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 280 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.

Name of Property Historic name: Poinsett State Park Historic District	Nat. Register of Historic Places
Other names/site number:	National Park Service
Name of related multiple property listing:	
Historic Resources of South Carolina State Parks	
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing	
2. Location	
Street & number: 6660 Poinsett Park Rd	0
City or town: Wedgefield State: South Carolina Co	ounty: Sumter
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	2
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation	Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this <u>x</u> nomination <u>request</u> for determinate the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for	Register of Historic
In my opinion, the property _x meets does not meet the National recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:	
nationalx_statewidelocal Applicable National Register Criteria:	
<u>x</u> A <u>B</u> <u>x</u> C <u>D</u>	
Elizabeth M. Johann 4/	6/2016
Elizabeth M. Johnson	N .
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:	Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

Poinsett State Park				Sumter County, South Carolina
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In my opinion, the pr	operty meets	_ does not meet	the National F	Register criteria.
Signature of comme	nting official:		Da	te
Title:			or Federal ag ibal Governm	
4. National Park Servi	ca Cartification			
I hereby certify that this p				
ventered in the Nationa				
determined eligible for				
determined not eligib	le for the National R	egister		
removed from the Na	tional Register			
other (explain:)		_		
Signature of the Keep	oer Be	all	331 Date of Action	16
5. Classification				
Ownership of Property				
(Check as many boxes as	apply.)			
Private:				
Public – Local				
Public - State	х	39	f.	
Public – Federal	,			
Category of Property				
(Check only one box.)				
Building(s)				
District	Х			
Site				

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7. Description		
Architectural Classification		
(Enter categories from instructions.)		
OTHER:		
LATE 19 TH AND EARLY 20 TH CENTURY		
AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Rustic/Parkitecture		
Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)		
Principal exterior materials of the property:		
foundation: stone, brick, concrete		
walls: wood, weatherboard, log, stone		
roof: asphalt, wood, shingle, metal, steel		
other: stone, brick, wood		

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Poinsett State Park is a thousand acre state park located in the southwest corner of Sumter County, South Carolina, fourteen miles southwest of the city of Sumter. Its setting is in the High Hills of Santee section of the county, distinguished by narrow stream valleys surrounded by steep wooded hills with slopes as steep as 37% incline. The two most outstanding natural features of the park include Shank's Creek, which transports crystal clear water to the park's Old Levi Mill Lake, and the steep wooded hillsides that lend a mountainous character to the setting, even though Poinsett State Park is located in the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic region. Current park facility numbers are listed, where available, following the contemporary title of the building, structure, or other resource.

¹ "Historic Resources of South Carolina State Parks," Multiple Property Submission to the National Register of Historic Places, http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/MPS/MPS038.pdf.

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Statement of Integrity

Poinsett State Park retains integrity in all seven categories and is expressive of a preserved recreational park and conservation area. The district retains key components of its historic park landscape and resources associated with the Civilian Conservation Corps as well as the architecture of racial segregation. Extant features include roads, cabins, residences, picnic shelters, a lake with spillways, landscaped areas, a CCC camp, trails, and forests. Alterations to contributing buildings are typically limited to changes in roofing material, very limited door or window replacement, enclosure of porches, and replacement-in-kind of deteriorated materials. The landscape has changed as vegetation has matured or died, but the original design intent is still discernable and historic uses have been maintained. Spatial relationships between buildings, structures, and landscape features are still intact, as is the entire historic circulation system. Many of the non-contributing resources are historic facilities that have lost integrity due to alteration, but because they were constructed during the period of significance they do not detract from surrounding contributing resources.

