

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site

Other names/site number: 11CO186

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: NW 1/4, NE 1/4, SW 1/4, Section 21, Township 11 North, Range 9 East of the 3rd PM

City or town: Pleasant Grove Township; Lerna State: Illinois County: Coles

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

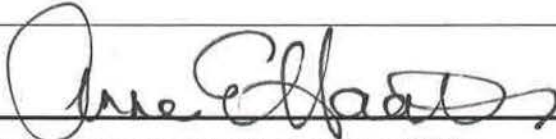
I hereby certify that this  nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

 Signature of certifying official/Title:	DSHPO 11-4-13 Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

---

Signature of commenting official: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

---

Title : \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government \_\_\_\_\_

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

  
Signature of the Keeper

1.22.14  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property \_\_\_\_\_

Coles, Illinois  
County and State \_\_\_\_\_

**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	
_____	_____ 3 _____	buildings
_____ 1 _____	_____	sites
_____	_____ 5 _____	structures
_____	_____	objects
_____ 1 _____	_____ 8 _____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: work camp

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LANDSCAPE: park  
LANDSCAPE: conservation area

---

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: N/A

**Narrative Description**

*Note: Unless otherwise cited, this National Register Nomination Archaeological Narrative Description was abstracted from the Phase I Archaeological Survey of Camp Shiloh, A Civilian Conservation Corps Encampment at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site, Coles County, Illinois (11CO186) dated October 2012 and undertaken by Fever River Research of Springfield, Illinois.*

---

**Summary Paragraph**

The approximately 10 acre, former location of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp Shiloh is situated in the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of the of the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site (LLCSHS) located in Pleasant Grove Township, near Lerna, Coles County, Illinois. The Camp Shiloh site is associated primarily with male, Euro-American occupants during its period of significance, 1935-1937. The location of Camp Shiloh is considered an archaeological site. Portions of periphery of the site have been affected by post-occupation development, but on a whole, the site is considered to retain substantial archaeological integrity.

---

**Narrative Description**

**Environment**

Currently and historically, the Camp Shiloh site is set in a rural environment consisting of rolling agronomic farm land interspersed with stands of timber along and adjacent to Embarrass River

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

watershed tributaries. Soil associations with the site are Saybrook-Dama-Drummer. Asphalt and gravel township roads link the numerous local farmsteads to nearby local communities of Charleston, Mattoon, Lerna and Janesville. The Camp Shiloh site is composed primarily of eastern woodland forest, and turf grass areas associated with post CCC occupation residential and recreational development. Natural topographic features include an intermittent stream flowing from the southwest to the northeast, which eventually feeds into West Dry Run Creek. Hydrological forces in the Camp Shiloh site area have created a gently sloping V-shaped terrain. A few glacial, residual boulders are evident within the site. The southeast, south and east peripheries of the site contain parking lots, a shelter area and a comfort station. In the southwest corner of the site, there exists a residence for LLCSSHS personnel. The principal east-west facility road is located along the southern boundary of the site.

During occupation by the CCC, the site's topographic features were much as they are contemporarily. However, the floral characteristics of the site were different, in that the site use prior to establishment of the camp facilities was pasture grasses and possibly agronomic crop species. No timber was present on the site at the time of CCC abandonment. The timber reclamation of the site was natural and has been managed by the State of Illinois as "habitat" since it inherited the site from the CCC. Dirt roads traversed portions of the site during the CCC occupation, but no substantial evidence of these tracks remains currently. Refer to Additional Documentation (AD) Figure 1 – Comparative 1938 USDA Aerial Image/2007 Satellite Image, for CCC-era and contemporary terrain, watershed, floral and development assessment.

### **Time Period of Occupation**

The Camp Shiloh site was occupied by Civilian Conservation Corps Company V-2657 from 01 Aug 1935 to May 1937. National Park Service (NPS) project management personnel arrived on site one month earlier as an advance party. Dates of occupation have been determined through CCC/U.S. Army and NPS administrative reports dating from the period 1935-1937 when the Shiloh State Park/Lincoln Log Cabin State Park development project was being physically executed by the CCC labor force, period photographs, as well as period articles from the *Charleston (IL) Courier* newspaper.

### **Persons, Ethnic Groups or Archaeological Cultures**

The Camp Shiloh site was initially occupied by a middle-aged, male CCC Euro and African-American World War I veteran company and a male Euro-American NPS contingent responsible for the construction of the infrastructure of Lincoln Log Cabin State Park during the mid-1930s. The CCC Company consisted of up to 200 personnel including laborers and U.S. Army officers who administered V-2657. The African-American CCC members were transferred to another camp by the end of 1935, most likely to comply with the July 1935 CCC policy on segregation of the races. The few NPS personnel present were the Project Director and labor foremen. No female residents were known to have inhabited the camp. Ten/eleven year old Richard Kingsbury, son of NPS Project Superintendent Theodore Kingsbury, is known to have lived at the site during the summers of 1935 and 1936.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

Archival documentation verifying the habitation of the Camp Shiloh site by the above referenced personnel consists of CCC/U.S. Army Camp inspection reports administrative reports, NPS Project Superintendent correspondence and an oral history interview conducted with Richard Kingsbury in 2011.

### Physical Characteristics

The Camp Shiloh site type is considered to be a company-size, up to 200 inhabitants, CCC labor force encampment area. Refer to AD Figures 1, 2 and 3 for camp terrain signatures and speculated location of camp buildings, pedestrian paths and vehicular lanes. The site's temporal affiliation within the realm of the categories defined/ proposed within the State of Illinois Archaeological Site Recording Form, is characterized as Rural Work Camp (1930-1945). The Camp Shiloh site possesses ruins, middens and numerous surface/sub-surface deposits directly attributed to CCC habitation of the site during the mid-1930s. AD Figures 3 and 4 indicate a partial distribution matrix of CCC-era related artifacts identified through pedestrian, metal detection and shovel test pit survey of the Camp Shiloh site. CCC-era resources present/recovered include:

1. Ruins – A 13' x 19' poured concrete foundation of approximately 4' depth. The foundation is 8" in thickness (NR Photo 1). Two pairs of poured concrete wing walls of 6" thickness are joined perpendicularly to the perimeter walls at a distance of approximately 7' from the 13' parallel perimeter walls. The wing walls are tapered in a manner to support a waste disposal tank possibly associated with the Camp Shiloh enrollee's latrine.
2. Sub-surface Midden – At a depth of approximately 18", below a 55 gallon drum lid, a deposit of steel cans, baling wire, wire screen material was located and attributed to the CCC occupation of the site.
3. Concrete Abutment, Mounds of Debris and Drainageways – Features found throughout the site that could be attributed to CCC occupation. Mounds contain concrete, cobblestones, glacial till and earth. Possibly Camp Shiloh construction materials remaining at the time of camp abandonment or consolidated as a result of post-occupation drainage, infrastructure and recreational development of the site.
4. Downed Utility Pole (NR Photo 11) – A 24', 8" diameter utility pole sawed off close to grade-level located in close proximity to the southeast corner of the NPS headquarters building.
5. Glass Bottles (AD Figures 5-7) – Intact and smashed alcohol bottles with caps. One pint and one-half pint whisky and rye bottles dating from the period of CCC occupation.
6. *Wabash Block* Pavers – Scattered along the intermittent stream that bisects the site. Many of the blocks are dated 1901. Potential CCC rip-rap materials.
7. Midden of Unfired Coal, Coal Ash and Fired Coal (AD Figure 3) – A dense 50' x 120' surface deposit area speculated to be in the area of the CCC coal fired generator which supplied electric power for the camp.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

8. Midden of Unfired Coal, Fired Coal and Pea Gravel (AD Figure 4) – A 15' x 20' surface deposit area adjacent to the location of the NPS headquarters building.
9. Construction Materials (AD Figure 8) – Binding wire, electrical wire, bolts, nuts, washers and nails located in the areas where the CCC camp buildings were constructed and then dismantled.
10. Furnishings (AD Figures 9-11) – Found in the area of the NPS headquarters building were a section of a beveled glass table top, a cast iron stove burner fragment, a portion of a lead lamp base, part of a porcelain door knob and a metal goose-shaped footing or finial from a piece of furniture.
11. Personal Items (AD Figure 12) – Finger/toenail clippers.

The depth of a majority of the individual sub-surface deposits identified at the site is 4" to 6". The density of the period individual sub-surface deposits varies from sparse to concentrated depending on historic activity in the surveyed areas. Highly concentrated areas of artifacts include the CCC barracks area and the NPS headquarters building location (AD Figures 3 and 4). The total area effectively surveyed encompassed approximately ½ of the known camp area.

Since the CCC abandonment of the site in 1937, the site has been affected by both natural and cultural influences. Naturally, the open pastureland of the camp has been reclaimed by eastern woodland tree species and invasives. The drainage area of the intermittent stream crossing the camp area has also shifted, cutting new channels and silting over older courses.

From the cultural perspective, since at least the 1950s to the 1970s, State of Illinois management personnel began using the area in the vicinity of speculated latrine foundation as a dump for construction materials, residential garbage and glass/plastic/paper debris left behind by recreational users of the overall site's facilities. The carbon content of the debris field indicates that the garbage dumped in the area was burned after deposit. In addition, non-contributing buildings, structures, parking lots and roads associated with LLCSHS recreational/residential development are extant on the east and south perimeter of the Camp Shiloh encampment area.

### **Likely Appearance of the Property During Its Period of Occupation**

As previously stated, the natural appearance of the Camp Shiloh site during the period of occupation by the CCC was sloping pastureland bisected by an intermittent stream. Period photographs (NR Photos 2, 3, 5, 7 and 9) of the site and oral histories evidence that organization of the Camp Shiloh buildings were; three enlisted men's/laborer's barracks oriented on an east/west axis on the eastern perimeter of the camp, a parade ground directly west of the barracks, mess hall, tool shed, garage, well/reservoir, baseball diamond and dispensary/shower on the southern perimeter, officer quarters on the southwestern corner, the NPS headquarters building north of the officer's quarters across the intermittent stream and the coal fired generator building and laborer's latrine north of the barracks area and south of the stream. Dirt roads/tracks traversed the site and its peripheries. Rectangular, pea gravel (speculated) pathways existed around and between the barracks buildings (AD Figures 1-3). A steel flagpole existed

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

along the southern perimeter of the camp. This flagpole was relocated to the vicinity of the contemporary LLCSHS Visitor's Center after the CCC abandoned Camp Shiloh.

The camp buildings were of wood frame, side wall, roof and floor construction supported on rectangular wooden posts at least 8"x8" in size. The asphalt covered roofs were supported by W rafter support/truss systems assembled with tie bolts, nuts and washers. Pedestrian doors for the camp buildings were 5-paneled wooden models. Windows for the camp buildings were wooden hopper and awning types. Camp buildings were heated with potbellied stoves and illuminated with incandescent lighting. The largest buildings at Camp Shiloh were the barracks, mess hall and the 10-bay truck garage.

Within the encampment area, the only contemporary, above ground element that remains from the CCC-era is the previously referenced containment foundation. The lack of other above ground resources is not unusual as the operational nature of the CCC work camps was semi-permanent at best. Template construction and at the conclusion of the project, breakdown and establishment at the next project site. The significance of the containment foundation to the CCC and Camp Shiloh contexts may speak to 1930s environmental protection methods embraced by involved national or local agencies/officials.

### **Current and Past Impacts**

In addition to the previously identified natural and cultural impacts to the Camp Shiloh site proper, other post-CCC occupation effects are evident in the township areas immediately surrounding the site. County township roads in the vicinity of the site are now, for the most part, asphalt paved. The historic 90 degree intersection of County Roads 1420 E and 030N at the southwest corner of LLCSHS has been modified to the form of a sweeping curve. Rural electric and water supply utility resources are now present adjacent to local township roads. Within other areas of LLCSHS, development projects focusing on recreational use, interpretative programming and site management have occurred since the 1950s. Most of these projects have involved the incorporation of historic buildings, residential/maintenance structures, recreational pavilions and comfort stations, as well as an approximately two acre retention pound.

Other cultural and natural actions have affected the Camp Shiloh site. During the early 2000s, agronomic fields west of the Camp Shiloh site were tilled for more efficient drainage. The effect of this action on the Camp Shiloh site has been an increase of standing water adjacent to the intermittent stream channel bisecting the camp area as well as noticeable erosion in the stream channel to the east of the encampment area. To mitigate the obstructed waterway through the Camp Shiloh site, a volunteer effort currently exists to clear the massive amounts of deadfall and invasives present. Also, after the archaeological survey assessment of the post-CCC garbage/debris field in 2012, the non-historic remains were removed to grade level to lessen safety risks to visitors continually disturbing the site in search of relics. These actions are considered the initial steps in developing the Camp Shiloh site as a historic interpretative area focusing on the CCC in Coles County, Illinois.



Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

### Integrity

The results of the Phase I archaeological survey (the Survey) conducted by Fever River Research of Springfield, Illinois in March/April of 2012 indicates the Camp Shiloh site retains good archaeological integrity and supports principal integrity factors related to Criterion D; location, design, materials and association.

The conceptual intent of the Survey was to conduct archival research and field survey operations (research design) to physically verify the location and archaeological integrity of the Camp Shiloh encampment site and ascertain the presence of significant archaeological remains (questions). The executed research design verified archaeological integrity of the site in relation to the mid-1930s CCC occupation context.

