

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM  
INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RECEIVED 413

AUG 4 1995

RECEIVED 413

DEC 28 1994

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1. Name of Property

historic name: Cove Lake Bathhouse; Ozark-St. Francis National Forest

other name/site number: L00056

2. Location

street & number: Forest Service Road #1608A

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Corley

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Logan code: AR 083

zip code: 72855

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-Federal

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetCove Lake Bathhouse  
Ozark-St. Francis National Forest  
Logan County, Arkansas

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.

( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

✓ Evan D. DeBlois 4-16-95  
Signature of certifying official Date

Forest Service Federal Preservation Officer  
State or Federal agency and bureau

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the  
National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the  
National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Paul R. Ferguson 9/11/95

X Signature of Keeper Date  
of Action

#### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Walter J. DeBlasio  
Signature of certifying official

4-17-95  
Date

Forest Service  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Charles H. Slater  
Signature of commenting or other official

9-20-93  
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- \_\_\_\_\_ entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the  
National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the  
National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper Date  
of Action

#### 6. Function or Use

Historic: RECREATION AND CULTURE

Sub: Outdoor recreation

Current : RECREATION AND CULTURE

Sub: Outdoor recreation

=====

**7. Description**

=====

Architectural Classification:

Other

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: Rustic

Materials: foundation Stone/Concrete roof Asphalt  
walls Stone/Wood other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: SOCIAL HISTORY  
ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1937-1942

Significant Dates: 1937

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Works Progress Administration

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
X See continuation sheet.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Interview with Olin Payne (former area resident), 09/15/93.

Workers of the Writers' Program. *The WPA Guide to 1930's Arkansas*, with a new introduction by Elliot West. Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 1987 (original copyright 1941).

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- X State historic preservation office
- \_ Other state agency
- X Federal agency
- \_ Local government
- \_ University
- \_ Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Approximately 1.5

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

A    15    442740    3898410

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point on the northeastern edge of Forest Service Road #1608A formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel with the bathhouse's southeastern elevation and located approximately 50 feet to the southeast thereof, proceed northeasterly along said line for a distance of approximately 300 feet to its intersection with the low water line of Cove Lake; thence proceed northwesterly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel with the bathhouse's northwestern elevation; thence proceed southwesterly along said line for a distance of approximately 300 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the northeastern edge of Forest Service Road #1608A; thence proceed southeasterly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: \_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically-associated with this resource.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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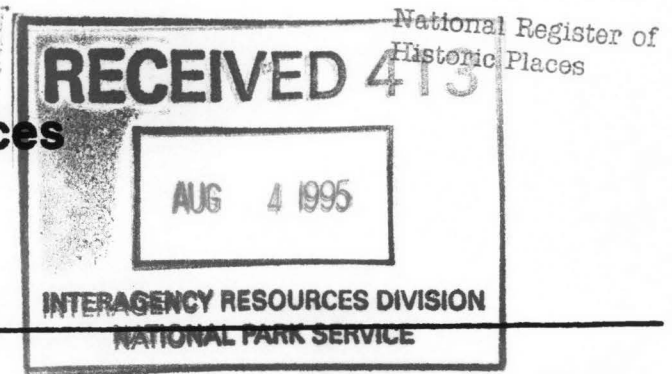
Name/Title: Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 09/17/93

Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1**Summary**

The Cove Lake Bathhouse is a single story, rock constructed T-shaped structure with a full front porch and covered with an asphalt shingle, gabled roof. It is designed in an unusual interpretation of the Rustic style.

**Elaboration**

Nine miles south of Paris in Logan County on Arkansas Highway 309 is the Cove Lake Recreation Area, within which is the Cove Lake Bathhouse facility. It is constructed of native stone in a "T"-shape. The northern facade has a full length porch supported by eight square stone columns. Each end of the porch has a small set of steps leading onto the porch from the adjoining stone walkways as well as a central set of steps which enter the porch from the front patio. The porch has a shed roof covered with asphalt shingles. The main structure is of stone construction with the exception of the gabled ends of the structure. These areas are frame constructed and covered with weatherboard. Each of these gabled ends has a triangular vent which match the three vent dormers on the front of the structure and two on the rear of the structure. The structure is covered with a large, asphalt covered, gabled roof. The "T" on the rear of the structure is also covered with a gabled roof which intersects the primary gable on the rear side. The windows of the structure are a hopper style which are hinged at the bottom and are divided into six panes. These windows are set in a configuration of two sets of three windows on the north and south sides and pairs of two on the east and west sides. The primary entrance of the structure is on the northern side. The main entrance of the structure contains a set of heavy double doors flanked by small sidelights. This entrance is for a concession/storage area which extends to the rear of the structure. On either side of the main entrance are heavy single wooden doors which are for the toilet/shower areas. On the northern side of the structure is a flagstone patio surrounded by a stone wall. This area extends to a set of stone steps which descend to an elevated grassy area which is also bordered by a stone wall. From this area, another set of stone steps descends to the beach area.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

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**Summary**

The Cove Lake Bathhouse (Ozark-St. Francis National Forest) is eligible under Criteria A and C with local significance. It is considered significant under Criterion A by virtue of its direct associations with the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the Depression-era public works agency that actually supervised the construction and provided the labor to build it. Under Criterion C it is significant as a unique interpretation of the Rustic style.

