

The following National Register of Historic Places form was prepared for inventory documentation purposes only; the property has not been nominated to the National Register.

The Girl Scout Lodge at Camp Woodlands (locally called the Tee Pee Lodge, or Lamb Lodge, after its designer) is a large conical teepee form with an attached annex. It sits on a forested 34-acre outdoor recreation center at 2744 Riva Road in Annapolis, Maryland. The lodge was built between 1952 and 1954 and was designed by Charles Lamb of Rogers, Taliaferro & Lamb. It was the first work of national distinction by this master firm, and the structure played a seminal role in the development of the firm. The specific configuration of the lodge and its place in the larger organized camp site reveal the values and purposes of Girl Scouting in the context of the history of summer camps for children in the United States. Nationally, Lamb Lodge departs significantly from the standard solution to the organized camp dining lodge because it presents a technically innovative design while fully upholding both the function and spirit of Girl Scout camping.

The Girl Scout Lodge is nationally significant for the quality of its architecture, for being the first nationally recognized and awarded work of the master firm, and because it is a unique embodiment of the social history and philosophy of the Girl Scouts of America. The lodge provides an ingenious and completely fitting modernist solution to the mid-20th century values and spirit of Girl Scout camping, particularly highlighting the importance of the council circle as the central location of Girl Scout ritual expression. In addition, the Tee Pee Lodge exhibits a boldness of conception in structure and an ingenuity regarding materials and construction that is unsurpassed nationally. Lamb's design solution fit the function of the lodge, and helped troop officials overcome obstacles in terms of materials, costs, and the low-skilled labor available to help with construction. The lodge gives Modern expression to what the Girl Scouts value when

camping. This is an important part of the Lodge's significance because the essence of the camping ideal for the Girl Scouts was the ability to deliver an outdoor residential experience economically, to any girl who desired it. The financing (cookie sales) and construction history (weeks of adult and youth volunteer labor) of the Tee Pee Lodge are important components of its historical significance. Architect Charles Lamb's imaginative application of Modernist architectural principles and his structural ingenuity enabled the Central Maryland Council of the Girl Scouts to garner the resources required to construct the lodge at Camp Woodlands.

The building is simple and spare in concept but rich in finish and execution. Its round form and ingenious telescoping fireplace hood are architecturally unique in the national context and render the lodge surprisingly flexible for multiple uses—whether dining, rainy day activities, or ritual ceremonies around the fire circle at night. Nearly all roof, the teepee is a thin shell cone supported by compression rings and tension rods; this structural system enabled the architect to use 2 x 12 rafters as framing members that unskilled volunteers could assemble. The circular shape houses the refectory where Girl Scouts gather at mealtime; at the same time it shelters a central fireplace, enabling the Scouts to form an indoor council circle around the fire. A unique telescoping fireplace hood and stack can be lowered to vent the campfire or raised out of the way to allow campers to use the room for meals or day camp activities. Thus, the lodge functions practically and at the same time beautifully expresses the meeting of Scouts around the campfire that is the culminating expression of Girl Scout values and spirit.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AA-2353

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Girl Scout Lodge at Woodlands Outdoor Education Center

other names Camp Woodlands, Lamb Lodge, the Teepee

2. Location

street & number Camp Woodlands, 2744 Riva Road not for publication

city or town Annapolis vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Anne Arundel code 003 zip code 21041

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. 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
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/auditorium

Education/education-related

Social/club house or meeting hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/auditorium

Education/education-related

Social/club house or meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete & brick

walls Wood, glass, & metal

roof Asphalt shingle, glass, & metal

other

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Summary:

Designed by Charles Lamb of Rogers, Taliaferro & Lamb, the Girl Scout Lodge at Camp Woodlands consists of a large conical teepee with an attached annex housing a kitchen and an administrative wing. The teepee presents a structurally ingenious architectural solution to a building with a dual program—dining and recreation—that had to be constructed at low cost by a volunteer amateur labor force. Nearly all roof, the teepee is a thin shell cone supported by compression rings and tension rods; this structural system enabled the architect to use 2 x 12 rafters as framing members that volunteers could assemble. The circular shape houses the refectory where Girl Scouts gather at mealtime; at the same time it shelters a central fireplace, enabling the Scouts to form an indoor council circle around the fire. A unique telescoping fireplace hood and stack can be lowered to vent the campfire or raised out of the way to allow campers to use the room for meals or day camp activities. Thus the teepee functions practically and at the same time beautifully expresses the meeting of Scouts around the campfire that is the culminating expression of Girl Scout values and spirit.

Summary and Physical Context: Camp Woodlands

The Girl Scout Lodge is located on the 34-acre Camp Woodlands Outdoor Recreation Center in Annapolis, Maryland at 2744 Riva Road. The entire recreation area site is heavily wooded and slightly rolling in topography and takes the rough shape of a long oval. The eastern border, or short lower edge of the site, is formed by the main access road for the camp, from Riva Road to the point where the inbound access road makes a 90-degree left turn. The northern border is formed by the continuation of the access road along the long side edge of the site, with a small scattering of structures in two clusters on the north side of the road. The western border, or short top edge of the site, is formed by Broad Creek, a subsidiary of the South River. The southern border is formed by the long property line adjoining land owned by Mrs. Margaret West.

The Girl Scout Lodge is the principal dining facility and contains the only indoor campfire circle at Camp Woodlands. It is also the main structure used for day activities on a regular basis year round. There are eight use sites at Camp Woodlands, containing 39 buildings or features in all. Although the Tee Pee Lodge is the only building being designated, the entire recreation area and its buildings and features form part of the context for understanding it. Consequently, all buildings and features are listed below in the order in which they would be encountered from the main entrance of the camp. Please refer to Appendix I for a site map. Along the secondary access road that branches off along the southern edge of the recreation center is

- The Elizabeth Unit, which consists of 6 recently-built rustic log Glen Shelters sleeping 36 campers, 1 kitchen shelter, an outdoor campfire circle, a water faucet, and a latrine.

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- The Holly Hill Unit consists of 9 platform tents capable of sleeping 36 campers, 1 kitchen shelter, a water faucet, and a latrine.
- A rustic log Girl Scouts building, off limits to campers

Along the main access road, there are four clusters of units:

- The first cluster centers on the Tee Pee Lodge. Additional features include the main parking lot for the center, a flagpole, an outdoor campfire circle, and the Outdoor Education Office and Field Lab.
- The second cluster includes the Point of View Lodge and a campfire circle on the north side of the access road. Point of View is a winterized barracks that sleeps 36 campers. On the south side of the access road is a latrine and shower house and the Merrimen day use camping area, which can accommodate up to 36 campers.
- The third cluster includes the Starlet Lodge, a modern two-story A-frame structure that can sleep 24 campers barracks-style and has a small kitchen and refectory and a central fireplace. There is an adjacent latrine, a campfire circle, and four rustic equipment shelters.
- The fourth cluster includes the Davy Crockett primitive campsite for up to 20 campers, a latrine and bathhouse, Brady Beach, and a pier jutting out into Broad Creek. Nearby is the Friendship Bridge, which spans a marsh stream that drains into Broad Creek.

A network of trails connects all the clusters with one another.

Description of Girl Scout Lodge: First Phase of Construction

The Girl Scout Lodge consists of a large conical tee pee 30 feet high at the peak, 38 feet in diameter, and approximately 119 feet in circumference. An original annex wing roughly 50 feet long by 16 feet wide extended to the west of the tee pee. In approximately 1964 the original wing was altered and a new wing perpendicular to the first one was added to form a larger L-shaped annex. The approximate dimensions of the new wing are 40 feet by 16 feet. The lodge is accessed along the main drive of the camp and set in a small cleared space in the woods; girls seated at tables look out on the deciduous and evergreen trees. Additional small shrubs were planted around the lodge at the time of construction.

The tee pee is a 12-sided or 12 bay structure with a circular plan. It has a concrete floor with a central fire circle floor of brick; the fire circle is about 7 feet in diameter. The side walls are identical except in the two bays where the annex attaches to the teepee, located at 3:00, and the four bays containing exits, at 4:30 (used as the main entrance today), 8:30, 10:30 and 1:30. Each bay is roughly 10 feet tall. The tee pee has a continuous ring of windows approximately 5 feet tall, the lower edge of which starts at 2 ½ feet high, so that girl scouts can see out when seated at the tables. The tee pee is a timber structure. Each bay has horizontal wood siding from ground level to 2 ½ feet high and from 8 ½ to 10 feet high with glass in between divided by wood mullions at a 1:2:1 rhythm. The four bays containing the exits feature double doors where the central pane of glass would be.

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The defining feature of the tee pee is the conical roof structure. An ingenious structural system derived from the requirement that the building be assembled as economically as possible and by amateurs. The conical roof overhangs the walls by roughly 2 ½ feet and is covered in asphalt shingles. At the top is a symmetrical skylight roughly 5 feet tall with ¼ inch wire glass in the shape of a frustum of the cone (colloquially, in other words, the whole skylight forms a lampshade shape). Above the skylight is a hood vent for the fireplace made of stainless steel with a continuous screen under the overhang for ventilation. It is bolted to the flue with ¼ inch bolts. At the peak is the fireplace flue of 14 gauge sheet metal, topped by a flat metal flue cover. The tee pee is supported by 11 lightweight rafters spanning 42 feet each from the shoe to the peak (there is a rafter at every position around the clock except 3:00 where the tee pee adjoins the annex). Each rafter is made of two 2 x 12s at the bottom and one 2 x 12 at the top and is set into a steel boot at ground level contained in an 8 inch concrete buttress. Where the rafters are exposed, at the lower end, they are housed in 2 " x 6" wood sheathing. An innovative bit of engineering supports the tee pee structure. The basic principle is that the roof is a thin shell cone supported by compression rings and tension rods; this was done to diminish the size and number of the framing members. The 2 x 12 rafters are held in place by compression rings with turnbuckles and rods. Twelve radial tension rods connect each rafter to the flue.

A distinctive feature of the tee pee is the free hanging sheet metal fireplace hood and flue that descends from the peak to just over the fire circle. The flue telescopes: at full extension it reaches to within 2 ½ feet of the fire circle so that it can capture the smoke from the open fire during campfire ceremonies. In its "up" position, where it recedes into its stack, it clears the floor by roughly ten feet so that the room can be used for dining and recreational activities with clear sight lines across. The hood and chimney are held in place by a wire cable tension system. The mechanism for extending and raising the fireplace is a set of wires and four pulleys mounted way up in the tee pee from the hood ventilator and balanced by four cast concrete counterweights. The connecting wires extend from the pulleys to the lower end of the flue.

The tee pee is absent of ornamentation. On the interior, however, the pattern of wood struts and juxtaposition of wood and glass is aesthetically pleasing. For each bay of the cone there are six horizontal levels. The lowest and widest level, below the windows, consists of rings of handsome stained wood members laid horizontally. The second level consists of a glass ring of windows in 1:2:1 proportions with wood mullions dividing the panes. The third and middle level consists of wood members laid horizontally interrupted by vertical wood struts continuing the line of the wood mullions below. The fourth level has just a single strut dividing the narrowing bay symmetrically. The fifth level has no struts between the rafters, and the sixth and most narrow level is the skylight frustum. The quality of the joinery where glass meets wood is very nice throughout the tee pee interior. At the junction of the compression ring a rigid conduit was put in place to hold the original lighting fixtures, which were simply bulbs placed in sheet metal cylinders that hung down at the end of wire cables. These were replaced within the past ten years by more conventional hanging lamps with molded rounded plastic hoods. Above the principal entrance is a plaque with the name "Lamb Lodge" commemorating the architect and the volunteers who built the structure. The tee pee is furnished with custom designed wood

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picnic tables in a quadrilateral shape tapering from the outside end placed near the windows to the inside end. There are 12 tables, one placed symmetrically in each bay; they can accommodate approximately 100 girl scouts.

The original wing of the concrete block annex was constructed at the same time as the tee pee. It was connected to the tee pee at 3:00 by a symmetrical dual entrance passageway, which doubles now as an informal storage area for rakes and brooms. From the passageway, one proceeds to a kitchen, 16' x 36' with built in shelves and cupboards to the left, appliances to the right. An original partition that bisected the kitchen to the right and increased counter space and storage capacity has been removed. Behind the kitchen is a large walk in storage pantry to the right, and two identical refrigeration rooms to the left, one for meat and one for vegetables. There is a door straight ahead. The original wing was unfinished inside, with exposed concrete block walls and exposed beams and rafters in the ceiling.

On the exterior the original annex was an unornamented plain concrete block building with a flat roof. Moving counter clockwise from the main entrance of the tee pee, the front façade of the annex was pierced only by a ribbon of horizontal windows just under the eave. The original side (narrow) façade is no longer extant and no photographs of it have surfaced. It had an exterior door placed asymmetrically closer to the right end of the façade, as you faced it from outdoors. The back façade also had a continuous ribbon of windows just under the eave and a set of two horizontal symmetrical two-paned windows lighting the interior work station.

Second Phase of Construction: Annex Addition

During the middle 1960s, an additional wing was built onto the annex, placed perpendicular to the original wing. Lamb had drawn plans for just such an addition, providing for an administrative wing to house an office and the cook's quarters, but the new wing is larger than what Lamb prescribed and does not follow the original floor plans. This second phase of construction included both an alteration of the original wing and an addition. In the original wing, the refrigeration rooms and the original counter space partition were removed to expand the kitchen. The new wing forms an L shape but it extends past the back wall of the original annex. When entering the new wing from the expanded kitchen, one walks into a wide hallway with an exterior door straight ahead. To the left in the new wing is a very large room apparently designed as a pantry, lined with shelves and furnished with a large worktable in the middle. To the right is a hallway. As you walk down it, you pass a storage or utility room and a restroom on the left and walk into a small office straight ahead. This office adjoins a larger office, the last room in the wing. It is wider than the first office and thus the wing terminates in a reverse ell. In the space between the inside edge of the office ell and the original wing, there is a covered porch supported by three columns. The porch can be entered by a door from the large office and a door from the hallway.

The new wing is also constructed of concrete block and originally had a flat roof. Moving counter clockwise from the front façade of the original wing, the front façade of the new wing contains the porch to the left and the

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featureless wall of the large office to the right. There is an exterior door to the wing placed at the leftmost bay of the porch; a paired window at the rightmost bay of the porch lights the smaller office. In the interior ell formed by the porch and the large office there is an exterior door to the large office. The wall of the office is pierced only by an air-conditioning unit placed high in the wall. The side wall of the new wing features two large paired windows lighting the large office; these are placed asymmetrically in the right 4/5s of the wall. The long rear wall of the new annex wing is pierced by several openings, though there are none in the rear wall of the large office at the left of the facade. A pair of windows is placed symmetrically in the rear wall of the small office. Moving to the right, each restroom has a small light, paired with each other. The exterior door is all glass and is flanked by two vertical sidelights. The pantry wall at the far right of the rear facade is pierced only by three louvered vents, placed high in the wall. The rear side facade is a completely featureless concrete block wall.

1967 Replacement of Hood and Stack

In 1967, Williams Brothers and Small of Annapolis contracted with the GSCM to replace the stainless steel hood and stack at the apex of the tee pee and, at the same time, paint the rusted mullions in the glass frustum.

Third Phase of Construction: Shed Roof Addition to Annex

During the spring of 2003, a third phase of construction was completed which placed a diagonal roof on both wings of the annex. This was done in an effort to correct leaks assumed to be caused by the flat roof of the original annex and the new wing. The new roof has been placed so that the peak is built up approximately a half storey on the front facades of each wing with the roof running diagonally down to the rear of each wing. New and yet unpainted in March 2003 when we photographed it, it looks ungainly and detracts from the integrity of the straightforward functional modern design of the annex.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Entertainment/Recreation

Social History

Engineering (The practical application of scientific principles to design, construct, and operate equipment, machinery, and structures to serve human needs.)