Through archival documentation/literary sources gathered/assessed principally during the Survey and the production of *Illinois HABS Documentation No. CO-1997-1, Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site*, it is readily determined that the Camp Shiloh encampment did exist at the identified location and was associated with the CCC organization, as well as personnel from the U.S. Army and the NPS. Archival documentation, as well as identification of surface ruins and surface/sub-surface artifacts identified during the Survey, provides insight into the design of Camp Shiloh, construction/operational materials associated with the camp and the lifestyles of the camp's inhabitants. While the setting of the Camp Shiloh site has been affected by post-occupation natural and cultural affects, it still retains sufficient rural farm/timberland character typical of the site during its period of significance and capably conveys a sense of feeling to the impartial observer. The Camp Shiloh site also conveys a sense of workmanship from an examination of the construction features/artifacts present/recovered during the Survey.

Since all of the buildings associated with Camp Shiloh have been removed, the integrity of the site must be addressed purely from an archaeological perspective. Construction activity post-dating the CCC occupation has impacted the integrity of the site to a degree. The former locations of the garage and tool shed (former Squire Hall House) at the camp, for example, have had parking lots built over them, which no doubt has significantly disturbed the archaeological remains there. For the most part, however, the later construction activity has occurred around the edges of the site or in areas where no buildings are known to have been located. Two examples are the pump house and 10,000-gallon reservoir erected in the southern end of the camp in the late 1930s. Their construction is not known to have impacted any buildings associated with the camp, however; indeed, both were well removed from all known buildings at the camp. The pump house was expanded in the 1950s, at which time a drain line also was installed. The drain line in question extended north of the pump house and crossed the former site of the enlisted men's barracks. Several drainage-related features also were created at that time. (This includes Feature 8 and possibly Features 5, 6, and 7 as well. See Additional Documentation for the list of features.) The pump house and reservoir were demolished in the late 1990s, resulting in further ground disturbance. The limited shovel testing done in proximity to the pump house and reservoir location suggests that an historic (i.e. circa-1934) ground surface actually remains

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site

Coles, Illinois

Name of Property

County and State

intact but is capped by a fairly thick layer of mixed soils—likely waste dirt produced from the excavation of the reservoir and pump house, which was then spread out around the two buildings. One shovel test excavated in this area found the historic topsoil buried 20cm (8”) below the existing grade, with coal present on its surface.

Construction of the picnic shelter, along with the two parking lots located either side of it also represent disturbances to the site, though these too are located outside of the core of the CCC camp. Even the construction of the current Site Superintendent’s residence appears to have missed the CCC buildings on this corner of the camp site. Here too the historic ground surface on the east and south sides of the house appears to be capped with fill deposited from the excavation of the house’s basement.

Shovel tests and excavations done through the course of the metal detecting survey indicate that the 1930s-era ground surface has good integrity across the majority of the site. This is especially true in respect to the area around the NPS headquarters, which has seen little activity since Camp Shiloh was abandoned.

The archaeological signature of the buildings formerly located at Camp Shiloh will be subtle due to the impermanent nature of their original construction (absence of perimeter foundations, with the exception of Feature 1). However, limited subsurface features such as large perimeter post holes should be present, which would indicate the footprint of the buildings there. The survey identified only a few features specifically associated with the CCC encampment, but those that were—such as Features 4 and 12—provide reasonable expectation for more subsurface features being present. A significant number of CCC-era artifacts also were recovered during the archaeological survey, both on the surface and through subsurface investigations of metal-detecting hits. In sum, the site is considered to have good archaeological integrity.

### **Previous Investigations**

Besides a cursory inspection of the referenced concrete foundation during an Illinois Historic American Building Survey of the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site conducted by Fever River Research in 1997, the only documented archaeological investigation of the Camp Shiloh site has been the previously cited phase I survey (the Survey) undertaken by Fever River Research during March and April of 2012. Field survey operations were undertaken by Floyd Mansberger, Christopher Stratton and Steve Thompson, with Mansberger and Stratton conducting the bulk of the archival research and archaeological significance/integrity assessment. Numerous survey limitations were noted within the Camp Shiloh site. These limitations included:

1. No buildings associated with the Camp Shiloh encampment are extant and leave little grade-level signature.
2. Site development within or adjacent to the site has disturbed or encapsulated potential associated resources.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site

Coles, Illinois

Name of Property

County and State

3. Ground cover in the form of timber invasives and deadfall throughout the encampment area.
4. Timber ecosystem root masses.
5. Saturated soil associated with the intermittent drainages traversing the site.

The survey methodology encompassed primary and secondary document review, physical site investigations and assessment of information gathered in relation to National Register of Historic Places significance and integrity. The Survey process resulted in negligible disturbance to the Camp Shiloh site, yielded previously unknown information about the encampment and its inhabitants, as well as identified contextual perspectives that could be expanded or newly identified if further studies are conducted at the site.

The archival investigation element of the Survey identified and examined primary sources which included documents within National Archives Record Groups associated with local and regional CCC operations, CCC Camp Shiloh inspection reports, NPS project superintendent correspondence, State of Illinois Site/Master Plans for LLC SHS, period aerial/grade-level photographs and an oral history provided by Richard Kingsbury, son of the Lincoln Log Cabin State Park NPS Project Superintendent Theodore Kingsbury. Secondary literature and documents examined included Illinois Historic American Buildings Survey Documentation and material culture patent briefs and drawings. Reference documentation is cited in Section 9 of this nomination.

In addition to site integrity, the field survey component of the Survey focused on identification of the horizontal distribution of surface deposits and depth of sub-surface remains. Field survey methods included visual identification of surface features and shovel testing, metal detection and minor excavations of sub-surface features.

The Phase I/Archaeological Site Survey Report for the Camp Shiloh site is retained within the archaeological documentation archive of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The assemblage of artifacts recovered during survey operations/curation is deposited within the collections management section of the Illinois State Museum.

### **Contributing and Noncontributing Resources**

Three buildings, a residence, a pavilion and a comfort station, as well as five structures, three parking lots, an interpretive shelter, and a children's recreational edifice within the site postdate the period of significance and are noncontributing resources. There is only one contributing resource---the archaeological site.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

### 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 patterns of our history.
- B. Property is 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ARCHAEOLOGY: HISTORIC – NON-ABORIGINAL

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

**Period of Significance**

1935 - 1937

**Significant Dates**

1935 - 1937

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

Euro-American

**Architect/Builder**

Civilian Conservation Corps  
U.S. Army

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph**

The locally significant Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp Shiloh encampment site is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D in the area of Archaeology: Historic—Non-Aboriginal for information previously/potentially yielded concerning typical CCC work camp design, construction materials and the lifeways of its inhabitants. Cultural affiliations for the site primarily encompass unskilled, low income, Euro-American, World War I veterans and Euro-American professional management personnel. The period of significance for the site is 1935-1937, the period of establishment, occupation and terminal abandonment. The Camp Shiloh site is the only known former CCC encampment site in central Illinois to have undergone formal archaeological investigations and contains an archaeological assemblage of value to researchers undertaking investigations on similar properties. Amongst the potential cultural resources present at the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site (LLCSHS), only CCC Camp Shiloh is being nominated for National Register listing. In the future, other resources present at LLCSHS may be eligible for listing under Criterion A for its development as a State of Illinois interpretative and recreational site.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

Additionally, there may be potential for archaeological significance within other areas of the greater LLCSSHS boundaries.

---

## Narrative Statement of Significance

### The Great Depression

The severe, world-wide 20<sup>th</sup> century economic depression, known as the Great Depression, originated in the United States in 1929 with the September fall of stock prices on the New York Stock Exchange and the eventual crash of world-wide stock exchanges in September and October. The effects of an unstable world-wide economy witnessed a substantial drop in personal income, tax revenues and business profits. International trade dropped by more than 50% and unemployment in the U.S. rose to as much as 25%.

The working populations of U.S. cities dependent on heavy industry were especially affected as plants closed their doors due to diminishing markets for their goods. The construction industry in the U.S. came to a standstill. The U.S. agriculture industry and associated rural economies were devastated as crop prices fell by 60%. Regions supporting primary sector industries such as mining and logging suffered considerably as few alternate job opportunities existed in these locales. The advent of the decline of the U.S. industrial economy eventually affected people from all walks of life. Professionals and skilled/unskilled labor were all affected, and were seemingly on an endless search for any kind of job.

President Herbert Hoover's administration initiated legislative programs to reverse the economic downturn, but these met with little success. Hoover-era programs included the *Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act*, the *Federal Home Loan Bank Act* and the *Emergency Relief and Construction Act*. After Franklin Delano Roosevelt's election in 1932 and the introduction of New Deal fiscal regulation and stimulus programs, the U.S. began a slow process of economic recovery.

The Great Depression lasted in the U.S. for over a decade, with economic recovery coming as U.S. industry ramped-up production of military-related items prior to the U.S. involvement in World War II.<sup>1</sup>

### The Bonus Army

A notable event, considered the first large gathering of civil dissidents in Washington, D.C., known as the Bonus Army March in the summer of 1932 proved to be a great embarrassment to the Hoover administration. The 43,000 member Bonus Expeditionary Force, an assemblage of 17,000 World War I veterans, their families and affiliated groups marched on Washington in the spring of 1932 to demand payment of bonuses the government had promised to pay, in 1945, for their service during the Great War. Unable to compensate the veterans, the government ignored their appeal and withstood daily protests by the group. During their campaign, the Bonus Army

---

<sup>1</sup> *Wikipedia*, s.v. "Great Depression," last modified 15 April 2013, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great\\_Depression](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Depression).

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

had taken up residence in a shanty town at Anacostia Flats across the Anacostia River's 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge.

On 28 July 1932, Attorney General William D. Mitchell ordered the D.C. police to remove the Bonus Army from their camp. During this operation two policeman were cornered by the protestors and killed two World War I veterans. Shortly thereafter, President Hoover ordered the U.S. Army to evict the Bonus Army from all government property. Army Chief of Staff General Douglas MacArthur took personal command of tasked units, the 12<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry and the 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Cavalry Regiment, supported by six tanks under the command of Major George S. Patton, Jr. Patton ordered the cavalry to charge and disperse protestors on Pennsylvania Avenue. Following the cavalry charge, the 12<sup>th</sup> Infantry, dispersing all before them with the vomiting agent Adamsite gas, drove the dissidents at bayonet point back across the Anacostia River prompting President Hoover to call off the operation. General MacArthur ignored the President's order, rationalizing that the Bonus Army resistance was an attempt to overthrow the government. The army cleared and burned the Marcher's shanty town, while injuring 55 and arresting 135 of the protestors.

Although later endorsing his commander's conduct, one of MacArthur's junior aides, Major Dwight Eisenhower, advised his commander against taking personal charge of such a public confrontation where the commander of the Army would be engaging U.S. veterans. Eisenhower reflected in later years, "I told that dumb son-of-a-bitch not to go down there." "I told him it was no place for the Chief of Staff."

The Bonus Army incident proved disastrous for President Hoover's re-election chances in 1932 as his administration's actions concerning the veterans were in part responsible for the landslide victory of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. During the campaign, FDR also opposed the veteran's bonus demands. When protests began anew in 1933, FDR provided the marchers with a campsite in Virginia and three meals a day. He also tasked executive branch officials to meet with the Bonus Army leadership to facilitate a compromise. Roosevelt later issued an executive order allowing the enrollment of 25,000 veterans in the Civilian Conservation Corps, exempting them from requirements that applicants be unmarried and under the age of 25. In 1936, overriding FDR's veto, Congress passed the *Adjusted Compensation Payment Act* authorizing the immediate payment of \$2 billion in World War I bonuses.<sup>2</sup>

### The New Deal

The New Deal was a series of U.S. economic programs, instituted through executive orders and Congressional legislation, during the first term, 1933-1936, of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The New Deal is often sub-categorized as the First New Deal, 1933-1934, and the Second New Deal, 1935-1938, with the Second New Deal being more liberal and controversial. New Deal Programs focused on the "3 Rs": Relief, Recovery and Reform. Relief for the

<sup>2</sup> *Wikipedia*, s.v. "Bonus Army," last modified 02 April 2013, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonus\\_Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonus_Army).

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

unemployed and the poor; Recovery of the economy to normal levels; and Reform of the U.S. financial system to safeguard against another economic collapse.

Early in the First New Deal, legislation addressing the balancing of the federal budget, the *Economy Act*, was introduced and passed by Congress. The *Emergency Banking Act*, providing for the reopening of sound banks under Department of the Treasury supervision, was enacted.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation was created as part of the *Glass-Steagall Act*. The *Securities Act of 1933* was enacted to regulate Wall Street and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission was created in 1934 to over watch the stock market and prevent corporate abuses regarding the sale of securities and market reporting.

Early in the FDR administration, the gold standard backing U.S. currency was suspended and the export of gold was forbidden unless approved by the Department of the Treasury. The U.S. dollar was allowed to float freely on foreign exchange markets with no guarantee in gold. These measures, along with the passage of the *Gold Reserve Act* of 1934, enabled the Federal Reserve Bank to increase the amount of money in circulation to the level the economy needed.