**Elaboration**

The Cove Lake Bathhouse (Ozark-St. Francis National Forest) was constructed in 1937 by the Works Progress Administration as part of its effort to create the small recreation area at the western end of the man-made Cove Lake. As was typical of most such Depression-era recreational lakes projects in Arkansas, the shallow basin that would become Cove Lake was nothing more than an eroded water channel formed by the confluence of four small streams descending from the surrounding hills; however, it provided a good natural basin for a small shallow recreational lake, and thus its selection for this WPA project.

These resources were constructed within this relatively remote area for the purpose of providing developed recreational facilities for both local residents and tourists. The abundance of natural drainage channels that converge here in this shallow basin created a site well-suited to the creation of a recreational lake.

The onset of the Great Depression in 1929 and the subsequent advent of such federal public works programs as the Works Progress Administration (WPA) brought a new recreational area to this rural section of Logan County in 1937. The WPA -- an organization that hired unemployed adult men and women to work on a variety of public projects throughout the nation -- was established by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his administration as part of the federal response to the dire economic circumstances brought upon the American people by the Great Depression. The WPA was but one of many such public works organizations instituted by the Roosevelt Administration and managed under the aegis of the umbrella agency in charge of all such public works efforts, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA); other agencies under its direction included the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the short-lived Public Works and Civilian Works Administrations (PWA and CWA), and such regional projects as the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the Rural Colonization Projects in Arkansas established by the Resettlement Administration at such places as Dyess, Clover Bend and Plum Bayou. Among its various other projects, the WPA constructed a small number of rural



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of  
Historic Places

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

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recreation areas throughout the state -- though this was not their principal emphasis -- and the Cove Lake Recreation Area was constructed as part of this effort.

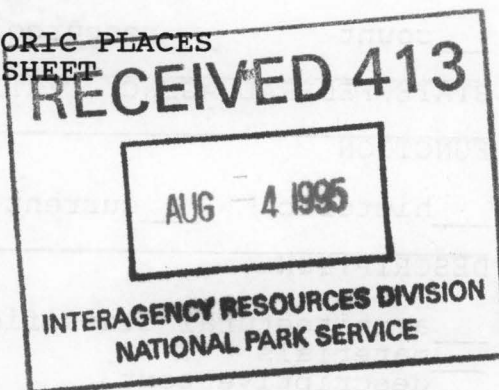
The source of the Rustic style employed in the construction of the Cove Lake Bathhouse is unclear. While virtually all of the public works agencies in Arkansas during the Depression carried out their construction projects with locally-available materials whenever possible, the design of the bathhouse at Cove Lake is reminiscent not only of the materials favored by the CCC, but also of the low, stone masonry Rustic style that became their trademark. Other known WPA-constructed projects around the state -- including school buildings, courthouses, dams, etc. -- do not uniformly reflect the influence of *any* particular stylistic tradition, apparently relying instead on both materials and construction expertise that were available locally. It is certainly possible that the men working for the WPA were directed by construction supervisors and architects already familiar with typical Civilian Conservation Corps construction, of which there was an abundance in the immediate vicinity by the time this project began (e.g., Mt. Nebo State Park, located approximately twenty-two miles to the northeast, and the various recreational facilities in the Ouachita National Forest located immediately to the south). However, no documentation survives directly connecting any other public agencies to this WPA project.

The design of the Cove Lake Bathhouse remains one of the more unusual examples of the Rustic style of architecture. The use of the eight plain, slightly-sloped stone piers to support the full-width shed roof porch, the three diminutive, symmetrically-placed gabled vents in the roof slope above and the lack of any significant spreading cornices lend this building a timid awkwardness that is not at all typical of the Rustic style. Nevertheless the fieldstone masonry construction is extremely well-done and typical of the Rustic style. Therefore, though not particularly successful aesthetically, the Cove Lake Bathhouse is significant for its unusual interpretation of this style and for the quality of its construction.