Period of Significance

1953-1954, 1953-1970

Significant Dates

1953

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Charles Lamb of Rogers & Taliaferro, Lamb

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (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

Name of repository: University of Maryland, School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation

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Summary

The Girl Scout Lodge was the first work of national distinction by a master firm of international renown—RTKL. Its significance derives, first, from the ingenuity and brilliance of the architectural solution to the program, nature of the materials, setting, and economy and constraints of construction. Second, the lodge provides a stunning but completely fitting modernist solution to the mid-20th century values and spirit of Girl Scout camping, particularly highlighting the importance of the council circle as the central location of Girl Scout ritual expression. The specific configuration of the lodge and its place in the larger organized campsite reveal the values and purposes of Girl Scouting in the context of the history of summer camps for children in the United States. Nationally, Lamb Lodge departs significantly from the standard solution to the organized camp dining lodge; it presents a spectacularly innovative design while fully upholding both the function and spirit of the type.

Architectural Solution

The architectural significance of the Girl Scout Lodge derives from the design brilliance and structural ingenuity with which architect Charles Lamb fulfilled the requirements of the program of the lodge with reference to the severe economy and constraints of construction while exploiting the nature of the materials and harmonizing the building with the organized campground's woody setting. Lamb once said, "many buildings are helped by tough budgets."¹ The Central Maryland Council of the Girl Scouts had an extremely constricted budget; the Lodge was financed, essentially, on the proceeds of several years of cookie sales.² Lamb was given the commission because his mother, Ruby M. Lamb, was treasurer of the Central Maryland Council and the scout leader who had spearheaded the fundraising for Camp Woodlands Outdoor Recreation Area, the principal local organized campsite for the Girl Scouts. The total budget was approximately \$14,500.³ The lodge was built on a shoestring with Lamb donating his services as both architect and contractor, and amateur volunteer labor—chiefly math majors from the Naval Academy where Lamb's father, Reginald, was a professor—working on the weekends. Solving the problem of how to design a lodge with little money and only amateur labor forced Lamb to contrive a structurally innovative and conceptually clever solution.

Two concepts formed the core of the lodge design. The first was given to the architect by the Girl Scouts, who requested that the lodge shelter a campfire circle. The campfire circle is one of the most resonant forms for the Girl Scouts; it symbolizes friendship—"a friendship circle which never ends, to hold inside it all who are friends."⁴ The most important social rituals of Girl Scout camping take place around the campfire, or council,

¹ Charles Lamb, Interview with Isabelle Gournay and Mary Corbin Sies, Annapolis, MD, 14 Feb. 2003.

² Beard, Gordon, "Fathers, Mothers Needed to Help Girl Scouts Build New Tepee Lodge, Get Ready for Season Opening," (unidentified clipping from Annapolis nsp, collection of Girl Scouts Central Maryland Council collection).

³ "Twentieth-Century Tepee," *Magazine of Building*. (clipping in Central Maryland Council collection).

⁴ "Dedication of the Lamb Lodge and Marchand Drinking Fountain" (Anne Arundel County Girl Scout Pow-Wows, May 1954), pamphlet, Central Maryland Council collection.

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circle. Lamb's charge was to take the campfire circle and bring it inside. Thus, he started with a circular form and thought of it as the derivative form of the teepee. The challenge was then to adapt the teepee form to the wooden lodge tradition common to organized campsites in the United States and to the kind of situated modernist design for which Lamb's firm, then Rogers & Taliaferro, was becoming known. In addition, there were the practical constraints of economy and the necessity of a volunteer and unskilled labor force.

Meeting these conditions involved "a long trail of innovative engineering."⁵ Building a large building with clear spans with volunteer help meant that the construction techniques had to be inventive. Initial consultation with engineer Otto Kubitzen in Baltimore determined that for a 45 foot span, Lamb would need timbers 8-9 inches wide and 16 inches deep. With a volunteer labor force, they simply couldn't handle timbers that size. Lamb went back to the drawing board and worked on the second key concept, which was suggested to him by Reginald C. Lamb, his mathematician father. He suggested that Lamb think of the building as a cone, not as a planar surface, and "derive the benefits of a cone."⁶ Using the three-dimensional qualities of the cone, Lamb conceptualized the skin of the teepee as a structurally integral part, making it possible to construct with two 2 x 12 rafters up to the mid-span and a single 2 x 12 to the peak.⁷ The rafters were supported by compression rings and tension rods. A telescoping free-hanging stainless steel fireplace hood and sheet metal flue descended from the peak to hover over the campfire circle. It could be raised to clear the floor when the lodge was used for dining or recreational activities or lowered to vent the fire during campfire ceremonies. The hood and stack are held in place by a wire cable tension system attached to pulleys and counterweights high up in the peak. The conelike structure gave Lamb not only a symbolic building shape, but a good pattern of natural convection currents for venting the fire."⁸

Thus, the Girl Scout Lodge is a dramatic example of a long tradition of empirical technical ingenuity in American architecture derived directly from its program and circumstances. The building functioned beautifully to shelter campers during mealtimes in a circular plan with quadrilaterally shaped dining tables radiating out from the center. The wood construction was both aesthetically pleasing, as wood rafters on the inside formed decorative patterning alternating with glass, and displayed a high quality of joinery. Lamb harmonized the teepee with its woodsy surroundings. During the daytime, campers had 360-degree visibility of the wooded setting through the large expanse of glass. At night, during scouting rituals held around the campfire, the teepee was extremely photogenic. The annex containing the kitchen and, later, an administrative wing, was kept low to the ground "to dramatize the bold form of the lodge."⁹

In 1954, at its Boston convention, the AIA gave Rogers & Taliaferro an Award of Merit for the Girl Scout Lodge. The award brought RTL (Lamb became a partner in 1956) to the attention of Pietro Belluschi, who

⁵ *RTKL: The Formative Years* (CD, RTLK Associates, 2002).

⁶ Interview with Lamb.

⁷ "Recreation Architecture," *Progressive Architecture* 38 (1957): 109, 140.

⁸ "Twentieth Century Teepee."

⁹ "Recreation Architecture," 109, 140.

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subsequently sought out the firm for the important commission of the Church of the Redeemer in Baltimore. The award put the firm on the map locally as an innovator in modernist design; they were the only Maryland firm at the time that had received an AIA award. The Girl Scout Lodge was widely published and praised in contemporary architectural and building magazines. *Progressive Architecture* noted, for example, that it is “difficult to imagine a more direct and pleasing architectural solution.”¹⁰

That the Girl Scout Lodge was self-built was almost unheard of for an award-winning building, but entirely in keeping with Girl Scouting traditions. Camp Woodlands was almost entirely self-built by volunteers in a cooperative spirit.¹¹ Leaders in the Central Maryland Council, following standard Girl Scout practice, developed a Master Plan during 1953-54 to improve Camp Woodlands through 1957.¹² The work, which commenced in February of 1953, included clearing the sites for construction, building a parking lot, extending a water line, constructing the lodge, improving the waterfront, building a shower and bathhouse, and putting in over 1000 seedlings and shrubs for beautification and soil conservation. The volunteers, many of whom were listed in the dedication pamphlet, included the students from the Naval Academy who constructed the lodge under Lamb’s supervision, parents, troop leaders, dozens of Girl Scouts, and members of the public who donated their time on the weekends in response to calls published in the local papers. Women cleared brush, raked, painted, and cooked for the work crews, while men cut trees to make way for the power line, sawed logs, leveled the site and staked out the lodge.¹³ The annex was built with volunteer labor as well.

The Work of a Master Firm—RTKL

The Girl Scout Lodge was the first design that put RTKL on the map. Founded in 1946 in Annapolis, MD, by Archibald C. Rogers, the first partnership was formed with Francis T. Taliaferro in 1949. Charles E. Lamb joined the firm in 1950 and became a principal in 1954. Urban designer George Kostriksy was brought into the firm in 1961 and made partner in 1962 to form the nucleus of RTKL. In 1968, the partners formed a corporation and restructured to expand the firm and ensure its future and stability after the four principals retired. In recent years it has prospered and achieved a global reach. Today, RTKL is a firm of 900 professionals with offices in Baltimore, Washington, Dallas, Los Angeles, Chicago, Denver, Miami, London, Madrid, Tokyo and Shanghai. It is reputed to be the second largest architectural firm in the world, offering a comprehensive set of planning and architectural design services for clients across the commercial, cultural, and governmental realms. Their work ranges from large-scale, international mixed-use projects to smaller, highly specialized local commissions. The Girl Scout Lodge heralded the kind of boldly innovative but grounded and humane approach to design that established the firm’s reputation and enabled it to prosper.

¹⁰ “Recreation Architecture,” *Progressive Architecture* 38 (1957): 109, 140.

¹¹ Beard, “Fathers, Mothers Needed to Help Girl Scouts.”

¹² The Girl Scouts were leaders and innovators in organized campsite design nationally. Their handbook, *Campsite Development*, by Julian Harris Salomon, became the standard guide in the postwar era.

¹³ Beard, “Fathers, Mothers Needed to Help Girl Scouts.”

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Born to a wealthy Annapolis family, Archibald Coleman Rogers (Annapolis 1917- Baltimore 2002) earned a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Fine Arts (specializing in Architecture) from Princeton University, in 1939 and 1942 respectively.¹⁴ Rogers interned in New York City with Cross & Cross and spent three years in the Navy, receiving a Certificate of Naval Architecture from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1943. In 1946, he opened a practice in the basement of a boarding house on 49 College Avenue, near St. John's College, with Francis Tournier Taliaferro.

Frank Taliaferro (b. Toulon, France 1922) entered into partnership with Rogers in 1949. After studying at Columbia University, Taliaferro received a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of North Carolina in 1943. Slowly but surely the firm started to gain local commissions, earning the precious support of Anne Arundel County's Superintendent of Schools, David Jenkins. One of their first educational commissions, the Parole Elementary School (c. 1952), was quite innovative, "very linear and very clean" with its low profile and ribbon windows.¹⁵ In 1948, Rogers was appointed to the new post of Zoning Commissioner for Anne Arundel County, a major boost to the firm.

Rogers and Taliaferro hired Charles E. Lamb in 1950. Lamb was also a native of Annapolis (b.1926) whose father was a professor of mathematics at the Naval Academy, where his brother also taught. Lamb began his education at Georgia Institute of Technology, graduating in 1943; he attended the Merchant Marine Academy in 1944, and received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Michigan in 1950. Michigan's program was technologically oriented and very modernist. As Lamb's hope to gain employment in the office of Eliel Saarinen had not materialized (the Korean war was causing a downturn in the economy and a slump in building commissions), he decided to move back to the place of his childhood. He was attracted to Rogers & Taliaferro, a firm clearly trying to step outside of the beaten track. They represented "the young guard, full of fire."¹⁶ There was not a lot of competition from other firms in Annapolis at this time, but there was also only so much work to be had in a small town. The firm survived by designing houses, shops, and schools. Lamb ably assumed the role of the principal designing partner.

The Girl Scout Lodge, designed and constructed between 1952 and 1954, played a seminal role in the development of the firm. At its completion, Lamb was made partner, and the firm became known as Rogers, Taliaferro, and Lamb. The innovative engineering of the lodge and its distinctive program brought RTL their first national renown, an AIA Award of Merit in 1954. The design caught the attention of Pietro Belluschi at the 1954 AIA Convention in Boston, and received additional national attention when it was published in *Architectural Forum* and international attention when it was featured in a federal document and inspired several third-world countries looking for economical shelters.¹⁷ During the mid-1950s, RTL completed several other

¹⁴As Maryland offered no accredited professional program in architecture until the late 1960s, most residents seeking excellence in architectural training opted for Ivy League schools, in particular Princeton, Harvard, and the University of Pennsylvania.

¹⁵RTKL: *The Formative Years*.

¹⁶RTKL: *The Formative Years*.

¹⁷Charles Lamb, Remarks for D.C. AIA Chapter, April 10, 1993, pp. 3-4 of typescript.

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local commissions that were cited for excellence: the Parole Elementary School in Annapolis (c. 1952), which was featured in an AIA traveling exhibition; Harmons Elementary School in Harmons, MD (1954), which received a Design Award from the Peale Museum in 1954; the Hampden Citadel for the Salvation Army (1955), which received a Certificate of Merit from the Baltimore Association of Commerce; and the President's House for Goucher College, in Towson, MD (1957), which won an award from the Baltimore Chapter of the AIA in 1957.

The flair for innovative structural solutions and craftsman-like design that impressed Belluschi in 1954 was on display in a series of important commissions during the late 1950s that established RTL as a firm to be reckoned with. Belluschi selected RTL as associate architects to help him build the Church of the Redeemer in Baltimore (1958), partly on the basis of their fine work with wood displayed in the interior of the Girl Scout Lodge. The church—which showed beautiful attention to detail and featured a successful dialogue between the new building and the original church on the site—also received an AIA Award of Merit in 1958. The Goucher College Center, an arts and administrative complex also done in association with Belluschi, but for which Lamb was the principal designer, featured an auditorium with magnificent wood fretwork in the ceiling and state-of-the-art acoustics. By the end of the decade, RTL was a firm “poised to go national.”¹⁸

If Belluschi was an important mentor for the firm, so was James Rouse. While Lamb was kept busy with the design of several building commissions, Archibald Rogers explored private sector opportunities for planning.¹⁹ The firm completed its first assignment for the Rouse Company with the Harundale Mall in Glen Burnie, MD (1958), the second enclosed mall in the U.S. after Victor Gruen's Southdale in Minneapolis. The Harundale Mall received awards of merit from the Baltimore Association of Commerce and the National Institute of Home Builders in 1959. Other Rouse commissions followed, including the regional mall in Paramus, NJ, important for its extensive use of glass and skylighting, its second story food court--the first of its kind—and its incorporation of water features and serious artwork in the common spaces.²⁰ The long association with Rouse was noteworthy for three reasons. It validated RTL's emergence as a leading firm with a national reputation, and it marked the firm's strong shift toward retail architecture and urban design work in the late 50s and 60s. In addition, the association with James Rouse was genuinely collaborative; Rouse encouraged and expected the kind of innovation and design breakthroughs RTL had showcased in the Girl Scout Lodge.

The period from 1954 to 1964 constituted perhaps the key decade in RTKL's development. During that time, the firm expanded to about 20 people.²¹ Around 1957, at Rouse's suggestion, Rogers took a leave of absence to become the first Executive Director of the Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC), “newly formed to address the ills of downtown Baltimore.” In that capacity, Rogers selected key professionals for the GBC's Planning Council, including George Kostritsky, an urban planner who had worked in the office of Edmund Bacon.

¹⁸ RTKL: *The Formative Years*.

¹⁹ Lamb, Remarks, p. 4.

²⁰ RTKL: *The Formative Years*.

²¹ David Vachon, “Names,” *Architectural and Engineering News* 11 (Dec. 1968): 70.

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During the winter of 1957-58, the entire firm of RTL melded with the Planning Council, completing a seven-day-a-week two-month charette to develop the initial plan for the Charles Center, Baltimore's most significant postwar urban redevelopment effort. Kostritsky served as the director for the Planning Council of the GBC for the Charles Center Project and as a consultant for the firm's downtown plan for Hartford, Connecticut.²² In 1961, he joined the firm and became partner the following year, forming RTKL. In 1962, RTKL opened a downtown Baltimore office and commenced a decade of important urban design work.

In plans for Hartford, Cincinnati, Albany, and Brooklyn, and nearly a dozen other cities, RTKL melded its strengths in architecture and urban design. Five elements factored in to RTKL's urban planning achievements. The first was Kostritsky's urban design expertise, particularly his approach to rethinking downtowns. Equally important was his successful recruitment of new talent into the firm. RTKL's previous experience with retail commissions—generally shunned by the profession—equipped the firm to understand the combining of retail spaces with office buildings and housing that formed the nexus of downtown redevelopment. Arch Rogers' ability to identify the politics of downtown redesign and bring the principal political actors into a collaborative planning process was key to RTKL's success in developing feasible plans and assisting their implementation. This process, which Rogers referred to as "planning for planning," was the key component of the firm's urban design success, particularly in places like Cincinnati, where previous master planning efforts had failed.²³ The final element was RTKL's continued striving for design innovation—their penchant for pushing the envelope as far as they could, firmly established in the Girl Scout Lodge commission and supported by a number of clients and mentors during the firm's formative years.

