Mount and Camp (2) Greentop represent the economic-improvement and conservation efforts of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal programs of the mid-1930s, within the context of state and local significance. These organized cabin camps were among the first projects completed at Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, established in 1935 by the Resettlement Administration and the National Park Service. They are physically significant for rustic architectural and landscape architectural styling, as well as their role in the development of conservation and outdoor recreation. Built from 1936-38, the camps near Thurmont in Frederick County, Maryland, retain their historic integrity and represent the sole RDA facility established in the state.

IV. Registration Requirements

Requirements for this property type include a cohesive and harmonious arrangement of architectural and landscape architectural features that maintain their historic integrity:

A. Natural landscape features
   1. creeks and tributaries
   2. mountains, valleys, ridges
   3. forest and native vegetation

B. Man-made landscape features
   1. public-recreation facilities
   2. park roads
   3. foot and horse trails

☒ See continuation sheet

☐ See continuation sheet for additional property types

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

II. description continued
camp layouts of the period. Several small or dormitory camper cabins, a latrine, leaders' cabin and lodge are clustered together as a satellite setting, situated a short distance from a hub of shared camp buildings that include a dining hall/kitchen, infirmary and nature cabin. This arrangement was modified somewhat at Camp Greentop to accommodate the special needs of handicapped campers. The forest and topography is taken advantage of whenever possible, with buildings set into the rocky landscape to attain scenic views as well as some privacy. These facilities have remained predominantly undisturbed by incongruous alterations or new construction, and they are used today for the original purpose of overnight camping for handicapped and underprivileged city children.

IV. Registration requirements continued

C. Architectural typology
   1. sleeping quarters: cabins
   2. administrative/service: dining hall, infirmary
   3. recreational/cultural: craft lodge, nature cabin

D. Architectural styling
   1. NPS "patternbook" sources: plans, elevations
   2. indigenous materials: log, stone
   3. handcrafted (or simulated) features: hardware, fixtures
   4. one-story, horizontal emphasis

G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.

The multiple property listing for ECW Architecture at Catoctin Mountain Park, 1935-38, is based on the comprehensive Catoctin Mountain Park Administrative History written by Barbara Kirkconnell, Dr. Fred Kuss, and Dr. Robert E. Kauffman (February 1988). The typology of significant resources is based on National Park Service organization of its public-recreation park structures into three groups: sleeping quarters, administrative/service, and recreational/cultural. The resources represent one property type because they were planned, designed and constructed by the same organization during the same period, using like materials, and of related architectural styling. Several sources contributed to the identification and evaluation of the architectural resources, including: a March 1953 inventory of park structures; the administrative history by Kirkconnell et al; John Paige's administrative history of the NPS and CCC; NPS Rustic Architecture:1916-1942 by William Tweed et al; and Albert Good's definitive 1935/38 Park and Recreation Structures.

☐ See continuation sheet

H. Major Bibliographical References

GENERAL:

Records of the National Park Service (RG79), National Archives, Entry 54, Boxes 58-61.

Catoctin Mountain Park, Maryland. Development documents for Camps Misty Mount, Greentop and two picnic areas, 1936-39: maps, justification statements, etc; 1953 inventory of buildings.

SPECIFIC:

Belasco, Warren James. Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910-1945. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1971.

"Dumfries Camps to Aid D.C. Groups." Washington Post. March 1936.

☒ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional documentation:

- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

I. Form Prepared By

name/title Sara Amy Leach, Historian
organization NPS - National Capital Region date 9 Sept., 1988
street & number 1100 Ohio Dr., S.W. telephone 202-485-9816
city or town Washington, DC state -- zip code 20242

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number H Page 2

Good, Albert. Park and Recreation Structures, 3 parts. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1938.

_____ . "Organized Camp Facilities." Reprint from Park and Recreation Structures. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1938.

Ickes H., Cammerer A., Tugwell A. et al. Recreational Demonstration Projects as Illustrated by Chopawamsic, Virginia. National Park Service, about 1936.

Kirkconnell, Barbara M.; Kuss, Fred; Kauffman, Robert E. Catoctin Mountain Park: An Administrative History. Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, National Capital Region, 1988.

Newton, Norman T. Design on the Land. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1971

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

Tweed, William C. et al. National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942. Western Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resource Management, 1977.

_____ . "Parkitecture: Rustic Architecture in the National Parks" (typescript draft), Office of Professional Publications, 1982.

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Administration Manual for Recreational Demonstration Areas. Washington, D.C., April 1937.

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. "Park Use Study 1937, A Report on Attendance and Use at 86 Selected Parks in Region 1." Richmond: NPS, 1937.

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. A Study of the Park and Recreation Problem of the United States. Washington, D.C., 1941.

x see continuation sheet

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Supplement to the Master Plan for Catoctin Recreation Demonstration Area. 1941.

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. 1937 Yearbook, Park and Recreation Progress. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1937.

Unrau, Harlan D. and Williss, G. Frank. Administrative History: Expansion of the National Park Service in the 1930s. Denver Service Center, NPS, 1983.

Virginia SP-22, Job no. 113-E. Staff and Help Latrine Specifications, (no date). Archives, Prince William Forest Park.

Wirth, Conrad L. Parks, Politics and People. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PHOTOGRAPHS
Section number _____ Page 1/3

ECW Architecture at
Catoctin Mountain Park

MAPS/PHOTOGRAPHS/ILLUSTRATIONS

Catoctin Mountain Park
Map 1

Proposed Historic Districts:
Camp (1) Misty Mount, Camp (2) Greentop
Map 2

Camp (1) Misty Mount, Historic District
Map 3

Camp (1) Misty Mount Historic District
Building identification
Map 3A

Camp (2) Greentop Historic District
Map 4

Camp (2) Greentop Historic District
Building Identification
Map 4A

All photographs share the following information:

1. Catoctin Mountain Park, Frederick Co., MD
2. by Sally Thiele and James Voight
3. April 2, 1983
4. negatives: at Catoctin Mountain Park

Dining hall/kitchen (13)--Camp Misty Mount Historic District
rear/side facade
photo 1

Administration/office (15)--Camp Misty Mount Historic District
front/side facade
photo 2

x see continuation sheet

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PHOTOGRAPHS

Section number _____ Page 2/3

Staff quarters (17)--Camp Misty Mount Historic District
front/side facade
photo 3

Infirmary (16)--Camp Misty Mount Historic District
rear/side facade
photo 4

Craft shop/nature cabin (20)--Camp Misty Mount Historic District
front facade
photo 5

Storage (19)--Camp Misty Mount Historic District
front facade
photo 6

Helps' cabin (18)--Camp Misty Mount Historic District
front/side facade
photo 7

Leaders' cabin (D-44)--Camp Misty Mount Historic District
front/side facade
photo 8

Washhouse/latrine (D-43)--Camp Misty Mount Historic District
front/side facade
photo 9

Cabin (C-76)--Camp Greentop Historic District
front/side facade
photo 10

Staff quarters (58)--Camp Greentop Historic District
front facade
photo 11

Helps' cabin (59)--Camp Greentop Historic District
front/side facade with lodge in background
photo 12

Good Luck Lodge (64)--Camp Greentop Historic District
rear/side facade
photo 13

x see continuation sheet

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PHOTOGRAPHS
Section number _____ Page 3/3

Laundry (71)--Camp Greentop Historic District
front/side facade
photo 14

Craft shop (61)--Camp Greentop Historic District
front/facade
photo 15

Office (56)--Camp Greentop Historic District
front/side facade
photo 16

Storage Building (60)--Camp Greentop Historic District
front/side facade
photo 17

All refer to buildings at Camp Misty Mount:

