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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. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Blood Mountain Trail Shelter

other names/site number Site number 9LU224

### 2. Location

street & number Blood Mountain Wilderness Area, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests

N/A	not for publication
X	vicinity

city or town Blairsville

state Georgia code GA county Lumpkin code 187 zip code 30533

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national X statewide \_\_\_ local

Jerome Thomas Signature of certifying official/Title November 30, 2012 Date

USDA Forest Service, Southern Region  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Vane Poon Signature of commenting official 19 NOV. '12 Date

DIRECTOR DSHPO 19 NOV '12 Title Georgia Department of Natural Resources - Historic Preservation Department  
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: \_\_\_\_\_)

John Edison H. Beall Signature of the Keeper 1-9-13 Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box.)

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

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		<b>Total</b>

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

None

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION/Shelter  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION/Shelter  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY MOVEMENTS  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone, rock outcropping  
walls: Stone - Coursed mortared rubble  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof: Wood rafters, wood shingles  
other: Wood window and door frames  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

(The bulk of this narrative description is taken from the report: *Documentation and Evaluation of the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter (9LU224) for National Register of Historic Places Eligibility* by Stacy Lundgren, District Archaeologist, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests.)

Perched at the top of Blood Mountain at an altitude of nearly 4,500 feet, the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter is one of five trail shelters constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) on the Appalachian Trail in the state of Georgia during the 1930s. Embodying the rustic simplicity and natural design esthetic of the CCC, the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter is the only shelter of the five built of stone and blends well with its environment of rock outcrops. Constructed in c. 1937, the building is located on the north side of the Appalachian Trail in the northernmost extent of the Blood Mountain Wilderness Area on the Blue Ridge Ranger District, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests, Lumpkin County, Georgia. (The shelter sits on the county line of Lumpkin and Union.) The trail shelter was originally built under the auspices of the National Park Service for the Georgia State Parks system, as an adjunct to Vogel State Park, also a CCC creation. The Blood Mountain Trail Shelter is a single-story, two-room, rectangular stone building made of coursed mortared rubble with a wooden trussed rafter roof covered by wood shakes (Photo #5). To simplify the following description, the primary elevation is referred to as the 'north' gable end rather than 'northwest,' the rear is the 'south' end rather than 'southeast', and the two sides are 'east' and 'west,' respectively.

#### *Blood Mountain Trail Shelter*

Orientation for the 20' x 25' shelter is on the long axis, at 140°/320°, with its single door opening at the primary elevation gable end (See attached sketch map). The low-pitched, front-end gable roof is sheathed with longitudinally-placed boards topped by cedar shakes with a comb ridge. The roof was replaced with in-kind materials in November 2011. Work included removing all non-historic materials added over the years. Original materials still in good condition were retained; only those that were rotted were replaced. Eaves are open, with the rafter ends extending about a foot beyond the roof-wall junctions on all four sides of the shelter. Dimensioned lumber fascia boards fill in the spaces between each rafter at the top of each wall (Photo #11), while at the gable ends the exposed rafters serve as fascia boards (Photo #10). All beams and rafters, including those original and replaced, are dimensioned lumber roughed up to look hand-hewn. Notably, the CCC used this technique of roughing up lumber to appear hand-hewn in creating their rustic architecture. Those involved with the rehabilitation of the shelter employed this technique to ensure in-kind replacement (Photos #12 and #15). A chimney is found centered on the ridge (Photo #6).

The trail shelter's masonry walls support a wood trussed-rafter roofing system (Photo #12; Photo #13; Photo #14; Photo #15), and wood-framed door and window openings. Specifically, the roof structure consists of:

- Dimensioned lumber rafters (14 pairs), 4x6"
- Dimensioned lumber collar beams (14 pairs), connected by half-lap joints, 4x8"
- Dimensioned lumber braces, connecting beam to rafter, 1x10"
- Dimensioned lumber central ridge beam (1 set of 3), connected by scarf joints, 4x8"
- Dimensioned lumber sheathing, 1x10"
- Dimensioned lumber fascia boards, 1x10"
- Dimensioned lumber wall plates (2 sets of 3), connection unknown, 3x10"

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- Fasteners are wire nails, replacement beams have wire nails & bolts

There is no foundation; rather, the shelter was built directly onto the ground, its southwest corner and south gable end both rest directly on rock outcrops. The east wall appears to bow over the top of a rock outcrop (Photo #1). Walls are coursed mortared rubble, constructed of local stone, laid horizontally flat and punctuated with the occasional 'sailor' or 'shiner' (broad side facing out, horizontally or vertically [Photo #3]). The use of sailors and shiners appears to be decorative in nature, rather than structural, and most frequently incorporated in the lower third of the building. Mortar is a coarse gravel/sand/cement mixture, ranging in thickness from one to three inches. Wall thickness is fairly uniform, ranging from 18 to 20 inches. The south and east walls incorporate the bedrock on which they rest (Photo #2), the north wall is accessed by stone steps leading from the 'front yard', and the west wall appears to have a rock outcrop 'pointing' at it (Photo #8). At the 'point,' the wall is faced with a sailor. The walls, interior and exterior, were left exposed—i.e., never covered with paneling, whitewash, paint, plaster, or any other substance.

The entry staircase, five feet wide and extending five feet from the front door, consists of four coursed mortared rubble steps, continuing to the right onto three 'stepping stones' of natural rock outcrop from the rather high final step of the staircase (Photo #7). With the exception of the top step, which forms a roughly 5x2' front stoop, the run (horizontal surface) of each step is about 14 inches, while the rise (vertical surface) of each step varies from eight inches at the top step, to six inches for the next two steps, and finally to a rather giant step of 16 inches to the ground. There is no cover for the entry, although the eaves extend about one foot around the entire building.