By the mid-1960s, RTKL had joined the ranks of firms with a national clientele and national recognition. Rogers was appointed to the National Growth Policy Task Force, elected to AIA fellowship in 1967, and served as AIA President in 1974.²⁴ The firm completed a number of complex and high profile large-scale commissions, including the Greater Baltimore Medical Center (1965); the John Deere Warehouse Distribution Center in Timonium, Maryland (1966), which garnered another AIA National Honor Award (1967) and featured spans up to 130 feet long, supported by a tension cable system deployed in fan patterns; and the master plan for Montgomery Village, a large-scale planned suburban community in Gaithersburg, Maryland (1966).²⁵

By 1968, the year Charles Lamb was elected to Fellowship in the AIA, RTKL had expanded to 60 employees and the beginnings of an international practice. In the same year, the original partners overhauled the firm's organizational structure from a partnership to a studio-based corporation. This ensured the succession of a new generation of talent to positions of leadership, provided the infrastructure for continued expansion and the means to take on larger-scale commissions, and professionalized the day to day management of the firm.²⁶ In

²² Lamb, Remarks, pp. 4-5.

²³ *RTKL: The Formative Years*.

²⁴ Lamb, Remarks, p. 6;

²⁵ *RTKL: The Formative Years*.

²⁶ Lamb, Remarks, 7-8; Interview with Charles Lamb, p. 16.

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1971, George Kostritsky left RTKL to work as an urban planner for the United Nations. During the late 1970s and late 1980s, Rogers and then Taliaferro and Lamb retired, leaving their legacy of innovation and inspired collaboration, first recognized in the design of the Girl Scout Lodge, to a talented group of new principals in the firm.

History of Summer Camps in the United States

The Girl Scout Lodge was an ingeniously original if relatively late rendition of a genre of building deriving from a venerable but evolving summer camp tradition. Summer camps for children were an American invention. The first camps—Chocorua, Asquam, and Pasquaney—were established in New Hampshire in the 1880s. Privately owned and well-organized, they targeted boys from wealthy families in need of contact with nature and “education by means of activity, not books.”²⁷ The first girls’ camp of importance was Redcroft, founded by Elizabeth Ford Holt and located near Camp Pasquaney in 1900.²⁸ These, along with YMCA camps aimed at a middle class population and also founded in the 1880s, launched a nationwide summer camp movement. According to Charles Eliot, then President of Harvard, summer camps were “the most important step in education that America has given the world.”²⁹

From the beginning, the organized summer camp movement had several purposes connected to changing American attitudes toward the young. Perhaps the most important was “restoring to children ‘their heritage of life in nature.’” In an important manual for constructing summer camps, the National Park Service noted in 1938 that only a century ago “about 75 percent of the population of the United States was rural, [and] primitive conditions made living throughout vast areas not far different from a camping existence.” With the coming of the machine age, however, the population was shifting from farmlands to cities and “less than 30 percent of us could experience the satisfying and vivifying contacts with Nature afforded by non-urban existence.” A fundamental rationale, then, was countering the artificial living conditions associated with urban life and taking children back to nature, restoring “something highly prized [that] had vanished from the American scene.”³⁰ In addition, camping provided moral benefits; it provided children with “self-respect based on personal accomplishment,” and taught them to surrender comfort for the good of all. It provided physical benefits, signifying masculine hardiness and power—a “cure for the dude.”³¹ And it offered spiritual development as well, particularly as practiced by the YMCA.³² During the first three decades of the 20th century, a broader range of individuals and organizations embraced summer camping, expanding its purposes. Settlement house

²⁷ W. Barksdale Maynard, “‘An Ideal Life in the Woods for Boys’: Architecture and Culture in the Earliest Summer Camps,” *Winterthur Portfolio* 34 (1), (1999), 4, 6-7.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, 11.

²⁹ Abigail Van Slyck, “Housing the Happy Camper,” *Minnesota History* 58 (Summer 2002), 68.

³⁰ Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures, Part III—Overnight and Organized Camp Facilities*. (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 1938), 2.

³¹ Maynard, “‘An Ideal Life,’” 18-20.

³² Van Slyck, Abigail. “Designing Freedom: Postwar Summer Camps and the Construction of Cold War Childhood,” (article submitted to *Winterthur Portfolio* 2000, in author’s possession), 6.

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workers saw it as a way to uplift children of the working poor, Ernest Thompson Seton advocated camping to learn the woodcrafts of Native Americans, and psychologists began to frame organized camping as an antidote to poor parenting.

In 1908, Robert Baden-Powell founded the Boy Scout movement in England, exporting it to the United States in 1910. Boy scouting embodied two assumptions: 1) that cities were bad for children, and 2) that boys were becoming too soft, physically and emotionally, in the mother-centered home.³³ In 1912, Luther Gulick founded the Camp Fire Girls, and Juliette Gordon Lowe established the first Girl Scout troop in the United States in Savannah, Georgia. Although both the Boy Scouts and the Girls Scouts saw camping as an ideal setting for building character, it had to be more carefully justified as an activity suitable for girls. The renowned psychologist G. Stanley Hall worried, for example, that the new love of freedom girls were displaying might lead them to abandon the home for the office. The Girl Scouts countered that they would not abandon the ideal of marriage and motherhood, but they would insist that girls be capable, strong, and resourceful. Thus they sought to “reconnect modern girls with the hardy self-sufficiency of the pioneers or Native American women.”³⁴ Girl Scouts planned their own camping activities, crafted their own equipment, and did most of the cleaning and cooking themselves.³⁵ The Girl Scouts placed great emphasis on order and method; domestic tasks learned at camp were direct practice for the daily domestic routines of adult life.

Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs and summer camps shed light on Americans’ changing constructions of childhood over the course of the twentieth century.³⁶ As the decades progressed, middle-class society became increasingly child-centered. American camps were sites “where such ideas were simultaneously forged and made to seem inevitable,” according to architectural historian Abigail Van Slyck. “Camps have sought to naturalize notions of modern childhood, even as they worked like mad to direct them.”³⁷ During the first three decades of the twentieth century, middle- and upper-middle class Americans became convinced that a child’s proper socialization and physical development would be the key to his or her success. A growing cadre of experts became preoccupied with 1) making children’s play safer and 2) domesticating their activities. The period saw increasing supervision of children, with organized sports leagues, supervised playgrounds, physical education classes, summer camps, and organized programs like scouting.³⁸ During the New Deal era, the U.S. government believed the camping movement was sufficiently important to publish a guide (1938) that established the design and activity standards most postwar camps would follow, including Camp Woodlands. The Central Maryland Council of the Girl Scouts observed these guidelines religiously, from involving their adult members in an inclusive master planning exercise, insisting that architects design the key buildings, and

³³ Ibid., 7-9.

³⁴ Ibid., 10.

³⁵ Maynard, “An Ideal Life,” 17; Interview with Jo Paoletti, Girl Scout Leader in National Capital Council, by Mary Corbin Sies (College Park, MD, 3 February 2003).

³⁶ Van Slyck, “Designing Freedom,” 4.

³⁷ Van Slyck, Ibid., 5.

³⁸ Van Slyck, Ibid., 4-5.

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minimizing urban technologies (e.g. flush toilets and electricity) and urban leisure pursuits (e.g. baseball) in favor of immersing children in nature to obtain its full physical, social, and spiritual benefits.³⁹

After World War II the numbers of summer camps burgeoned. Of the 601 residential camps accredited by the American Camping Association in 2000, 47% were established from the 1940s to the 1960s.⁴⁰ The proliferation of camps was not solely the result of the baby boom, though girl scouting in Central Maryland was expanding because of mass post-war suburbanization. It also signified a qualitative shift to a more child-centered mode of American parenting that can be seen simultaneously in the increase in places outside the home catering exclusively to children: kindergartens, youth centers, junior high and high schools, playgrounds, children's hospitals, and children's rooms in public libraries.⁴¹ Camping 1) gave children the freedom to develop at their own pace, and 2) provided experiences lacking at home—discipline, the chance to learn new skills, and the opportunity to develop self-reliance. Camps represented both an investment in children's futures and the chance for parents to gain a respite from a child-centered life.⁴²

Scholars have argued that increasing suburbanization during the postwar era had a significant impact on both the rationale for camping and on campsite design. As greater numbers of households moved out from the cities, there was less need to send children to camp to escape urban vices and pollution. During the 1950s and 1960s, female-centered households full of domestic comforts were enshrined rather than condemned.⁴³ The move toward a more amenity-rich lifestyle was reflected in the growing use of technologies of comfort in summer camps: electricity, shower houses, flush toilets, and the substitution of more lavishly furnished cabins for the formerly Spartan bunkhouses.⁴⁴ A parallel change was the professionalization of camp directing, which had the effect of distancing campers from such mundane activities as meal preparation and camp maintenance.⁴⁵ These latter changes were not embraced by the Girl Scouts, however. Camp Woodlands maintained the standards for the camping movement articulated by Albert H. Good and Julius Salomon in the U.S. Government's 1938 guide, *Park and Recreation Structures*. Although the Girl Scout Lodge was furnished with electricity and a single toilet, it remains unheated, and its kitchen is extremely basic, containing only sink, stove, refrigerator, cupboards, and work surfaces. Camp Woodlands provides a range of camping structures from basic cabins with built-in bunks, to dormitory-style bunkhouses, open-air lean-to structures, and sites for tent camping. Throughout the postwar period, making their own cooking facilities and handling their own meal preparation was a central feature of Girl Scout camp life.⁴⁶ In two ways Camp Woodlands did follow the more common postwar camping movement trends, however: The emphasis on participatory activities carried a Cold War inflection; it was thought to equip scouts for the full achievement of democracy. Second, careful site planning

³⁹ Good, ed., *Park and Recreation Structures*; Van Slyck, 18-21.

⁴⁰ Van Slyck, "Designing Freedom," 12.

⁴¹ Van Slyck, *Ibid.*, 2-3.

⁴² Van Slyck, *Ibid.*, 14-15.

⁴³ Van Slyck, *Ibid.*, 12.

⁴⁴ Van Slyck, *Ibid.*, 22-23.

⁴⁵ Van Slyck, "Kitchen Technologies," 671.

⁴⁶ Interview with Jo Paoletti.

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created a camp where girls could experience a semblance of freedom, "where children could act on their impulses" in a secure and safe environment.⁴⁷

Brief History of Girl Scouting

Scouting can trace its origin to Robert Baden-Powell's establishment of a boy's scouting program in England in 1908. Baden-Powell, an officer during the Boer War, developed a series of activities to prepare the men under his command for the rigors of life out-of-doors. His "Stunts in Scouting" were so popular that Baden-Powell determined to rewrite them into a program for boys back in England. Almost immediately, girls clamored for a program of their own and in 1909, the Girl Guide movement was formally established with Miss Agnes Baden-Powell, Sir Robert's sister, as its first president. The movement quickly spread to a number of different countries inside and outside of the British Empire.⁴⁸ In 1912, Juliette Gordon Low, who had lived in England and socialized with the Baden-Powells, established the first Girl Scout troop in the United States in Savannah, Georgia, with 18 local girls. Financing the organization with her own money for the first four years, Low fashioned a group that would bring girls out of their home environments to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually, and to learn from community service and open air activities. By 1915, there were 5,000 Girl Scouts in the U.S., a national council, a constitution, and a charter. Juliette Low was the organization's first president. The Girl Scouts became widely known for their service in support of the war during World War I—learning about food conservation, selling war bonds, and working in hospitals--and by the end of the war, there were over 34,000 members nationwide.⁴⁹

The Girl Scouts of the USA has remained a consistently vital organization since its founding nearly a century ago. Nonetheless it has changed and developed, in both numbers and scope. During the first decade, the organization diverged steadily from the British Girl Guides movement, developing an independent Executive Board, a publication—*The American Girl*, and its own uniforms. More than 25 badges were established that girls could earn by demonstrating proficiency in various skills from arts & crafts, homemaking, health and safety, literature and drama, to out-of-doors activities, music, and community life.⁵⁰ During the 1930s, Girl Scouts led a range of community relief efforts, e.g. distributing clothing, making quilts, carving toys, and providing meals and food drives. The organization reached out to disabled girls, Native Americans, and immigrant populations, transcribing their materials into Braille and translating them into Polish, Italian, and Yiddish. Also during the 1930s, the three main divisions of Girl Scouts were developed to encompass girls between the ages of 7 and 18: Brownies, Intermediate, and Senior Scouts. The first commercially baked cookie sale took place in the 1930s as a nationwide strategy for fundraising to support Girl Scout activities.⁵¹ During the 1940s, the organization emphasized service; Girl Scouts operated bicycle courier services, worked on Farm

⁴⁷ Van Slyck, "Designing Freedom," 31-32.

⁴⁸ *Girl Scout Handbook* (New York: Girls Scouts of the USA, 1947), 13, 15.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, 15, 17-18; "Girl Scout History," http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

⁵⁰ "Girl Scouts Timeline: 1912-1919," http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

⁵¹ "Girl Scouts Timeline: 1930s," http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

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Aide projects, collected fat and scrap metal, planted Victory Gardens, and collected clothing to send overseas. Their Defense Institutes taught 10,000 women survival skills during civil defense emergencies.⁵²

In 1950, Congress officially chartered the Girl Scouts of the USA; at that time, there were 1.5 million girls and adult volunteers in the organization.⁵³ During this period, when the Teepee Lodge was designed and built, the Girl Scouts experienced a resurgence of interest in camping and the out-of-doors. Camping was considered an integral part of Girl Scout experience, and the organization devoted much research and activity to planning a wide range of camping opportunities for girls around the country, including back-packing, climbing, camping experiences for specific age ranges of girls, archaeological mobile camps, and geological expeditions with trained field specialists on hand. During the 1950s, the Senior Round-up was established, in which thousands of senior scouts were selected from around the country to assemble for extended camping and learning opportunities.⁵⁴ But perhaps the Girl Scouts' most important contribution to the camping movement was the design and program outline for the "established camp," of which Camp Woodlands was a good example. By 1950, there were more than 500 established camps nationwide. Camps were designed according to the "planned unit" philosophy to accommodate several patrols (groups of 5-8 scouts) at once, usually in a multiple-acre setting that offered both primitive cabins and tent camping, and a range of natural and communal activities. Camps were set up to involve Girl Scouts in the full range of planning and providing for camp life: cleaning, cooking, health and hygiene, sports and recreation, communal rituals, and governance. In 1940, the organization estimated that at least a quarter million girls had attended a Girl Scout camp the previous year, and the number was growing.⁵⁵

During the latter decades of the 20th century, the Girl Scouts evolved to respond to changes in the society surrounding them. During the 1960s, the National Board strongly supported the Civil Rights movement, holding a series of Speakout Conferences and ACTION 70 projects around the country to confront prejudice.⁵⁶ In the 1970s, they launched "Eco-Action," a national environmental program.⁵⁷ During the 1980s, they developed a "Contemporary Issues" series to confront difficult social issues such as drug use, child abuse, youth suicide, literacy, and pluralism. A Global Understanding project focused on five topics: health care, hunger, literacy, national resources, and cultural heritage.⁵⁸ Similar projects continued in the 1990s, including Project Safe Time, a program for girls whose parents were not home after school, PAVE (Project Anti-Violence Education), Barbara Bush's Right to Read literacy service program, in which 4 million Girl Scouts participated as tutors, and a health and fitness national service project.⁵⁹ The Girl Scouts established a Government Relations office in 1952; since then, the organization has worked to develop strong relationships with members

⁵² "Girl Scouts Timeline: 1940s," http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

⁵³ "Girl Scouts Timeline: 1950s," http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

⁵⁴ Janet E. Tobbitt, *Program in Girl Scout Camping* (New York: Girl Scouts of the USA, 1959), 192-193.

⁵⁵ *Girl Scout Handbook* (New York: 1940), 37-41.

⁵⁶ "Girl Scouts Timeline: 1960s," http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

⁵⁷ "Girl Scouts Timeline: 1970s," http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

⁵⁸ "Girl Scouts Timeline: 1980s," http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

⁵⁹ "Girl Scouts Timeline: 1990s," http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/history/

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of Congress to advocate for addressing important issues for girls, such as involving them in science, technology, math, and engineering education, preventing youth violence, developing financial literacy skills, giving girls in underserved communities a voice, and combating obesity.⁶⁰ At present there are nearly 4 million Girl Scouts—2.8 million girls and 986,000 adult members—in the United States.⁶¹

Although the issues the Girl Scouts organization addressed evolved with changing times, the basic values underlying Girl Scouting, and Girl Scout camping, have remained consistent. They are based on adhering to the Girl Scout Laws and the Girl Scout Promise—“On my honor, I will try: To do my duty to God and my country, To help other people at all times, To obey the Girl Scout Laws.”⁶² In general, scouting encourages “empowerment, self-expression, self-esteem, decision-making, building strength in the individual, building strength in the group, and service leadership.”⁶³ The Girl Scout program is based on five fundamentals: “the Girl Scout Promise and Laws; small groups which enable girls to develop individually and learn to work with others; democratic troop government; adult leaders interested in the development of young people; [and] program activities.”⁶⁴ The principles underlying each Girl Scout Law are linked to a concrete act: “something to do, to achieve, to learn, to conquer.”⁶⁵ The Laws read:

A Girl Scout’s honor is to be trusted.