Dining hall: Good, p. 62-63.
illustration 1

Administration/office: Good, pp. 25-26.
illustration 2

Cabin: Good, p. 75.
illustration 3

Latrine: Good, pp. 32-33.
illustration 4

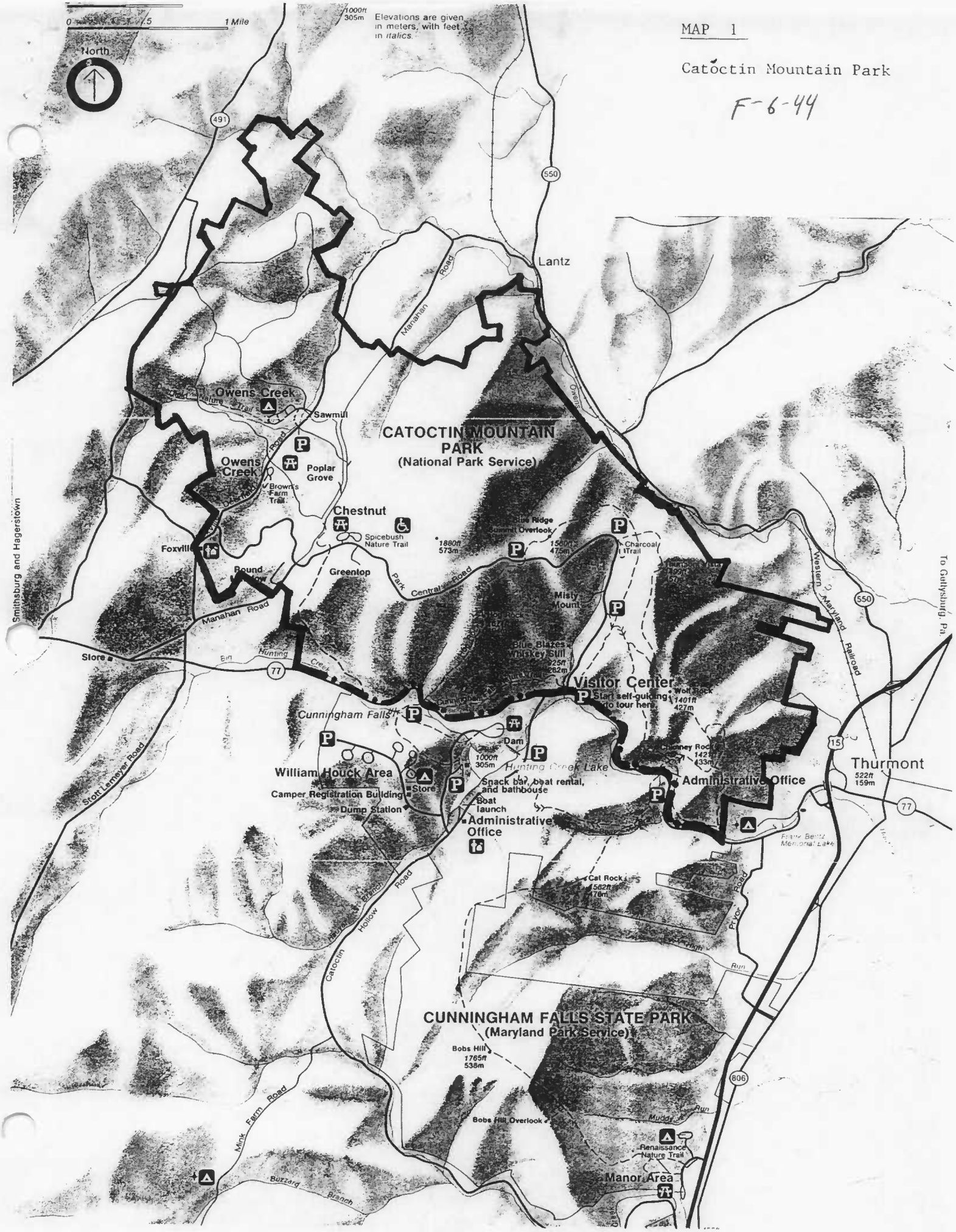
Lodge: Good, pp. 40-41.
illustration 5

__ see continuation sheet

MAP 1

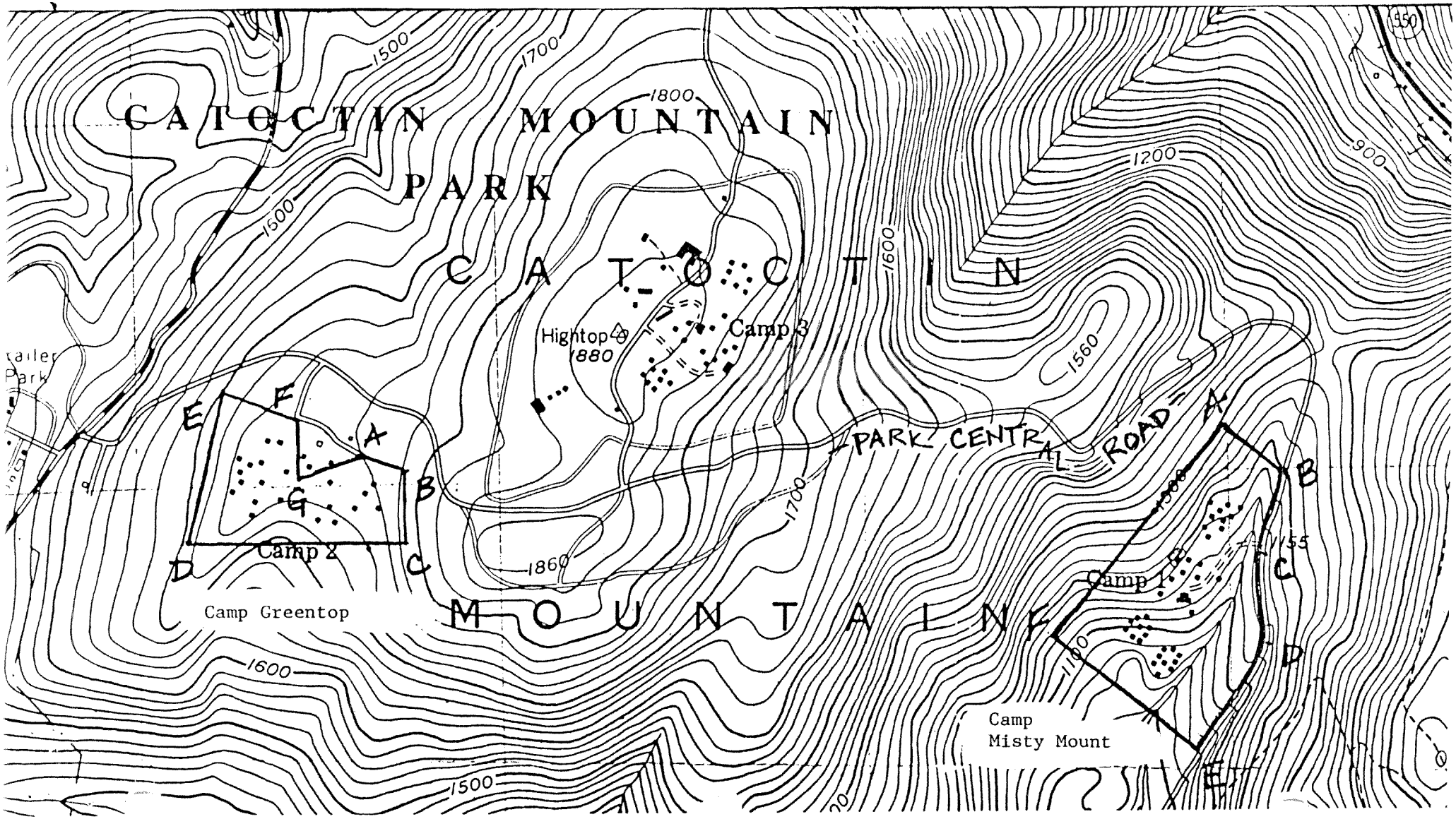
Catoctin Mountain Park

F-6-44



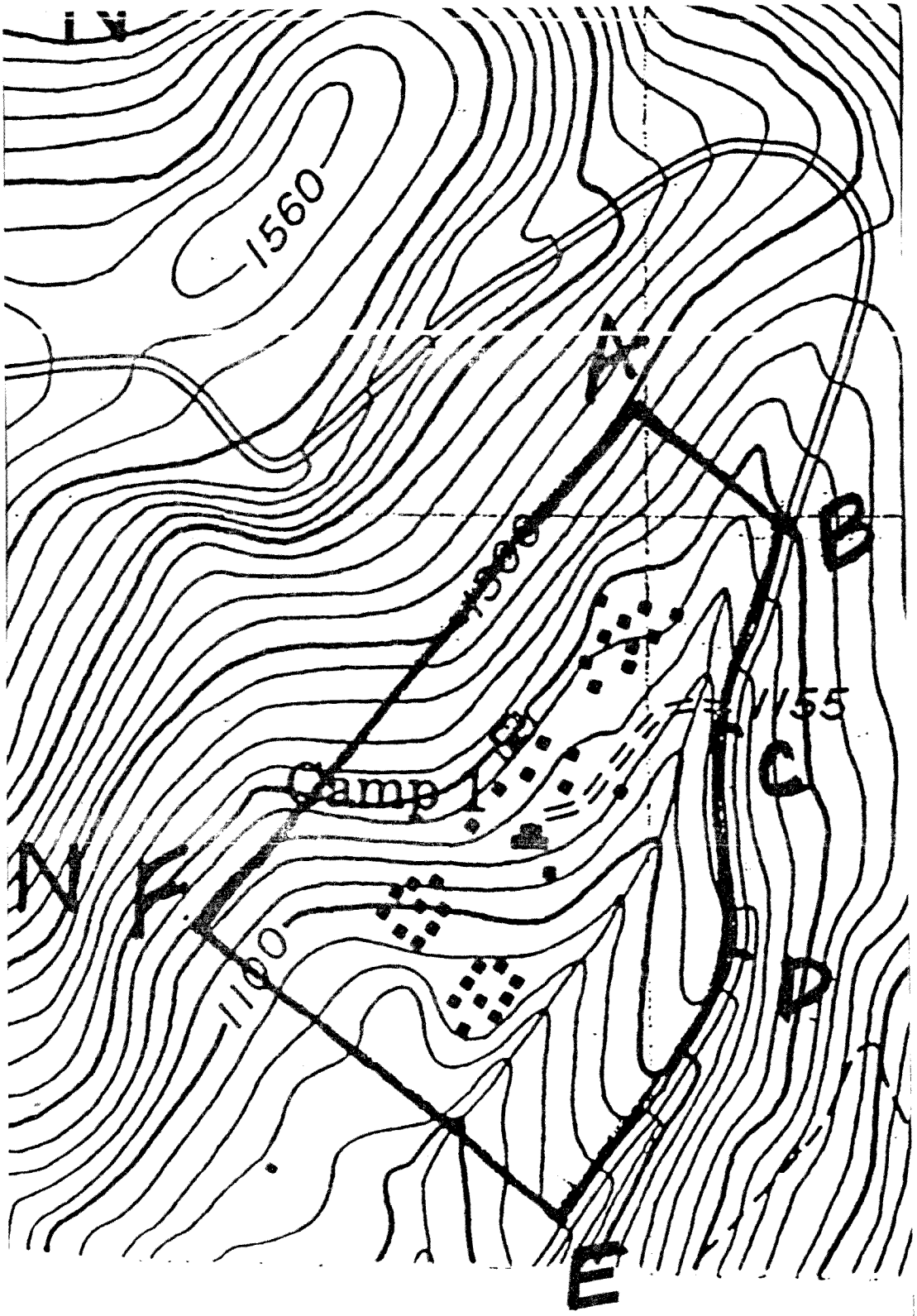
MAP 2

Camp (1) Misty Mount and Camp (2) Greentop Historic Districts



MAP 3

Camp (1) Misty Mount Historic District

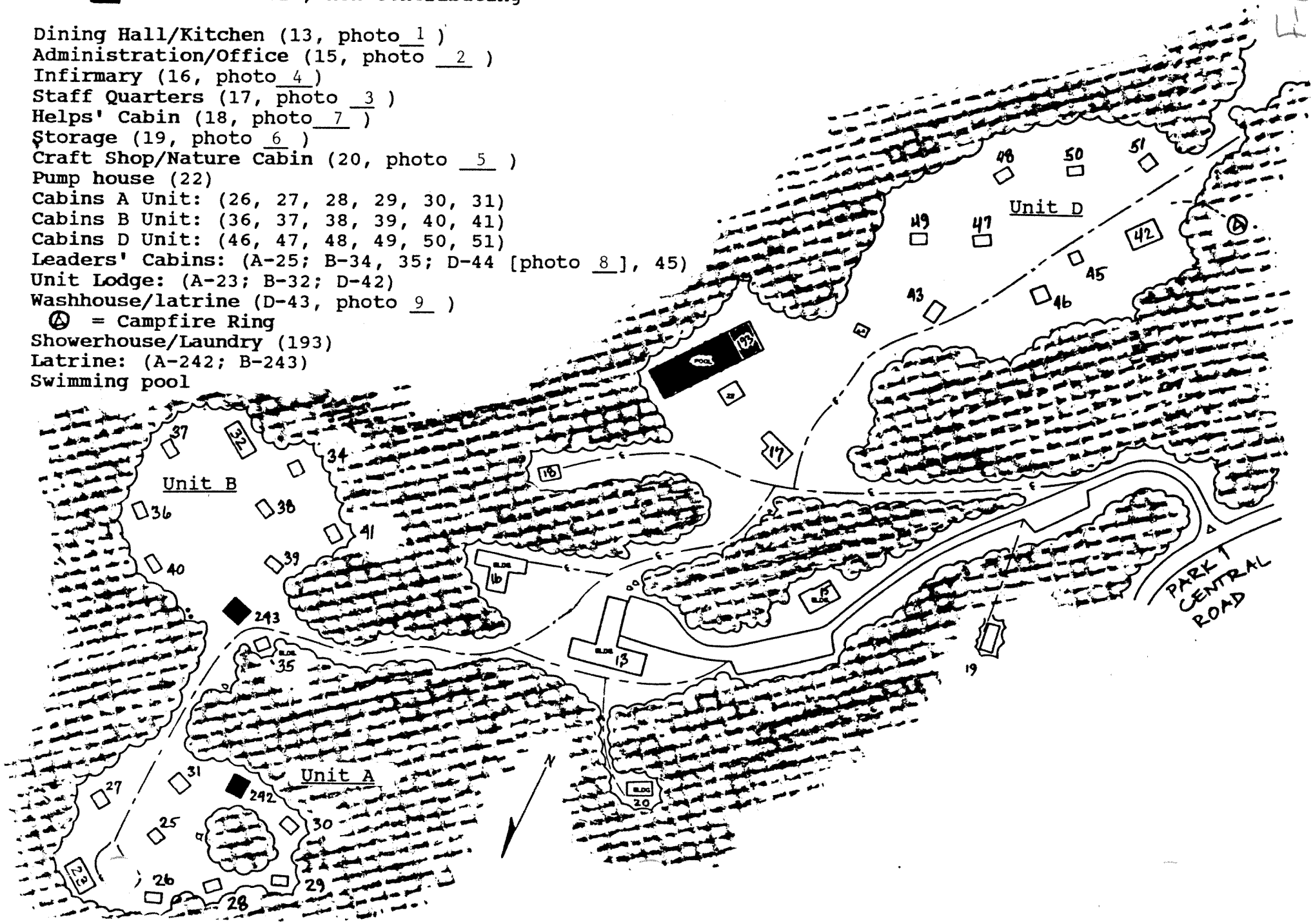


MAP: 3A

CAMP (1) MISTY MOUNT HISTORIC DISTRICT

■ = Non-historic, non-contributing