In early 1933, First New Deal programs targeting relief of the unemployed and impoverished were initiated. The Public Works Administration was established as part of a construction initiative to finance and manage major projects such as government buildings, roads, bridges, airports, schools and hydro-electric dams. By executive order in March of 1933, FDR created the Civilian Conservation Corps to provide conservation and natural resources work for unemployed and unskilled men on rural properties owned by federal, state, county and municipal governments. Also in 1933, the new administration launched the Rural Electrification Administration and the Tennessee Valley Authority to undertake rural technology upgrades and flood control projects.

In the spring of 1935, FDR's administration, responding to a growing skepticism in Congress as to the speed of national recovery and a popular clamor for more dramatic action, proposed or endorsed several new economic initiatives and programs, which fell under the era known as the Second New Deal. Evolving from the Second New Deal initiatives was possibly the most important legislation introduced and passed during the New Deal, the *Social Security Act* of 1935. For the first time in its history, the U.S. government took responsibility for the financial security of the aged, unemployed, disabled and dependent children. The *National Labor Relation Act* was Also passed, which allowed workers collective bargaining rights through unions of their choosing.

Perhaps the most significant unemployment relief organization of the New Deal era, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) was created in 1935. Administered by FDR confidant, Harry Hopkins, the WPA financed a variety of public projects and employed more than 8.5 million people. Projects financed by the WPA not only included notable physical undertakings, such as New York's Lincoln Tunnel, Triborough Bridge and LaGuardia Airport and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, but also funded the Federal Writer's Project and Federal Theater Project in



Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

which unemployed writers, actors, artists and those of associated disciplines were put to work broadening the public's appreciation of the cultural arts. One Federal Arts project employed 162 trained women artists on relief to paint murals and create statues for newly constructed post offices and courthouses.

Despite the recession of 1937, U.S. employment levels by 1940 had exceeded pre-depression levels. Economic and regulatory programs instituted since 1933 had essentially stabilized the U.S. economy. Full recovery was fundamentally achieved by the time the U.S. entered World War II in December of 1941. The unprecedented U.S. economic growth over the next decade was, in part, a result of the disciplined work force and policies introduced during the New Deal. With the advent of the war, many relief agencies, like the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration were disbanded and their enrollees and workers transitioned to the military or the private military equipment manufacturing entities.<sup>3</sup>

### Civilian Conservation Corps

One of the first actions newly elected President Franklin Delano Roosevelt undertook shortly after his inauguration in March of 1933, was to promote the passage of the *Emergency Conservation Work Act* and through Executive Order 6101 created the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) with Robert Fechner, a former labor union official, as agency director. Roosevelt, a long-time advocate of natural resource conservation and reclamation, had instituted a similar state program in his recent position as governor of New York. FDR felt that a governmental, natural resource development program, putting to work 250,000 relief-rolled, unskilled, young males, would not only physically, economically and psychologically benefit the individual enrollees, but also be of great value to rural areas severely impacted by the effects of the Great Depression.

The organization and administration of the CCC was a new experiment in operations for a federal government agency. The CCC initiative was supervised jointly by four government departments: The Department of Labor would recruit the program enrollees; The Department of War would be responsible for organizing and administering the CCC work camps and for the general welfare and discipline of the enrollees. U.S. Army Reserve officers would administer the CCC work camps; and the Departments of Agriculture and Interior organized and supervised the work projects. Additionally, the Office of Education and the Veterans' Administration participated in the program.

From the project management perspective, the Department of the Interior's National Park Service (NPS), possibly had more interaction with all levels of participating state, county and local government entities concerning work on public recreation and historic sites. A majority of its CCC projects were related to the creation, improvement, preservation and restoration of national and state parks and a variety of historic sites and monuments. The NPS divided the country into four regional NPS Districts under Chief Planner Conrad Wirth's Branch of Planning

<sup>3</sup> *Wikipedia*, s.v. "New Deal," last modified 16 April 2013, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_Deal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Deal).

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

and State Cooperation for CCC program administration. The NPS District Headquarters were; East Coast – Washington, D.C, Midwest – Indianapolis, Rocky Mountain – Denver and West Coast – San Francisco. The NPS Washington Office approved projects and provided quality control. The NPS District offices coordinated with local applicants, administratively supervised the work within the states in their Districts, evaluated the completed work and recommended future projects. The NPS Washington Office made the final determination on new state park projects, new camps, requests for funding allotments, NPS personnel matters and land acquisition.<sup>4</sup>

Initially, CCC enrollees were required to be male, unmarried, unemployed U.S. citizens, between the ages of 18-25. Later in the program, the age limit was increased to the age of 28 and military veterans were accepted in the program. In almost all cases, the enrollee's family had to be on government relief. Each enrollee was a volunteer and was required to pass a physical evaluation.

The period of enrollment was for six months, but could be extended to two years. Enrollees worked a 40 hour, five day week for which they were compensated with \$30 a month in pay, medical care, shelter, food and clothing. Enrollees were required to allot \$22-\$25 of their monthly pay to a dependent family member. Military veteran's qualifications were somewhat different. They needed to be certified by the Veterans' Administration, could be any age, even some Spanish American War veterans participated; married or single and unemployed. Veterans usually served exclusively in veteran companies. The CCC also made a concentrated successful effort to recruit Native Americans. Throughout the entirety of the program, approximately 200,000 African-Americans were CCC enrollees. The African-Americans were segregated into all black companies after 1935. No women were ever enrolled in the program. Approximately 55% of CCC enrollees came from rural areas.

The CCC's administrative and project areas were fundamentally based on the nine continental U.S. Army Corps areas designated after World War I. Individual Army Corps areas included multiple states and were sub-divided into districts of one or more states, which were further divided into sub districts.<sup>5</sup> CCC camps within the Corps areas were established in close proximity to the area in which the assigned project was undertaken and organized around a complement of up to 200 enrollees in a designated "company" unit. Initially, camp structures consisted of tents, but as the program matured, the camp structures evolved into semi-permanent, pre-fab buildings which were broken down and reconstructed at the next job site once a project was completed. CCC camp buildings usually consisted of 50-man barracks, officer/technical staff quarters, medical dispensary, mess hall, recreational hall, educational building, lavatory/shower, technical/administrative offices, tool room/blacksmith shop and motor pool garages.

<sup>4</sup> John C. Paige, *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History* (Washington: National Park Service, 1985) [http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online\\_books/ccc/index.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/ccc/index.htm).

<sup>5</sup> *Wikipedia*, s.v. "Corps Area," last modified 11 December 2012, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corps\\_area](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corps_area).

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

The company organization of each camp had dual-authority supervisory staff. U.S. Army personnel, a company commander and a junior officer were responsible for overall camp operations, logistics, education, training and enrollee welfare/discipline. Ten to fourteen technical service civilians, including a project superintendent and a foreman, employed by either the Departments of the Interior or Agriculture, were responsible for project execution. Additionally, several Locally Enrolled Men (LEM), filled out the company. These men were generally familiar with work at hand, the project area and served as local liaisons. Enrollees were organized into work detail units called "sections" of 25 men. Each section had an enrollee "senior leader" and "assistant leader" who were responsible for the men while at work and in the barracks. Enrollee discipline was maintained through the threat of a dishonorable discharge.

The CCC conducted almost 300 types of work projects, falling under the following 10 major categories:

1. Structural Improvements – bridges, fire lookout towers and buildings
2. Transportation – truck trails, minor roads, foot trails and air landing strips
3. Erosion Control – check dams, terracing and grass waterways
4. Flood Control – irrigation, drainage, ditching, dams, channeling and riprapping
5. Forest Management – tree/shrub planting, timber stand improvement and nursery work
6. Forest Protection – fire prevention, fire-fighting and insect/disease control
7. Landscape and Recreation – state/public park and pond/lake development
8. Range Management – stock driveways and elimination of predatory animals
9. Wildlife Management – habitat development and fish stocking
10. Miscellaneous – historic site work, emergency work, surveys and mosquito control

Although the CCC was one of the most popular New Deal programs, it was officially disbanded on 30 June 1942. The rebound of the national economy prior to World War II and the initiating of military conscription in 1940 were contributing factors in the program's demise. Permanent CCC facilities were turned over to the War Department. During World War II, many abandoned CCC camps were used to house Japanese-American internees and German prisoners of war.

In the nine years of its existence, a total of 2.5 million men were enrolled in the CCC program. While almost all were regular guys during their participation, the following enrollees went on to achieve notoriety after their service in the CCC:

Raymond Burr, enrollee – Actor  
Robert Mitchum, enrollee – Actor  
Chuck Yeager, enrollee – World War II Fighter Ace, and Test Pilot. First man to break the sound barrier.  
Stan Musial, enrollee – Professional Baseball Player  
Walter Matthau, enrollee – Actor  
Archie Moore, enrollee – Professional Boxing Champion

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

The legacy of the CCC carries on contemporarily. Following World War II, most forest fire-fighting entities in the western U.S. modeled their organization after the CCC model. The Corps Network, originally known as the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps, conducts conservation programs for those aged 16-25 in 41 states and the District of Columbia. The Student Conservation Association and many state-based youth conservation corps carry on the projects and traditions established by the CCC.<sup>6</sup>

### Civilian Conservation Corps in Illinois

The Civilian Conservation Corps activity in Illinois was substantial. Significant projects undertaken by the CCC in Illinois were related to forest management and state park development. Enrollees from Illinois camps also participated in flood clean-up operations along the Ohio River in 1936. CCC operations in Illinois benefited communities and the populace in close proximity to CCC camps, as local markets opened up to supply the CCC companies with everything from food to construction materials. Unemployed local educators and Locally Enrolled Men also realized employment to support CCC projects. Of the \$3.5 billion obligated to CCC operations nationally, approximately \$140 million was expended on CCC Illinois undertakings.<sup>7</sup>

Within the first six months of the CCC's creation, twelve camps had been established in Illinois which, along with Wisconsin and Michigan, was in the CCC Sixth Corps area. One year later, sixty seven camps were in operation in the state. This number fluctuated year to year, depending on the volume of projects being undertaken. By 1936-1937, at least thirty-three camps were in operation in Illinois. These camps were positioned in, or in the immediate vicinity of, the National Forests, State of Illinois parks, forest preserves or other areas in which they were making improvements. Smaller projects areas, such as Lincoln Log Cabin State Park, had only one camp associated with them, while the sprawling Shawnee National Forest, which had been created as recently as 1933, had at least eight camps scattered throughout its expanse. The lifetime of each camp varied greatly. Camp Shiloh at Lincoln Log Cabin, for instance, operated for twenty-two months. Contrasting to this is Camp Pomona in the Shawnee National Forest, which functioned as a CCC camp for eight years and subsequently saw use as a military facility and a prisoner-of-war camp during World War II.

Between 1933 and 1942, a total of 92,094 enrollees were employed on CCC projects within Illinois. The majority of these CCC enrollees were from Illinois, although other states were represented as well. In total, there were approximately 155,000 Illinoisans who actually enrolled

<sup>6</sup> *Wikipedia*, s.v. "Civilian Conservation Corps," last modified 16 April 2013, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civilian\\_Conservation\\_Corps#Early\\_Years.2C\\_1933.E2.80.931934](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civilian_Conservation_Corps#Early_Years.2C_1933.E2.80.931934).

<sup>7</sup> *Illinois Department of Natural Resources*, s.v. "Civilian Conservation Corps and Illinois State Parks," 15 June 2013, <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/NaturalResources/cultural/Pages/CCCP2.aspx>.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site

Coles, Illinois

Name of Property

County and State

in the CCC and another 10,300 state residents who were temporarily employed by the Corps.<sup>8</sup> The only states with more men employed by the CCC than Illinois were New York and Pennsylvania. Based on location and strength reports filed between December 1936 and December 1937, most of the Department of War commissioned officers then assigned to CCC companies in Illinois were in the U.S. Army Reserve. A small number of officers associated with CCC camp administration were in the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve.

In order to participate in the CCC's State Park program, states were required to submit a comprehensive state park planning and development document to CCC officials. By 1933, only a small number of states had developed such a plan, but those that had included Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, New York, California and Michigan. Without a formal development plan, states were unable to effectively utilize the manpower suddenly available to them. Individual state's master plans had to exhibit a state park oversight organization such as a state park board or commission to guide the development of the park system. Upon the completion of the planning document, state authorities submitted their application for work projects to National Park Service District offices. These offices prioritized the projects and sent the requests to the Washington Office of the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS director, with input from the Office of the Director of the CCC, then made the final selection and notified the states concerning project approval and camp selection for the project. After notification, the camp superintendent and the state submitted detailed plans and estimates of time, labor, and costs to Washington for final approval.

Because the National Park Service closely supervised all park project design development, much of the building construction undertaken by the CCC in Illinois was in accordance with a well defined concept of rustic architecture that had developed during the 1920s and early 1930s. This architectural style emphasized a reliance on native construction materials and the blending of man-made structures into the surrounding natural environment. The majority of building plans were designed by professional engineers and architects. By its very nature, rustic architecture was labor intensive and involved a great deal of quality handwork. In order to provide the requisite expertise, skilled craftsmen were often sought out at the local level. In addition to their own labors, these craftsmen provided invaluable service in training young recruits for future building projects.