A Girl Scout is loyal.

A Girl Scout’s duty is to be useful and to help others.

A Girl Scout is a friend to all and a sister to every other Girl Scout.

A Girl Scout is courteous.

A Girl Scout is a friend to animals.

A Girl Scout obeys orders.

A Girl Scout is cheerful.

A Girl Scout is thrifty.

A Girl Scout is clean in thought, word, and deed.⁶⁶

Thus, Law 1—a Girl Scout’s honor is to be trusted—might be cultivated by letting “girls take responsibility for planning their own troop meetings,” giving them opportunities to be trusted.⁶⁷ Law 3—a Girl Scout’s duty is to

⁶⁰ “Government Relations and Advocacy: The Washington, D.C., Office of Girl Scouts of the USA.”

http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/advocacy

⁶¹ “Facts,” http://www.girlscouts.org/who_we_are/facts

⁶² *Girl Scout Handbook* (New York, 1940), 4, 6-9.

⁶³ Susan Charles Tuft Groth, “Creativity, Tradition, and Empowerment in Girl Scout Ceremonies,” (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Pennsylvania, 1999), 1.

⁶⁴ Tobitt, *Program in Girl Scout Camping*, 1-2.

⁶⁵ Ann Roos, “The Founder and the Promise,” *The Founder and the Promise and Laws* (New York: Girl Scouts of the USA, n.d.), n.p.

⁶⁶ *Girl Scout Handbook* (New York: 1940), 6-9.

⁶⁷ Han Kersbergen and Marie E. Gaudette, “The First Girl Scout Law,” *The Founder and the Promise and Laws* (New York: Girl Scouts of the USA, n.d.), n.p.

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be useful and to help others—could be realized by “doing a good turn daily.”⁶⁸ Law 6—a Girl Scout is a friend to animals—is implemented by learning to watch living things live.⁶⁹ Law 8—a Girl Scout is cheerful—could be encouraged “through democratic troop government [in which] we can help our girls learn to think independently, to develop critical judgment, to become articulate and exchange opinions in an atmosphere of cheerfulness, good will, and self-control,” and so forth.⁷⁰ Finally, the Girl Scout motto—“be prepared”—equipped girls to be “called upon at any time to render service in her home, to her friends, and in her community, to the best of her ability.”⁷¹ Troop activities, earning proficiency badges, working on special projects, and camping provided girls with the skills they needed to be self-reliant, decisive, and prepared.

The Importance of Camping to Scouting

Camping is and was at the center of the Girl Scouting experience—a key part of the program for cultivating the principles of the organization and the ability to “be prepared.” In a manual for adult leaders of the Girl Scouts published just five years after the Teepee Lodge was dedicated, camping was promoted because it met three universal needs in children:

- the “instinctive response to the call of the wild and to the joy of unfettered life in the open [that] is basic to every human being”
- a child’s yearning to participate in scouting “adventures of pioneers, explorers, seamen, and airmen”
- the need to combat “the modern enticements of mechanized living, urbanization, and mass entertainment”⁷²

Julian Harris Salomon, who wrote the Girl Scouts’ manual *Campsite Development*, emphasized that “camping, the chance to live away from home, in the out-of-doors, with its offer of primitive life and woodland adventure, is part of the dream of every girl who becomes a Girl Scout.” None of the other worthy activities that Scouts engaged in had the paramount importance of camping, in Salomon’s view. “Scouting is camping,” perhaps the most important component of a troop’s year-round program. It was far too important to be separated from the troop’s other activities or to be relegated to summers only.⁷³

The Girl Scout Organization believed that camping “is one of the most effective means for accomplishing the objectives for which Girl Scouting exists, and that therefore camping should be made available to all girls.”⁷⁴ Camping, in other words, embodied the Girl Scout program. It had three specific objectives:

⁶⁸ Corrine M. Murphy, “The Third Girl Scout Law,” *The Founder and the Promise and Laws* (New York: Girl Scouts of the USA, n.d.), n.p.

⁶⁹ Marie E. Gaudette, “The Sixth Law,” *The Founder and the Promise and Laws* (New York: Girl Scouts of the USA, n.d.), n.p.

⁷⁰ Vaal Stark, “The Ninth Law,” *The Founder and the Promise and Laws* (New York: Girl Scouts of the USA, n.d.), n.p.

⁷¹ *Girl Scout Handbook* (New York: 1940), 10.

⁷² Tobitt, *Program in Girl Scout Camping*, 1.

⁷³ Julian Harris Salomon, *Campsite Development* (New York: Girl Scouts of the USA, 1959), 13.

⁷⁴ Tobitt, *Program in Girl Scout Camping*, 2.

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“First, camping should stimulate real enjoyment and appreciation of the outdoors through progressively adventurous experiences.

Second, camping should provide citizenship training through the give and take of community living in which each girl has a part in planning and carrying out the camping program with the help of adult leaders.

Third, camping should contribute to the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of every camper and help develop such qualities as resourcefulness, initiative, and self-reliance.”⁷⁵

Several additional policies followed from these. Camps were organized into patrol-sized groups—what the Girl Scouts referred to as the “unit plan”—since “camping in small groups makes possible greater development of the individual within the group and enables girls to get a complete change from their ordinary urban or suburban existence.”⁷⁶ The camp was operated as economically as possible so that camping might be within reach of as many Girl Scouts as possible. There were three kinds of settings for Girl Scout camping: Troop camping, in which troops planned and carried out camping for one night or more on a site approved by the Girl Scout Council; Day camping on a site provided by the Girl Scouts in which girls from different troops came together during the daytime for at least five consecutive days or more; and Established camping, done on a permanent site with staff and facilities provided. Here girls from different troops would camp together for a continuous period of at least twelve days. Camp Woodlands was an established camp that could host groups for cabin, tent, or primitive camping year round.⁷⁷

Established camps like Camp Woodlands provided enough space for several patrols of 6-8 girls to carry on their activities separately, thus enabling each camper “to develop her capacities fully through the planning and carrying out of patrol and unit activities.” If the means of camping were recreational, the ends were educational. Separated from home, girls “learn[ed] to stand on their own feet in a community of their peers.” Campers also honed their social abilities by interacting with staff members, camp visitors, and girls from other patrols in unit and all-camp affairs.⁷⁸ Such communal activities as dining, theatricals, story-telling, and campfire rituals took place in the Teepee Lodge. Getting out of doors helped girls develop physically, with greater muscular tone and coordination, keener powers of observation, and more endurance.⁷⁹ Whether constructing an oven or a crane for a one-pot meal, pitching a tent, or cooking a breakfast of flapjacks, girls could not settle for jobs half done. Camping took practice, but it afforded tremendous opportunities for maturation and gaining new competences.⁸⁰

Principles and Uses of The Teepee Lodge in the Context of Girl Scout Camps

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, 3; Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 16.

⁷⁷ Tobitt, *Program in Girl Scout Camping*, 3-4.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, 4-5.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, 9.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, 9.

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Because Girl Scout camping involved a range of objectives for the campers and a variety of activities, camps needed flexibility in their designs. This included “provision for all types of camping and the primary importance of sites and facilities that (we)re suitable for year round use.” Camps also had to offer activities for all ages, “from Brownies (day camps), to intermediates (who like creature comforts), to seniors (who are into rugged): enabling the scout and troop to progress through experiences of increasing interest and difficulty.”⁸¹ Finally, camps for Girl Scouting had to be limited in size, providing for no more than 100 to 150 persons.

Camp Woodlands fulfilled these requirements admirably. Its design was simultaneously versatile and simple, with primitive camping at the Davy Crockett campsite; tent camping at the Holly Hill unit; open shelters at the Elizabeth unit; barracks-style bunkhouses at the Starlet and Point of View lodges, the latter winterized; and the Merriman day use camping area. There were both outdoor and indoor campfire circles, the latter inside the Teepee Lodge. For reasons of economy and principle, Camp Woodlands provided simple and minimal facilities. According to Salomon, “it is easy to make a camp so physically complete and comfortable that its basic purpose is defeated.”⁸² There was no danger of that at Camp Woodlands; its site design was calculated to provide the bare requirements of shelter while optimizing opportunities for girls to work together to furnish meals, warmth, comfort, and whatever activities were desired. Both the size and the configuration of the site facilitated the unit plan of camping in groups of 5-6 patrols of 4-8 scouts each. “Camping in small groups makes possible greater development of the individual within the group and provides for more adequate supervision... Only in small groups can we get a complete change from the pressures, sounds, and general confusion incident to urban existence.” Most of the shelter facilities at Camp Woodlands accommodated no more than 36 campers.⁸³ The Teepee Lodge—the largest communal structure—could serve meals to about 100 Girl Scouts simultaneously—the entire population of the camp at any given time.

Among the camp structures, lodges performed an important set of functions; they had practical, communal, and symbolic responsibilities. Consequently, the expectations that they be simple and versatile designs were compounded by the requirements that they accommodate meals—“key moments for camper socialization”—and, in the case of the Teepee Lodge, the all important campfire circle rituals.⁸⁴ Charles Lamb’s structure imaginatively fulfilled most of Salomon’s recommendations for Girl Scout lodges. To begin with, it fit beautifully into its natural surroundings. According to Salomon, lodges should “suggest(s) the historic tradition of outdoor life... What should be sought is the fusion of the newer forms with those architectural qualities which have withstood the test of time.”⁸⁵ Lamb’s teepee fused a traditional Native American structure with

⁸¹ Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 15.

⁸² *Ibid.*, 16.

⁸³ The Elizabeth unit sheltered 36 Girl Scouts, 6 to a shelter. The Holly Hill unit would hold 36 campers, 4 to a tent. The Point of View and Starlet Lodges accommodated 36 and 24 campers, respectively. The Merrimen day camp accommodated 36 Brownies. The Davy Crockett primitive campsite was set up for 20 campers.

⁸⁴ Abigail Van Slyck, “Kitchen Technologies and Mealtime Rituals: Interpreting the Food Axis at American Summer Camps, 1890-1950,” *Technology and Culture* 43(4), (Oct. 2002), 670.

⁸⁵ Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 33.

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great structural ingenuity; at the same time that it bore an unmistakably modern stamp, it also blended unpretentiously with its wooded site and surroundings.⁸⁶ During the daytime, the lodge's broad expanse of windows brought the natural rusticity of Camp Woodlands indoors. At night, when Scouts formed a circle around the Lodge's campfire, the effect was warm, intimate, and magical.

Although rustic and unpretentious (except, perhaps, in its structural ingenuity), the Teepee Lodge provided a beautiful and functional setting for mealtimes—warm and woodsy, rather than institutional.⁸⁷ It efficiently sheltered a mealtime operation orchestrated to provide campers with discipline, responsibility, and the enactment of Girl Scout values. As the principal meal facility, it was located in a central place on the Camp Woodlands site, but one that was easy to service from the entrance.⁸⁸ The circular plan enabled the Lodge to accommodate for meals virtually everyone camping at any given time, seated at the quadrilateral tables evenly placed just inside the circumference of the circle. When the fireplace hood was retracted, there was still ample interior space to facilitate the distribution of food and place settings or to allow for indoor games and activities when meals were concluded.⁸⁹ Even when they were not directly involved in food preparation, girls served the tables, washed the dishes, and tidied the kitchen and dining room.⁹⁰ This was choreographed in a most systematic fashion. For each meal, one girl per patrol served as a “hopper”—hopping up to pick up platters for her table from the kitchen serving area and returning dirty dishes to the sinks.⁹¹ Although plain, the kitchen provided adequate light and cross-ventilation for girls assigned to KP.⁹² There was just enough space where the teepee connected with the kitchen for the orderly shuttling back and forth of heaping platters and cleaned plates. The process of feeding campers, in other words, exemplified the principles of Girl Scouting in motion. Meals, according to Abigail Van Slyck, “were ritual occasions, both in the sense that they tended to follow predictable patterns in which each participant had a well-defined role and in the sense that those patterns were intended to communicate important messages about the larger meaning of camp life. Mealtimes were moments when the camp community acted out for itself and others its own sense of its larger mission.”⁹³

The other important ritual occasion that the Teepee Lodge accommodated was the evening campfire ceremony. At any established camp, the lodge was the “rallying point of the camp unit; it ha[d] recreational, social, educational, and cultural purposes.” Chief among these for the Teepee Lodge was sheltering the “council circle”—a fitting close to the camper's day and an integral component of the group experience of camping.⁹⁴ The council circle was made up of scouts and scouting leaders seated in a ring on the floor or the ground with the campfire in the center. In the Teepee Lodge, the tables were pushed against the walls to make space for the

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*, 33, 114.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*, 115.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, 119.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*, 115.

⁹¹ Van Slyck, “Kitchen Technologies and Mealtime Rituals,” 690.

⁹² Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 115.

⁹³ Van Slyck, “Kitchen Technologies and Mealtime Rituals,” 670.

⁹⁴ Good, *Park and Recreational Structures*, 143.

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council circle in the center of the room. According to Salomon, the fireplace should be of substantial size—to hold a blazing fire—but the circle should not be more than 25 feet in diameter in order to maintain the intimacy of the occasion.⁹⁵ With its ingenious hood extended to vent the smoke from the fire, Lamb Lodge was just the right size to host a council circle that brought all the campers in a unit together to celebrate the ritual end to the day. The campfire ceremony was a formal ritual occasion with girls and leaders taking turns around the circle leading the group in songs, games, and stories. It functioned as a theatre in the round, symbolizing the bonds of friendship Girl Scouts forged as they made a life in cooperation with one another in the woods. It also provided a formal group occasion to celebrate and reinforce the principles and values of Girl Scouting. In its picturesque function as the host for the council circle, the Teepee Lodge was the most important and ritually resonant structure at Camp Woodlands. As Salomon put it, “the spirit of the camp radiates from the campfire and nothing so typifies the camp as the blazing fire with the campers gathered around it.”⁹⁶

The Teepee Lodge in Comparison with the Design of Camp Structures Nationally

The universe of Girl Scout or other small lodges at organized camping sites in the United States is unknown. Scholarly or other kinds of publications on this building type are hard to come by, as architectural historian Abigail Van Slyck has pointed out.⁹⁷ Nonetheless, two important books from the era provide overview information and perspective about recreational and camping structures nationally.⁹⁸ To establish the national architectural context for Girl Scout lodges, we also draw on National Register nominations, the HABS/HAER database, the Library of Congress American Memory collection, and professional architectural publications. Because a few significant and contemporary modern camp structures were constructed in the State of Maryland, we survey the state context carefully as well.

Girl Scout Councils, regardless of their location, organized their building campaigns with guidance from the National Headquarters. During the postwar era, the basic philosophy of camping and guidelines for campsite planning and for the design and function of individual structures were codified in Julian Salomon’s *Campsite Development*, first issued for the Girl Scouts in 1948.⁹⁹ The Tee Pee Lodge at Camp Woodlands combined three basic building functions: it was a recreational and cultural building, an assembly space for the entire camp, and a dining facility.

A “lodge” could refer to several different building types. The best source for distinguishing between them is Albert Good’s *Park and Recreation Structures, Part III—Overnight and Organized Camp Facilities*, published

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 113.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.*, 113.

⁹⁷ Abby Van Slyck to Mary Sies, email correspondence, 29 Jan. 2003. See also the footnotes in Maynard, “An Ideal Life”. See also the forthcoming book by Abigail Van Slyck, *A Manufactured Wilderness: Summer Camps and the Shaping of American Youth, 1890-1960* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2006).

⁹⁸ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures, Part III* (1938); Salomon, *Campsite Development* (1959).

⁹⁹ Note, however, that Salomon articulated the same basic principles in an earlier article publication, Julian Harris Salomon, “Organized Camps in State Parks,” *Recreation* (August 1936): 259-262ff.