The front entry door on the northern elevation, has an overall opening (i.e., stone to stone) of 62 inches, which was once spanned by a double-door. (Each side of the doorway frame bore three strap hinges or the marks of strap hinges.) Overall width of the window openings is 50 inches, height is 36 inches. (Here, too, hinge marks were once visible on either side of the window openings, on the exterior of the frames before rehabilitation work in 2011 replaced the frames.)

The primary access door is centered on the northern elevation gable end and is the only doorway entry. The front and back rooms of the shelter have two windows each, with the windows in the east wall directly opposite those in the west. The doorways (one entry and one interior [Photo #16]) and the windows are all wood-framed and stained, topped by lintels of dimensioned lumber beams. In November 2011, all door and window frames (except the interior door frame) were replaced with dimensioned lumber roughed up to look hand-hewn, the same treatment employed by the CCC in creating their rustic architecture. Those involved with the rehabilitation of the shelter employed this technique to ensure in-kind replacement. Specifically, door and window frame components are:

- Dimensioned lumber lintels
- Dimensioned lumber sills
- Dimensioned lumber inner (i.e., adjacent to wall) frame, 2x10" (doors)
- Dimensioned lumber inner frame, 1 ½ x9" [2x10"] (windows)
- Dimensioned lumber outer frame, 1x6" (front door), ½ x 5 ½ " [1x6"] (windows)
- Fasteners are wire nails, strap hinges on doors (three each side on front door)

There is one interior, centrally placed chimney (Photo #19). The fireplace opening faces the front door, making

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the front room the "warming hut" portion of the shelter, and the backroom the "sleeping area." The chimney is capped by chamfered mortar. Flashing, weighted by rocks, has been placed over the flue opening(s).

The front room and rear rooms of the shelter are roughly the same size (20x12'), although the back room is slightly larger because the interior wall takes up some of the front room's space. Access between rooms is via the doorway on the west side, to the right as one enters the shelter. The fireplace is backed by this interior wall and faces the front entryway.

Four-foot by three-foot concrete rectangles, separated by one-inch-wide wood frames, comprise the floor in the front room (Photo #17), while the back room appears to consist of poured cement. Bootprints, incised wavy lines, and bits of clay roofing tile have been captured in the cement. A concrete lip at the front door was fashioned to replace the missing wood sill. The back room is actually higher than the front room, by about seven inches, due to the shelter's sitting on a rock outcrop; the poured cement flooring in back may have increased the difference between the two rooms. The northeast corner of the backroom exhibits some smoke blackening, as does the beam above. There is no interior ceiling; rather, the interior space is open right up to the underside of the roof, with exposed truss beams and rafters.

The only decorative feature inside the shelter is the built-in fireplace. The rectangular feature, with its long axis parallel to the interior wall, tapers slightly as it rises toward the roof. Constructed of coursed mortared rubble, the fireplace had an interior lined with firebrick; rubble and firebrick were affixed with the same type of mortar as the walls. There is no mantelpiece, although a metal lintel bar surmounts the firebox. An approximately one-foot wide skirting of mortared stones is present across the entire width of the chimney. In November 2011, the fireplace was filled in with in-kind material (Photo #20); the interior of the chimney was filled in previously. Stone skirting and stone filling are affixed with the same type of cement as the floors (e.g. See Figure 1).

Outside the shelter, decorative features likely included the strap hinges on the doors and shutters. One piece of decorative hardware, which appears to be the strap portion of a strap hinge, or a 'dummy strap'—except that it has no holes for attachment-- was recovered from the space at the top of the east wall in the front room, by the north window. The tip has been sharpened into a *de facto* knife (Photo #21).

No specific historic landscape design is known other than the sitting of the shelter itself, directly on top of rock outcrops, surrounded by more rock outcrops. A natural rock shelter is located adjacent to the front of the shelter; another rock outcrop 'points' at the west wall. As one approaches the shelter on the trail from the north or the south, the shelter is hardly visible ahead until about 15 meters distant. Vegetation in the area--principally oaks, rhododendrons, and flame azaleas—are present in the area surrounding the shelter.

The single outbuilding associated with the shelter, although associated by proximity only, is a moldering privy constructed in 2006 by the Forest Service. This was done to replace a series of pit privies that had to constantly be replaced. Constructed of plywood, this moldering privy is hidden from view of both the Appalachian Trail and the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad 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.)

Property is:

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Entertainment/Recreation

Politics and Government

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

c. 1937-1962

**Significant Dates**

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park

Service (Architect/Builder)

CCC (Architect/Builder)

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**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance encompasses the date of construction of the building (c. 1937) and continues to the end of the historic period in 1962 due to the building's continuing association as a shelter on the Appalachian Trail in Georgia.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) for the Georgia State Parks c. 1937, the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter is significant to the State of Georgia under National Register Criteria A and C. The shelter is associated with the development of Vogel State Park and the Appalachian Trail in Georgia. Moreover, the building is directly associated with the CCC, a Depression-era federal work relief program that assisted with the development of national and state parks (including Vogel State Park and much of the Appalachian Trail). The shelter represents a local expression of this federal program in Georgia. Therefore, the building is individually eligible for listing under Criterion A. Additionally, this two-room, one-story, front-gable, mortared rubble trail shelter—the only stone trail shelter constructed by the CCC on the Appalachian Trail in Georgia—is a good example of a recreational shelter built with local, natural materials by the CCC in Georgia and is therefore individually eligible under Criterion C.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Blood Mountain Trail Shelter is eligible for individual listing at the state-level in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The shelter is eligible under Criterion A for its association with entertainment and recreation on Georgia recreation sites. Constructed in c. 1937 under the auspices of the National Park Service for the Georgia State Parks system, the shelter was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the development of Vogel State Park and much of the Appalachian Trail in Georgia. Both sites were developed for recreating and enabled visitors to experience the solace and beauty of the woods. The shelter allowed visitors a place to rest, picnic, or regroup while walking the Appalachian Trail.

