

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #67-8 Building Date: 1936-37

Building Name: CCC Lodge

Location: Powder Mill Road, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center,
Beltsville, Maryland

Public/Museum/Occupied/Excellent/Accessible

Description

The Log Lodge (CCC Lodge) is a large multi-section log building, which consists of a central block flanked by lower end wings, with a modern addition to the rear. The central block is a tall gable-roof building, five bays wide, and one-and-one-half stories high, with entrance in the central bay of the main east facade. Entry is through a group of four fifteen-pane doors (each with a six-pane transom above), approached by two wide stone steps. The building is constructed of whole logs, joined at the corners with saddle-type notching, and chinked with white mortar. Windows in the main block are three-part casement windows with diamond-shape frames. There are three shallow shed dormers on each of the east and west planes of the roof. At the ridge at each gable end is a tall exterior stone chimney. The end chimneys are enclosed by the two flanking wings. These wings are two stories high (but lower than the central block), gable-roofed, two-by-three-bay. The central block of the lodge has been increased in depth by a one-story shed-roof westerly addition which continues the principal roofline to the west. A further addition (late 1960's) is a freestanding square structure connected to the main building by the westerly shed-roof addition.

Significance

The Log Lodge (CCC Lodge) on the Agricultural Research Center is a unique example of its type in Prince George's County. It was constructed 1936-37 by the Civilian Conservation Corps on the land of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. In 1933, President Roosevelt established the Civilian Conservation Corps, to put unemployed men to work planting trees, building bridges and dams, etc. Four CCC camps were established at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, and this labor force worked until 1942 clearing and draining land, building fences and roads, and constructing a variety of buildings. In 1936/37, the CCC work force erected the Log Lodge as a recreation center to be used by the camp personnel. The Lodge was converted into a cafeteria for Research Center employees in November, 1940, and in the late 1960's the west addition was constructed. Closed as a cafeteria in 1985, it was dedicated as a monument to the CCC in August of that year. The Civilian Conservation Corps Lodge is significant for its unique architecture in this region, and particularly as a reminder of the work done by that group of workman during the CCC program, 1933 to 1942. It is an outstanding and visible landmark on the grounds of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

Acreeage: 116.5 acres

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Civilian Conservation Corps Lodge

and/or common Log Lodge

2. Location

street & number Powder Mill Road, east of Research Road not for publication

city, town Beltsville vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name U.S. of America, Department of Agriculture

street & number 18th & F Streets, N.W. telephone no.:

city, town Washington, D. C. state and zip code 20405

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber

street & number Main Street folio

city, town Upper Marlboro, state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Log Lodge (CCC Lodge) is a large multi-section log building, which consists of a central block flanked by lower end wings, with a modern addition to the rear. It stands on the south side of Powder Mill Road, on the grounds of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

The central block is a tall gable-roofed building, five bays wide, and one-and-one-half stories high, with entrance in the central bay of the main east facade. Entry is through a group of four fifteen-pane doors (each with a six-pane transom above), approached by two wide stone steps. The entrance was originally sheltered by a gable-roof pedimented porch resting on plain upright logs. This porch has been enclosed to form an entry vestibule, accessible by modern doors on its north and south sides; the vestibule is panelled with narrow wainscoting, and the tympanum of its pedimented front is glazed in radial sections.

The building is constructed of whole logs, joined at the corners with saddle-type notching, and chinked with white mortar. Windows in the main block are three-part casement windows with diamond-shape frames. They have log sills, and plain board surrounds painted a rust color. The gable roof is covered with brown asphalt shingle; it has overhanging eaves which rest on log rafters. There are three shallow shed dormers on each of the east and west planes of the roof; in each dormer are three four-pane "awning" type (hinged at the top) sashes. At the ridge at each gable end is a tall exterior stone chimney.

The end chimneys are enclosed by the two flanking wings. These wings are two stories high (but lower than the central block), gable-roofed, two bays by three bays. Windows on the east facade are, like those of the central block, three-part casements, but not as tall as those in the central block. Entrance to the wings is through a double door centered in each of the three-bay north and south gable ends. Flanking windows in the gable ends are two-part casements.

The central block of the lodge has been increased in depth by a one-story shed-roof westerly addition which continues the principal roofline to the west. The addition is two bays in depth, and has entrance through a double door in the second bay of its south facade.

A further addition (late 1960's) is a freestanding square structure connected to the main building by the westerly shed-roof addition. This structure is three bays by three bays, one and one half stories high, and has a pyramidal roof surmounted by a skylight.

The lodge is set back from and below the main road through the Agricultural Research Center. It stands in wooded park grounds from which a nature trail leads off to the southwest along the edge of a pond.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1936-37 **Builder/Architect** Civilian Conservation Corps

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Log Lodge (CCC Lodge) on the Agricultural Research Center is a unique example of its type in Prince George's County. It was constructed 1936-37 by the Civilian Conservation Corps on the land of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

In 1910 the United States government began purchasing farmland in the Beltsville area for the establishment of the Department of Agriculture Research Center. The first sections purchased in that year were parts of the tract known as Black Walnut Levels (cf. Walnut Grange, PG#62-13); on these lands the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Divisions were established. By 1933, both Divisions had outgrown the available land, and the government began buying up more farms both to the east and west of Black Walnut Levels.¹ One of the first improvements on the land was the cutting of a road through the center of the Beltsville property; known as the East West Highway, it is now the eastern extension of Powder Mill Road.²

In 1933, President Roosevelt established the Civilian Conservation Corps, to put unemployed men to work planting trees, building bridges and dams, etc. Four CCC camps were established at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, and this labor force worked until 1942 clearing and draining land, building fences and roads, and constructing a variety of buildings. In 1936/37, the CCC work force erected the Log Lodge as a recreation center to be used by the camp personnel;³ it was located on the south side of the East West Highway.

The Lodge was converted into a cafeteria for Research Center employees in November, 1940, and in the late 1960's the west addition was constructed. The building was closed as a cafeteria in 1985, and dedicated as a monument to the CCC in August of that year. The building is presently being converted into a Visitors' Center for the Agricultural Research Center.⁴

The Civilian Conservation Corps Lodge is significant for its unique architecture in this region, and particularly as a reminder of the work done by that group of workman during the CCC program, 1933 to 1942. It is an outstanding and visible landmark on the grounds of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

Notes:

- 1 cf. MHT forms, Prince George's County #61-12, #64-4, #67-1
- 2 C.A. Logan, "Brief History of the Agricultural Research Center, 1962.
- 3 Ibid.
- 4 Ibid; Prince George's County Post-Sentinel, August 22-28, 1985. p. 2.

O-S

A. R. C. FARM
116.51A.
.P.141

POWDER MILL ROAD

A. R. C. FARM
199.66A.
P.142

BEEF

CATTLE

PG: 67-8

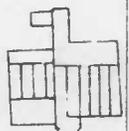
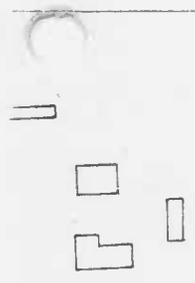
C E N T E R

R-R

BEAVERDAM

ROAD

RESEARCH





PG#67-8

CCC Lodge
Prince George's County, Md.
Susan G. Pearl
January 1986
Southeast 3/4 elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



PG#67-8

CCC Lodge
Prince George's County, Md.
Susan G. Pearl
January 1986
South elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



PG#67-8

CCC Lodge
Prince George's County, Md.
Susan G. Pearl
January 1986
North elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



PG#67-8

CCC Lodge
Prince George's County, Md.
Susan G. Pearl
January 1986
East elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.