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by the National Park Service in 1938. Good discussed in separate chapters Lodges, Inns, and Hotels; Community Buildings; Recreational and Cultural Facilities, and Camp Cooking and Dining Facilities.¹⁰⁰ It is worth considering what Girl Scout Lodges were *not* before articulating what they *were*. They were not the lodges associated with inns, hotels, or major centers at national or state parks or reservations. Containing at minimum a lounge, dining room, kitchen, and related dependencies, those structures could also include lodgings, a museum, and substantial terraces with views.¹⁰¹ They were much more elaborate than Lamb Lodge in program, scale, and budget. These lodges, generally constructed for an adult or whole family audience, constituted a different building type and did not serve as a precedent for the more humble lodge Salomon prescribed for Girl Scout camps.

Several other building types *can* be considered precedents for the Tee Pee Lodge, however. Community buildings, according to Good, were enclosed structures located in intensive use areas of the camp for display, lounging, and camp-wide assemblies. They did not contain dining facilities; their function was to host social, cultural, and recreational activities that the entire camp could enjoy. They were especially helpful in sheltering indoor functions at camps whose cabins did not allow for common space.¹⁰² Consisting of a single assembly room furnished with a prominent fireplace, the community building accommodated lectures, films, amateur theatricals, and might display biological or geological specimens from the surrounding environs. In inclement weather, community buildings could serve as a substitute for the campfire circle, although the vast majority of structures built in the U.S. were rectilinear in composition with end chimneys.¹⁰³

Camp recreational and cultural buildings often combined social, recreational, educational, and cultural functions with dining. Good distinguished two scales of recreational building: the unit lodge, which provided common space and dining for a single unit of the camp (consisting of 4-6 patrols or roughly 24-36 campers), and buildings designed to shelter the entire population of the camp for rainy day activities, perhaps with an indoor council circle.¹⁰⁴ At Camp Woodlands, the Starlet Lodge—which sleeps 24 campers and provides a small kitchen, refectory, and a central fireplace—is a unit lodge. The majority of unit lodges were rectilinear in design with end chimneys and adjacent outdoor kitchens, where units could do their own cooking.¹⁰⁵ The Tee Pee Lodge—which provides no space for sleeping—serves the entire camp. Indoor council circles were especially valuable in climates with frequent summer rains and abundant insects in the evenings. The prominent fireplace was an indispensable feature of this camp building type.

Dining facilities might be completely separate or combined with recreational and cultural buildings. The vast majority were T-shaped with a large rectilinear dining room and a perpendicular kitchen wing. According to

¹⁰⁰ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, V.

¹⁰¹ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, 58.

¹⁰² Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, 75.

¹⁰³ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, 75, 77-82.

¹⁰⁴ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, 143.

¹⁰⁵ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, 148-154.

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Good, they should possess wide and pleasing views, ample light and cross-ventilation, screening from insects, and a functional relationship between the kitchen and dining room that a T-shape provided.¹⁰⁶ A prominent fireplace was essential, but it might be located centrally, where the kitchen adjoined the dining room, or at the end.¹⁰⁷ Clearly, the Tee Pee Lodge drew from all three of these precedents. Its economical design accommodated socializing and recreation, dining, and camp-wide assemblies. It could shelter the entire population of the camp for rainy day activities. It differed from most Girl Scout camp lodges nationally, however, in its circular shape and its ability to contain and express a council circle.

The majority of small lodges built at organized camps for children between 1925 and 1949, the period just prior to construction of the Tee Pee Lodge, used a rustic style of architecture. Rustic architecture, or what Maynard called "the Architecture of Back-to-Nature," was firmly established as the preferred aesthetic for summer camps from their first appearance in the United States in the 1880s.¹⁰⁸ An architecture of natural materials, hearths, and porches, it provided for the basic needs of campers while exposing them to the scenic natural environment that they had come to camp to experience. Rustic camp architecture included the following features: buildings harmonizing with their natural surroundings; using native materials, such as wood or stone; built low to the ground or otherwise inconspicuous in composition; simple in decoration; and emphasizing indoor/outdoor living or as much contact with nature as possible.¹⁰⁹ Maynard characterized late nineteenth-century summer camps in New England and the Adirondacks, for example, as "rustic in its plainest and least pretentious form." Only basic buildings were provided: dorms, a headquarters building with flagpole, campfire circle, dining hall, chapel, and boathouse. The typical late nineteenth- or early twentieth-century shelter was of lightweight board and batten construction on a stone pile foundation with a fireplace and a piazza.¹¹⁰

By the 1930s, when most of the buildings for the three girls' camps currently on the National Register were constructed, rustic architecture was a firmly established tradition in the architecture of organized camping. During the 1930s, there was a tremendous increase in the construction of organized campsites nationwide as New Deal programs, such as the CCC and the WPA, embraced recreation, National Park and National Forest camps, and rustic architecture. Indeed, the construction of a vast array of facilities on public lands that these programs spearheaded prompted the National Park Service to develop the guidelines published in *Park and Recreation Structures, Parts I, II, and III*, to ensure that site improvements would fit into their wilderness settings.¹¹¹ The Girl Scout organization exercised considerable influence in shaping those guidelines, at least indirectly. By the 1930s, the Girl Scouts had become national leaders in establishing the standards for successful youth camping experiences. Their most important innovation was the development of unit camping

¹⁰⁶ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, 161.

¹⁰⁷ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, 164-169.

¹⁰⁸ Maynard, "An Ideal Life," 22-23.

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, 22; Kenneth Story, "Camp Ouachita Girl Scout Historic District, Lake Sylvia, Perry County, Arkansas," 6-7 (National Register of Historic Places Historic District Nomination Form, 1992).

¹¹⁰ Maynard, "An Ideal Life," 12, 15.

¹¹¹ Story, "Camp Ouachita," 7, 10.

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and the imposition of strict size limits on camps. As Albert Good echoed in *Park and Recreation Structures*, camps over 125 persons “cease to be true camps and become mere cantonments or concentrations where the things that are of the essence of camping somehow cannot be done.”¹¹² The Girl Scouts’ guidelines for unit plan camp layouts ended the practice of designing summer camps on the model of military installations, with lines of nearly identical buildings grouped about a quadrangle.¹¹³ Campsites were planned to blend in with the landscape and to modify the natural surroundings as little as possible.¹¹⁴ The Girl Scouts also insisted on economy and simplicity in camp development to enable any potential camper to be able to afford attending a summer camp and to derive the strongest learning experiences from interacting with nature and helping to take care of her patrol’s needs.

During the 1930s and 1940s, the plethora of newly constructed organized camps in national parks and national forests used rustic architecture. Camp Ouachita, for example, a National Forest campsite developed for the Girl Scouts by the WPA, conforms closely to the ideas articulated by Julian Salomon in a May 1936 presentation to a national conference on organized youth camps.¹¹⁵ All of the buildings were architect-designed by the prominent Little Rock, Arkansas firm of Thompson, Sanders, & Ginocchio in local fieldstone and native cypress.¹¹⁶ The lodge, known as the Great Hall (Ogden Hall), was a combination dining hall and recreation building and served as the center of camp life. As a large fieldstone building, 38’ x 70’, sporting massive stone fireplaces at each end and a gabled roof with exposed hewn log framework, it was also the architectural center of the complex. Like the Tee Pee lodge, Ogden Hall had a kitchen and administrative wing; unlike it, the Great Hall included a screened porch on one side.¹¹⁷ A second Girl Scout Camp included on the National Register is Camp Cloud Rim, a 27-acre site located on the shore of Lake Brimhall in the Wasatch Mountains of Utah. Camp Cloud Rim was designed by the Utah WPA in 1937; its buildings, including a lodge accommodating 100 girl scouts, were also rustic in design.¹¹⁸ The third girls’ camp on the National Register, Camp Kiwanee Historic District, founded in 1923 in Hanson, Massachusetts by the Eastern Council of the Camp Fire Girls, added fourteen buildings and two sets of cabins during the 1930s, all rustic in design.¹¹⁹ Its lodge, however, The Needles, was originally the private home of industrialist Albert Cameron Burrage; overlooking Maquan Pond, it was constructed in 1907. A Shingle Style design, the cross-gabled two-story cottage was surrounded on all four sides by a porch with a broad roof resting “on rough-pole log supports with rustic up-brackets.” In

¹¹² Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, 109.

¹¹³ Story, “Camp Ouachita,” 3.

¹¹⁴ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures*, 113.

¹¹⁵ Julian Harris Salomon, “Organized Camps in State Parks,” *Recreation* (August 1936): 259-262.

¹¹⁶ Story, “Camp Ouachita,” 12.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 13.

¹¹⁸ The historic lodge at Camp Cloud Rim burned to the ground in 1992. A new lodge, designed by Michael J. Stoker, AIA, in 1999, is a much more elaborately finished structure than generally sponsored by the Girl Scouts. It contains a trading post, infirmary, staff accommodations, and covered deck overlooking the lake.

¹¹⁹ “Camp Kiwanee Historic District,” HNS-113, Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System, <http://mhc-macris.net> (designated 2005); Tim Orwig, “Camp Kiwanee, Hanson, Plymouth Co., Massachusetts,” National Register Nomination, Section 7, p. 16.

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1961, the Camp Fire Girls enlarged the dining room, creating "a large open hall with a truss roof and a 20' deep stage" across one end, enabling the building to serve more generously as both dining hall and assembly/entertainment center and continuing the rustic architecture theme.¹²⁰

The photographs of lodges included in Good's *Park and Recreation Structures* demonstrate that the lodges at Camp Ouachita, Camp Cloud Rim, and Camp Kiwanee typified what was built nationally in their preference for rustic architecture. All but one of the lodge examples selected by Good for his 1938 publication featured rustic design and none included any evident characteristics of modern architecture.¹²¹ The most typical configuration was a log structure with a gabled roof enclosing a single assembly space with an adjacent outdoor kitchen, in the case of a unit lodge, or a cross-gabled structure containing a large dining/assembly space and a perpendicular kitchen wing, in the case of a dining facility/recreation center.¹²² The two Girl Scout lodges included in Good's chapter on recreational and cultural facilities are illustrative. The unit lodge for the Edith Macy Girl Scout Reservation in Briarcliff, New York, was an extremely simple log 33' x 19' assembly room on stone pilings with an uncovered front porch and a central fireplace with an exterior stone chimney. The gable roof structure opened to the outside with a continuous band of windows on three sides.¹²³ Designed by J. Y. Rippin, the lodge had an outdoor detached cooking facility. The Girl Scouts Lodge of Dayton, Ohio, designed by Smith-Chamberlain, Architects, also a unit lodge, was a two-story side-gabled log house. The rustic first floor lodge room featured hand hewn exposed beams and a massive stone fireplace equipped for cooking. The second storey, reached by wooden ladder, was a dormitory.¹²⁴ The lodge for the Girl Scouts Camp in Harrisonburg, Virginia, an all-camp dining and recreational facility, boasted a rustic but novel design. An upside-down Y-shape in composition, the lodge featured identical 20' x 56' dining wings for Girl Scouts and Brownies, adjoining a central lounge with fireplace and kitchen wing behind.¹²⁵ The Cascade Boy Scout Lodge on the National Register, designed by Bob Yeager and Frank Lechner in the San Juan National Forest near Silverton, Colorado, in 1928, was a two-story Rustic style log building with a cross-shaped plan.¹²⁶ The Troop Lodge built in 1948 for the Boy Scouts at the Brookrace Estate in Morris County, New Jersey, was a modest single story cross-gabled rustic wood building with a brick fireplace and lots of built-in furniture.¹²⁷

¹²⁰ *Ibid.*, "Camp Kiwanee" website <http://campkiwanee.com/lodge>. Orwig, "Camp Kiwanee," Section 7, pp. 5-6.

¹²¹ The exception was the Troop Lodge at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, built under the auspices of the Tennessee Valley Authority; it was a simple clapboard structure with a flared gable roof in the Flemish style. Good, *Park & Recreation Structures*, 153.

¹²² Good, *Park & Recreation Structures*, "Camp Recreational and Cultural Facilities," pp. 148-160, and "Camp Cooking and Dining Facilities," pp. 164-172.

¹²³ Good, *Park & Recreation Structures*, 154-155.

¹²⁴ Good, *Park & Recreation Structures*, 160.

¹²⁵ Good, *Park & Recreation Structures*, 169.

¹²⁶ Directory of Colorado State Register Properties, San Juan County, Silverton, Cascade Lodge.

<http://www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/register/1503/cty/sa.htm>.

¹²⁷ "Brookrace Estate, Troop Lodge....Morris County, NJ," Historic American Buildings Survey Collection, Prints and Photographs Collection, Library of Congress, Digital ID <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/hhh.nj1765>.

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Although the vast majority of lodges at organized youth camps constructed between 1925 and 1949 were rectangular buildings of log or, less frequently, stone construction with gable roofs and generous fireplaces, a handful assumed more novel configurations. Three, in particular, featured in Good's *Park & Recreation Structures* interpreted the teepee shape. All three were rustic in style. The Dining Lodge at Pokagon State Park in Indiana was a handsome stone structure in an octagon shape with a kitchen wing attached at 3:00, similar to the Tee Pee Lodge. The most imposing of the three designs, the Lodge was 40' in diameter. The fireplace was placed at the junction with the kitchen wing, and dormers ventilated the space under the high, pointed roof.¹²⁸ The Dining Lodge at Dunes State Park in Indiana was a rustic vertical log structure with a steeply pitched shingled roof with poles atop the hips. Described by Good as an "interpretation of the Indian tepee in wood architecture," the lodge was actually wigwam shaped and possessed a roof ventilator for exhausting the 21' x 54' dining room. Like the Dining Lodge at Pokagon State Park, it featured a kitchen wing placed perpendicular to the dining room, a fireplace at the juncture of the rooms, and insufficient expanses of window.¹²⁹ More rustic and much more genuinely a teepee shape was a cabin at Dunes State Park. The octagonally shaped bunkhouse was 23 feet in diameter; it could accommodate 16 campers in double-decker bunks. A vertical log structure on the first story, the lodge was nearly all shingled roof with exterior support poles and a roof ventilator.¹³⁰

After World War II, the architectural prescription for camp architecture changed, at least for the Girl Scouts. In his 1948 publication, reissued in 1959, Julian Salomon discouraged heavy rustic lodges in favor of structures that were modern in design and spirit.¹³¹ Like Albert Good before him, Salomon advocated for highly original designs, with attention to excellent construction and aesthetics.¹³² In this newer postwar design context, the Tee Pee Lodge stood out nationally as one of a handful of extraordinarily innovative and ingenious modern lodge designs. It was an example, in fact, of "situated modernism", architecture that interpreted the principles of modernism in the context of the specific programmatic and other requirements of the commission and with respect for local materials, vernacular traditions, and fitting into the natural setting.¹³³

Throughout the post-World War II period, as organized youth camps proliferated, a number of camps continued to be designed with the traditional rustic architecture, to be sure. A good example is Indian Head Camp in Bushkill, Pennsylvania. Designed for both girls and boys c. 1951, Indian Head Camp's buildings were simple and straightforward wood gabled buildings. Cabins, for example, had exposed beams and rafters and knotty pine interior paneling but were otherwise unornamented. The dining hall, an addition to an earlier administrative building, was also rustic in style; it featured a long and airy rectangular space with exposed

¹²⁸ Good, *Park & Recreation Structures*, 170.

¹²⁹ Good, *Park & Recreation Structures*, 171.

¹³⁰ Good, *Park & Recreation Structures*, 184-185.

¹³¹ Salomon, *Campsite Development*.

¹³² Good, *Park & Recreation Structures*, 3.

¹³³ Sarah Williams Goldhagen, "Coda: Reconceptualizing the Modern," in *Anxious Modernisms: Experimentation in Postwar Architectural Culture*, ed. Sarah Williams Goldhagen and Rejean Legault (Montreal and Cambridge: Canadian Center for Architecture and MIT Press, 2000) 306.