The Blood Mountain Trail Shelter is eligible for individual listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with federal and state politics and government. The men of Company 431 stationed at Camp Enotah (now known as Vogel State Park) were part of the CCC responsible for constructing recreation areas in Georgia. The CCC was a federal work relief program created in 1933 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal legislation that employed young men to work in the areas of reforestation, road construction, soil erosion prevention, building national and state parks (including Vogel State Park and much of the Appalachian Trail), and flood control projects. In 1956, the shelter, and the acre or so upon which it sits, was acquired by the US Forest Service in a land exchange with the State of Georgia. The Blood Mountain Trail Shelter has maintained its association with federal and state recreation as its original purpose continues today, serving visitors of the Appalachian Trail and the Blood Mountain Wilderness Area on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests.

The Blood Mountain Trail Shelter is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C as a good example of CCC and Rustic architecture. This is evident in the low-pitched roof, the mortared rubble construction, and

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the hand-hewn look of rafters and beams. Rustic designs were used in numerous private and government administrative buildings in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and principally during the Depression-era by the CCC. The shelter's location and setting—near the top of a remote mountain in the north Georgia woods—is also typical of CCC construction of recreation developments. The stone building incorporates its stony setting amidst boulders and outcrops, neither obscuring nor clashing with its surroundings.

**Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)**

This historic context was compiled using portions of three documents in addition to supplementary sources: *Documentation and Evaluation of the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter (9LU224) for National Register of Historic Places Eligibility* by Stacy Lundgren, District Archaeologist, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests; *A Legacy in Wood and Stone: An Overview and Management Plan of Depression Era Resources on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests, Georgia*, by James Wettstaed, Heritage Program Manager/Tribal Liaison, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests; and *A Guide to the Historic Administrative Buildings of the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region 1905-1970*, by John Ferguson, Architectural Historian, Heritage Stewardship Group.

*The Great Depression and Establishment of the CCC*

Constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) as one of five trail shelters in Georgia, the origins of the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter are closely tied to the development of the CCC as a Depression-era work-relief program and its presence in the state of Georgia. Located on what is now National Forest land, the trail shelter was originally built for the Georgia State Park system to serve hikers of the Appalachian Trail. Of the five trail shelters built by the CCC in Georgia – according to standardized elements of the Rustic architectural style – the Blood Mountain shelter is the only one still extant and is also the only trail shelter along the Appalachian Trail in Georgia originally constructed of stone.<sup>1</sup>

When Franklin D. Roosevelt took office on March 4, 1933, the nation's economy was in shambles—more than thirteen million people were unemployed, many of whom were destitute. The new President immediately began implementing plans to correct the nation's severe economic, social, and environmental problems. The Roosevelt administration responded with a series of new programs in the "first hundred days" of the administration. From March 9 to June 16, 1933, FDR sent Congress a record number of bills, all of which passed easily. These included the creation of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Congress also gave the Federal Trade Commission broad new regulatory powers, and provided mortgage relief to millions of farmers and homeowners. In addition to these measures, FDR initiated programs chiefly concerned with natural resource conservation—namely the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) program.<sup>2</sup>

Throughout much of his life and well into his early political career as a New York State senator, FDR had been influenced by the mission of progressive conservationists like Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot. And his record of support for pro-conservation bills showed his passion for the ideology, especially when it came to forest lands. For him, conservationism became a personal credo, and he showed this by spending considerable time overseeing tree planting operations and soil improvement on his Hyde Park, NY estate.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Stacy Lundgren, *Documentation and Evaluation of the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter (9LU224) for National Register of Historic Places Eligibility*, (USDA Forest Service: Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests, 2010), 2.

<sup>2</sup> John Ferguson, *A Guide to the Historic Administrative Buildings of the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region 1905-1970*, USDA Forest Service: Heritage Stewardship Group, 2010), 51.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 51-52.



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On March 21, 1933, FDR presented Congress with plans to enroll young men throughout the country in a program of public employment. To provide work for Americans and address important conservation issues near to his heart, FDR suggested that states be given federal relief grants and that a broad public works program be developed. As the president stated before Congress:

I propose to create a civilian conservation corps to be used in simple work, not interfering with the normal employment, and confining itself to forestry, the prevention of soil erosion, flood control, and similar projects...this type of work is of definite practical value, not only through the prevention of great present financial loss but also as a means of creating future national wealth.<sup>4</sup>

Congress did not delay, and on March 31, 1933 they approved FDR's requests. The subsequent Act was the first of the New Deal's direct relief operations, and on April 5, 1933, the president signed into law Executive Order 6101, *Relief of Unemployment through the Performance of Useful Public Works*. While the Order contained several stipulations, its most significant feature was the establishment of the ECW program—also known as the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).<sup>5</sup>

By July 1933, enrollment in the CCC had reached over 300,000 nation-wide, and more than 1,500 camps had been established across the country. This was the "largest peacetime mobilization...the United States had ever seen." The CCC was divided across the country into nine distinct units known as Corps Areas. The Corps Areas were subdivided into smaller districts, sub-districts and, finally, companies housed at individual camps. Each CCC camp was delineated by a letter indicating the ownership of the land on which it operated and a number. Each company averaged about 200 men, although this number routinely fluctuated.<sup>6</sup>