Narrative Description

Contributing Resources

Cabins

Poinsett has six timber-framed cabins. Five cabins (PO-C1 thru PO-C4 and PO-4) are located on an elongated loop road on a wooded bluff overlooking Shank's Creek. Cabins one through four are rental cabins. The fifth cabin is now a Ranger Residence (PO-4). The sixth cabin (PO-C5), formerly the Life Guard Quarters but now a rental cabin, is located on a wooded hillside overlooking the Park's main parking area and Old Levi Mill Lake. All cabins were originally outfitted with electricity. All cabins have had central heating and air conditioning added. All cabin exteriors were originally stained and now they are painted. Painting the exterior began in the 1940s.² All cabins originally had cypress roof shingles and now have composite shingles. Cabin entry doors were replaced in 1980.³

1. Cabin #1 (PO-C1)—Building

Cabin #1 is located east of Cabin #2 (PO-C2). This one-story cabin, built in 1936⁴, sits on a semi-rectangular foundation of coquina rubblework and formwork concrete. The principle roof

² Park staff painted all park buildings in 1947-8, South Carolina Commission of Forestry, *Report of the State Commission of Forestry for the Year 1947-1948* (Columbia: 1948), 101.

³ Park maintenance staff installed all new doors on the rental cabins, *Park Lites*, 1 March 1980, Records of the South Carolina State Park Service, Resource Management Office, Columbia, S.C.

⁴ Cabin 1 is described as complete in a Narrative Report, 31 March 1936, National Park Service - Lands Division, Record Group 79, Entry 41, Box 123, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), College Park, M.D., copy in the Poinsett Research Files.

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County and State is front gable with a side gable secondary roof over the east wing. Over the west wing is a lower pitched shed roof. Along the front gable ridge is an interior coquina rubblework chimney. The exterior walls are sided with vertical board and batten and horizontal weatherboard. The cabin is fitted with eleven windows – five are original, two are replacements, and four are modern. The original windows are three six-over-six sash windows in the east bedroom, one twelve-pane casement in the kitchen which originally opened into the sleeping porch now converted to an enclosed bedroom, and one four-pane casement window in the bathroom. The newer windows are six-over-six and two-over-two sash windows. The one entryway located on the south elevation has three coquina stairs leading to it. Originally, the north bedroom was a screened sleeping porch. Coquina stairs on the north elevation led to a screen door. In 1953, the porch's wood floor was replaced with a concrete floor.⁵ In 1977, the porch was enclosed, covered with board and batten siding and four windows were added to create a second interior bedroom. ⁶ The coquina stairs are extant. Significant interior features include tongue and groove wood paneling in the living room and south elevation bedroom, a cove ceiling in the south elevation bedroom, a coquina rubblework fireplace in the living room and hand forged iron hardware including hinges and Suffolk latches.

2. Cabin #2 (PO-C2)—Building

Cabin #2 is located between Cabin #1 (PO-C1) and Cabin #3 (PO-C3). This one-story cabin, built in 1936, sits on a semi-rectangular foundation of coquina rubblework and formwork concrete. The exterior walls are covered with horizontal weatherboard siding. The principle roof is hipped with a gable roof over the south wing and a shed roof over the north wing. Along the hipped roof ridge is an interior coquina rubblework chimney. The south entryway has three coquina stairs leading to it. The cabin is fitted with eleven windows – five are original, two are replacement, and four are modern. The original windows are three six-over-six sash windows in the east bedroom, one twelve-pane casement window in the kitchen which originally opened into the sleeping porch now converted to an enclosed bedroom, and one four-pane casement window in the bathroom. The newer windows are six-over-six and two-over-two sash windows. Originally, the west bedroom was a screened sleeping porch. Coquina stairs on the north elevation led to a screen door. In 1953, the porch's wood floor was replaced with a concrete floor.8 In 1977, the porch was enclosed, sided with board and batten siding, and windows were added to create a second interior bedroom. 9 The coquina stairs are extant. Significant interior features include tongue and groove paneling in the living room and east elevation bedroom,

⁵ Concrete poured for cabin porches, 19 May 1953, State Commission of Forestry -State Parks Division, Poinsett State Park Files, Box 2, South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH), Columbia, S.C.

⁶ Notes that a bedroom was added to two family cabins for more privacy. Park Lites, 1 March 1977, Records of the South Carolina State Park Service.

Mr. Craig noted that cabin #1 and cabin #2's sleeping porches were enclosed by Superintendent Taylor and cabins #3 and #4's were enclosed possibly by Superintendent Marshall closer to 1980. Horace Craig (former Poinsett State Park Superintendent), 12 March 2012, email to Laura Kirk.