CCC improvements on state park lands in Illinois were quite diverse and included the construction of entrance gates, signs, wells, retaining walls, trail steps, bridges, curbing, dams and spillways, outdoor fireplaces, concession buildings, administration buildings, shelters and recreation buildings, lookout towers and overlooks, bathhouses and swimming pools, rest rooms, cabins, custodians' residences, service buildings, stables and well houses. Many of these features survive to this day. Some of the most impressive structures erected by the CCC are the lodges at Pere Marquette, Giant City, Black Hawk, Starved Rock and White Pines state parks. All five of these lodges were designed by Joseph F. Booton, who served as the chief state

<sup>8</sup> Ibid, page 3.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

architect during the 1930s. A CCC project in Menard County, Lincoln's New Salem State Park, involved the recreation of a 1830s Illinois settlement-era village. Additionally, CCC companies deployed within Illinois River valley constructed numerous foot, horse and vehicular bridges spanning the historic Illinois & Michigan Canal prism. Taken as a whole, this assemblage of CCC-built structures possess exceptional significance in the development of 20th century state park architecture.

Absent from most of the Illinois state parks today are the original resources of the CCC encampments; the barracks, mess halls, recreation buildings and other buildings and structures that housed and provided work space for the enrollees engaged in park development projects. These encampments were considered temporary shelters and were routinely razed or relocated when the CCC moved out of an area.<sup>9</sup>

### **The Civilian Conservation Corps in Coles County, Illinois**

The initial presence of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Coles County took place on 23 May 1935 CCC Company No. 627 moved from their previous project, the development of Mississippi Palisades State Park in Carroll County, Illinois, to newly established Camp Charleston on the southwestern fringes of Charleston in Coles County, Illinois. Camp Charleston was designated SCS-5, which indicated the camp's work would be soil conservation projects. The December 1935 U. S. Army camp inspection report states that there were 188 men enrolled in Company No. 627 and their work projects in the local area up to that point had consisted of quarrying and crushing limestone, constructing pasture and field terraces, sodding terrace outlets and planting thousands of trees.<sup>10</sup>

During August of 1935, CCC Company V-2657 reported to Camp Shiloh at the location of the contemporary Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site. Company V-2657 was a unit composed of World War I veteran enrollees which was tasked to construct the infrastructure and associated resources of Lincoln Log Cabin State Park, reconstruction of the nearby Abraham Lincoln associated Moore Home and the creation of Fox Ridge State Park on a 500-acre timbered tract on the east bank of the Embarras River south of Charleston. The context of this unit's activities and accomplishments is detailed in the succeeding section of this document.

With the substantial completion of the Lincoln Log Cabin State Park project in May 1937, Company V-2657, for logistical reasons associated with the Fox Ridge project, relocated to Camp Charleston. There, Company V-2657, Company 627 and the newly transferred Company 2681 from Camp Tuscola in Douglas County were tasked with the final stages of landscaping of

<sup>9</sup> Christopher Stratton and Floyd Mansberger. *Phase I Archaeological Survey of Camp Shiloh: A Civilian Conservation Corps Encampment at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site, Coles County, Illinois (11CO186)*. (Springfield, IL: Fever River Research, 2012), 9-11.

<sup>10</sup> Lori Henderson, "The Civilian Conservation Corps in Coles County" {paper presented at the Conference on Illinois History, Springfield, Illinois, October 2011}, 7.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site

Coles, Illinois

Name of Property

County and State

Lincoln Log Cabin State Park, reconstruction of the Moore House and the development of Fox Ridge State Park (SP-58).<sup>11</sup>

Camp Charleston, located on the site of the contemporary Eastern Illinois University's married student housing complex and adjacent City of Charleston residential areas west of 4<sup>th</sup> Street, served as the headquarters for CCC activities in Coles County until as late as 1941 when Ridge Lake was completed at Fox Ridge State Park. No existing above ground CCC Camp Charleston resources exist at its former site.

The CCC administrators and enrollees were afforded ample opportunities to interact with local society. A variety of educational course were offered at the camps and at Charleston High School and Eastern Illinois State Teacher's College. Enrollees frequented City of Charleston cafes, movie theaters and shops of local merchants. In 1935, a few enrollees exhibited artwork at the Coles County Fair. The camps also participated in sports competitions with teams from the local communities and other CCC camps. Camp Charleston inspection reports from 1937 reflected that, "...town (Charleston) is attractive and holds up morale (of the enrollees)..."<sup>12</sup>

### **The Civilian Conservation Corps at Camp Shiloh**

During the 1920s, the Charleston and Mattoon, Illinois chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution initiated an effort to purchase approximately 86 acres in Coles County's Pleasant Grove Township, previously owned and farmed by Abraham Lincoln's father Thomas, for the purpose of establishing a historic state park. The Charleston and Mattoon Chambers of Commerce were able to purchase 34 acres of the desired tract in 1928. The acquired acreage was placed under the management of Trustee Benjamin Weir, the publisher of the Charleston Courier News newspaper, until the remaining historic tracts could be acquired and turned over to the State of Illinois for development. Principally through Weir's local effort, all the historic Thomas Lincoln Farm tracts were purchased by the state in 1929 and 1930.

The State Parks Division of the Illinois Department of Public Works and Buildings planning concept for Lincoln Log Cabin State Park centered on a historically accurate reconstruction of Thomas Lincoln's log cabin and associated outbuildings. The original cabin was dismantled and shipped to Chicago where it was to eventually be re-erected as an exhibit at the Columbian Exposition of 1893. The cabin was never reconstructed as a Columbian Exposition exhibit due in part to objections from Abraham Lincoln's son Robert. The cabin logs were stored in a Chicago warehouse and supposedly destroyed in a fire. No physical elements of the original cabin were ever returned to its original Coles County site.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Ibid, 9.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid, 13.

<sup>13</sup> David Abbott and Raymond Warren, *A Report on the Authenticity of Lincoln Log Cabin State Park as a Home of Thomas Lincoln, Father of Abraham Lincoln, Part VI*, 5.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

The reconstructed homestead was to be more than a Lincoln shrine. The site was to also to project the sense of an Illinois pioneer homestead of the 1840s, which conformed to the Illinois State Parks Division's policies regarding historic site development of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. In addition to the homestead, park development plans called for the construction of service-related buildings and structures, i.e. roads, bridges, parking lots, a comfort station/visitor center and custodian/superintendent's house.

The effects of the Great Depression severely curtailed Illinois state park development. It was not until 1933 when the CCC State Park Program, under the administration of the NPS, was introduced, that the development of Shiloh State Park, later Lincoln Log Cabin State Park, began to move forward. An avid supporter for federal approval of the project was Illinois Governor Henry Horner. Horner, an Abraham Lincoln admirer and memorabilia collector, proved influential in gaining project approval and adding the reconstruction of the Lincoln-related Reuben Moore House in nearby Farmington to the project scope. By mid-1935, the CCC and NPS had approved the State of Illinois request for the park development project initially designated NPS Project Number SP-52. The project fell under the joint oversight of the CCC District Headquarters, Jefferson Barracks, Missouri; the NPS State Park Division, Washington, D.C. and the Illinois Department of Public Works and Buildings, Springfield, Illinois. This cooperative effort was enhanced through the frequent involvement of NPS District personnel and the State of Illinois Governor's and Public Information Offices.

On 01 August 1935, CCC Company V-2657, under the command of Captain Harry Leatherman, who was relieved by Captain Louis Haas on 01 January 1936, arrived at the project site and established an encampment site in the northwest corner of the 86 acre development area. Company V-2657 was originally a unit of 106 enrollees who were World War I veterans in their mid to late 30s. At least 70 enrollees of Company V-2657 came to Coles County from their previous encampment site at White Pines State Park near Oregon, Ogle County, Illinois.<sup>14</sup> Once the camp was established, company strength was brought up to approximately 170 enrollees, but often was less due to discharges and desertions. The camp itself was non-existent except for excavation of a well by NPS project supervisory personnel who had arrived on site on 01 July 1935. Company V-2657 and the NPS personnel lived in tents until a majority of the camp living and support buildings were erected by 25 September. The camp was named Camp Shiloh in reference to the nearby Shiloh Cemetery where Thomas Lincoln was buried.

Camp Shiloh consisted of prefabricated, wooden buildings which were easily assembled and broken-down for use elsewhere. Archival and field research has determined that there were three enrollee barracks buildings, an officer's/foremen's quarters, mess hall, latrine, recreation building, dispensary/shower building, NPS Project Headquarters building, ten-bay truck garage, pump hose, underground water reservoir, tool shed, blacksmith shop, a stockade area for the storage of flammable materials and a baseball diamond within an approximately five acre cantonment area. The camp water supply was provided by an on-site well and transported by an

<sup>14</sup> "White Pines Camp Now Situated at Shiloh," *The Camp Charleston Echo*, 14 August 1935.



Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

electric or gasoline government pumping system. Electricity was supplied to the camp by a coal-fired generator. Coal was also used to heat the camp buildings through the use of pot-bellied stoves in each building. Human waste was contained through the use of a disposal tank below the enrollee pit toilet latrine. In buildings possessing flush toilets, like the officer's/foremen's quarters, dispensary and NPS Headquarters building it is speculated that some form of septic system was used.

Camp Shiloh operations and personnel support required a supply and logistics system administered by U.S. Army officers. Non-perishable food supplies were obtained from the District Quartermaster at Jefferson Barracks. Perishable food items, such as meat, bread, vegetables, potatoes, eggs, milk, butter and cheese were furnished by local dealers under government contract. Service contracts for the camp included:

1. Shoe Repair – Barry Shoe Repair Shop, St. Louis, Missouri
2. Laundry – Star Laundry and Cleaners, Centralia, Illinois; and Charleston Steam Laundry, Charleston, Illinois
3. Gasoline – Shell Petroleum Corporation, Chicago, Illinois; and The Texas Company, Mattoon, Illinois
4. Telephone – Illinois Consolidated Telephone Company, Charleston, Illinois<sup>15</sup>

Personal items acquired by Camp Shiloh personnel likely were obtained from merchants in nearby Charleston, Illinois, as the enrollees and Army/NPS administrators had easy and frequent access to the community.

When Company V-2657 arrived on site and set about constructing the camp buildings and support resources, the NPS contingent shifted its focus to project planning duties, such as drafting plans, preparing purchase orders and locating local sources for materials required for the ensuing development. The man supervising the planning and eventual construction of Shiloh (Lincoln Log Cabin) State Park (SP-52) was NPS Project Superintendent Theodore M. Kingsbury (1886 – 1978). An Indianapolis native and geologist, Kingsbury attended both Butler University and the University of Illinois.<sup>16</sup> Kingsbury likely accepted an appointment for state park planning and construction management through the NPS District Office in Indianapolis.

The chronological sequence of physical park development work, commencing in the summer of 1935, can be classified into six general categories:

1. Research – NPS archaeological investigations and interviews with locals concerning the nature and siting of the original Thomas Lincoln cabin and auxiliary buildings/structures
2. Road/Parking Lot/Bridge/Split Rail and Wire Boundary Fence Construction
3. Trails and Landscaping

<sup>15</sup> William P. Hannon, *Camp Shiloh Inspection Reports*. 06 June 1936 and 11 February 1937.

<sup>16</sup> "Theodore Kingsbury Services Tomorrow," *Indianapolis Star*, 06 November 1978.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

4. Park Operational Support Buildings and Structures Construction
5. Park Historic/Interpretative Buildings and Structures Construction
6. Moore House Reconstruction and Site Development

By the time of the 27 August 1936 dedication of Lincoln Log Cabin State Park, attended by 7,000 – 8,000 people including keynote speaker Governor Henry Horner, all major CCC work had been completed at the park. The efforts of Company V-2657 shifted to reconstructive work on the Moore House and the 500+ acre Fox Ridge State Park development project on the east side of the Embarrass River south of Charleston.

Although the laborious work of constructing a state park was intensive, CCC enrollees had ample opportunity to better themselves through after-hours educational programs offered for the men of Camp Shiloh. Classes were held on the campus of Eastern Illinois State Teacher's College in Charleston and were presented by a variety of qualified instructors including Camp Shiloh's education officer and, in some cases, knowledgeable enrollees. Course offerings for the men of Company V-2657 included; arithmetic, English, wood-working, auto mechanics, slide rule, welding, letter writing and civics.

The men of Company V-2657 had ample leisure time opportunities also. Almost all the enrollees were involved in baseball teams which played teams from other camps, as well as the surrounding civilian population. The enrollees also enjoyed the opportunity to interact with locals and participate in activities and use resources that the City of Charleston had to offer, such as movies, the county fair and the bowling alley. Company V-2657 itself held a community dance in one of the newly completed Camp Shiloh barracks in September of 1935. One leisure time affinity for the men of Company V-2657 appears to have been drinking distilled spirits, as a good number of period rye whiskey bottle remains have been found in the former encampment area.

