

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES**

HST-6 REV 6/83

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
Town No.:	Site No.:		
UTM 18	642090	4634020	
QUAD:	Cornwall CT		
DISTRICT		IF NR, SPECIFY	
<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potential

IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIPTION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) <i>(Historic)</i>		Mohawk Forest Adirondack Shelter		Red Mountain Shelter	
2. TOWN, CITY		VILLAGE		COUNTY	
Cornwall				Litchfield 005	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)					
Adjacent to Appalachian Trail on north side of Route 4					
4. OWNER(S)					
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private					
5. USE (Present) <i>(Historic)</i>					
open camp shelter			open camp shelter		
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE IF YES, EXPLAIN					
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		open shelter	
7. STYLE OF BUILDING				DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
Rustic-Adirondack				1934	
8. MATERIALS (Indicate use or location when appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Log		
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone			
<input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten	<input type="checkbox"/> Stucco	<input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cur stone Type: _____			
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM					
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	<input type="checkbox"/> balloon			
<input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry	<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Log					
10. ROOF (Type)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Gable	<input type="checkbox"/> Flat	<input type="checkbox"/> Mansard	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor	<input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Hip	<input type="checkbox"/> Round	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
(Material)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt	<input type="checkbox"/> Tin	<input type="checkbox"/> Slate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> Built up	<input type="checkbox"/> Tile	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS			
1		7' x 15'			
12. CONDITION (Structural) <i>(Exterior)</i>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY (Location) WHEN? (Alterations) IF YES, EXPLAIN					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
14. RELATED BUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES					
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn	<input type="checkbox"/> Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage	<input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)		
None					
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden			
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT					
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood-land	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site		
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input type="checkbox"/> High building density		
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS					

Located in small clearing on east side of Appalachian Trail on north side of Route 4.

(OVER)

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

An open shed-roofed shelter constructed of saddle-notched logs. Rock pier foundation. Wood shingle roof. A sill across the open front of the structure provides stability.

18. ARCHITECT

Unknown

BUILDER

Civilian Conservation Corps

19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

The Adirondack-style shelter is one of two primitive open-front lean-to shelters for camping use built by the Civilian Conservation Corps of Camp Toumey in 1934 along the portion of the Appalachian Trail that ran through Mohawk State Forest. The shelter located on the south side of Route 4 was destroyed by fire about 1977. The surviving shelter on Red Mountain is one of three such structures built by the CCCs still extant in the state forests. The others are found in Housatonic State Forest (Sharon) and American Legion State Forest (Barkhamsted). The shelters are representative of the variety of handsome, well-constructed facilities built by the CCCs as part of their development activities in the state's parks and forests from 1933 until 1942. The CCC program was the most influential aspect of park and forest development in the state.
(see continuation sheet)

SOURCES

The Appalachian Trail. Harper's Ferry, W. Va.: The Appalachian Trail Conference. 1977.
DEP. Bureau of State Parks & Recreation. Historical File: Mohawk.
Good, Albert H. Park and Recreational Structures. United States Department of the Interior National Park Service, 1938.

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER

Mary E. McCahon

DATE

5/85

VIEW

Exterior

NEGATIVE ON FILE

CHC DEP 85: 20/25-27

Place

COMPILED BY

NAME

Mary E. McCahon

DATE

6/85

Photograph

ORGANIZATION

Connecticut Historical Commission

Here

ADDRESS

59 S. Prospect Street Hartford, CT 06106

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

N/A

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None known | <input type="checkbox"/> Highways | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vandalism | <input type="checkbox"/> Developers | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> Private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deterioration | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Explanaton _____ |

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59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

TOWN NO.: _____ SITE NO.: _____
UTM: 18 / - / - / - / - / - / - / - / - / - / - / -
QUAD:
DISTRICT: S NR: ACTUAL
POTENTIAL

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number: 19 Date: _____ Red Mountain Shelter

The trail shelter of long tradition widely known as the Adirondack shelter was probably first developed by hunters and trappers of that region, according to a 1938 National Park Service publication on park structures. For the greatest benefit from the campfire and the utmost in protection from the weather, the historic Adirondack shelter was very low in height, barely affording headroom at the open front. The roof overhung the open side and sloped to the rear. The scant headroom that resulted was not inconvenient in the original use of this type of shelter--sleeping on evergreen boughs laid on the ground. In adapting this historic design to present-day park uses, of which overnight camping was but one, the roof was usually raised to provide more headroom and the whole functional design was lost. The Red Mountain shelter, however, has not been changed and serves as a functional copy of the original Adirondack shelter.

The well preserved shelter is located along the historic Appalachian Trail, a nearly 2,000-mile-long wilderness foot path extending from Maine to Georgia. The concept of the trail was originated by Benton McKaye of Shirley, Massachusetts, in 1921 and developed over the next four decades by cooperation among various outdoor and recreational groups. New England was the first section of the country to complete a contiguous portion of the trail, which in many instances linked existing trails. The Connecticut Forest and Park Association developed the trail in the state between 1930 and 1933.

Mohawk State Forest began in 1921 with the Alain White gift of the former Cunningham tract to the state. The CCC camp operated in the forest until the end of 1941.

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The shelter is located in a 3,351-acre state forest. The nominated acreage includes the shelter situated in the center of a circle with a 400' radius which includes a portion of the Appalachian Trail.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Item number 19 Date: August 21, 1986

Addendum: Connecticut State Park and Forest Depression-Era Federal Work Relief Programs Structures Thematic Resource

Cornwall: Red Mountain Shelter

Acreage: 6.5 acres

Correction: Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The shelter is located in a 3,351-acre state forest. The nominated acreage includes the shelter situated in the center of a circle with a 300' radius which includes a portion of the Appalachian Trail.

This correction has been made because it was determined that the reduction of acreage would adequately represent the historic setting of the subject property.

Red Mountain Shelter
Cornwall, CT
Cornwall Quad
UTM 18/642090/4634020