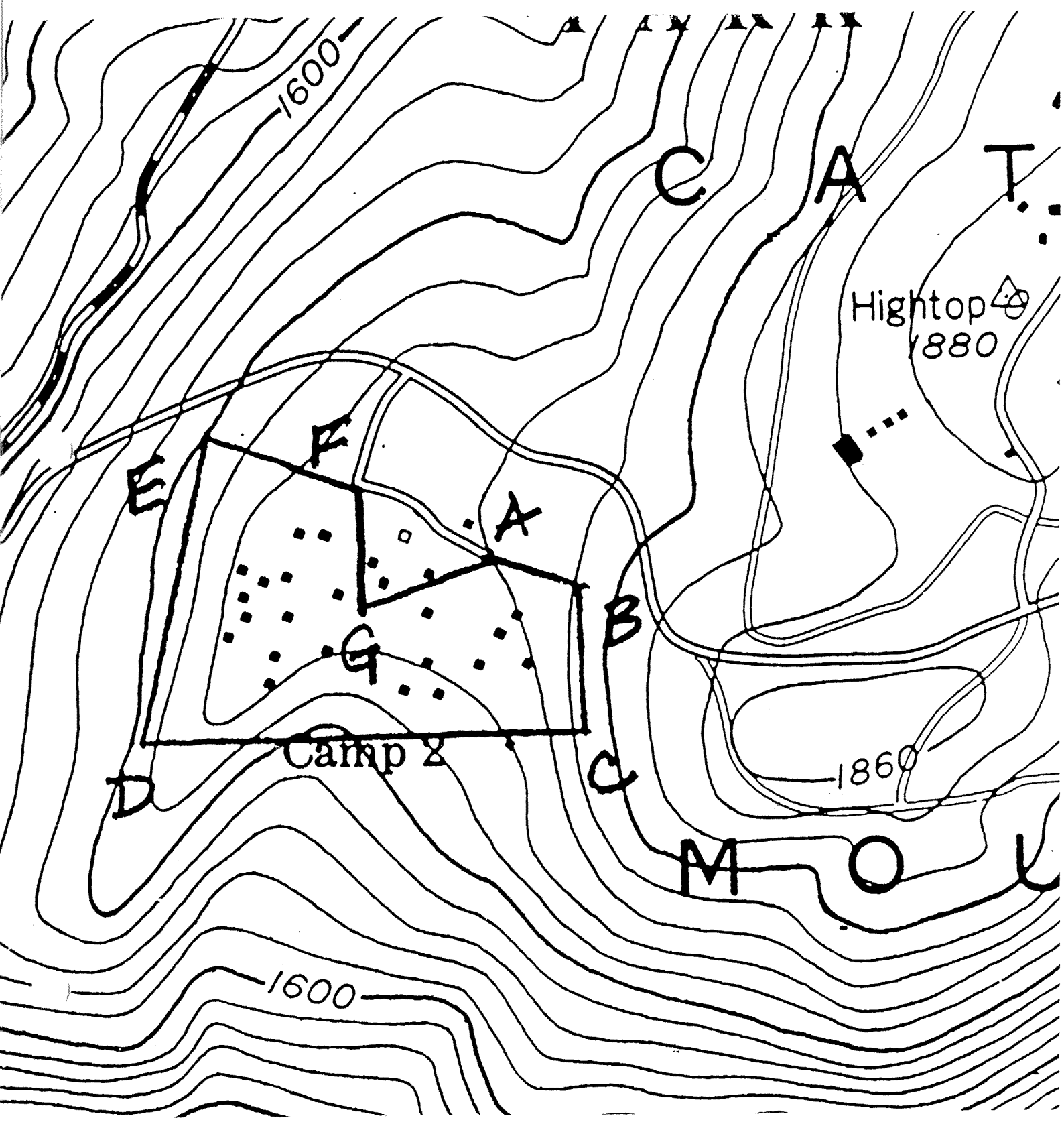
Dining Hall/Kitchen (13, photo 1)
Administration/Office (15, photo 2)
Infirmary (16, photo 4)
Staff Quarters (17, photo 3)
Helps' Cabin (18, photo 7)
Storage (19, photo 6)
Craft Shop/Nature Cabin (20, photo 5)
Pump house (22)
Cabins A Unit: (26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31)
Cabins B Unit: (36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41)
Cabins D Unit: (46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51)
Leaders' Cabins: (A-25; B-34, 35; D-44 [photo 8], 45)
Unit Lodge: (A-23; B-32; D-42)
Washhouse/latrine (D-43, photo 9)
Ⓐ = Campfire Ring
Showerhouse/Laundry (193)
Latrine: (A-242; B-243)
Swimming pool