The Department of Labor coordinated the selection of enrollees and handled reenrollment every six months. The War Department—primarily the US Army—handled the initial two-week orientation of the enrollees at Army bases before the young men were taken to their camps. The Army provided transportation to the camps, and then also committed regular and reserve trained officers to manage and supervise the camps. The Departments of Agriculture and Interior provided the camp locations, projects, and project supervisors on National Forests and National Parks. State Parks mirrored their federal counterparts, although project supervisors were supplied by the National Park Service. Both the Army and the partnering agency shared in developing educational classes.<sup>7</sup>

Young men, ages 18 to 24, who had been on the work-relief rolls, qualified to join the CCC. Because the Depression affected all classes and all races, the CCC was open to everyone—as long as they were male, unmarried, and unemployed. And, one might add, white, because although the CCC allowed for all ethnicities, it was run by the Army, and the Army at that time was still segregated. All-African-American camps and all-Native-American camps were, if not the norm, at least not unexpected, particularly in the South, where Jim Crow laws remained in effect. Enrollees were paid \$30 per month, of which \$25 was sent home to their families, leaving \$5 per month for spending money. Many enrollees found this stipend, though

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., 52.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., 53.

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generous, not enough, and supplemented their income by doing laundry, hiring on with a local truck farmer during their off-hours, lawn watering, and even gambling.<sup>8</sup>

Ninety percent of these enrollees came from east of the Mississippi River, but ninety percent of CCC projects took place on the forests and parklands west of the Mississippi. The CCC brought together two of the nation's assets—natural resources and idle young men—in order to reclaim both. Heeding FDR's principle that work-relief projects 'should be useful,' the Forest Service and the Park Service employed CCC crews to create and maintain infrastructure, fight fire and blight (blister-rust), and replant trees. Enrollees constructed federal ranger and guard stations, lookout towers and cabins, and work centers. They constructed campgrounds, lakes, and shelters. They built roads, bridges, trails, and dams. They put out fires and replanted trees.<sup>9</sup>

This conservation work was carried out from base camps and spike camps located in National Forests, National Parks, and state parks. Each camp had a commander and junior officer—drawn from the Army, Navy, Army Air Corps, or Marines—who were in charge of the camp itself and the welfare of its inhabitants. Each camp also had a doctor, educational advisor, agency personnel, and local experienced men (LEM) to teach skills such as wood-working or tree-felling. All camps were planned according to what had already worked for the military in setting up compounds in a short timeframe for dozens of men. Most camps included barracks buildings, a mess hall, a dispensary, a bath house, an administration building, a flag pole, a post exchange, a recreational room/library, officers' quarters, and a cooler.<sup>10</sup>

Depression Era architecture of the CCC had a predominate style, described as being "rustic." While standard plans were developed by federal agencies for just about every facility imaginable, the exact finishing details were left to local control. CCC rustic architecture employed local materials of stone and timber. Structures were integrated with the surrounding landscape to create a natural feeling and setting, not encumbered by human presence. According to US Forest Service historian Gail E. Throop, "As accessories of nature, these [Rustic style] structures employed the use of native materials to blend with the environment and the use of early pioneer and regional buildings techniques; architecture was closely integrated with landscape." Additionally, Throop argues, "Rustic architecture was a function of its own time, and ideally suited to the conditions of a distressed economy and wide-spread unemployment. Labor intensive, rustic architecture employed the combined efforts of many men, skilled and unskilled, in planning, preparing and building. Yet it was also economical in that it employed the use of natural and native building materials, certainly locally abundant for little or no cost."<sup>11</sup>

#### *The CCC on Georgia State Parks and the Appalachian Trail*

One of the largest contributions made by the CCC was the development of recreation areas in National Forest land, National Parks, and state parks. In Georgia, CCC crews developed key recreation areas in spite of the lack of welcome on behalf of the state's governor, Eugene Talmadge, who described enrollees as "those bums

<sup>8</sup> Lundgren, 5.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid, 6.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> James Wettstaed, *A Legacy in Wood and Stone: An Overview and Management Plan of Depression Era Resources on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests, Georgia*, (USDA Forest Service: Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest, 2010), 15-16.

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and loafers," who were "running around in the woods."<sup>12</sup>

Among the recreation areas developed by the CCC were several new state parks such as Vogel in northwestern Georgia. Vogel State Park became one of Georgia's first state parks when the Georgia State Park System was founded in 1931. It is second to Indian Springs State Park. The land comprising the park was donated to the state in 1927 by Fred and Augustus Vogel of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The two were heirs to the Pfister Vogel Leather Company, a Wisconsin tannery founded by Frederick Vogel. The Vogel family harvested bark from oak and hemlock trees located on thousands of acres they owned in north Georgia. The bark was shipped to Wisconsin and used by the company for tanning leather. During World War I, a synthetic method for tanning leather was developed, rendering the north Georgia resources obsolete. As a result, the Vogel's donated the land to the state. CCC Company 431, stationed at Camp Enotah, developed the camp into Vogel State Park during the 1930s, constructing lakes (notably Lake Trahlyta), trails, shelters, cabins, picnic areas, and campgrounds.<sup>13</sup>