As the Moore House work advanced, it became evident that the nearly 36 mile roundtrip work commute from Camp Shiloh to the Fox Ridge State Park work site was not operationally efficient for Camp Shiloh-based Company V-2657. In the spring of 1937, Company V-2657 and its associated personnel moved to Camp Charleston, the headquarters of CCC soil conservation project Company 627. The buildings at Camp Shiloh were dismantled and either reconstructed as part of Camp Charleston or shipped to District Headquarters at Jefferson Barracks south of St. Louis for use elsewhere. In either event, the enrollees of V-2657 who were not discharged at the major completion of the Lincoln Log Cabin State Park project officially abandoned Camp Shiloh and took up residence at Camp Charleston on 18 May 1937.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Christopher Stratton and Floyd Mansberger. *Phase I Archaeological Survey of Camp Shiloh: A Civilian Conservation Corps Encampment at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site, Coles County, Illinois (11CO186)*. (Springfield, IL: Fever River Research, 2012), 11-17.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

### Significance of the Camp Shiloh Archaeological Site

Information on Camp Shiloh is available through a number of documentary sources, including camp reports, historic photographs, and a 1938 aerial photograph. The personal recollections of Richard Kingsbury, son of NPS Project Director Theodore Kingsbury and part-time resident of the camp, (and perhaps others) also are available. None of these sources provide a comprehensive picture of the camp's structure, however, and in some cases are conflicting. To date, no map of the camp has been located. Camp reports do inventory a number of camp buildings, but this inventory is incomplete, and the locations are not specified. Richard Kingsbury, for instance, recalled several buildings and structures that are not mentioned in the camp reports, nor appear in any of the historic photographs. The photographs, while very helpful are limited in number and do not illustrate the camp in its entirety. Even though the CCC adopted a fairly uniform set of building types and dimensions in 1936 (one year after Camp Shiloh was established), it remains unclear how standardized their camp layouts were. Nor is it clear to what extent Camp Shiloh represents a "typical" CCC encampment, or perhaps differed. Archaeology has the potential to fill information gaps that exist in respect to the camp's structure. It also has the potential to identify activity areas unrecorded by documentary sources.<sup>18</sup>

Archaeology also can reveal aspects of the social life and material cultural at Camp Shiloh not conveyed by camp reports and other documentary sources. The camp reports are a tremendous resource, discussing work schedules, diet, educational programs, and certain recreational activities at the camp; yet, they are bureaucratic by nature and say very little about personal activity and behavior falling outside of the official camp routine. Some of this unaccounted activity was admittedly quite mundane—as represented by the nail clippers found near the enlisted men's barracks during the Phase I archaeological survey of the site during March/April 2012. Other activities, such as the potential printing of a camp newsletter, evidenced by the recovery of a copper printing plate (AD Figure 13), may be identified through further research.<sup>19</sup>

Of more significance is archaeology's potential to shed light on non-sanctioned activities at the camp—activities that nonetheless were carried out illicitly by the enrollees and are otherwise undocumented in the historical record. One such non-sanctioned activity was alcohol consumption. CCC camps officially were "dry", the common perception being that the men were not allowed to drink in camp. Yet numerous alcohol containers dating to the period of the CCC-occupation of Camp Shiloh (1935-1937) were found during the referenced survey. The majority of these alcohol containers are whiskey flasks, which principally were deposited on the northern edge of the camp site, some distance from the barracks. Wine also was consumed, but not from the typical bottle generally associated with more formal wine consumption. Like the whiskey, it

<sup>18</sup> Ibid, 29.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid, 29.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

was consumed from small, individual flasks. This provides insights into quality and types of liquor consumed at the camp as well as social behavior associated with that consumption. The location of the bottles, coupled with the fact that Camp Shiloh reportedly had regular trash pickup, suggests that the bottles were dumped here illicitly to avoid detection by the officers. One concentration of bottles is such that one questions whether this was a favored dumping spot or it perhaps represents the results of a surprise inspection of (or perhaps a raid on) the barracks.

“Old Quaker” appears to have been a favored brand of whisky, based on the bottles examined; indeed, an “Old Quaker” cap was found directly in front of where the northernmost enlisted men’s barracks was located. The fact that a “Green River” whisky bottle neck and cap were found adjacent to the NPS headquarters suggests that certain officers at camp also may have enjoyed a drink themselves at times. “Green River” is a brand not represented amongst the caps and bottles found in closer proximity to the enlisted men’s barracks, which poses a question as to whether it may have been a better brand of whiskey, thus potentially illustrating a difference in tastes and/or financial means between the NPS officers and the enlisted men serving under them.<sup>20</sup>

Other artifacts recovered during the survey provide insight into the interior furnishings of the building at the camp. Lack of furnishing related items clearly corroborates the sparse interiors of the barracks. But, in contrast, the NPS headquarters building appears to have been more elaborately furnished. Artifacts suggest more formal lamps and/or lighting and general furnishings; desks, lamps, furniture with potential finials, etc. Additional testing at the site no doubt would reveal more information regarding the material culture there—and the disparity between the enrollees and the officers.<sup>21</sup>

In addition to the questions posed above, there remains a number of questions related to the subject site that could be answered about Camp Shiloh and its inhabitants through further field investigations. Some of these questions are:

1. Did the inhabitants engage in any unidentified non-work activities at the site that could provide insight into rural, Depression-era leisure behavior?
2. Was there distinct class differentiation between the enrollees and the camp administrators/project management personnel?
3. Does the assemblage of artifacts, project related/personnel, for a state park (SP) project camp like Camp Shiloh vary with an assemblage from a soil conservation service (SCS) project camp?
4. Is there any indication of adolescent habitation?

<sup>20</sup> Ibid, 29-30.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid, 30.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

5. Is there evidence of material culture that would give insight on what kind and the quality of items, i.e. food, clothing, medical supplies, tools, recreational equipment, that the occupants were supplied with?

On a broader scale, Camp Shiloh resources potentially can assist in answering questions concerning CCC camp sites and their inhabitants in other regions of the country. Pertinent questions at this level are:

1. Are the site plan and materials used in construction of Camp Shiloh different from CCC camps in other regions of the country?
2. Does the assemblage of personal artifacts from a CCC labor camp housing a company of military veterans demonstrate a different lifestyle from a camp housing typical CCC enrollees in the 18-26 age group?
3. Does the assemblage of personal artifacts from a camp of exclusively Euro-American enrollees demonstrate a different lifestyle than a CCC camp populated exclusively by African-American or Native American enrollees?
4. Do work-related tools, vehicle parts, utility components, etc. indicate a difference in quality of equipment from another CCC District or Corps areas?
5. What was the policy of camp administrators in dealing with the environmental impact of an up to 200 man rural work camp occupied for an extended period? How was human waste contained and treated? How were petroleum, oils and lubricants stored and disposed of? How were camp sites reclaimed when abandoned?

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Abbott, David. *A Report on the Authenticity of Lincoln Log Cabin State Park as a Home of Thomas Lincoln, Father of Abraham Lincoln: Part VI; Historical Text by Raymond Warren*. Illinois Department of Public Works and Buildings, Division of Parks: Springfield, Illinois, 1935.

“Bonus Army.” [internet web site]. S.L. 02 April 2013. Available at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonus\\_Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonus_Army).

“Civilian Conservation Corps.” [internet web site]. S.L. 16 April 2013. Available at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civilian\\_Conservation\\_Corps#Early\\_Years.2C\\_1933.E2.80.931934](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civilian_Conservation_Corps#Early_Years.2C_1933.E2.80.931934).

“Corps Area.” [internet web site]. S.L. 11 December 2012. Available at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corps\\_area](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corps_area).

“Great Depression.” [internet web site]. S.L. 15 April 2013. Available at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great\\_Depression](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Depression).

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site

Coles, Illinois

Name of Property

County and State

Hannon, William P. *Camp Shiloh Inspection Report*. Washington, D.C.: Emergency Conservation Work, Office of the Director, 06 June 1936.

Hannon, William P., Herbert L. Crisler and Theodore M. Kingsbury. *Camp Shiloh Inspection Report*. Washington, D.C.: Emergency Conservation Work, Office of the Director, 11 February 1937.

Helms, Douglas. *Civilian Conservation Corps: Demonstrating the Value of Soil Conservation*. Reprint from *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* 40 (March-April 1985): 184-188. [http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/?ss=16&navtype=SubNavigation&cid=nrcs143\\_021393&navid=210160000000000&position=Not%20Yet%20Determined.Html&ttype=detail](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/?ss=16&navtype=SubNavigation&cid=nrcs143_021393&navid=210160000000000&position=Not%20Yet%20Determined.Html&ttype=detail).

Henderson, Lori. "The Civilian Conservation Corps in Coles County." Paper presented at the Conference on Illinois History, Springfield, Illinois, October 2011.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. "Civilian Conservation Corps and Illinois State Parks." [internet web site]. S.L. 06 June 2013. Available at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/NaturalResources/cultural/Pages/CCC.aspx>.

Illinois Department of Transportation. *Aerial Image of Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site*, 2007.

*Indianapolis Star*. "Theodore Kingsbury Services Tomorrow." 06 November 1978.

Kingsbury, Richard. "Camp Shiloh Remembrances." Interview by Lori Henderson and Matthew Mittelstadt. Indianapolis, Indiana: 13 November 2011. Lerna, Illinois: Lincoln Sargent Farm Foundation Oral History Collection, Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site.

Kingsbury, Theodore M. *Project SP-52 Progress Report*. Camp Shiloh, Illinois: 31 January 1936.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Project SP-52 Progress Report*. Camp Shiloh, Illinois: 31 March 1936.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Project SP-52 Progress Report*. Camp Shiloh, Illinois: 31 July 1936.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Project SP-52 Progress Report*. Camp Shiloh, Illinois: 30 November 1936.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Project SP-52 Progress Report*. Camp Shiloh, Illinois: 31 January 1937.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Project SP-52 Progress Report*. Camp Shiloh, Illinois: n. d., Eighth Period.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

Mansberger, Floyd, Cynthia J. Phillippe and Christopher L. Stratton. *Illinois Historic American Building Survey No. CO-1997-1 A-H*. Springfield, Illinois: Fever River Research, 1998.

“New Deal.” [internet web site]. S.L. 16 April 2013. Available at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_Deal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Deal).

Niemeyer, Floyd A. Interview by Stephen A. Thompson. Mattoon, Illinois, 06 June 2013.

Paige, John C. *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History*. Washington, D.C: National Park Service, 1985.  
[http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online\\_books/ccc/ccct.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/ccc/ccct.htm).

Salmond, John A. *The Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942: A New Deal Case Study*. Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 1967.  
[http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online\\_books/ccc/salmond/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/ccc/salmond/index.htm).

Speakman, Joseph M. “Into the Woods: The First Year of the Civilian Conservation Corps.” *Prologue Magazine*, Vol. 38. No. 3 (Fall 2006).  
<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2006/fall/ccc.html>.

Stratton, Christopher and Floyd Mansberger. *Phase I Archaeological Survey of Camp Shiloh: A Civilian Conservation Corps Encampment at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site, Coles County, Illinois (11CO186)*. Springfield, IL: Fever River Research, October 2012.

*The Camp Charleston Echo*. “White Pines Camp Now Situated at Shiloh.” 14 August 1935.

U.S. Department of Agriculture. *Aerial Image of Lincoln Log Cabin State Park*. GF: 3-34, 25 October 1938.

Wirth, Conrad L. *Parks, Politics and the People*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980.  
[http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online\\_books/wirth2/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/wirth2/index.htm).

---

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 11CO186

---

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** Approximately 10 Acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 39.382178° | Longitude -88.210665° |
| 2. Latitude: 39.382236° | Longitude -88.208533° |
| 3. Latitude: 39.380144° | Longitude -88.208478° |
| 4. Latitude: 39.380094° | Longitude -88.210652° |

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Beginning at a point adjacent to the right-of-way and 75' south of the Lincoln Highway entrance to Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site, proceed north approximately 750' to a State of Illinois right-of- way marker. From the right-of-way marker proceed east along a wire boundary fence approximately 625'. Then proceed south approximately 750'. Then proceed west south of the entrance road approximately 625' to the point of origin.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary selected contained the domestic and operational features associated with CCC Camp Shiloh and the immediately adjacent area, which was verified through phase I archaeological investigations in 2012.



Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Stephen A. Thompson  
organization: Intrepid Consulting Services, Inc.  
street & number: 3420 Richmond Avenue  
city or town: Mattoon state: Illinois zip code: 61938-2109  
e-mail: skthompson@mchsi.com  
telephone: 217/234-6004  
date: 11 September 2013

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional Documentation:**

Figures 1-13 abstracted from the Fever River Research October 2012 Phase I  
Archaeological Survey Report for Camp Shiloh.