The Cove Lake Bathhouse remains locally significant under Criterion A through its associations with the contributions to American social history made by the Works Progress Administration and its associations with the emphasis upon putting the nation's unemployed to work on a variety of projects for the public good. It is also significant under Criterion C by virtue of the its being a unique example of the Rustic style of architecture.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET



REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Cove Lake Bathhouse

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Logan

DATE RECEIVED: 12/28/94  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/27/95  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/11/95  
DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/11/95

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94001617

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 1/19/95 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The nomination is being returned at this time for the reason(s) cited below:

Federal Agency Certification. The nomination requires the signature of the Federal Preservation Officer (FPO).

RECOM./CRITERIA Return  
REVIEWER PAUL R. LUSIGNAN  
DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN  
DATE 1/19/95

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

CLASSIFICATION

\_\_\_ count \_\_\_ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

\_\_\_ historic \_\_\_ current

DESCRIPTION

\_\_\_ architectural classification  
\_\_\_ materials  
\_\_\_ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

\_\_\_ summary paragraph  
\_\_\_ completeness  
\_\_\_ clarity  
\_\_\_ applicable criteria  
\_\_\_ justification of areas checked  
\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource  
\_\_\_ context  
\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance  
\_\_\_ justification of exception  
\_\_\_ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

\_\_\_ acreage \_\_\_ verbal boundary description  
\_\_\_ UTMs \_\_\_ boundary justification

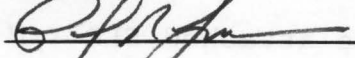
ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

\_\_\_ sketch maps \_\_\_ USGS maps \_\_\_ photographs \_\_\_ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

PAUL LUSIGNAN Phone 202.343.1620

Signed  Date 1/19/95

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Cove Lake Bathhouse  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Logan

DATE RECEIVED: 8/04/95 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/18/95  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94001617

NOMINATOR: STATE

DETAILED EVALUATION: Y

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 9/11/95 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Cove Lake Bathhouse is significant under National Register Criteria A and C, in the areas of Social History and Architecture. The resource represents a distinctive local example of Rustic-style stone masonry construction and reflects the important work of the Works Progress Administration in western Arkansas during the period 1933-1942.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A+C

REVIEWER Paul R. Lunionan DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE 343-1622 DATE 9/11/95

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y ☒ N see attached SLR Y ☒ N







Cove Lake Recreation Area Bath house (Ozark-St. Francis N.F.)

Corley Vic., Logan Co., Arkansas

photographed by T. Ferguson

February 1993

Negative on file at AHPP

View from Northwest

LO 0056



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

BLUE MOUNTAIN QUADRANGLE  
ARKANSAS  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



National Register of  
Historic Places

Cove Area Boundary  
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CO., ARKANSAS  
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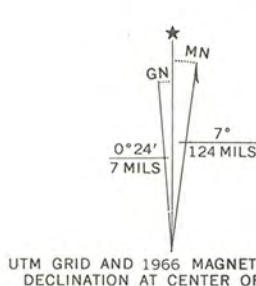
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Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1962. Field checked 1966  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



SCALE 1:24 000  
0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET  
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 KILOMETER  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———  
State Route

BLUE MOUNTAIN, ARK.  
N3507.5—W9337.5/7.5

1966

AMS 7254 II NW—SERIES V884



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Ozark-St. Francis P.O. Box 1008  
National Forests Russellville, AR 72811

National Register of  
Historic Places

Reply to: 2360



Keeper of the National Register  
C/O Guy Lapsley  
Department of Interior  
National Park Service  
P.O. Box 3712  
Washington D.C. 20013-7127  
Mail Stop 413

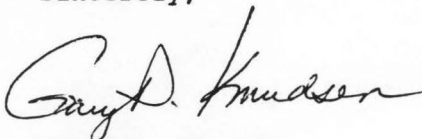
Dear Keeper;

Enclosed are six (6) National Register of Historic Places Nomination forms for sites on the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests in Arkansas. These forms were completed as a part of a Challenge Cost Share Partnership with the Arkansas State Historic Preservation Program. The AHPP staff completed the inventory and nomination forms as part of this partnership. The sites include:

- Lake Wedington Historic District
- Spring Lake Recreation Area Historic District
- Gray Spring Recreation Area/Forest Service Road #1003 Historic District
- Sugarloaf Fire Tower Historic District
- Mirror Lake Historic District
- Cove Lake Bathhouse

All of these sites are CCC or WPA built structures under the management of the Ozark-St. Francis National Forest. If you have any questions regarding these sites or forms please contact me at (501) 964-7229.

Sincerely;



GARY D. KNUDSEN  
Forest Archeologist

enc