F-6-44

MAP 4

Camp (2) Greentop Historic District



MAP: 4A

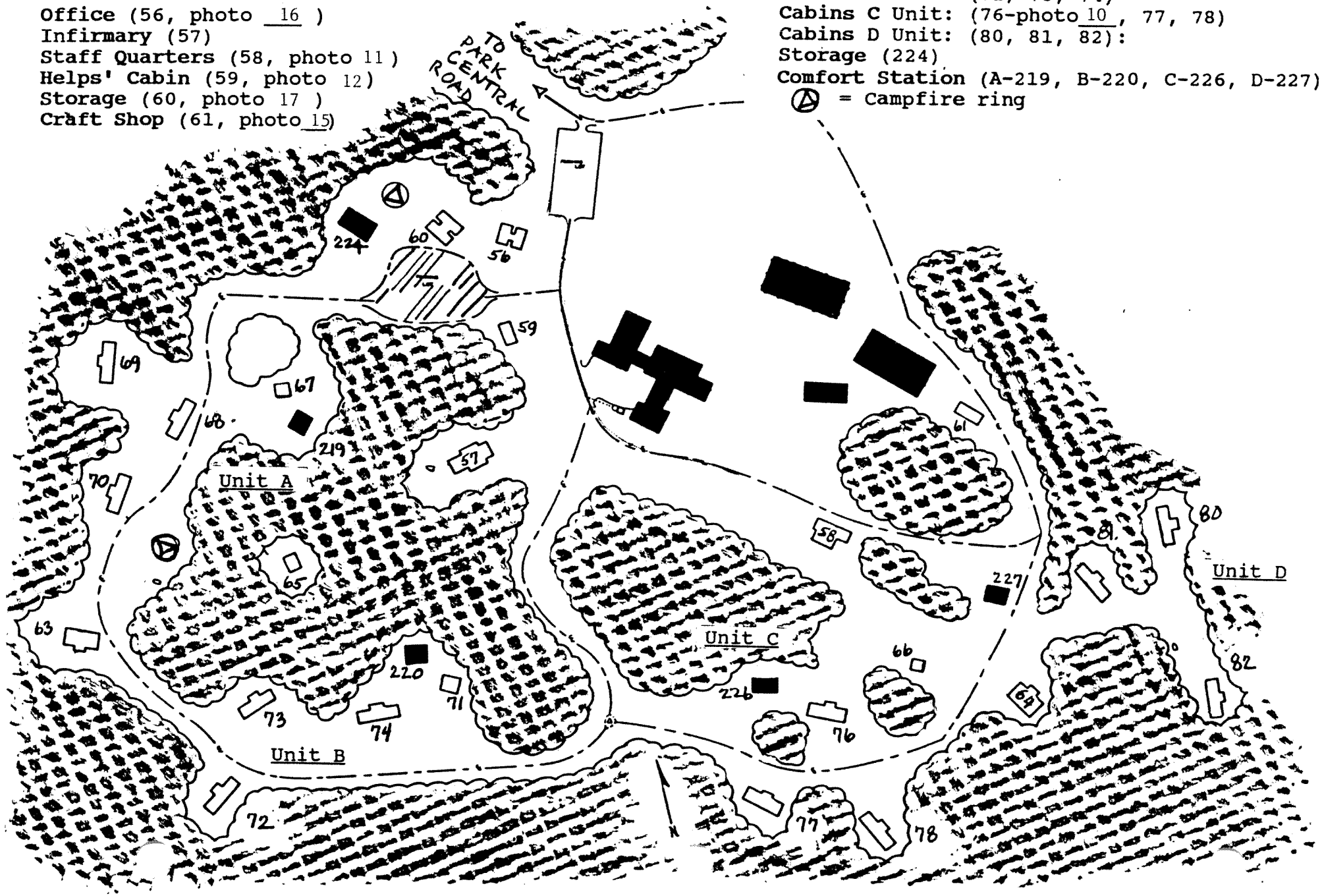
CAMP (2) GREENTOP HISTORIC DISTRICT

■ = Non-historic, non-contributing

Office (56, photo 16)
Infirmary (57)
Staff Quarters (58, photo 11)
Helps' Cabin (59, photo 12)
Storage (60, photo 17)
Craft Shop (61, photo 15)

Lodge (63), Good Luck Lodge (64, photo 13)
Leaders' Cabin (65, 66)
Laundry (67, 71-photo 14)
Cabins A Unit: (68, 69, 70)
Cabins B Unit: (72, 73, 74)
Cabins C Unit: (76-photo 10 , 77, 78)
Cabins D Unit: (80, 81, 82):
Storage (224)
Comfort Station (A-219, B-220, C-226, D-227)
Ⓐ = Campfire ring