One major recreation project—the Appalachian Trail—reached completion in Georgia due in no small part to the contribution of the CCC. The Appalachian Trail began as the vision of landscape architect Benton MacKaye, who outlined his plan for a trail along the Appalachian Mountains in 1921. MacKaye was concerned about loss of habitat and wildlife, diminishing recreational opportunities, and deteriorating environmental health for the eastern United States, as well as the effects of these changes on area residents. He envisioned more than a mere footpath, but rather a system of protected land dotted with mountaintop lodges where easterners could reacquaint themselves with nature in their own backyards. MacKaye organized and convened the first conference of Appalachian Trail enthusiasts in Washington, D.C. in 1925. The assembled gathering of hikers, foresters, and public officials embraced his vision of creating a primitive trail experience in proximity to the urban centers of the eastern United States. They began by creating the organization that later became the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC). The first section of the trail was constructed in Harriman and Bear Mountain State Parks, New York, in 1923. Under the guidance of ATC chairman Myron Avery, thousands of volunteers constructed the Appalachian Trail throughout the 1920s and 1930s. By 1937 a continuous footpath from Maine to Georgia was completed. During the 1930s and 1940s, the CCC built much of the original infrastructure along the trail, including rock walls and steps, cabins and shelters, and fire towers.<sup>14</sup>

Today, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail is administered by the National Park Service and is the United States' most beloved recreational footpath. The trail follows the spine of the Appalachian Mountains, passing through 14 states and six national parks, eight national forests (which contain 1,015 miles, or 47 percent of the trail), two national wildlife refuges, 67 state-owned land areas (e.g., game lands, forests, or parks), and more than a dozen local municipal watershed properties. The Appalachian Trail's protected corridor (a swath of land averaging about 1,000 feet in width) encompasses more than 250,000 acres, making it one of the largest units of the National Park System in the eastern United States. The trail passes through some of the most

<sup>12</sup> Lundgren, 7.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.; The Appalachian Trail Conservancy, "History." < <http://www.appalachiantrail.org/about-the-trail/history>>

<sup>14</sup> National Parks Conservation Association, *Appalachian Scenic Trail: A Special Report*. (Washington D.C.: National Parks Conservation Association, 2010).

Blood Mountain Trail Shelter

Name of Property

Lumpkin, GA

County and State

significant and rare ecosystems remaining along the East Coast.<sup>15</sup>

The Blood Mountain Trail Shelter was built by men of CCC Company 431, stationed at Camp Enotah for the Georgia State Park system. A sturdy stone structure of CCC rustic design, the shelter was built specifically to accommodate hikers of the multi-state Appalachian Trail. Visitors utilized the shelter for resting, picnicking, regrouping, or escaping the weather, all while experiencing the solace and beauty of the woods found along the Appalachian Trail. The shelter and surrounding land was acquired by the US Forest Service in a land exchange with the State of Georgia in 1956 and subsequently managed by the Blue Ridge Ranger District of the Chattahoochee National Forest. The shelter continues to accommodate visitors of the Appalachian Trail and the Blood Mountain Wilderness Area on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests.<sup>16</sup>

#### *Conclusion*

The U.S. entry into WWII fully resuscitated the nation's economy and the large relief building and labor programs came to a close. However, the impact made by the CCC on federal and state land would be lasting and formative of the way Americans recreate still today. Not only did the CCC develop campgrounds, shelters, and trails, they created a recreational setting and feeling through their rustic architecture, iconic of federal and state recreation still felt today. The wood and stone work of the CCC are found endearing throughout the country and immediately provide visitors a sense of the long tradition of recreating on America's great landscapes. The Blood Mountain Trail Shelter is a lasting and excellent example of rustic architecture, harkening back to the heyday of the CCC and development of Georgia recreation areas.

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<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>16</sup> Lundgren, 2, 19.

Blood Mountain Trail Shelter  
Name of Property

Lumpkin, GA  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Blood Mountain Trail Shelter  
Name of Property

Lumpkin, GA  
County and State

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**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): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** <1 acre  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 17S 231055 3847944  
Zone Easting Northing

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Blood Mountain Trail Shelter is located alongside the Appalachian Trail atop Blood Mountain within the Blood Mountain Wilderness Area of the Chattahoochee National Forest in Lumpkin County, Georgia. This location is depicted on the Neels Gap 7.5' USGS quadrangle included with this nomination. The boundary includes the shelter itself as well as the surrounding rock outcrops within a 20'-radius of the shelter.

Blood Mountain Trail Shelter  
Name of Property

Lumpkin, GA  
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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The rocky nature of the mountaintop is integral to the shelter's design, setting, and feeling—even its materials; the Civilian Conservation Corps incorporated the existing bedrock as the shelter's foundation. The shelter is literally grounded and surrounded by rock outcrops.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Rachel Kline, Architectural Historian  
organization Heritage Stewardship Group date \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number 63095 Deschutes Market Road telephone 970-218-8162  
city or town Bend state OR zip code 97701  
e-mail rdkline@fs.fed.us

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Index of Figures**

Figure 1: Standard plan for fireplace construction from "Brick and Stone Work, (1937).

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Blood Mountain Trail Shelter

City or Vicinity: Blairsville

County: Lumpkin State: Georgia

Photographer: Stacy Lundgren, Becky Bruce-Vaughters

Date Photographed: 6-21-2010; 6-23-2010; 12-13-2011

Location of Original Digital Files: Forest Supervisor's Office, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests  
1755 Cleveland Highway, Gainesville, GA 30501

Blood Mountain Trail Shelter

Lumpkin, GA

Name of Property

County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- Photo #1: North and east elevations, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #2: South and west elevations, B. Bruce-Vaughters, 12-13-2011.
- Photo #3: North elevation, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #4: South elevation, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #5: Roof from rock outcrop, B. Bruce-Vaughters, 12-13-2011.
- Photo #6: Close-up of chimney, B. Bruce-Vaughters, 12-13-2011.
- Photo #7: Close-up, north elevation steps, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #8: Close-up, rock outcrop 'pointing' at west elevation, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #9: East window frame, B. Bruce-Vaughters, 12-13-2011.
- Photo #10: Close-up, wall plate & rafter, southeast corner, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #11: Underside of roof above rear window, east elevation, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #12: Scarf joint, ridge beam, front room, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #13: Half-lap joints, collar beams, front room, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #14: Interior rafter/beam/wall connection, east wall, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #15: Interior of roof after rehabilitation work, B. Bruce-Vaughters, 12-13-2011.
- Photo #16: Interior doorway, front room to rear, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #17: Front room, interior view, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #18: Rear room, interior view, S. Lundgren, 6-23-2010.
- Photo #19: Fireplace, B. Bruce-Vaughters, 6-21-2010.
- Photo #20: Fireplace after rehabilitation work, B. Bruce-Vaughters, 12-13-2011.
- Photo #21: Dummy strap, S. Lundgren, 12-8-2010.
- Photo #22: View from Blood Mountain, B. Bruce-Vaughters, 6-22-2010.