⁷ Cabin #2 is described as complete in a Narrative Report, 31 March 1936, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files.

⁸ Concrete poured for cabin porches, 19 May 1953, Poinsett State Park Files, Box 2, SCDAH.

⁹ See note 5 above.

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exposed truss chords, a coquina rubblework fireplace in the living room, and hand forged iron hardware including hinges and Suffolk latches.

3. Cabin #3 (PO-C3)—Building

Cabin #3 is located between Cabin #2 (PO-C2) and Cabin #4 (PO-C4). This one-story cabin, built during 1937-8, 10 sits on a cross-shaped foundation of coquina rubblework. The principle roof is side gable with a secondary front gable roof over the kitchen and a shed roof over the south elevation porch. There is also pent roof over the south and west elevation bedroom windows. The exterior walls are sided with vertical board and batten and horizontal weatherboard. The north entryway has two coquina stairs leading to it. Six coquina rubblework stairs lead to the porch's west elevation entrance door. On the east elevation is an exterior coquina rubblework chimney. The cabin is fitted with eleven windows – six are original, one is a replacement and four are modern. The original windows are three six-over-six sash windows and three six-pane fixed windows. The replacement and modern windows are single and paired two-over-two and six-over-six sash windows. Originally, the southwest bedroom was a sleeping porch. It was enclosed to create an interior bedroom after 1975. Significant interior features include board and batten paneling and hand forged iron hardware including hinges and Suffolk latches throughout most of the cabin. The great room has a coquina rubblework fireplace and a cathedral ceiling with king post trusses and exposed rafters.

4. Cabin #4 (PO-C4)—Building

Cabin #4 is located between Cabin #3 (PO-C3) and the Ranger Residence (PO-4). This one-story cabin, built during 1937-8, 12 sits on a cross-shaped foundation of coquina rubblework. The principle roof is side gable with a secondary front gable roof over the kitchen and a shed roof over the south elevation porch. There is also a pent roof over the south and east elevation bedroom windows. The exterior walls are sided with vertical board and batten and horizontal weatherboard. The north entryway has two coquina stairs leading to it. Five coquina rubblework stairs lead to the porch's east elevation entrance door. On the west elevation is an exterior coquina rubblework chimney. The cabin is fitted with eleven windows – six are original, one is a replacement and four are modern. The original windows are three six-over-six sash windows and three six-pane fixed windows. The replacement and modern windows are single and paired two-over-two and six-over-six sash windows. Originally, the southeast bedroom was a sleeping porch. It was enclosed to create an interior bedroom after 1975. Significant interior features include board and batten paneling and hand forged iron hardware throughout most of the cabin. The great room has a coquina rubblework fireplace and a cathedral ceiling with king post trusses and exposed rafters.

¹⁰ South Carolina Commission of Forestry, *Report of the State Commission of Forestry for the Year 1937-1938* (Columbia: 1938), 67.

¹¹ Mr. Craig noted that cabins #3 and #4's were enclosed possibly by Superintendent Marshall between 1975 and 1980. Horace Craig, email to Laura Kirk.

¹² South Carolina Commission of Forestry. Report for the Year 1937-1938, 67.

¹³ See note 11 above.

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5. Cabin #5 (PO-C5)—Building

Cabin #5, completed in 1938, 14 is located on a west facing wooded hillside north of the park's office and lake area. It is a single story, front gabled cabin with a rectangular floorplan on a brick pillar foundation. The exterior walls are sided with vertical board and batten and horizontal weatherboard. On the two gables are rectangular attic vents. There are two entrance doors – one on the west elevation and one through the porch on the south elevation. The original door on the west elevation was replaced with a raised panel door after 1978. The original south entrance, a pair of folding wood doors, has been replaced with a single door during the 2000 renovation. Brick stairs lead to the west elevation entryway and the east porch entryway. A wood ADA ramp and screen door on the south elevation were added during the 2000 renovation. All windows are replacement windows installed during the 2000 renovation. The fenestration also was changed during the renovation: one window opening was deleted and one was shrunk on the north elevation and one was deleted and one enlarged on the south elevation. The red brick chimney on the north elevation was added in 1946. The interior was remodeled in 2000. Changes include sheet rock ceilings and new wood paneling on the walls. This building is contributing because it retains its footprint, foundation, siding, and setting, preserving its CCC character.