Figure 1 – Comparative 1938 Aerial/2007 Satellite Image of Lincoln Log Cabin State  
Historic Site

Figure 2 – Detailed Image of Camp Shiloh Terrain Signatures from the 1938 USDA  
Aerial Photograph

Figure 3 – Interpretative Site Map Illustrating Suspected Location of Buildings, Roads  
and Pathways Associated with Camp Shiloh, as well as Location of Artifacts  
and Features Potentially Dating to CCC-era Occupation

Figure 3 Feature (FEA) Inventory

Feature 1	Army disposal tank foundation
Feature 2	trash pile
Feature 3	depression

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh

Coles, Illinois

Encampment Site

Name of Property

County and State

Feature 4	metal cover and cans
Feature 5	concrete culvert
Feature 6	drainage ditch
Feature 7	pile of rocks and concrete
Feature 8	depression with tile and rock edging
Feature 9	pile of earth and rock
Feature 10	pile of earth and rock
Feature 11	downed utility pole
Feature 12	concentration of bottles in stream

Figure 3, Feature 12 Inventory (Sample)

- 1 bottle glass (base) (clear; machine made; rectangular; base embossed: "D-126 / 67 {G in diamond} 6 / DES. PAT. 92901 / MADE IN U.S.A") [bottle manufactured by the General Glass Company in 1936, based on design patented in 1934].
- 1 glass bottle (base) (clear; machine made; elliptical; pint?; sides embossed with lattice design; base embossed: "D-2 / 40-6"; lattice design around lower sides [bottle manufactured in 1936]
- 1 glass bottle (base) (clear; machine made; elliptical; half pint; base embossed: "D1 / 64-6 {diamond superimposed over an O encircling an I; "NATIONAL DISTILLERS" and "HALF PINT" embossed on opposite sides [bottle manufactured by the Owens-Illinois Glass Company in 1936]
- 1 glass bottle (base) (clear; machine made; elliptical; half pint; base embossed: "D1 / 64-6 {diamond superimposed over an O encircling an I}; one side embossed with "HALF PINT" [bottle manufactured by the Owens-Illinois Glass Company in 1936]
- 1 glass bottle (base) (clear; machine made; elliptical; pint?; base embossed: "D1 / 60-6"; "...DISTILLE..." and "...IN..." embossed on opposite sides [bottle manufactured in 1936, possibly by National Distillers]
- 1 glass bottle (base) (clear; machine made, elliptical; pint?; base embossed: "D-9 / 68 {F(?) in hexagon} 6 / M-169-A") [bottle manufactured in 1936]
- 1 glass bottle (clear; machine made; elliptical; pint; base embossed: "D-134 / M-167-C / 67 {G in diamond} 5"; side embossed with "Old Quaker" logo ["Old Quaker" whiskey bottle manufactured in 1935]
- 1 glass bottle (base) (clear; machine made; elliptical; half pint; base embossed: "D-9 / 67 {G in diamond} 6 / M 89B") [bottle manufactured in 1936]

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

- 1 glass bottle (base) (clear; machine made; elliptical; half pint; base embossed: "D-8 / 13 {tower?} 6") [bottle manufactured in 1936]
- 1 glass bottle (base) (clear; machine made; rectangular; pint?; base embossed: "R48... / 64-... {diamond superimposed over an O encircling an I}"; lattice pattern on narrow side of bottle) [bottle manufactured by the Owens-Illinois Glass Company]
- 1 glass bottle (neck and shoulder) (clear; machine made; elliptical; non-threaded; pint; side embossed with a D, G, and a Co intertwined within a shield)
- 1 glass bottle (neck and shoulder) (clear; machine made; elliptical; threaded; pint; side embossed with "Old Quaker" logo; screw cap has "Old Quaker" logo and is based on Patent No. 1,684,892)
- 1 glass bottle (neck) (clear; machine made; threaded; aluminum screw cap embossed with "NATIONAL DISTILLERS" and U.S. patent numbers 1,771,034 and 1,875,431) [patents for cap approved in 1930 and 1932]
- 1 glass bottle (neck) (clear; machine made; threaded)
- 1 glass bottle (body) (clear; machine made; round) [possibly for a fifth of whiskey]
- 1 glass bottle (body) (clear; machine made; side embossed with "Old Quaker" logo)
- 1 glass bottle (shoulder) (aqua; machine made; shoulder embossed: "MILWAU..." [possible beer bottle from a Milwaukee brewery]
- 1 glass bottle (base) (aqua; machine made) [possible beer bottle]
- 1 glass bottle (body) (green; machine made)
- 1 glass bottle (body) (brown; side embossed with leaf and floral pattern) whiskey.

Figure 3 Feature (FEA) Inventory Continued

Feature 13	riprap with "Wabash Block" paving brick
Feature 14	midden of clinkers, coal, and gravel
Feature 15	midden of coal
Feature 16	suspected gravel walkway (buried)
Feature 17	rip rap with "Wabash Block paving brick and concrete
Feature 18	drain tile

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

Figure 3 Isolated Find (IF) Inventory

- IF-1 steel rod (1/2" diameter; adjacent to Feature 8)
- IF-2 steel wire (thin gauge)
- IF-3 brick (soft mud)
- IF-4 brick (soft mud)
- IF-5 boot scraper (parts stamped "144," "154," and "155")
- IF-6 muffler (older design)
- IF-7 concrete blocks (hollow core) and chunks of poured concrete [apparent demolition debris]
- IF-8 chunk of poured concrete [apparent demolition debris]
- IF-9 glass bottle (whole) (clear; machine made; full pint; side embossed with overlapping "D" and "G" set within shield; base embossed: "D-8 / 72 {D} 5") [code indicates a 1935 date of manufacture]
- IF-10 brick set in concrete ("Wabash Block" paver)
- IF-11 brick ("Wabash Block" paver)
- IF-12 glass bottle (whole) (clear, machine made; half pint; elliptical flask; sides embossed with diamond pattern; base embossed: "R 541 / 67 {G in diamond} 5") [code indicates a 1935 date of manufacture] (LLC object 41)
- IF-13 glass bottle (base) (clear; machine made; half-pint; elliptical flask; base embossed: "DES / PAT. / 10737 / WINE / {G in square} / 1570"; sides embossed with lattice with bunches of grapes in between) [bottle design patented in 1937]
- IF-14 steel rebar
- IF-15 car/truck tire (non-radial)

NRHP 10-900 Additional Documentation Figures (Continued)

- Figure 4 – Site Map Displaying the area of the Camp Shiloh National Park Service Headquarters (NPS HQ) Building, including Natural Features and Shovel Test/Artifact Locations
- Figure 5 – Whiskey Flask
- Figure 6 – Whiskey Bottle Caps
- Figure 7 – Whiskey Cap Patent Drawings
- Figure 8 – Camp Shiloh Associated Construction Hardware
- Figure 9 – Glazing and Stove Burner Artifacts Recovered in the Vicinity of the NPS HQ Building
- Figure 10 – Desk Lamp Base Recovered in the Vicinity of the NPS HQ Building
- Figure 11 – Goose-shaped Furniture Foot or Finial Recovered in the Vicinity of the NPS HQ Building
- Figure 12 – Nail Clippers Recovered in the Vicinity of the Enrollee Barracks
- Figure 13 – Fragment of a Copper Printing Plate Recovered in the Vicinity of the

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

Enrollee Barracks

## Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log.

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site

City or Vicinity: Lerna

County: Coles

State: Illinois

Photographer: Stephen A. Thompson

Date Photographed: 26 April 2013 and Undated Historic Images

Number/Description of Photographs, including View Directional Orientation:

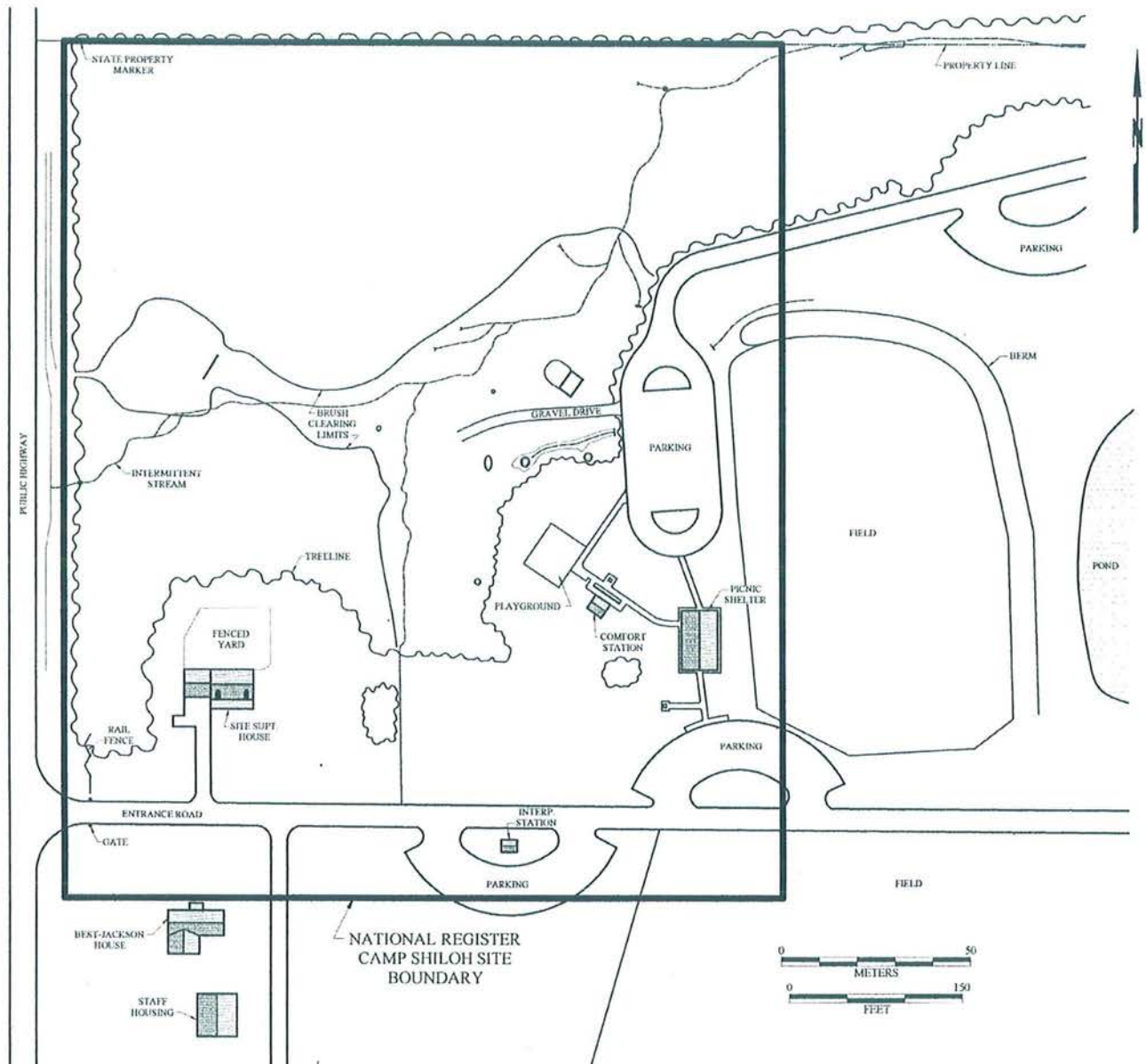
- 1 of 14 – Army Disposal Tank Foundation Looking Southwest
- 2 of 14 – 1935 Enrollee Barracks Construction Looking Northeast
- 3 of 14 – 1935 Enrollee Barracks Interior Looking East
  
- 4 of 14 – Contemporary View of 1935 Enrollee Barracks Construction Site Photo Looking Northeast
- 5 of 14 – Winter 1935-1936 Looking Northwest
- 6 of 14 – Contemporary View of Winter 1935-1936 Photo Looking Northwest
- 7 of 14 – Undated Camp Shiloh Truck Garage Looking Southeast
- 8 of 14 – Contemporary View of Camp Shiloh Truck Garage Looking Southeast
- 9 of 14 – Undated NPS Project Superintendent Theodore Kingsbury in Front of the NPS HQ Building Looking Southwest
- 10 of 14 – Contemporary View of NPS Project Superintendent Theodore Kingsbury in Front of the NPS HQ Building Looking Southwest
- 11 of 14 – NPS HQ Building Utility Pole Looking Northwest
- 12 of 14 – Camp Barracks and Operational Areas Looking Southeast from NPS HQ Building Site
- 13 of 14 – Hatchet Head Surface Remains in Vicinity of Officer's Quarters
- 14 of 14 – Fired/Unfired Coal and Medicine Bottle in Vicinity of Officer's Quarters

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh  
Encampment Site  
Name of Property

Coles, Illinois  
County and State

**Paperwork Reduction Act 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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



**Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site**  
**Lerna vicinity**  
**Coles County, IL**



**Figure 1 - Comparative 1938 Aerial/2007 Satellite Image of the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site.**

**Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site  
 Lerna vicinity  
 Coles County, IL**



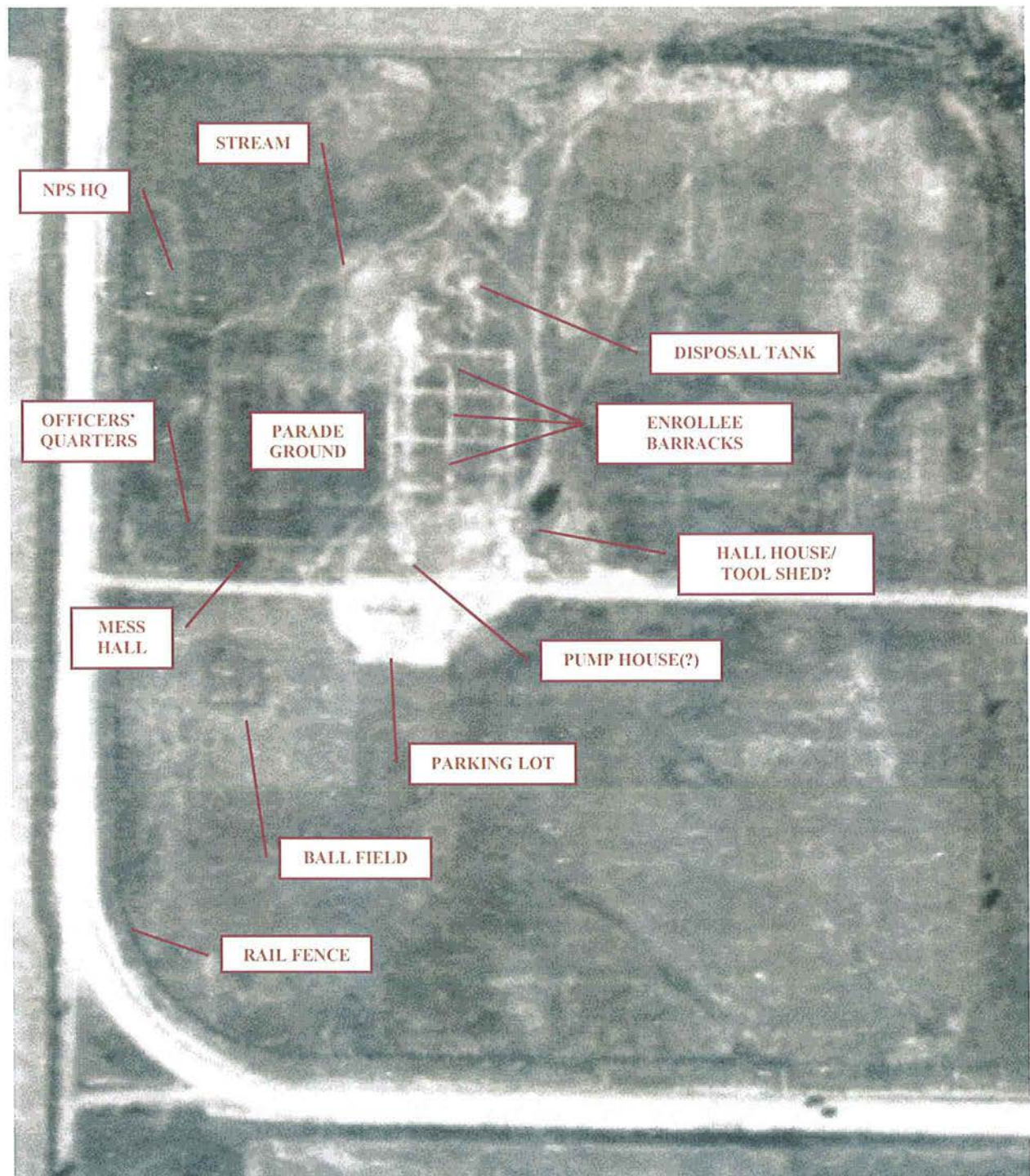


Figure 2 - Detail of an aerial photograph taken on October 25, 1938 showing the western end of Lincoln Log Cabin State Park and former site of Camp Shiloh. The camp was dismantled the previous year but the network of pathways associated the facility remain visible on the landscape. The former locations of several key buildings and features at the camp at the have been indicated, as well as a number of others immediately post-dating the camp. (United States Department of Agriculture 1938:GF-3-34).

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site, Lerna vicinity, Coles County, IL

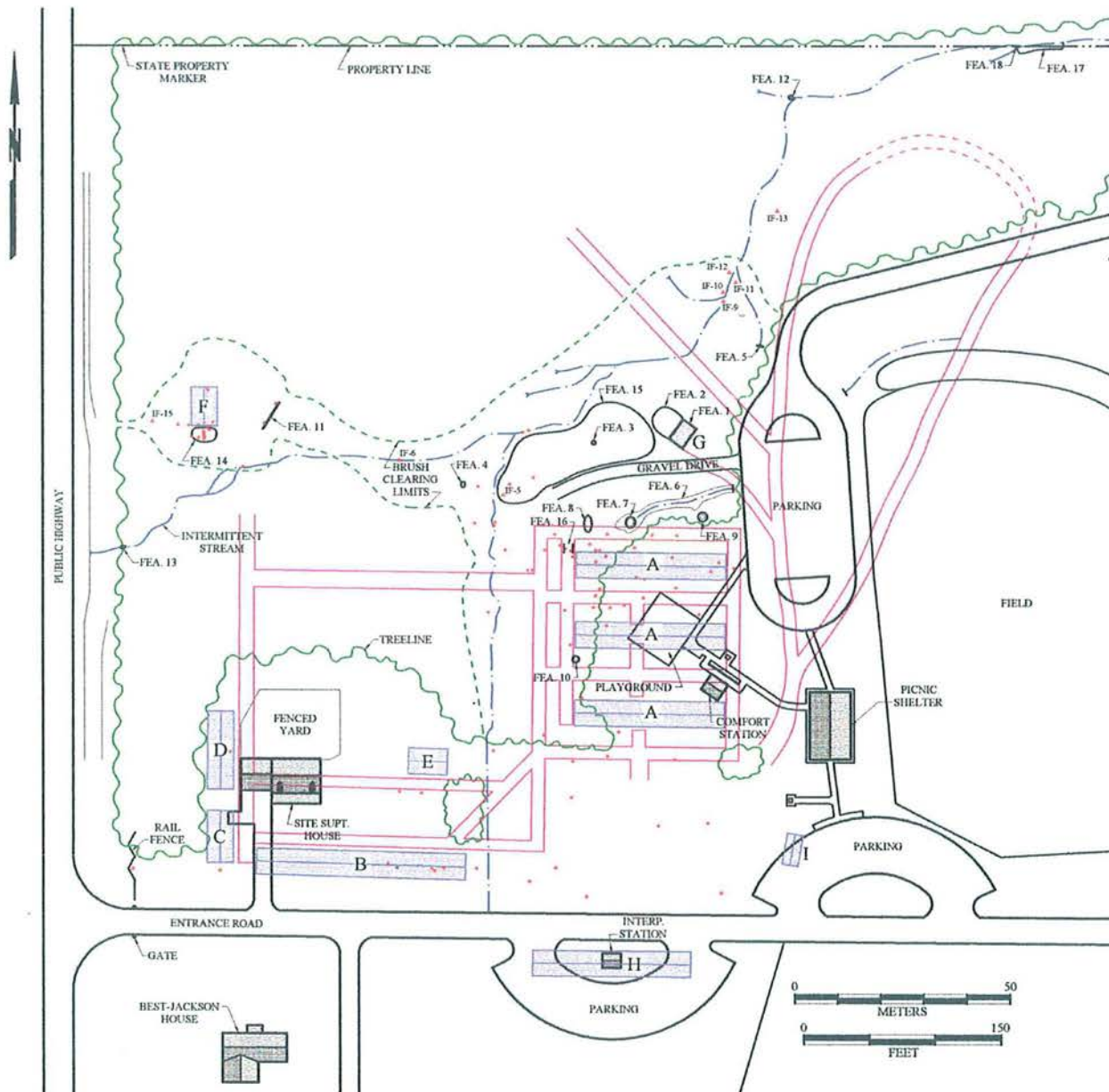


Figure 3 – Interpretive site map illustrating the suspected locations of buildings once present at Camp Shiloh in relationship to the existing landscape and artifacts/features (indicated by red circles/triangles and black polygons) potentially dating the CCC occupation. The locations of camp buildings (shown in purple) are based on the network of paths shown on 1938 aerial and the handful of photographs taken while the camp was in operation. Their dimensions are based on those commonly used by the CCC at other camps. Buildings indicated are: A) three enrollee barracks; B) the kitchen/mess hall; C) the officer’s quarters; D) recreation hall/educational building(?); E) dispensary(?); F) NPS headquarters; G) disposal tank (and possibly enrollee bathhouse?); H) garage; and I) the Squire Hall House/tool shed. The locations of several buildings/structures attested to by Richard Kingsbury (i.e. the blacksmith shop and electric plant) remain unknown at present.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site  
 Lerna vicinity  
 Coles County, IL

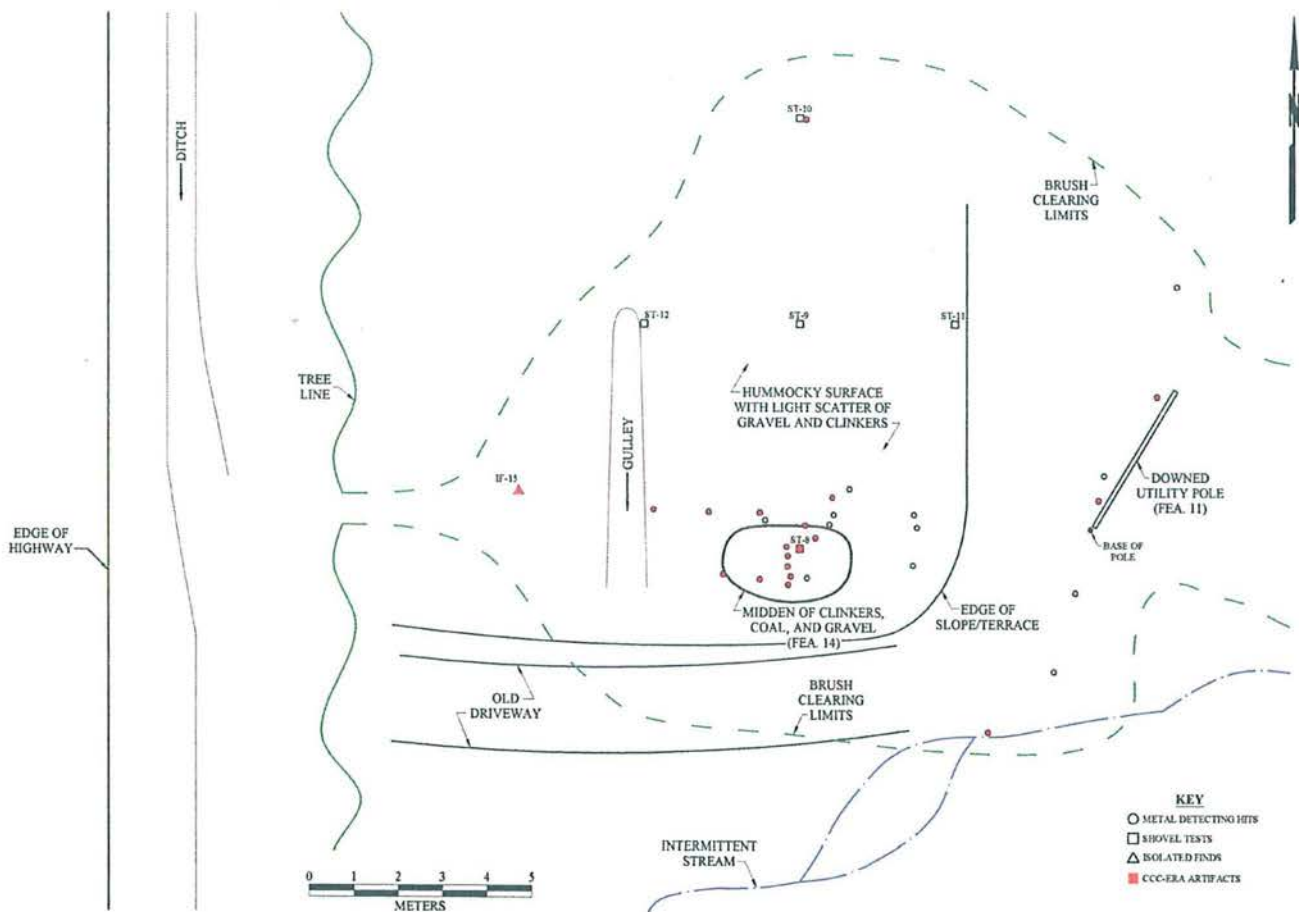
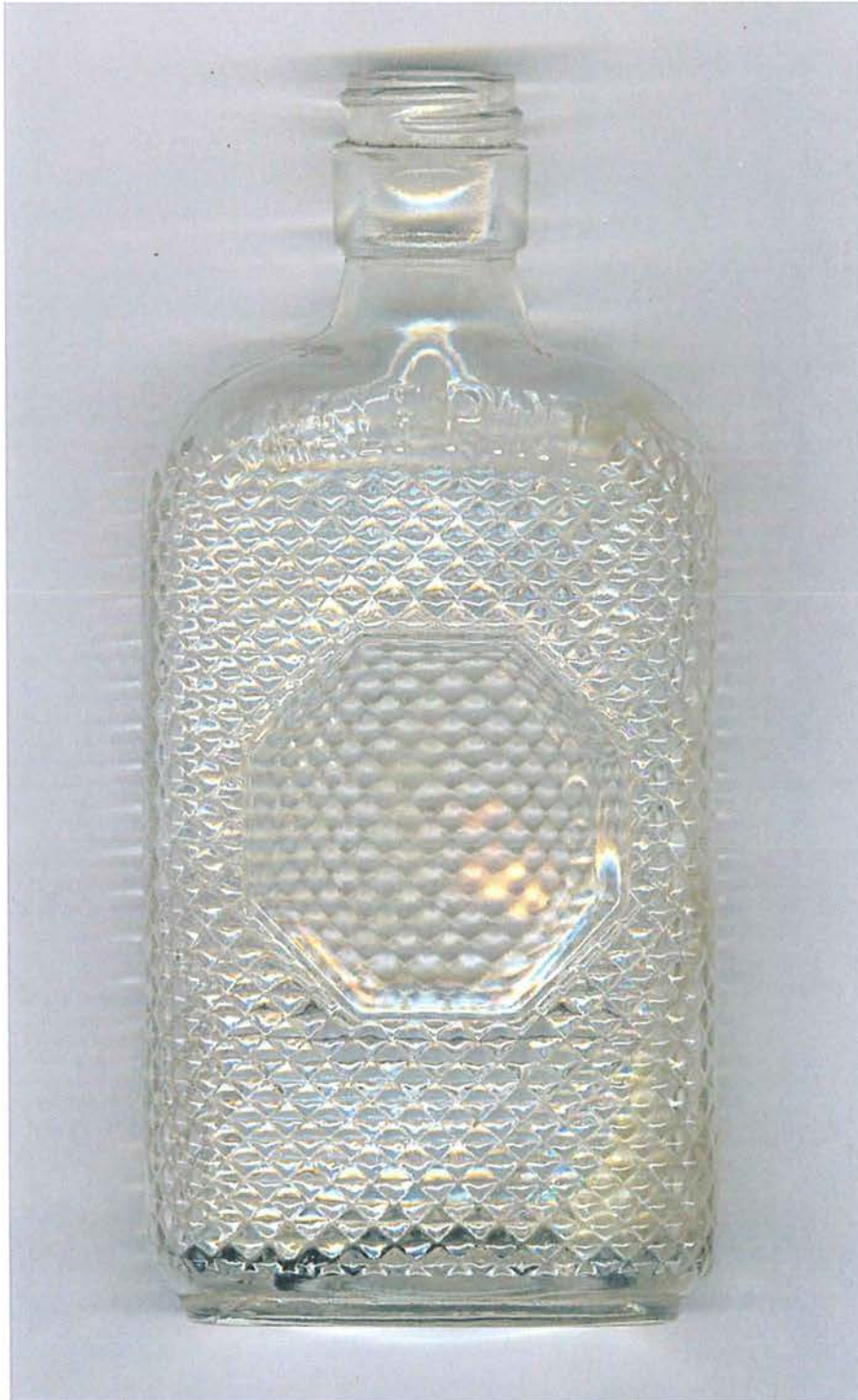


Figure 4 – Map illustrating the site of the NPS headquarters, showing features, shovel test, and hits (represented by circles). All of the metal-detecting hits in this area were investigated. Red-filled circles indicate hits from which CCC-era material was recovered. Also documented in this area was an old driveway, a midden (of clinkers, coal, and gravel) and distinct terrace—all of which are believed to be associated with the NPS headquarters at Camp Shiloh.