**Property Owner:**

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

name Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests

street & number 1755 Cleveland Highway telephone (770) 297-3000

city or town Gainesville state GA zip code 30501

**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.).

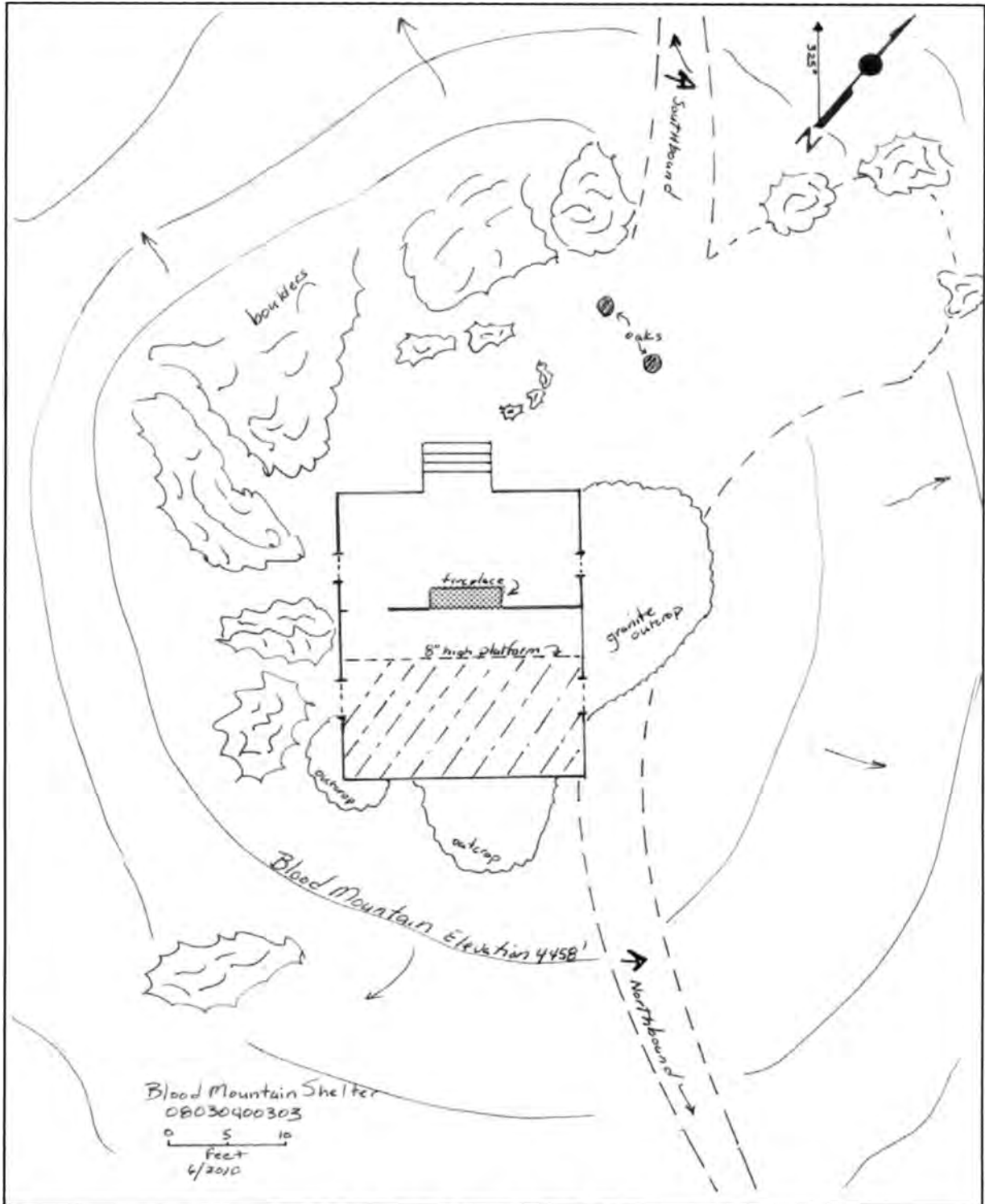
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Blood Mountain Trail Shelter  
Name of Property