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trusswork and ribbon windows on at least two sides. Campers sat at painted utilitarian wood tables and benches.¹³⁴

The Girl Scouts and Julian Salomon, however, set the standard for innovative postwar youth camp architecture, joined by one other prominent non-profit provider of summer camping opportunities, the New York Herald Tribune's Fresh Air Fund. These organizations led the movement nationally to experiment with more effective arrangements and expressions of the unit camp ideal, and to replace heavy rustic buildings with a modern architecture that was innovative in concept, simple and cost effective in construction and materials, and beautifully contoured to the natural surroundings. Both the Girl Scouts and the Fresh Air Fund were anxious to provide campers with an optimum learning experience in the woods. Although lodges were the most elaborate and finished structures at any given campsite, the buildings in general were designed to mediate between campers and the out-of-doors as little as possible. These characteristics distinguished Girl Scout and Fresh Air Fund campsites from the more highly embellished private camps of the postwar period, which we discuss briefly below.

Compared to the buildings showcased in Good's *Park & Recreation Structures* (1938), the lodges and dining facilities selected for Salomon's publication twenty years later were longer and lower in composition, lighter in construction, and, in general, better lighted with substantial window walls and greater transparency to the out-of-doors. Lodges came in four modern configurations. The most common were long rectangular buildings w/kitchens joined perpendicular to the dining room in a T-shape, an L-shape, or simply extending the dining facility at one end. The Dining Hall and Kitchen built for the St. Louis Council (Eric W. Smith, architect), for example, were housed in one extended, low-pitched gable roofed structure with window walls on the long sides and a stone fireplace with wide modern chimney at the entrance end. Inside, the exposed structural members and precisely joined wood ceiling formed the only ornamentation. The structure was supported by a single exposed I-beam, held up by three narrow center posts, giving campers an unobstructed view of the entire room and the landscape beyond.¹³⁵ The Los Angeles Council's Dining Hall (Paul Robinson Hunter, architect) was another long rectangular space with the kitchen placed in a wing forming an ell at the rear. The dining room featured a mono-pitched roof rising two and a half storeys to a dramatic window wall looking out on a stone terrace toward the woods.¹³⁶ The Dining Hall constructed for the Dallas Council (Smith & Warder, Architects and Engineers) was a simple rectangle with window walls on the long sides and blind stone walls with identical fireplaces on the ends. On the long side that campers entered, an extremely low-pitched gable roof extended over a simple porch. At the center of the long side in the rear was the kitchen wing.¹³⁷

¹³⁴ "Indian Head Camp, Bushkill, Pennsylvania." Photographs, Gottscho-Schleisner Collection, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division. American Memory Digital ID <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/gsc.5a20665>.

¹³⁵ Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 116.

¹³⁶ Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 117.

¹³⁷ Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 122.

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A fourth configuration presented in Salomon's book, somewhat less common in the postwar years, was a chevron-shaped dining room (often used to separate Brownies on one side and Girl Scouts on the other) with a central kitchen wing to the rear. The lodge constructed for the Lone Tree Area Council of Oak Park, Illinois (E. Todd Wheeler, architect), for example, was a low-pitched gable roof structure with window walls on all four sides offering complete transparency to the out-of-doors. A central stone fireplace at the point of the chevron and stone corner piers at the ends were the only features interrupting the views.¹³⁸ By far the most novel lodge design Salomon presented, unique in the book, was the circular configuration of Rogers & Taliaferro's Tee Pee Lodge. Shown in plan, perspective, and section drawings, with a detailed depiction and explanation of the structural system and telescoping fireplace hood, the Tee Pee Lodge was both the most modest and the most structurally innovative facility illustrated.¹³⁹

Two other camps contemporary to those Salomon selected for his book demonstrate more radical applications of modern architecture for organized unit camping nationally. The Girls Camp at Griffith Park, constructed for the Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation in 1954, the same year as the Tee Pee Lodge, accommodated 150 girls on 3015 acres. Designed by Smith & Williams, camp structures were set harmoniously into a valley and the hillsides surrounding it.¹⁴⁰ In keeping with the philosophy of unit camps, spearheaded by the Girl Scouts, the architects avoided large buildings, since "children develop interest and independence more quickly in small groups."¹⁴¹ Buildings were spread out to create more walking opportunities between the cabins clustered in groups of three at the higher elevations and the pool and lodge in the valley. The lodge, or administration building, hosted meals, recreation, and mail call. A roughly square building with a kitchen wing attached on the diagonal at one corner, its brick walls supported a mono-pitched roof with large windows between.¹⁴² A single exposed steel girder at the ridgepole supports the roof and keeps columns to a minimum in the considerably open dining/assembly space. A raised concrete platform by the fireplace at one end doubles as a stage. Light wood members combined with plywood panels and large areas of glass to create an "airy, playful atmosphere for the campers."¹⁴³ Imaginatively planned, and with a "logical and natural use of materials", the lodge is unapologetically modern in both conception and details.¹⁴⁴

Camp Bliss in Fishkill, New York, planned by Julian Salomon in 1955, was the first of several Fresh Air Fund camps with architecture commissioned from Edward Larrabee Barnes.¹⁴⁵ Intended to provide poor city girls with a wilderness experience, Camp Bliss housed campers in clusters of four "wigwams," or tents sleeping four girls each, each cluster with its own unit lodge—or "village hall"—and washhouse. At the center of camp was a churchlike dining hall with a seating capacity of 144 with campers arrayed on benches around modern square

¹³⁸ Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 118.

¹³⁹ Salomon, *Campsite Development*, 120-121.

¹⁴⁰ "Escape for City Children," *Progressive Architecture* 35 (Mar. 1954): 78-83.

¹⁴¹ *Ibid.*, 79.

¹⁴² *Ibid.*, 79-80.

¹⁴³ *Ibid.*, 81.

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, 79.

¹⁴⁵ "Architecture Goes Camping," *Architectural Forum* 103 (July 1955): 134-139.

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tables on spindly legs.¹⁴⁶ A beautifully finished wooden roof supported by tilted A-trusses on reinforced stone piers opened to a glass gable and hovered over transparent walls. The skylit mono-pitched kitchen wing as well as flat-roofed service buildings throughout the camp were rigorously modern post and beam modular structures alternating glass and wooden screens.¹⁴⁷ The A-framed village halls, which accommodated councils of up to 36 girls, were imaginatively designed mini-cathedrals with glass gable ends opening toward the lake.¹⁴⁸

During the 1960s, Barnes designed two additional camps with dramatically modern buildings at Fishkill, New York, for the Fresh Air Fund. Camp Hayden for boys, completed by 1962, utilized the same kind of unit planning with clusters of tents and village halls that Salomon had prescribed for Camp Bliss.¹⁴⁹ Here again, the Dining Hall was the focal point and central gathering place for the camp. Of rugged fieldstone walls with a steeply mono-pitched wood roof, the structure enclosed an enormous cave-like space with a low kitchen wing to one side. Primitive and rustic in feeling, seeming to grow right out of the rocky terrain, the dining hall was also unmistakably modern.¹⁵⁰ Very different in feel from Camp Hayden, Camp Hidden Valley in Fishkill was constructed c.1963 by the Fresh Air Fund for physically handicapped children.¹⁵¹ Throughout the camp, Barnes applied a simple vocabulary of form, "based on a repeated structural bay..., a consistent floor-to-eave dimension, and a uniform roof slope."¹⁵² The much lighter buildings were sheathed in one material—naturally weathered wood shingles—but the plain exteriors masked unusual interiors, particularly in the combination lodge and dining hall. There another dramatic roof was supported by a central row of heavy Y-trusses and pierced by glazed gable ends, reverse-triangular windows of the same size, and skylights. The ceiling, walls, and floors were sheathed in uniform warm oak paneling.¹⁵³ A similar if less dramatic spatial treatment was applied throughout the smaller camp buildings, tying them to each other and to the woody landscape beyond.¹⁵⁴

Perhaps the most monumental Girl Scout Lodge constructed in the postwar years can be found at Camp Louise in northeastern Pennsylvania. Designed by Bohlin and Powell from 1967 to 1972, 18 years after the Tee Pee Lodge, the Dining Hall was large enough to accommodate 250 campers.¹⁵⁵ It was quite an ingenious design. Viewed from the rear, the lodge and its long kitchen wing blended horizontally into the landscape. Toward the front, however, the main dining space soared to three stories at the end of a series of stepped window walls increasing in height from east to west. Each of the stepped window walls was equipped with a series of fixed

¹⁴⁶ Ibid., 135.¹⁴⁷ Ibid., 136-7.¹⁴⁸ Ibid., 138-9.¹⁴⁹ "Two Camps Designed for Summer Fun," *Architectural Forum* 117 (July 1962): 89-95.¹⁵⁰ Ibid., 90-91.¹⁵¹ "Hidden Valley - Contemporary Interpretation," *Progressive Architecture* 44 (Dec. 1963): 111-117.¹⁵² Ibid., 112.¹⁵³ Ibid., 112-113.¹⁵⁴ Ibid., 114-115.¹⁵⁵ "For Girl Scouts: A Camp With Quiet Flair," *Architectural Record* 152 (July 1972): 121-126.

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and adjustable sun flaps.¹⁵⁶ The changing quality of light in the magnificent dining and assembly space formed the principal interior ornamentation. The mono-pitched roof was supported by heavy posts and diagonal braces. An asymmetrical fireplace set in a nook and flanked by the asymmetrical entrance hall contrasted with the dark wood finish of the walls and ceiling.¹⁵⁷ At more than twice the capacity of the Tee Pee Lodge and more intrusive in the landscape, the Dining Hall at Camp Louise displayed a highly original and experimental design but one that interfered with the simple interface between camper and the outdoor experience that the Girl Scouts generally favored.¹⁵⁸

During the postwar period, several noteworthy modern camping lodges were constructed in the State of Maryland as well, although the best of these, architecturally speaking, came more than ten years after the Tee Pee Lodge began welcoming girl scouts to its council circle. Surveying a sufficient range of summer camps in Maryland requires expanding the search to include private camps with substantial tuitions in addition to the more basic establishments supervised by organizations such as the Girl Scouts and the Camp Fire Girls. The comparison is instructive and highlights significant differences during the postwar era in the philosophy of youth camping. Throughout its history, the Girl Scout organization has adhered to an approach that emphasizes providing girls with minimally mediated exposure to life in the outdoors to teach them citizenship skills, the responsibilities of community living, and the physical, mental, and spiritual benefits that derive from contact with nature. The Tee Pee Lodge is an economical and ingenious modern evocation of that philosophy.

Of the several distinctive modern lodges constructed in Maryland after 1949, the closest in time and form to the Tee Pee Lodge is a facility that architect Donald Drayer designed for the Camp Fire Girls in Forestville in 1956 in the shape of a teepee.¹⁵⁹ [If there is more to say after we've studied the drawing, add another sentence here.] More ordinary is the picnic pavilion at Camp Glyndon (now Camp Merrick), operated by the Lions Club on the shores of the Potomac River in southern Maryland. The handsome rectangular structure, nearly all steeply-pitched gabled wooden roof supported on twenty-two brick piers on a concrete pad, featured a prominent fireplace with a massive brick end chimney.¹⁶⁰ Most unusual in both design and mission was the Wye Institute Summer Camp (c. 1968), "a place where boys from farms and small towns are introduced to the world beyond Maryland's Eastern Shore." Set amid massive oaks and beeches along the Wye River, the camp's main facilities are given "an ordered, almost urban physical form," by architect Edward Larrabee Barnes.¹⁶¹ All of the non-residential buildings are shingled with mono-pitched shed roofs and arrayed along a boardwalk with indoor activities to the south and athletic activities to the north.¹⁶² The central structure in this highly linear arrangement is the dining hall and lodge, an indoor-outdoor building set on a broad wood-floored plaza with the

¹⁵⁶ Ibid., 121-123.

¹⁵⁷ Ibid., 124.

¹⁵⁸ Good, *Park & Recreational Structures*, 3.

¹⁵⁹ "Architectural Drawing for a Camp Shelter for the Camp Fire Girls, Forestville, Maryland," (1956), Unit 1310, Donald H. Drayer Archive, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress. I thank Abigail Van Slyck for calling this structure to our attention.

¹⁶⁰ Photograph of Pavilion at Camp Glyndon, n.d.; "Welcome to Lions Camp Merrick/Glyndon," <http://www.lionscampmerrick.org/>.

¹⁶¹ "Downtown Core for a Camp," *Architectural Forum* 129 (July-Aug 1968): 88-91.

¹⁶² Ibid., 88-89.

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camp's ceremonial flagpole. The most distinctive feature of the simple complex is the back-to-back indoor/outdoor fireplaces, simply articulated by twin chimneys. The dining room, which is finished in warmly-colored wood throughout, is an elegant space, sparsely furnished. The roof, which rises on the south side to two-and-a-half storeys, is a post-and-beam structure with diagonal braces. Fixed panels of glass form clerestory windows high on the south wall; the lower wall consists of "insect screen with roll-down canvas curtains for protection in bad weather."¹⁶³ This novel campus hosts 88 ninth grade boys in two four-week sessions: not for wilderness camping, but for lectures, arts & crafts, individual instruction, athletics, and an extensive program of fieldtrips to urban cultural institutions.¹⁶⁴

More common in Maryland during the 1950s and 60s were a series of Jewish camps for children, such as Kaufmann Camp on the Chesapeake Bay near Plum Point, and Camp Masheva, a 287-acre Zionist camp founded in 1947 on the site of a farm near Annapolis.¹⁶⁵ The most architecturally distinguished of these was The Milldale Camps in Woodensburg, sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Baltimore. Designed by RTKL in 1965, the Camp won an Award of Honor from the Baltimore Chamber of Commerce and AIA for "its poetic quality which is so often missing in architecture. . . . In a surprising combination of heroic scale, humble forms, and deceptively direct siting, this day camp becomes a poetic and reverberating place." Typical of the more amenity rich camps developed after World War II as camp development professionalized and camping activities became both more elaborated and expensive is Camps Airy and Louise (for boys and girls, respectively) in the Catocin Mountains. In contrast to the minimally developed Camp Woodlands in Anne Arundel County, Camp Louise offered specialized facilities, such as a fitness center, an outdoor pool, outdoor theatre, soccer fields, beach volleyball courts, and an arts and crafts classroom building. Cabins accommodated fourteen girls and two counselors and provided indoor toilets and showers. The modern lodge and dining facility could provide up to 600 campers with daily meals prepared by a well known local catering business. Both Camps Airy and Louise were directed by credentialed professionals and retained clinics and medical personnel on site, in keeping with the postwar effort to place summer youth camp administration on a more scientific basis.¹⁶⁶

To summarize how the Tee Pee Lodge at Camp Woodlands compares in significance with similar camp structures nationwide, it is important to reiterate the contexts we have employed to gain perspective. In comparison with other organized youth camps in the State of Maryland, the Tee Pee Lodge exemplifies the unit camping approach pioneered by the Girl Scouts of America and the effort to provide campers with the most direct experience of life in the woods, minimally mediated by the built environment. It is easily the most architecturally distinguished modern evocation of the Girl Scout camping philosophy and the unit camp ideal in

¹⁶³ Ibid., 90-91.

¹⁶⁴ Ibid., 91.

¹⁶⁵ "Jewish Washington: Scrapbook of an American Community," exhibition at the National Building Museum, Washington, D.C. (June 24, 2005-July 4, 2006).

¹⁶⁶ "Camps Airy & Louise," http://www.airylouise.org/virtual_tours/louise_tour/map.asp; Van Slyck, "Housing the Happy Camper," 11.

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the state. Among scouting camps¹⁶⁷ included on the National Register of Historic Places, the Tee Pee Lodge is the only facility to date designed according to the principles of Modern architecture and the only circular-shaped lodge. Although it shares the quality with lodges at Camps Ouachita, Cloud Rim and Kiwanee of achieving the combined purpose of providing a dining facility, an all-camp assembly space, and a cultural/recreational building, it does so with greater economy and spatial ingenuity. It is unique in this context in accommodating and expressing the council circle, perhaps the central symbolic and cultural space in organized youth camps provided for scouting organizations and Camp Fire Girls.¹⁶⁸ Only Camp Cloud Rim and Camp Woodlands remain continuously owned by Girl Scout councils; Camp Cloud Rim's historic lodge, however, was destroyed by fire in 1992, so only the Tee Pee Lodge continues to be used for its original historic purpose.