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site, Lerna vicinity, Coles County, IL



**Figure 5 – Embossed half-pint whiskey flask recovered during the Camp Shiloh Survey (actual size). The code embossed on the base of the flask indicates 1935 as the date of manufacture.**

**Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site, Lerna vicinity, Coles County, IL**



Figure 6 – Three whiskey bottle caps recovered during the Camp Shiloh Survey (actual size). The cap designs are all contemporary with the CCC-occupation of Camp Shiloh. Several Old Quaker brand caps were recovered from different locations within the site. The Green River cap in the center was found adjacent to the NPS headquarters site. The National Distillers cap shown at right could be from a number of brands of whiskey marketed by this company. It is based on designs patented in 1930 and 1932 (see following figure).

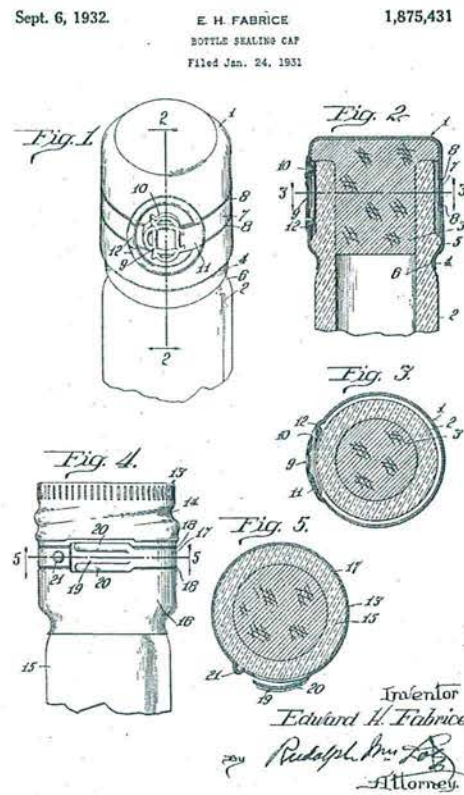
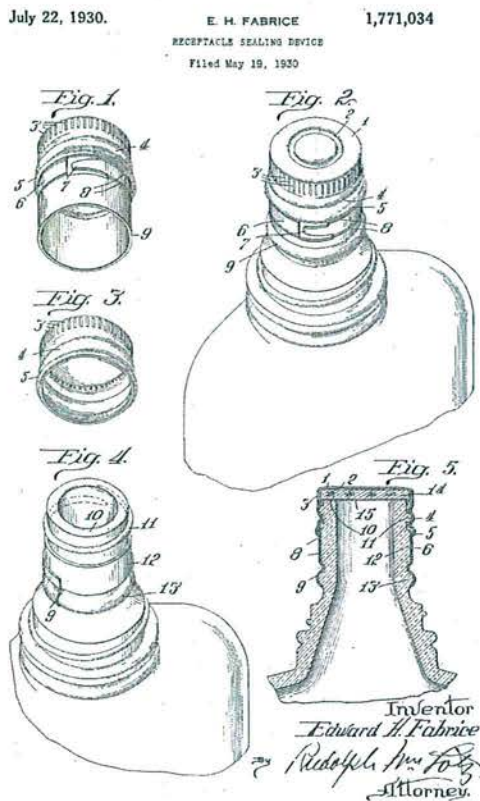
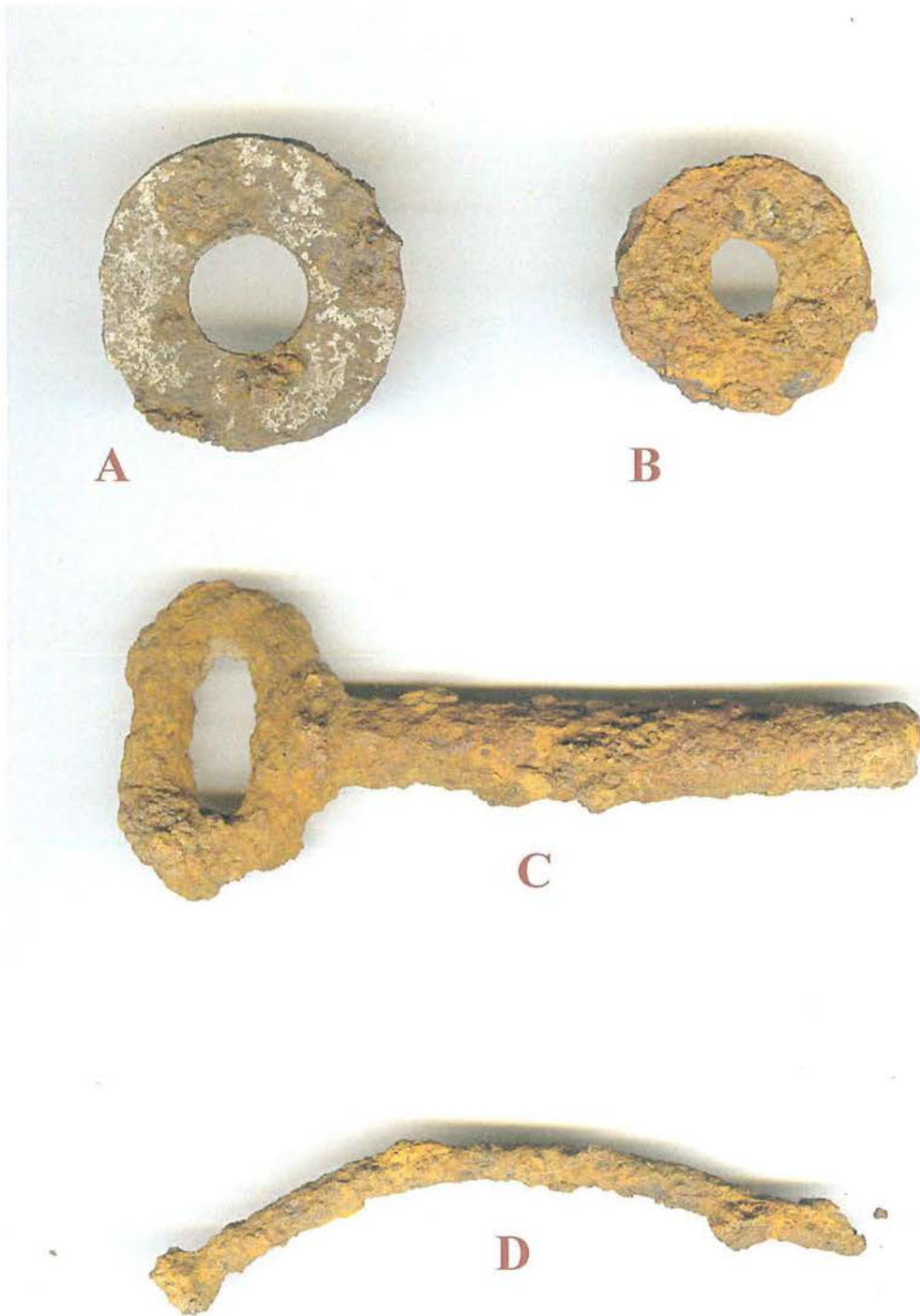


Figure 7 – Patent drawings related to the design of the National Distillers cap illustrated in the previous figure. The patents were approved in 1930 and 1932 (Fabrice 1930, 1932).



**Figure 8 – Representative construction materials recovered during the Camp Shiloh Survey: (A) 1-3/4" washer; (B) 1-3/8" washer; (C) a threaded eye bolt; (D) a 4" wire-drawn nail. These materials are believed to be associated with the CCC-occupation of Camp Shiloh. The artifacts illustrated here are shown at actual size.**

**Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site, Lerna vicinity, Coles County, IL**



A



B

Figure 9 – Artifacts recovered from the site of the NPS headquarters at Camp Shiloh: (A) piece of thick, beveled glass possibly from a table or desktop; and (B) metal fragment potentially representing a stove burner fragment (actual size).  
Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site, Lerna vicinity, Coles County, IL



**Figure 10 – Top and bottom views of an ornate lead artifact found in the vicinity of the NPS headquarters. This artifact is believed to be a lamp base (actual size).**

**Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site, Lerna vicinity, Coles County, IL**





**Figure 11 – Front and rear views of a cast metal bird found in the vicinity of the NPS headquarters (actual size). Possibly representing a goose, this artifact was secured to another object with a bolt. It potentially represents the foot or finial from a piece of furniture.**

**Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site, Lerna vicinity, Coles County, IL**



**Figure 12 – Pair of nail clippers recovered in proximity to the site of the enlisted men’s barracks at Camp Barracks (actual size). The age of the clippers can not be established with certainty, but they were found subsurface (suggesting they were deposited some years ago) and represent the sort of personal item an enlisted man at Camp Shiloh might have brought with them. The CCC was structured on a military basis, and enlisted men had very limited space for personal effects. The few they did have likely were utilitarian in character.**



**Figure 13 – Fragment of a copper printing plate recovered via metal detecting during the Camp Shiloh Survey (actual size). This plate was found within the area formerly occupied by the enlisted men’s barracks at Camp Shiloh. How it came to be deposited at the site is unknown, however. Unlike some CCC encampments, Camp Shiloh reportedly did not have a camp newspaper.**

**Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site, Lerna vicinity, Coles County, IL**



**Theo Kingsbury, NPS Project Leader in Front of Camp Shiloh, NPS Headquarters Building Looking southwest**



**Constructing Camp Shiloh**

**Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site, Lerna vicinity, Coles County, IL**



Camp Shiloh, SP-52

Winter of 35-36, temps of 20 degrees below zero



CCC Camp Shiloh Encampment Site

CCC Camp Shiloh Encampment Site Lerna vicinity Coles County, IL 1. 39.382178° -88.210665° 2. 39.382236° -88.208533° 3. 39.380144° -88.208478° 4. 39.380094° -88.210652°



Google earth















Camp Shiloh, SP-52

Winter of 35-36, temps of 20 degrees below zero



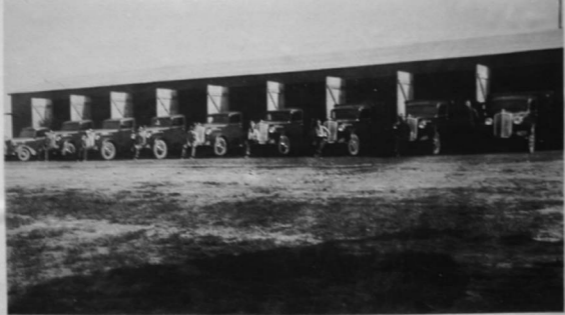


Photo. # 89.

New NPS garage and fleet of trucks.



HISTORICAL  
MARKER



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
HEADQUARTERS















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Coles

DATE RECEIVED: 12/06/13      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/07/14  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/22/14      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/22/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13001110

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    1.22.14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



**Illinois Historic  
Preservation Agency**

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512 • [www.illinois-history.gov](http://www.illinois-history.gov)



December 4, 2013

Ms. Barbara Wyatt  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW Suite NC400  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Wyatt:

Enclosed for your review are the following:

- 1. An enclosed disk that contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Shiloh Encampment Site to the National Register of Historic Places.**
- 2. A disk with digital images in PDF format.**
- 3. A signed copy of the first page of the nomination.**

The National Register Nomination form was recommended by the Illinois Historic Sites. Please contact me at the address above, or by telephone at 217-785-4324. You can also email me at [andrew.heckenkamp@illinois.gov](mailto:andrew.heckenkamp@illinois.gov) if you need any additional information or clarification. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Heckenkamp  
National Register Coordinator

Enclosures