Lumpkin, GA  
County and State

Sketch Map

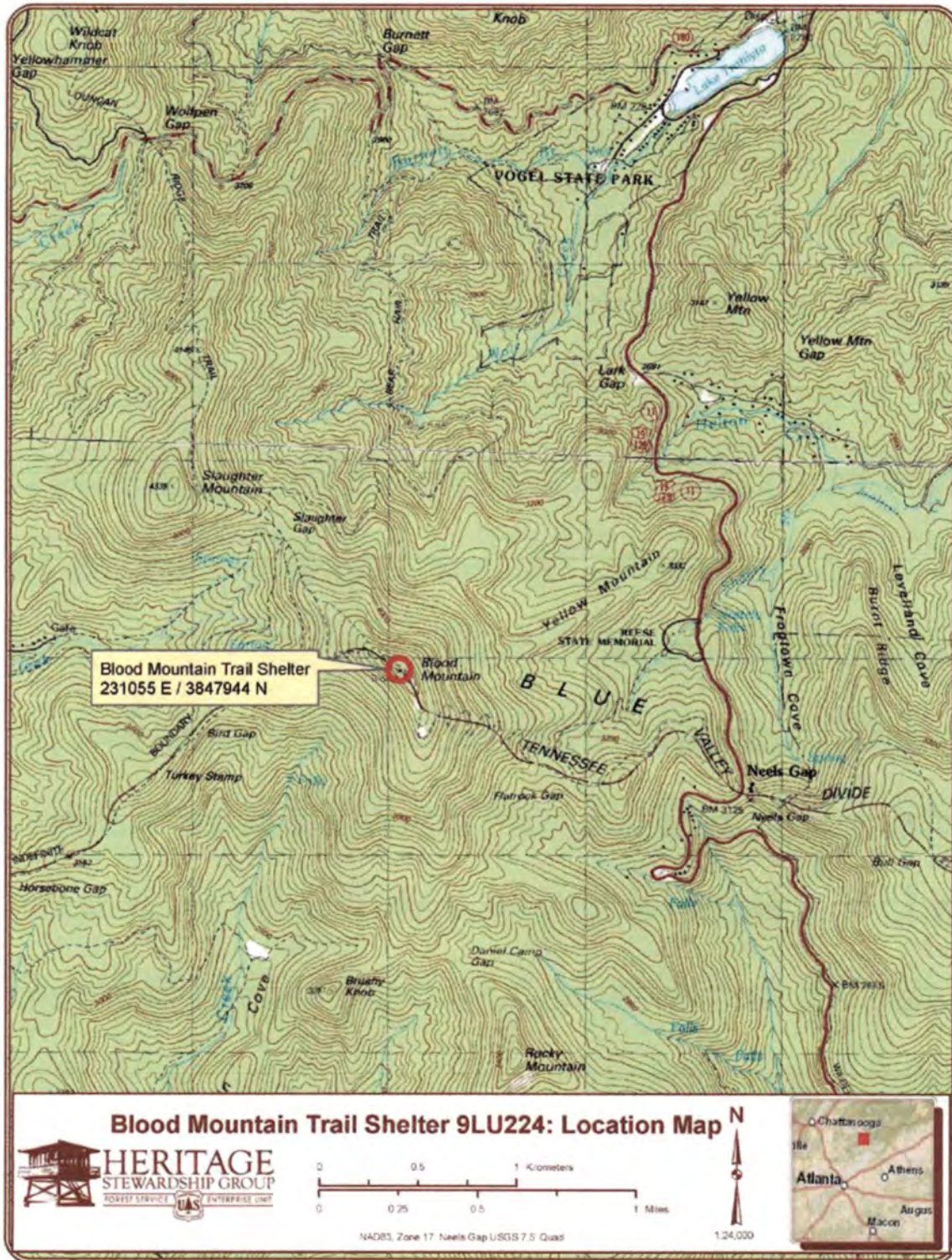


B. Bruce-Vaughters, 2010.

Blood Mountain Trail Shelter  
Name of Property

Lumpkin, GA  
County and State

### Location Map



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Blood Mountain Trail Shelter