In comparison with organized unit camps for youth nationwide, we have distinguished between the period 1925 to 1949, when the vast majority of camping structures were designed in a rustic style of architecture, with the period 1950 to 1972, when a substantial number of new buildings constructed by pioneering camping organizations like the Girl Scouts can be considered significant examples of "situated modernism." The Tee Pee Lodge is one of the most distinguished examples nationally in this latter category. The tee pee form, expressed in wood, beautifully joined on the interior, fits quietly into the forested surroundings of Camp Woodlands. The building is simple and spare in concept but rich in finish and execution. Its round form and ingenious telescoping fireplace hood are architecturally unique in the national context and render the lodge surprisingly flexible for multiple uses—whether dining, rainy day activities, or ritual ceremonies around the fire circle at night. It is the only scouting lodge we have found that embodies the spirit of the council circle, so central to girl scouting, in its composition. In addition, the Tee Pee Lodge exhibits a boldness of conception in structure and an ingenuity regarding materials and construction that is unsurpassed nationally. A few other modern lodges provide grander spaces, and more visually stunning transparency with the outdoors, but none is the product of an ingenious structural imagination combined with rock-bottom economy of construction. This is an important part of the Tee Pee Lodge's significance because the essence of the camping ideal for the Girl Scouts was the ability to deliver an outdoor residential experience economically, to any girl who desired it. In this sense, the financing (cookie sales) and construction history (weeks of adult and youth volunteer labor) of the Tee Pee Lodge are important components of its historical significance. Architect Charles Lamb's imaginative application of Modernist architectural principles and his structural ingenuity enabled the Central Maryland Council of the Girl Scouts to garner the resources required to construct the lodge at Camp Woodlands. Thus Lamb Lodge is nationally significant for the quality of its architecture, for being the first

¹⁶⁷ We include among "scouting camps," camps for both the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and the Camp Fire Girls.

¹⁶⁸ It might be argued that for Boy Scout camps, the flagpole is a more important ritual staging ground, but for the Girl Scouts, the council circle is the unsurpassed central ritual and symbolic space.

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nationally recognized and awarded work of a master firm, and because it is a unique embodiment of the social history and philosophy of the Girl Scouts of America, particularly the unit camp idea and the ideals embodied in the council circle.

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 34 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1

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Zone Easting Northing

2

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3

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Zone Easting Northing

4

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Isabelle Gournay, Dr. Mary Corbin Sies, Erica Schultz, Darian Schwab, and Ben Riniker

organization Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation, University of Maryland

date 6-30-2008

street & number School of Architecture, University of Maryland

telephone 301-405-6284

city or town College Park

state Maryland

zip code 20742

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

MIHP # AA-2353

Name of Property

Girl Scout Lodge

Anne Arundel, Maryland

County and State

Section 10 Page 1

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 10 Page 2

MIHP # AA-2353
Name of Property
Girl Scout Lodge
Anne Arundel, Maryland
County and State

name Girl Scouts of Central Maryland
street & number 4806 Seton Drive telephone 410.358.9711
city or town Baltimore state Maryland zip code 21215

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

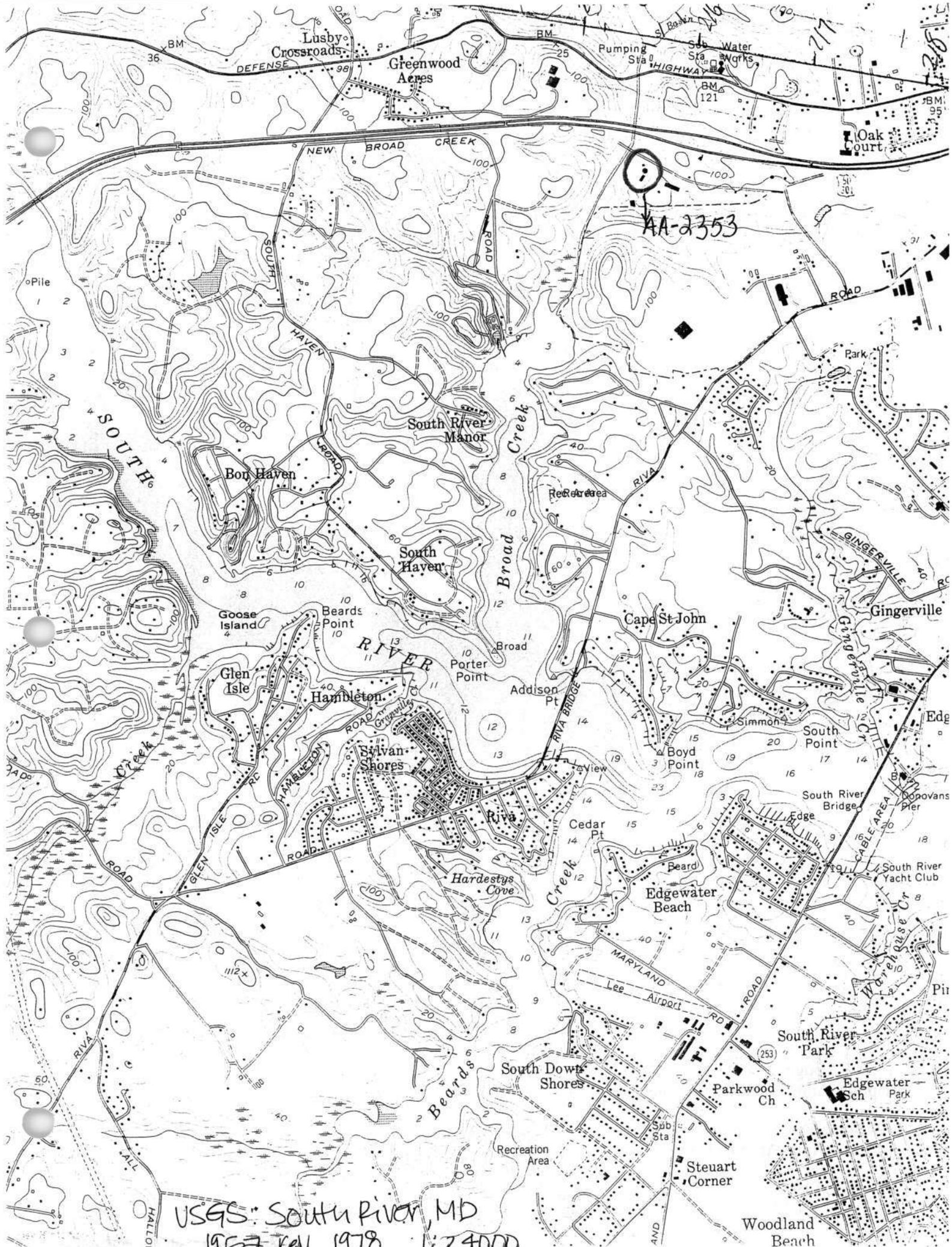
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Verbal Boundary Description:

The property is designated on Tax Map 50, Grid 11, Parcel 52.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary defines the historic property as well as the present day site.



USGS: SOUTH RIVER, MD
1957 Rev. 1978 1:24000

HALLI

Woodland Beach

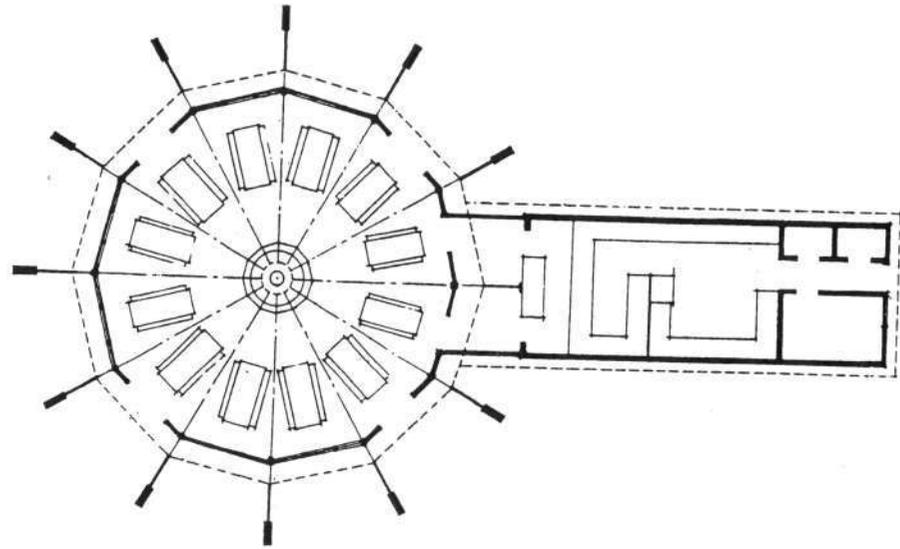
AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge
Annapolis, Anne Arundel, Maryland

USGS South River Quadrangle
Maryland - Anne Arundel Co.
1957

Date Revised 1978
32°30' - 43°15'

Girl Scout Lodge



DINING HALL

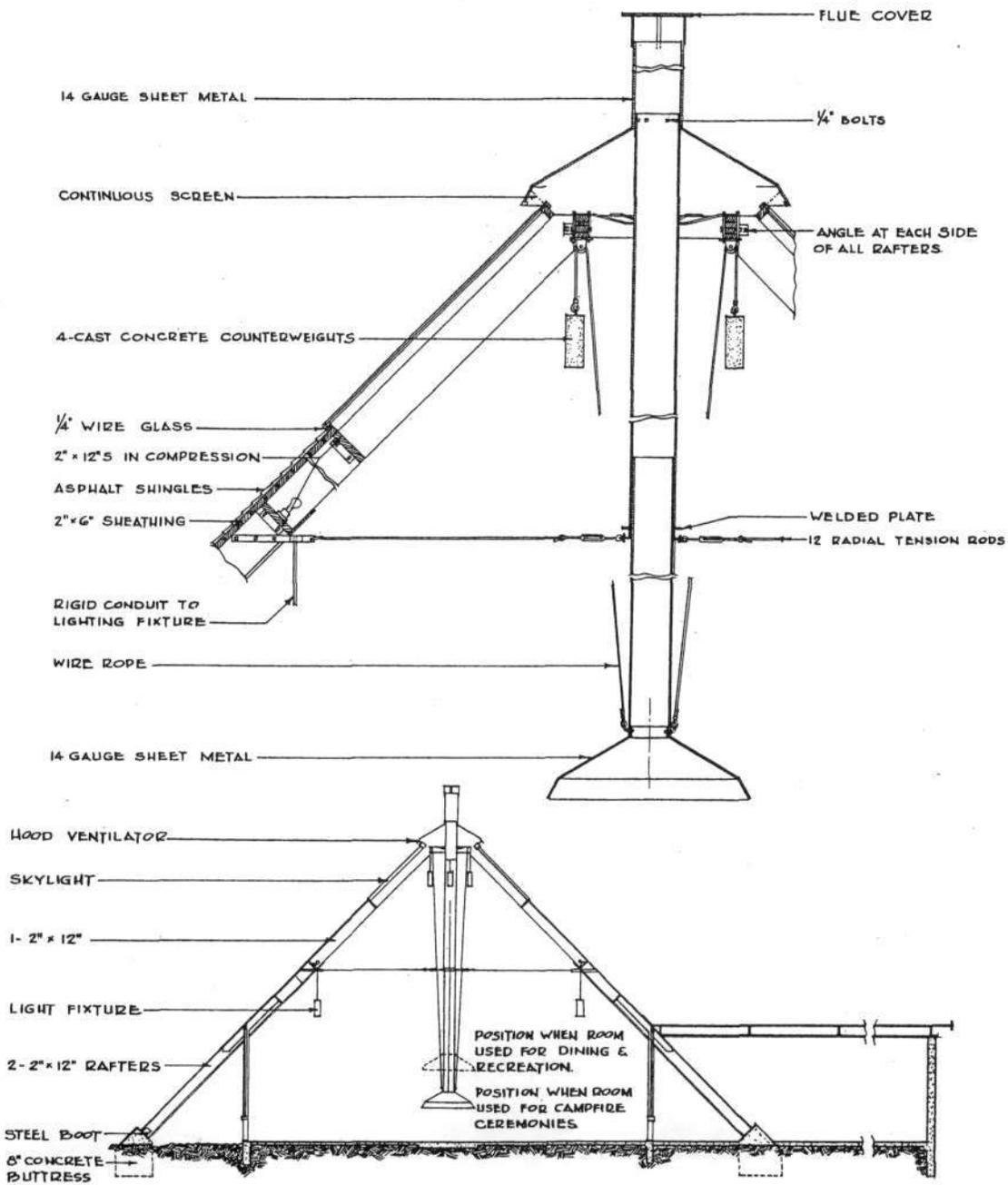
ROGERS, TALIAFERRO & LAMB
ARCHITECTS

Plate 1

AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954.
Plan and presentation drawings of Girl Scout Lodge.

Source: Reprinted from Julian Harris Salomon, *Campsite Development* (New York: Girl Scouts of the United States, 1959), 120.



DINING HALL

ROGERS, TALIAFERRO & LAMB
ARCHITECTS

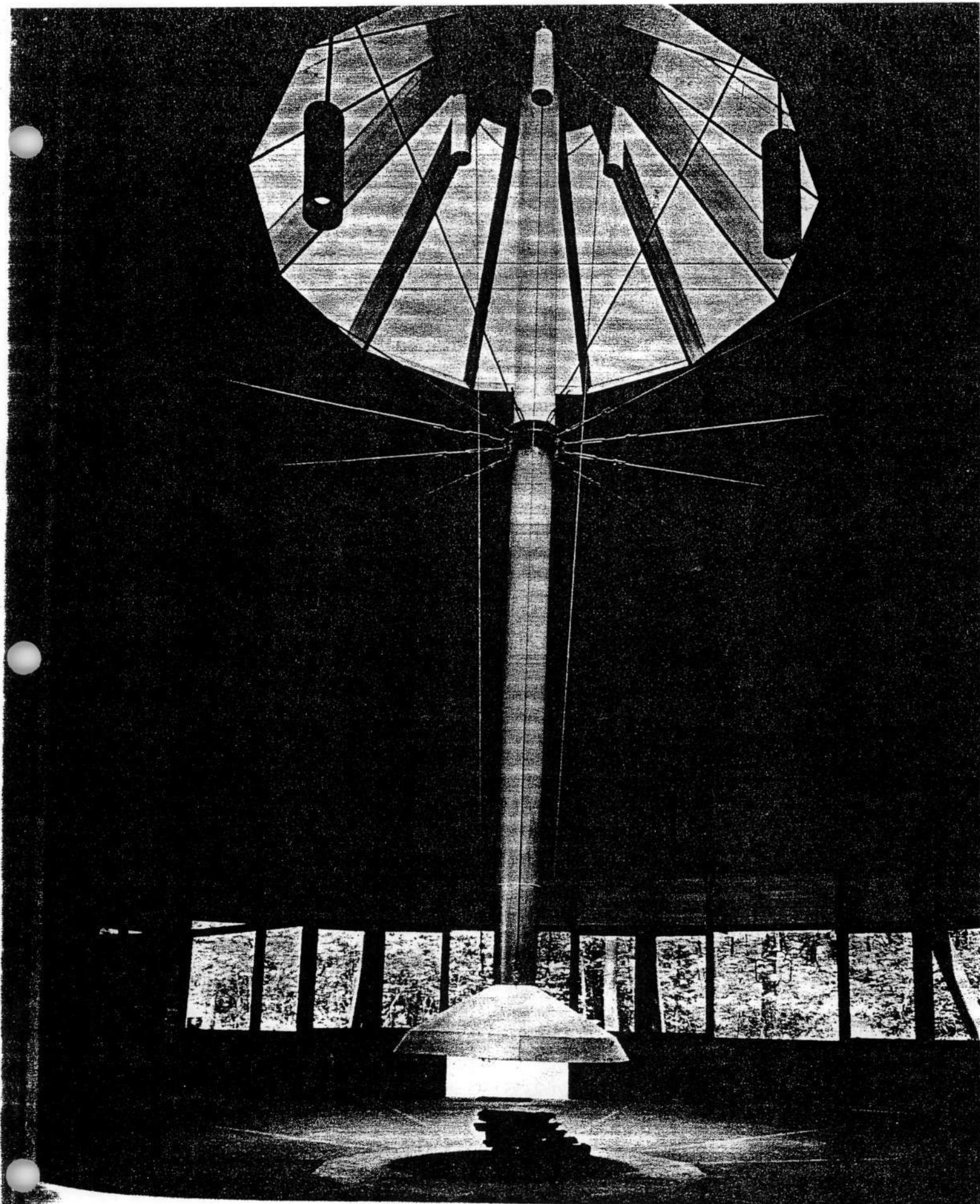
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COUNCIL
MARYLAND

Plate 2

AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954.
Section drawings of lodge and of telescoping
fireplace hood.