F-6-44



F-6-44

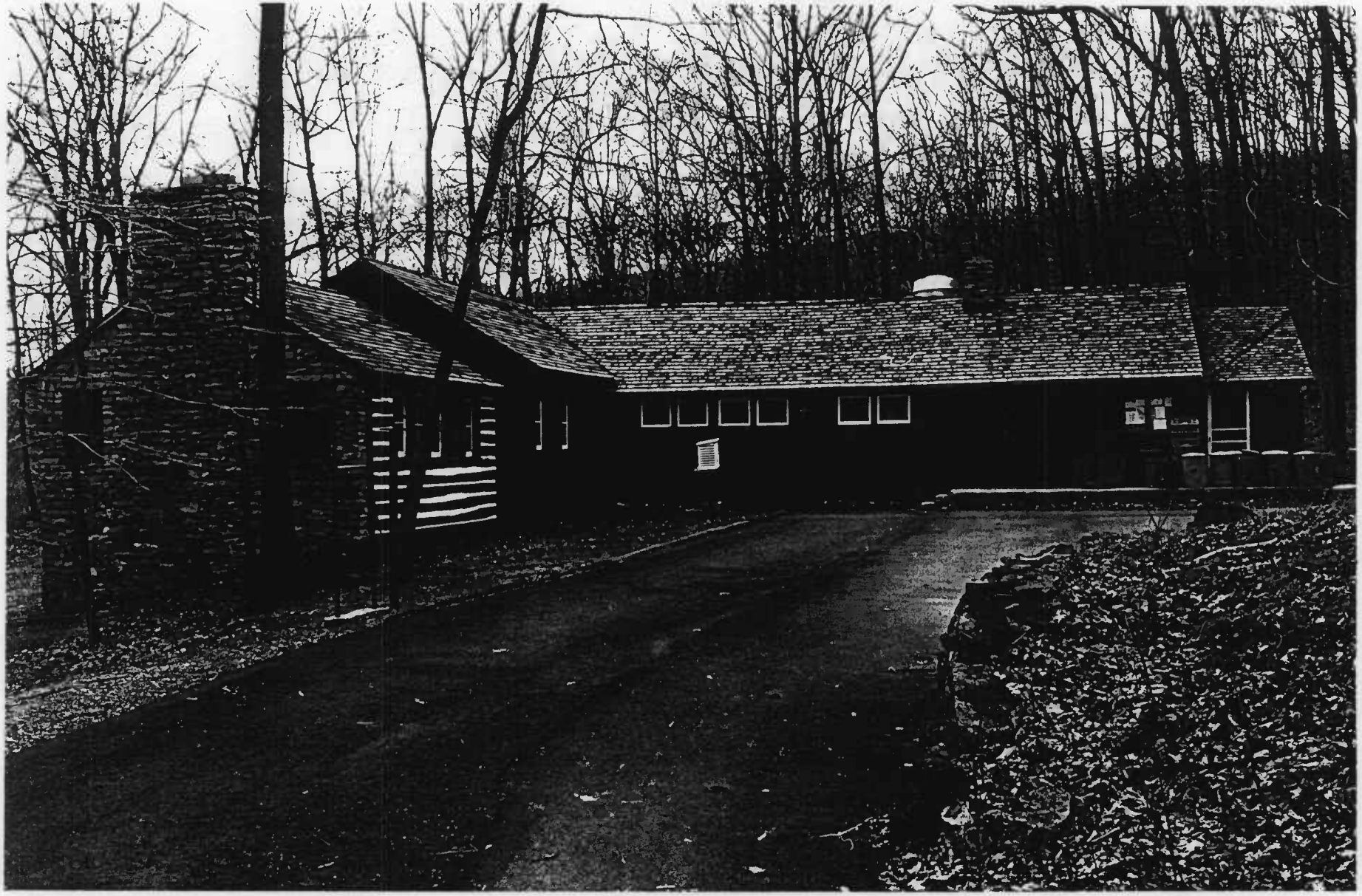
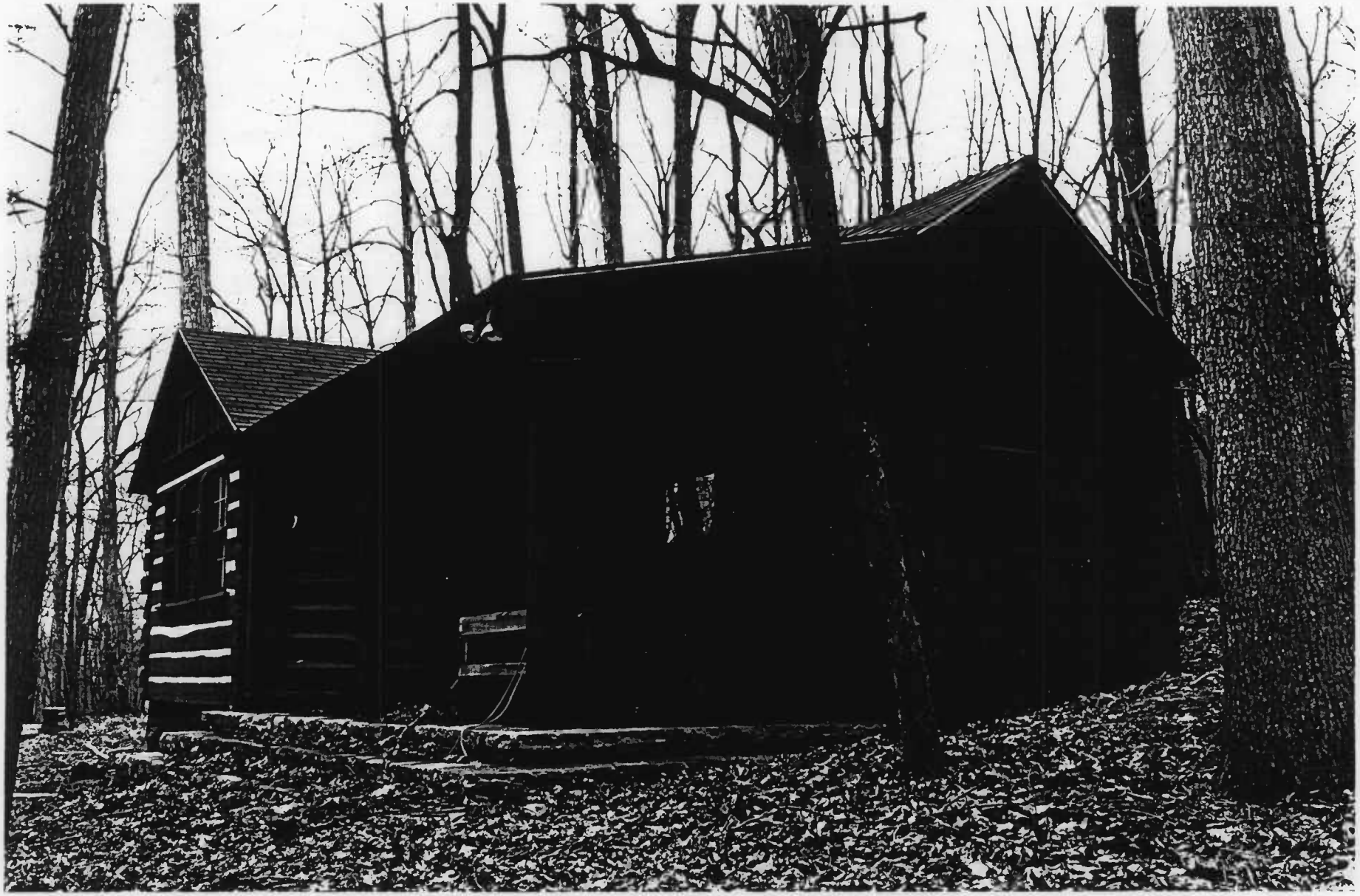