Name of Property

Lumpkin County, Georgia

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

PLATE XXIII

# FIREPLACE CONSTRUCTION

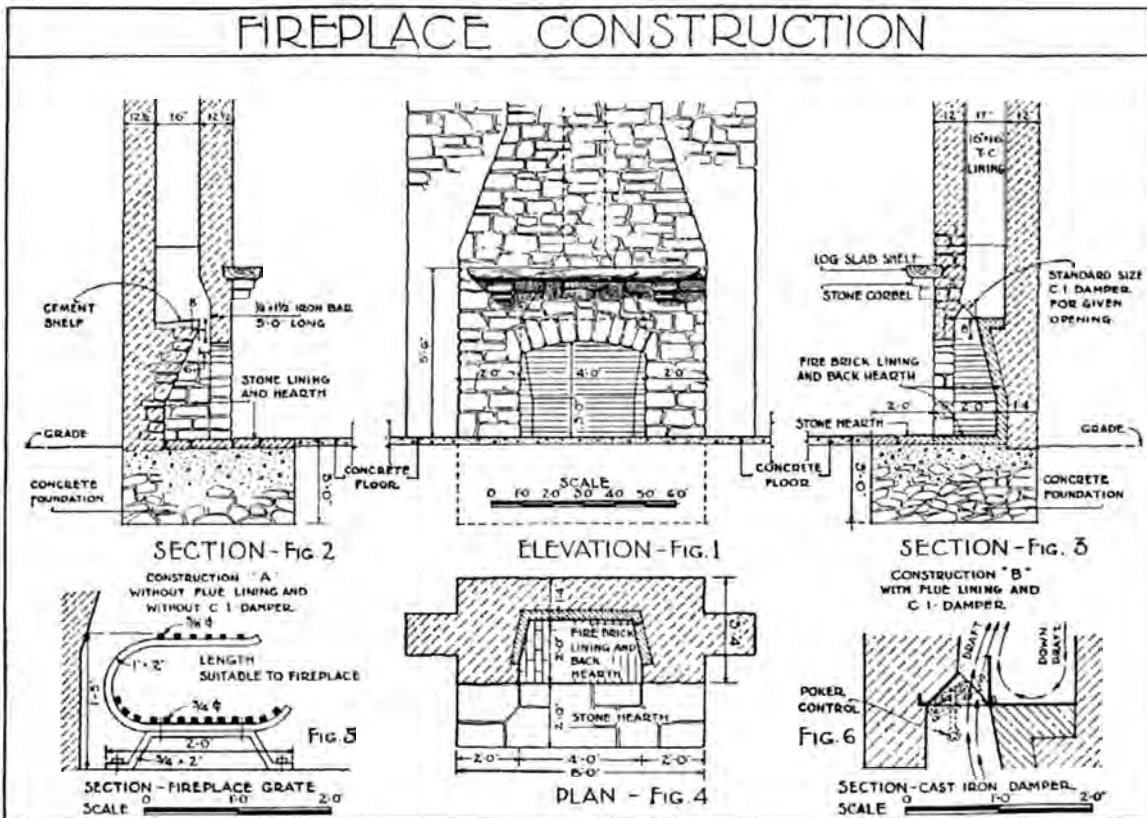


Figure 1. Standard plan for fireplace construction from "Brick and Stone Work, (1937).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Blood Mountain Trail Shelter  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: GEORGIA, Lumpkin

DATE RECEIVED: 11/23/12      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/21/12  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/05/13      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/09/13  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12001145

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    1-9-13 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.



BLOOD MOUNTAIN TRAIL SHELTER,  
LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

1 OF 22



BLOOD MOUNTAIN TRAIL SHELTER,

LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

2 OF 22





BLOOD MOUNTAIN TRAIL SHELTER,

LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

3 OF 22



BLOOD MOUNTAIN TRAIL SHELTER,  
LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

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LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

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LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

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LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

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BLOOD MOUNTAIN TRAIL SHELTER,

LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

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BLOOD MOUNTAIN TRAIL SHELTER,

LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

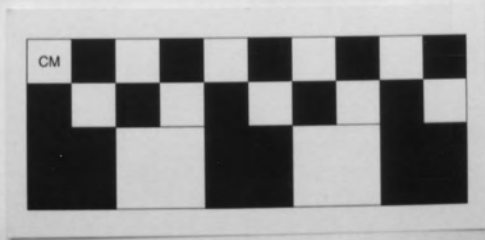
19 of 22



BLOOD MOUNTAIN TRAIL SHELTER,

LUMAKIN COUNTY, GA

20 & 22



BLOOD MOUNTAIN TRAIL SHELTER,

LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

21 OF 22



BLOOD MOUNTAIN TRAIL SHELTER,

LUMPKIN COUNTY, GA

22 of 22



## Missing Core Documentation

<b>Property Name</b>	<b>County, State</b>	<b>Reference Number</b>
Blood Mountain Trail Shelter	Lumpkin, GA	12001145

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

Nomination Form

Photographs

USGS Map



Forest  
Service

Chattahoochee-Oconee  
National Forests  
Supervisor's Office

1755 Cleveland Highway  
Gainesville, GA 30501  
(770) 297-3000

File Code: 2360  
Route To: (2360)

Date: OCT 15 2012

Subject: National Register Nomination for Blood Mountain Shelter

To: Regional Forester

I am pleased to forward you for your review and signature a National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter. This stone Appalachian Trail shelter was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps and is presently located on the Blue Ridge Ranger District. Last year we completely rehabbed the structure in partnership with the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club and made a commitment to them that we would pursue listing the shelter on the National Register of Historic Places.

GEORGE M. BAIN  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: Melissa H Twaroski



 **GEORGIA**  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION**

MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER

DR. DAVID CRASS  
DIVISION DIRECTOR

November 15, 2012

Ann Christensen, Director  
Recreation/Wilderness/Heritage/Volunteers Staff  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service, Southern Region  
1720 Peachtree Road NW  
Atlanta, GA 30349

RE: Blood Mountain Trail Shelter, Lumpkin County, Georgia

Dear Ms. Christensen:

Please find enclosed the signed copy of the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter.

We are pleased that you have undertaken to nominate the shelter. Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to review this nomination. If you have any questions concerning our comments, please call me at 404.651.6782 or email me at [gretchen.brock@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:gretchen.brock@dnr.state.ga.us).

Sincerely,



Gretchen Brock  
National Register & Survey Program Manager

Enclosure



File Code: 2360

Date:

NOV 20 2012

NOV 23 2012

Carol Shull, Interim Keeper  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye Street NW (2280)  
Washington, DC 20005

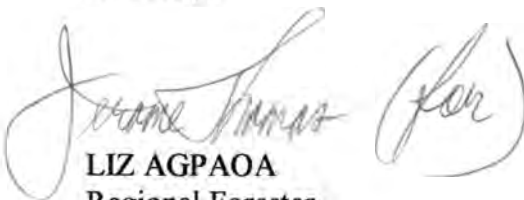
Dear Ms. Shull:

Please find enclosed the completed and signed National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for the Blood Mountain Trail Shelter located on the Chattahoochee National Forest along the Appalachian Trail in Lumpkin County, Georgia.

This nomination was coordinated with staff from the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office. Their Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Dr. David Crass, has signed the form as the commenting official. The authority to certify National Register of Historic Places Registration Forms has been delegated to me by the Chief of the Forest Service in Forest Service Manual 2360 (see 2360.4 Exhibit 01).

If you have any questions about the nomination, please contact our Regional Heritage Program Manager, Melissa Twaroski at 404-347-7250 or [mtwaroski@fs.fed.us](mailto:mtwaroski@fs.fed.us). Please send Melissa a scanned copy of the signature page once you have certified this registration form.

Sincerely,



LIZ AGPAOA  
Regional Forester

Enclosures (2)

cc: Michael Kaczor, Doug Stephens, James Wettstaed, Melissa H Twaroski