Source: Reprinted from Julian Harris Salomon,
Campsite Development (New York: Girl Scouts of the
United States, 1959), 121.



girl scout lodge

"Recreation Arch"
Prog. Arch. 1957 Aug. v 38 p.109-40

AA-2353

location | Annapolis, Maryland
architects | Rogers, Taliaferro & Lamb

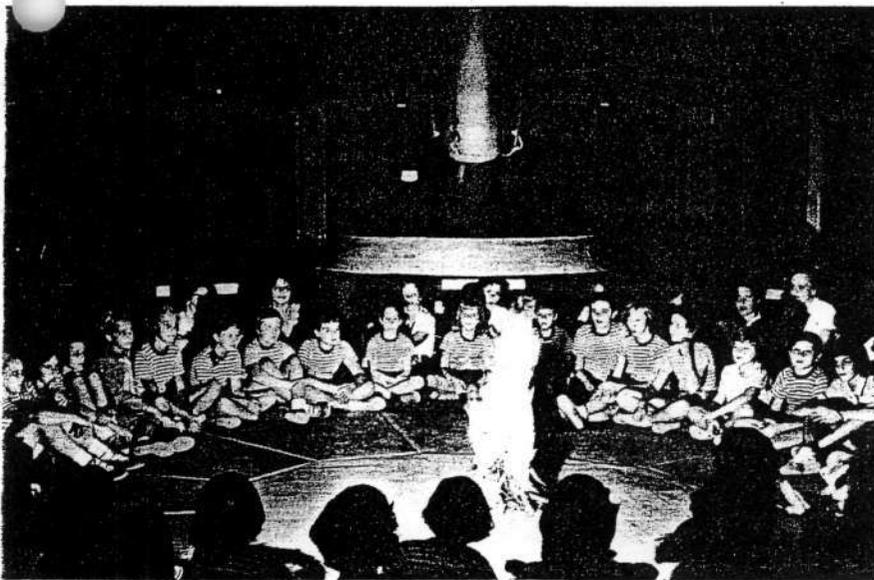
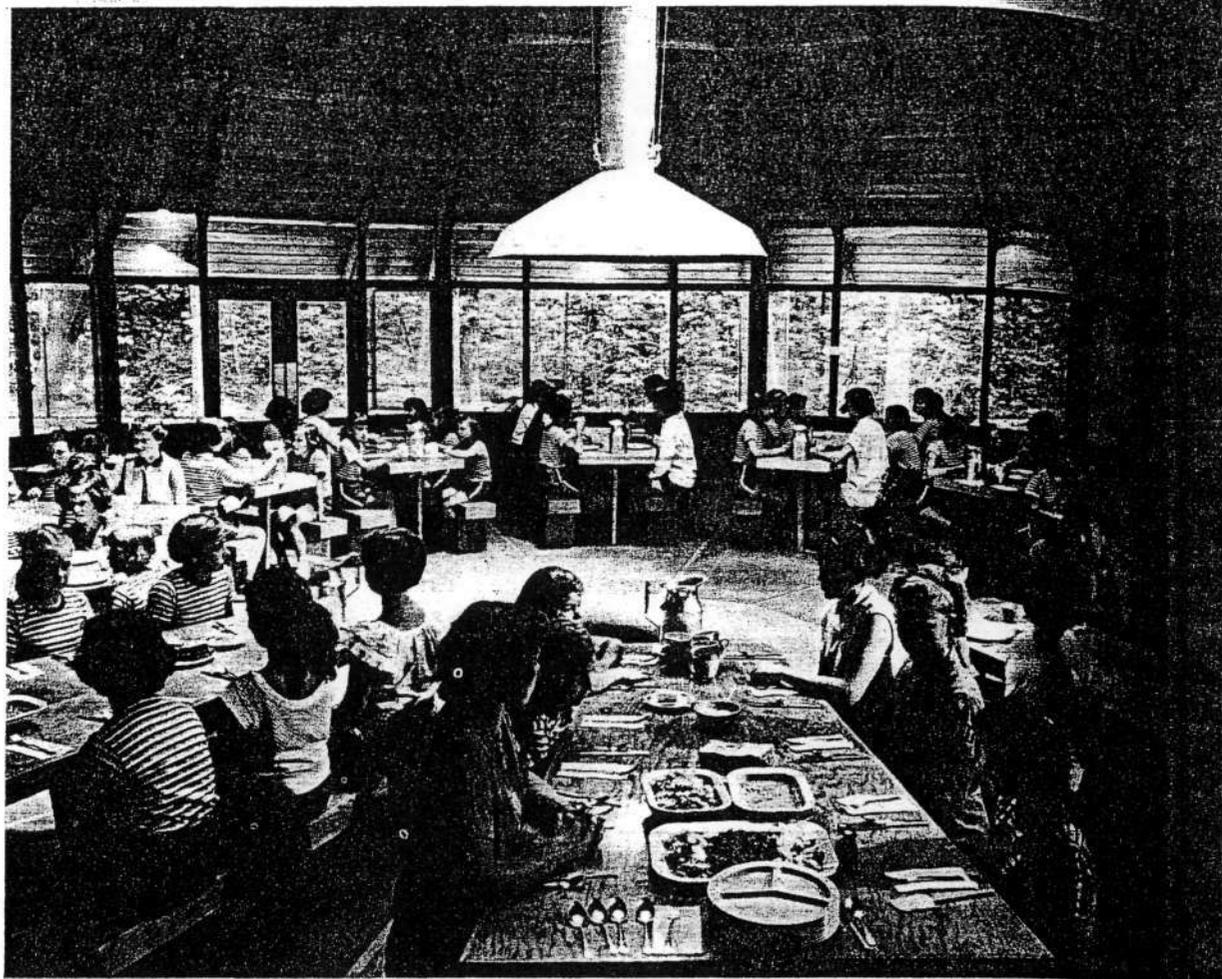
Plate 3

AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954.
Photograph of telescoping fireplace hood and
counterweight system.

Source: Reprinted from "Recreation Architecture,"
Progressive Architecture 38(1957), 109.

AA-2353



A wooded hilltop (acrosspage bottom) near the center of the camp provided dramatic views, good drainage and soil-bearing conditions for the lodge. Fireplace hood in center of twelve-sided room may be elevated above eye level for dining and games (above), or lowered for campfire ceremonies (left).

Photos: M. E. Warren

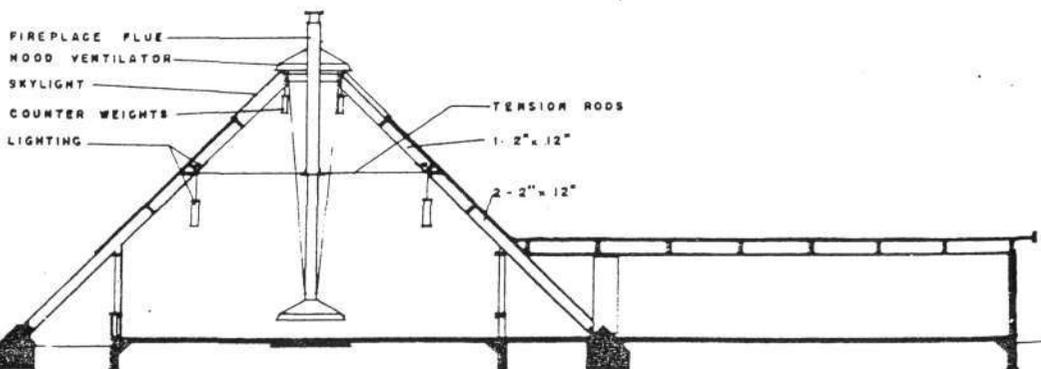
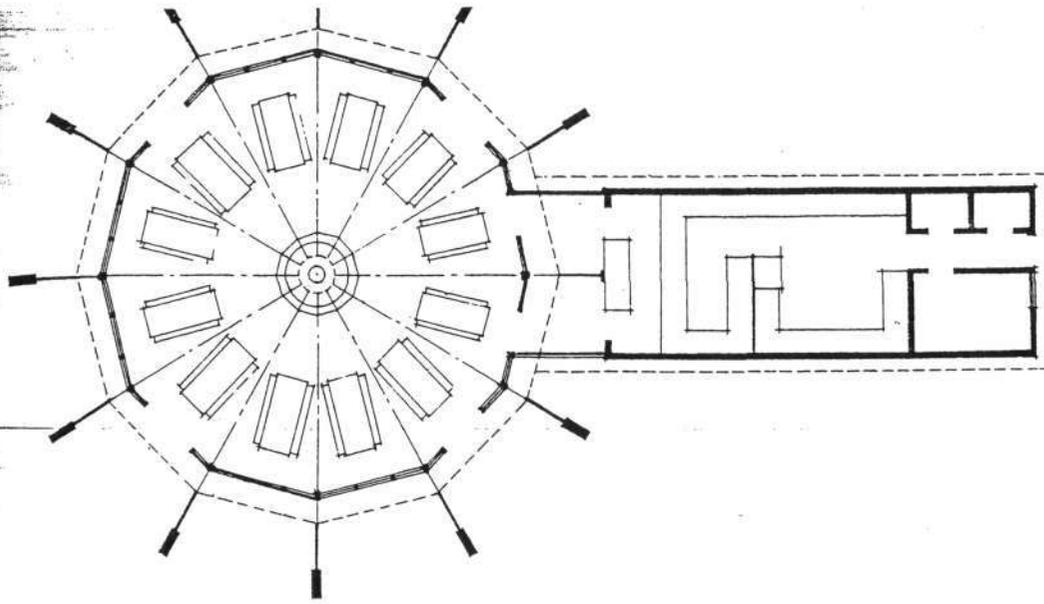


Plate 4

AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954.
Photographs of girl scouts dining and sitting around the
campfire.

Source: Reprinted from "Recreation Architecture,"
Progressive Architecture 38(1957), 122.



It would be difficult to imagine a more direct and pleasing architectural solution to the housing needs of 100 Girl Scouts, than this one. These were the requirements: a space suitable for indoor dining and recreation; a fireplace as focal point of the room for camp-fire ceremonies; the area to be well lighted and ventilated for predominant summer use; the structure to be erected at lowest possible cost, using

amateur volunteer labor; adequate kitchen and service facilities; provision for a future administrative wing. The architects' solution: a twelve-sided conical structure with a fireplace in the center, circled by twelve dining tables. For dual use of the room, the hood of the central fireplace may be raised or lowered (*opening page and SELECTED DETAIL*). Ample light enters through the screened windows

around the perimeter and through an apex skylight. Natural ventilation is induced by a ventilator at the peak of the cone. By using the skin of the building as a structurally integral part, framing members were kept to minimum size and weight. Kitchen and administrative wings were kept low to dramatize the bold form of the lodge.



Plate 5

AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954.
Plan and photograph of Girl Scout Lodge at Camp
Woodlands.

Source: Reprint from "Recreation Architecture,"
Progressive Architecture 38(1957), 123.



12 31 12



AA-2353

Plate 6

AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954.
Photograph of exterior.

Source: James Rosenthal, photographer: HABS
photograph, circa 2005, GirlscoutlodgeMD-1256-1.



AA-2353

Plate 7

AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954.
Photograph showing exterior and its annex building.

Source: James Rosenthal, photographer: HABS
photograph, circa 2005, GirlscoutlodgeMD-1256-2.



HABBS 13

EXIT

EXIT

AA-2353

Plate 8

AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954.
Photograph showing interior of wood finish detail and
telescoping hood.

Source: James Rosenthal, photographer: HABS
photograph, circa 2005, GirlscoutlodgeMD-1256-3.

Plate 1. Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954. Plan and presentation drawings of Girl Scout Lodge, reprinted from Julian Harris Salomon, *Campsite Development* (New York: Girl Scouts of the United States, 1959), 120.

Plate 2. Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954. Section drawings of lodge and of telescoping fireplace hood, reprinted from Julian Harris Salomon, *Campsite Development* (New York: Girl Scouts of the United States, 1959), 121.

Plate 3. Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954. Photograph of telescoping fireplace hood and counterweight system, reprinted from "Recreation Architecture," *Progressive Architecture* 38(1957), 109.

Plate 4. Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954. Photographs of girl scouts dining and sitting around the campfire, reprinted from "Recreation Architecture," *Progressive Architecture* 38(1957), 122.

Plate 5. Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954. Plan and photograph of Girl Scout Lodge at Camp Woodlands, reprint from "Recreation Architecture," *Progressive Architecture* 38(1957), 123.

Plate 6. Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954. Photograph of exterior. James Rosenthal, photographer: HABS photograph, circa 2005, GirlscoutlodgeMD-1256-1.

Plate 7. Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954. Photograph showing exterior and its annex building. James Rosenthal, photographer: HABS photograph, circa 2005, GirlscoutlodgeMD-1256-2.

Plate 8. Girl Scout Lodge, Rogers & Taliaferro, 1954. Photograph showing interior of wood finish detail and telescoping hood. James Rosenthal, photographer: HABS photograph, circa 2005, GirlscoutlodgeMD-1256-3.

Photograph 1. Girl Scout Lodge, Camp Woodlands, 2744 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21041. Anne Arundel County. Exterior of the tee pee. Isabelle Gournay, photographer, c. January 2003. Maryland Historical Trust.

Photograph 2. Girl Scout Lodge, Camp Woodlands, 2744 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21041. Anne Arundel County. Exterior of the tee pee showing the hyphen with the kitchen wing and foundations. Isabelle Gournay, photographer, c. January 2003. Maryland Historical Trust.

Photograph 3. Girl Scout Lodge, Camp Woodlands, 2744 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21041. Anne Arundel County. Exterior of the kitchen wing with tee pee in the background. Isabelle Gournay, photographer, c. January 2003. Maryland Historical Trust.

Photograph 4. Girl Scout Lodge, Camp Woodlands, 2744 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21041. Anne Arundel County. Tee pee interior showing the location of the fireplace and retractable hood. Isabelle Gournay, photographer, c. January 2003. Maryland Historical Trust.

Photograph 5. Girl Scout Lodge, Camp Woodlands, 2744 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21041. Anne Arundel County. View of the interior showing the configuration of beams. Isabelle Gournay, photographer, c. January 2003. Maryland Historical Trust.

Photograph 6. Girl Scout Lodge, Camp Woodlands, 2744 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21041. Anne Arundel County. Kitchen wing and interior. Isabelle Gournay, photographer, c. January 2003. Maryland Historical Trust.



Girl Scout Lodge
Camp Woodlands
2744 Riva Road
Annapolis, MD 21041
Anne Arundel County

AA-2353

Isabelle Gournay
January 2003

Maryland Historical Trust

Exterior of the teepee

#1



Girl Scout Lodge

AA-2353

Camp Woodlands

2744 Riva Road

Annapolis, MD 21041

Anne Arundel County

Isabelle Gournay

January 2003

Maryland Historical Trust

Exterior of the teepee showing the hyphen
with the kitchen wing and foundations



Girl Scout Lodge

AA-2353

Camp Woodlands

2744 Riva Road

Annapolis, MD 21041

Anne Arundel County

Isabelle Gournay.

January 2003

Maryland Historical Trust

Exterior of the kitchen wing with teepee
in the background



Girl Scout Lodge

AA-2353

Camp Woodlands

2744 Riva Road

Annapolis, MD 21041

Anne Arundel County

Isabelle Gournay

January 2003

Maryland Historical Trust

Tee pee interior showing the location of the fireplace
and retractable hood



Girl Scout Lodge

AA-2353

Camp Woodlands

2744 Riva Rd.

Annapolis, MD 21041

Anne Arundel County

Isabelle Gournay

January 2003

Maryland Historical Trust

View of the interior showing the configuration
of beams

#5



EXIT

12-118

AA-2353

Girl Scout Lodge

Camp Woodlands

2744 Riva Rd

Annapolis, MD 21041

Anne Arundel County

Isabelle Gournay

January 2003

Maryland Historical Trust

Kitchen wing and interior

#6