PHOTO 1



F-6-44

PHOTO 2

F-6:44

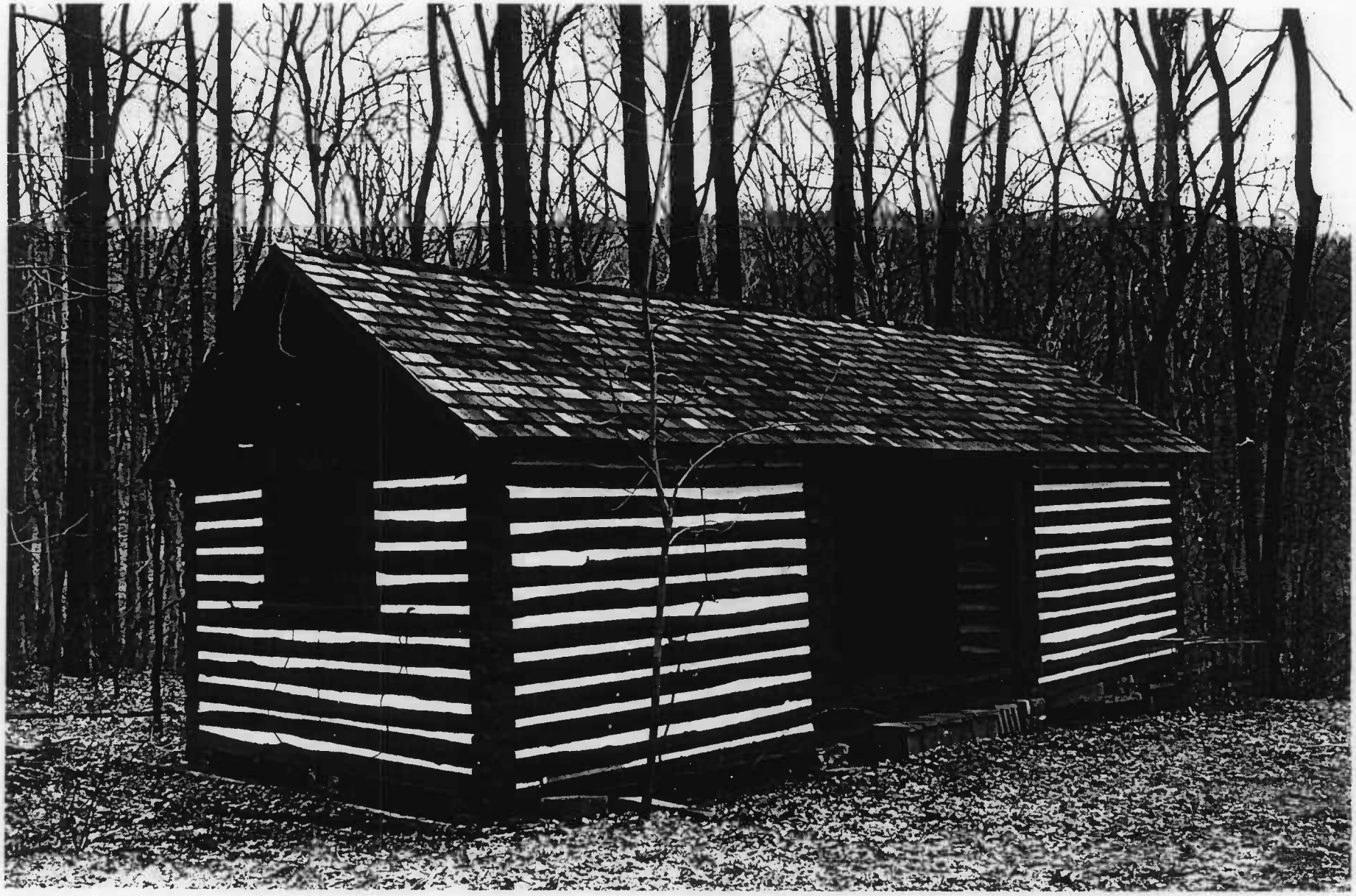
PHOTO 3

F-6-44

PHOTO 4

F-6-44

PHOTO 5

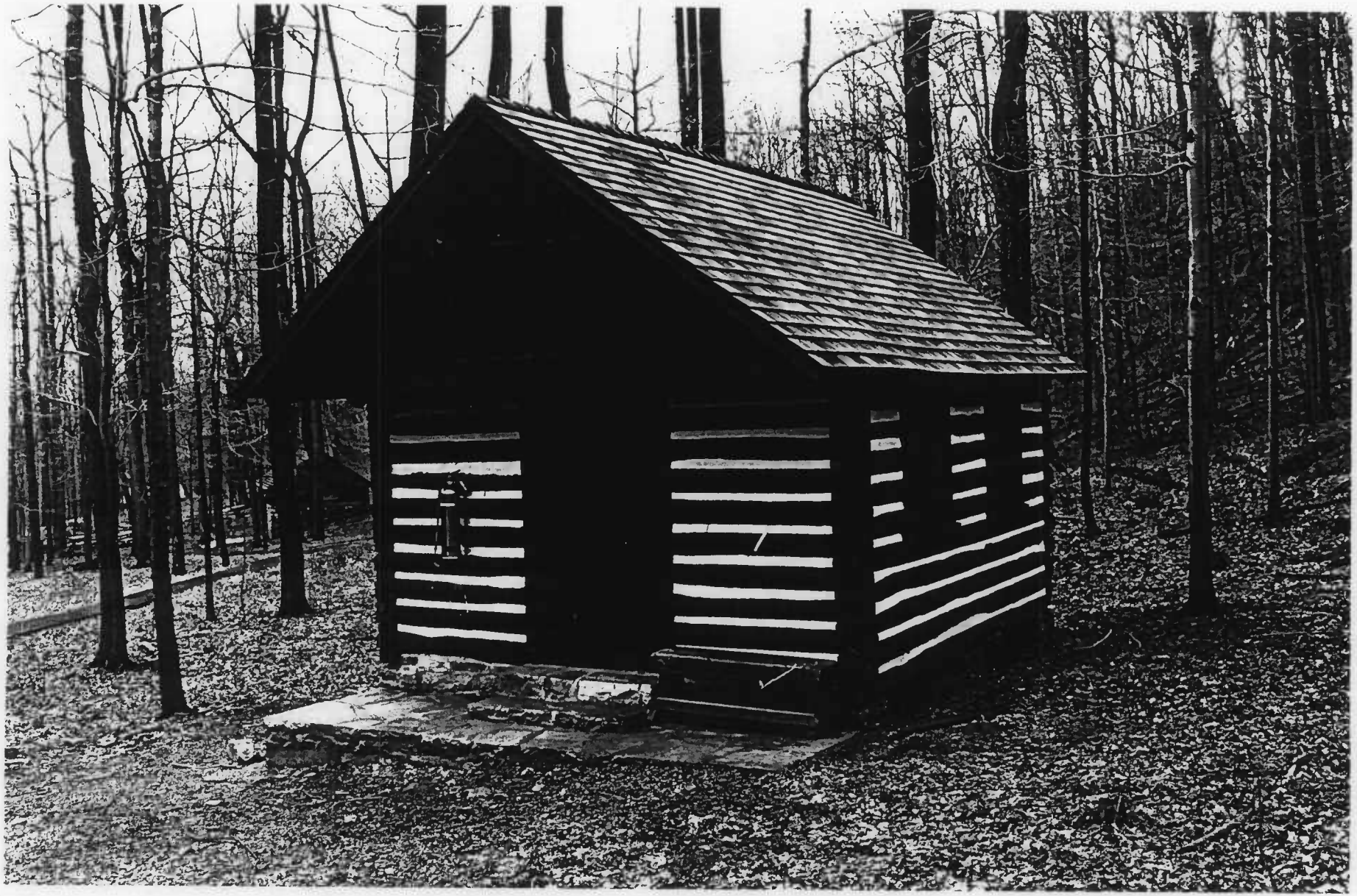


F-6-44

PHOTO 6

F-6-44

PHOTO 7



F-6-44

PHOTO 8

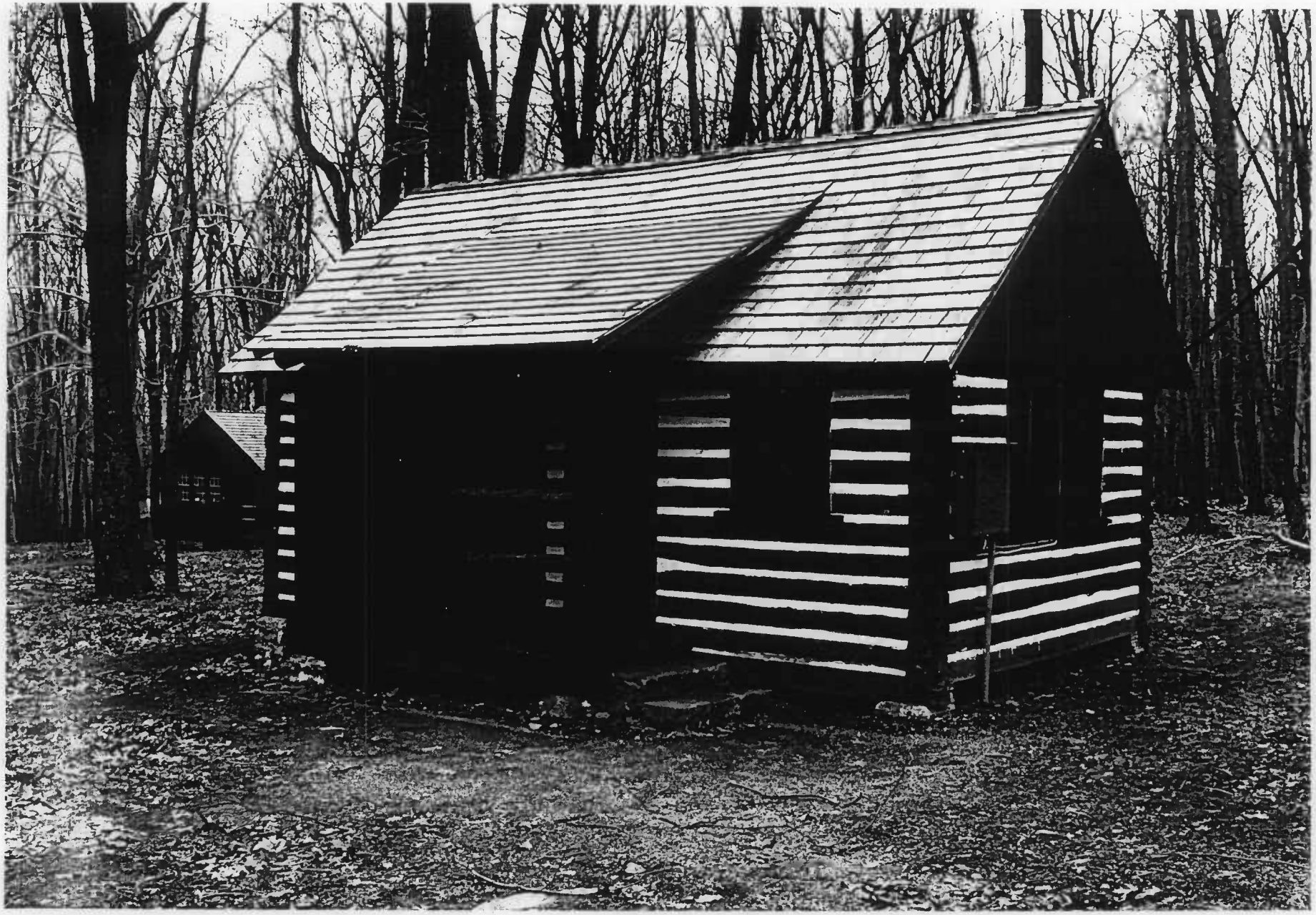
F-6-44

PHOTO 9

PHOTO 10

F-6-44

PHOTO 11



F-6-44

PHOTO 12

F-6-44

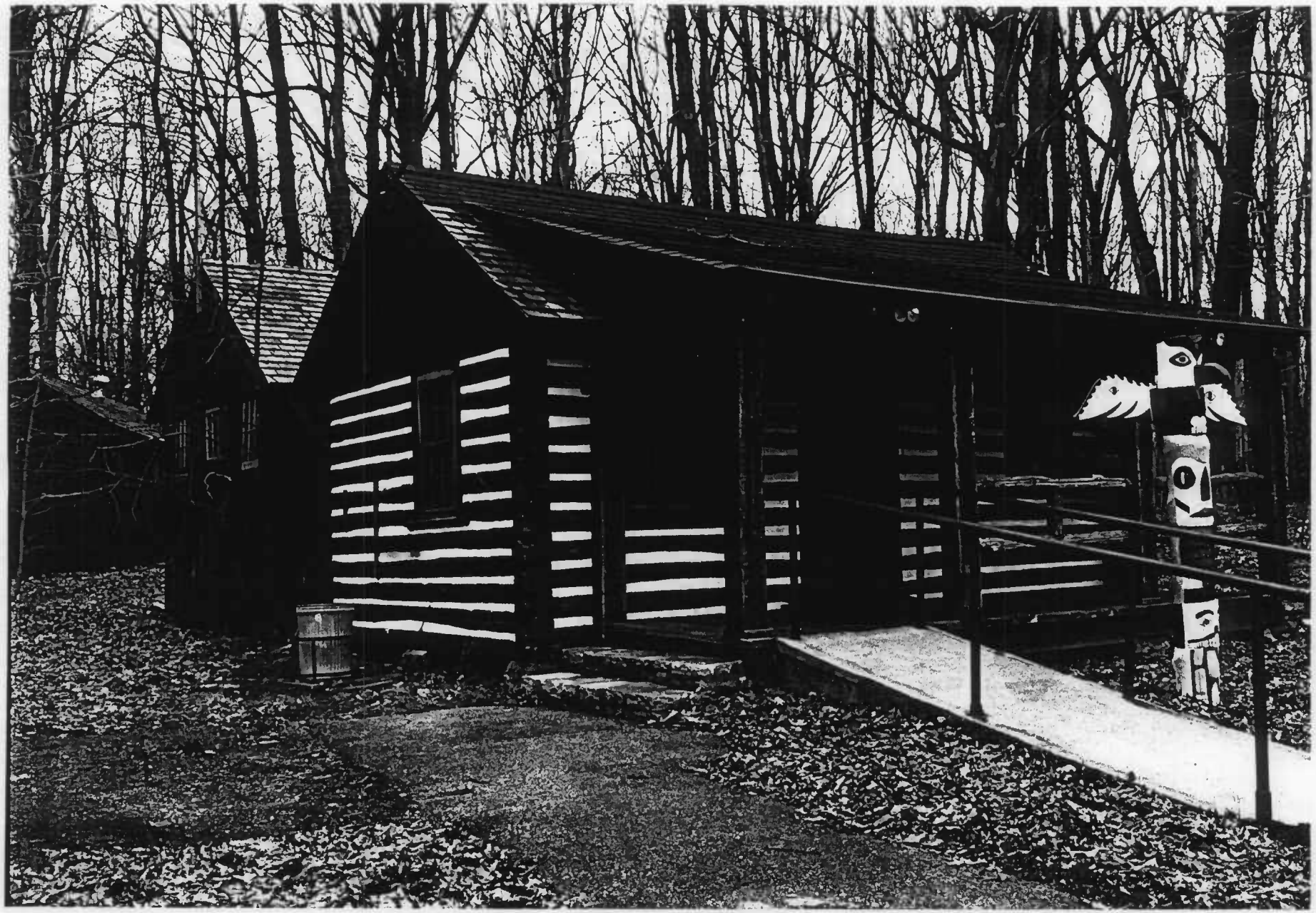
PHOTO 13

44-9-4

PHOTO 14

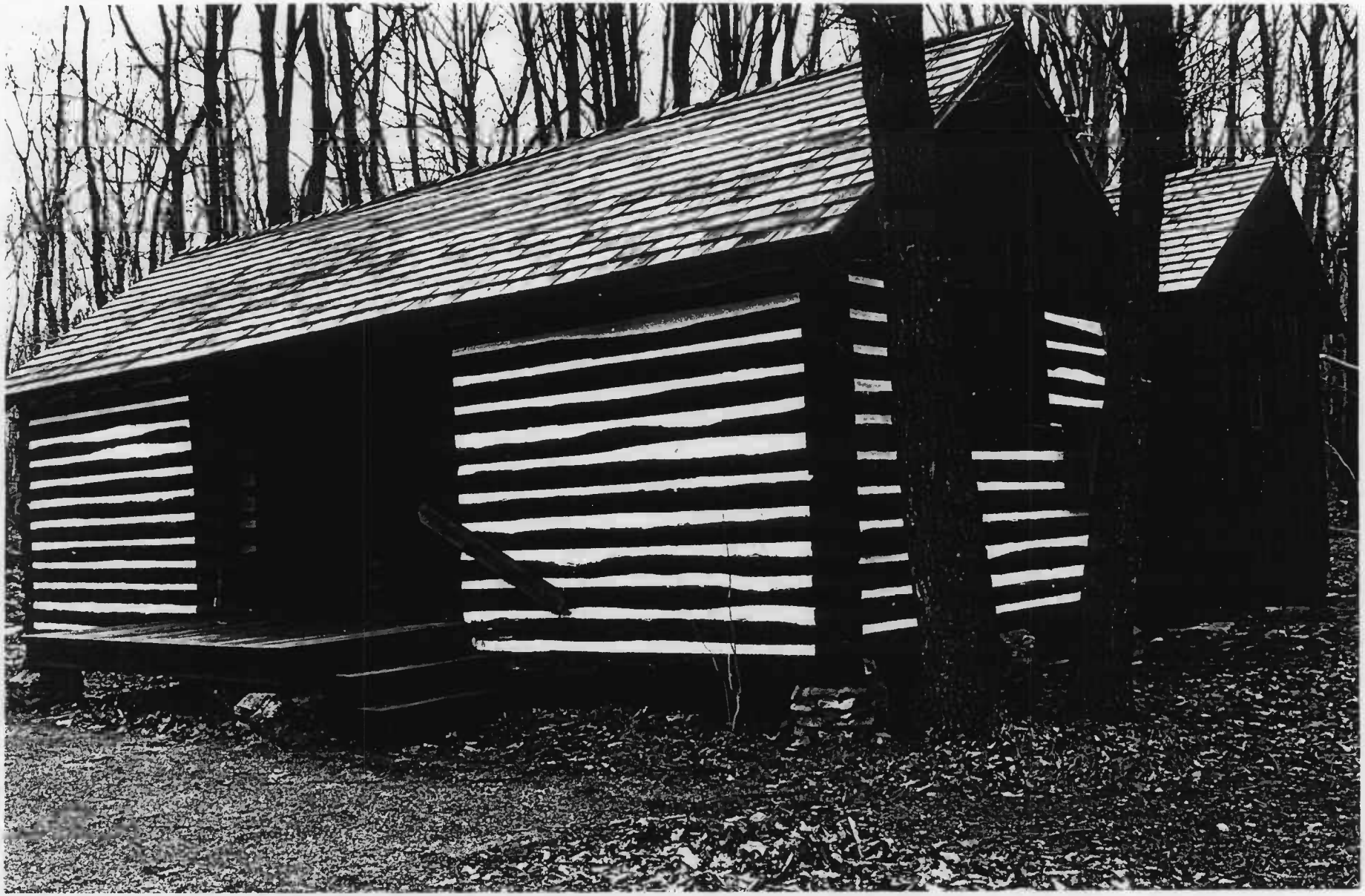
F-6-44

PHOTO 15



F-6-44

PHOTO 16



F-6-44

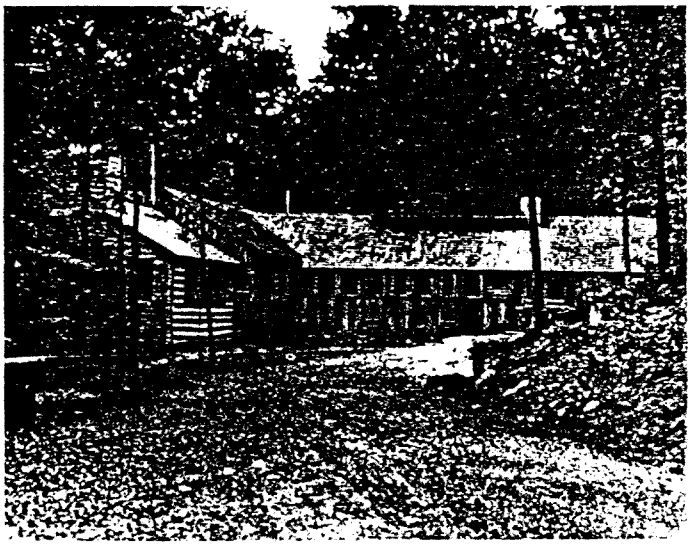
PHOTO 17

ILLUSTRATION 1

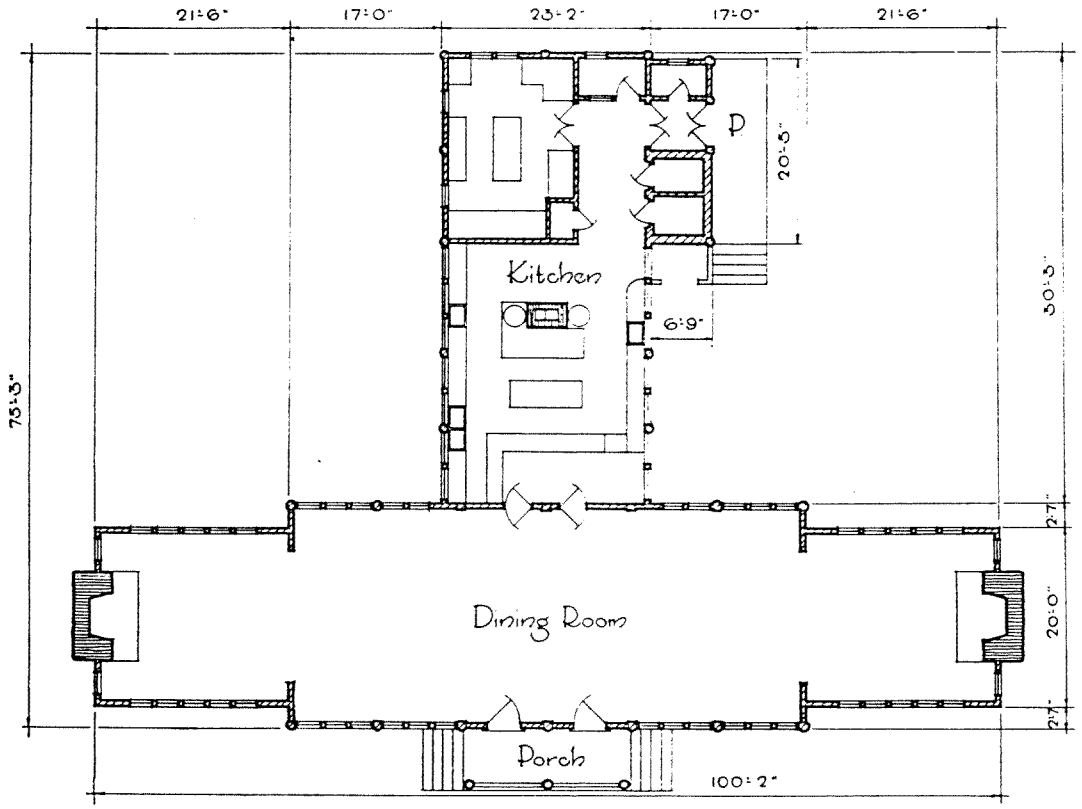
F-6-44

Dining Hall (Good, p. 62-63)

The illustration does not do full justice to this building, which harmoniously combines masonry, logs and slabs in a structure of great interest. The wings which flank the center room to result in a kind of combined dining lodge and recreation building are an unusual plan feature. Ordinarily recreational alcoves, these expand the dining capacity if occasion warrants. If closed off from the main building by doors, two unit lodges for winter use would be created.



Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, Maryland



Catoctin Area - Maryland

Camp Dining Lodges

Scale 1/8" = 1'-0"

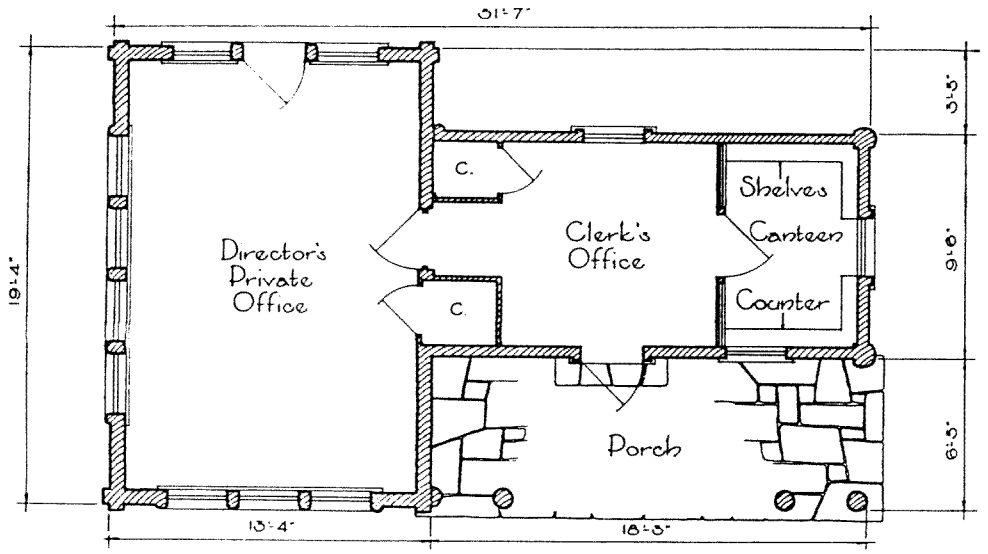
ILLUSTRATION 2

F-6-44

Administration/office (Good, p. 24-26)

In plan, this building and the one directly below follow closely the typical arrangement represented by the administration buildings on the preceding page. For a minimum staffing it is almost the rule to incorporate the trading post in the administration building. Inasmuch as the store is open only for a limited time each day, tending it can be a secondary duty of the camp clerk.

Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, Maryland



Catoctin Area - Maryland

ILLUSTRATION 3

F-6-44

Cabin (Good, p. 75)

Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, Maryland

CAMPERS' CABINS IN THE NORTHEAST

Grouping these cabins together is entirely on the basis of geography. They exhibit no special features unknown in other parts of the country. Two have entrances and porches at the end; three are entered on the long side and so have longer side porches. Noteworthy in the group is the Catoctin cabin, outstanding for its simple excellence and true craftsmanship. If built-in benches are not a part of the cabin porches, the steps should be wide enough to offer a place for the occupants to sit out-of-doors.

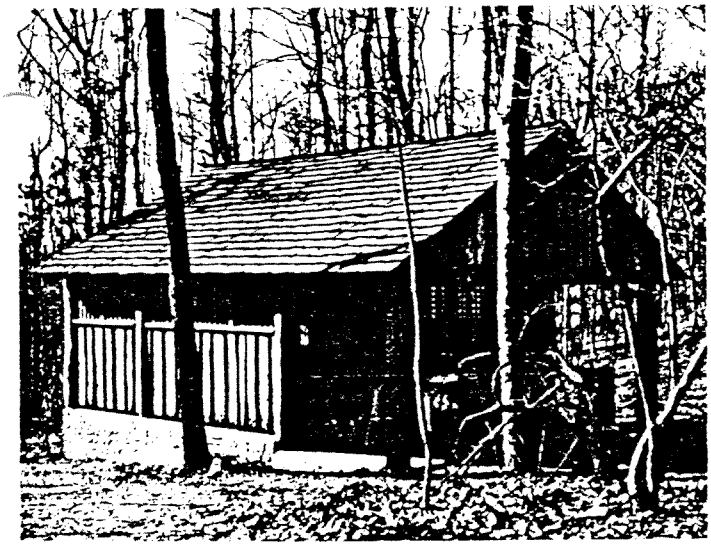
ILLUSTRATION 4

F-6-44

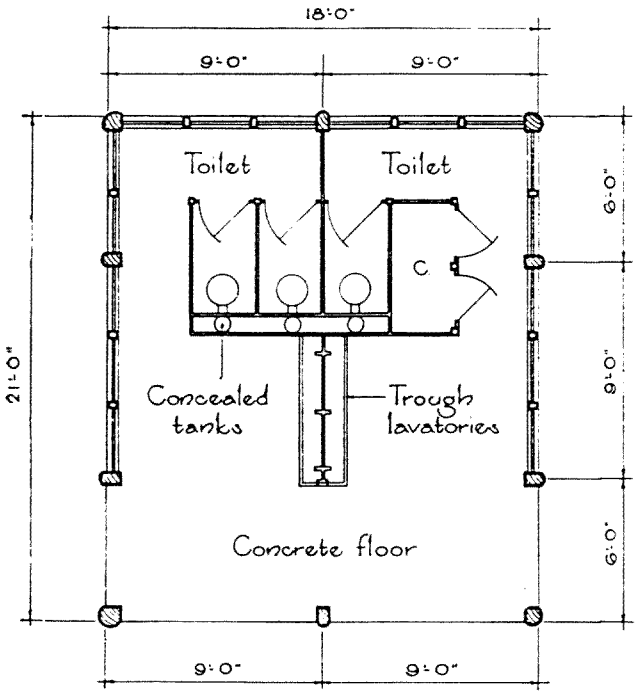
Latrine (Good, p. 32-33)

UNIT LATRINES

Here are unit latrines somewhat more spacious than the examples on the preceding page. Plans are shown opposite. The wash porches of those at Swift Creek and Hard Labor Creek Recreational Demonstration Areas are each provided with a two-part laundry tray, an equipment item usually found only in the centrally located shower house and laundry building of organized camps. Probably these are made use of, yet it must be in a limited way, for the unit latrine is not supplied with hot water. The unit latrine at Montserrat also departs from the typical in its provision of showers. Even though these are cold showers only, there is unnecessary duplication of fixtures that are best held to one central location. The merit of a hard-surfaced floor for the wash porch is again mentioned.



Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, Maryland



Catoctin Area - Maryland

ILLUSTRATION 5

F-6-44

Lodge (Good, p. 40-41)

The appeal to the eye made by this squared log structure, shown in plan at upper right opposite, is unsurpassed by that of any unit lodge that has been pictured. It is not often economically logical to employ such expertly fashioned log construction in a building program having social objectives primarily. This is a great pity in view of the romance that a revival of pioneer methods can conjure up for youth. The plan is good, although ambitious beyond absolute essentials in the added porch. Louvres in the gable end are an aid in ventilation.

Unit Lodge, Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, Maryland

End Here

Scan One Time Only

And

Copy for Multiple Numbers

F-6-43

and

F-6-44