6. Trailside Shelter (PO-33)—Structure

The Trailside Shelter, completed in mid-1937, ¹⁷ is located on the Coquina Trail on a forested bluff, south of the lake. It is a side gable, one room, open air shelter with a rectangular coquina foundation and earth floor. Five coquina stairs lead to the north elevation entryway. Each corner has an L-shaped coquina rubblework post. Two vertical wood posts with notched braces flank each coquina post. Located between each post on the east, south and west elevations' interiors are built-in wood benches. Above the benches to the top plates are open windows. Horizontal weatherboard sides the exterior. The steep sloped roof has boxed eaves and rakes. Originally, the roof's shingles were cypress and the building was stained. The cypress was replaced with composite shingles before 1972. ¹⁸ Painting began in 1940s. ¹⁹

¹⁴ The Lifeguard Quarters, now known as Cabin #5, is shown as under construction, "General Development Plan," 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

¹⁵ Photograph of Lifeguard Quarters' north and east elevations' exterior, May 1978, Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection, 1934-2000s, Resource Management Office, South Carolina State Park Service, Columbia, S.C.

¹⁶ Noted that week's work included chimney and picking up flue lining in Columbia, 3 November 1946, and concrete poured for cabin porches, 19 May 1953, "Weekly Report of Accomplishments", Poinsett State Park Files, Box 3, SCDAH.

¹⁷ "Poinsett State Park (SP-3)--No.269 Trailside shelter completed (Job 9 (118)): 8/21/1937", CCC files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.

¹⁸ Photograph of Trailside shelter shows composite shingles, April 1972, Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

¹⁹ See note 2 above.

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7. Picnic Shelter #1 (PO-S1)—Structure

The Picnic Shelter #1 is located adjacent to an open field, north of the Park's main parking area. It was constructed in 1936-7.²⁰ It is a rectangular, open air shelter. Sixteen posts with braces on concrete plinths and top plates with braces support the gable roof. The gables are sided with square butt wood shingles. The posts are grouped in fours with each group laid out in an L-shape around each of the shelter's corners. The grouped posts are connected by two wood railings. There are 4 centered entrances, one on each elevation. The floor is concrete. Originally, the roof was covered with cypress shingles and replaced with composite shingles between 1962²¹ and 1990²². The wood was stained but painting began in 1940s.²³ The benches were removed between 1942 and 1990, though mortises are still visible. Electricity was added after 1949.²⁴ The posts originally went to the floor but due to rot, a lower portion was cut off and replaced with concrete plinths sometime after 1948.²⁵ Trusses were possibly altered before 1972²⁶ by adding support timbers to both braces to create modified queen post trusses.

8. Picnic Shelter #2 (PO-S2)— Structure

The Picnic Shelter #2 (PO-S2) sits on a small hill overlooking the Park's main parking area, office and lake. It was completed in late 1936 or early 1937.²⁷ It is a wood, rectangular, one room, open air shelter with a vented gable roof (See Figure 1) and composite

shingles. The roof is supported by rafters with exposed rafter tails, two tri-bearing trusses, two horizontal braces,



Figure 1: Picnic Shelter #2 ["Poinsett State Park (SP-3)—No.242 Guardrail at serving table, barbecue pit, and shelter: 5/1937," May 1937, CCC files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.]

²⁰ Shelter is proposed in "Master Plan," 29 May 1936 and shelter is completed in "Master Plan," 27 February 1937, Poinsett State Park Plans.

²¹ Photograph of a 1962 family reunion in front of shelter shows wood shingles, The Descendants of Edward Plowden I, accessed February 25, 2014, http://www.plowden.org.

²² Photograph shows partial shelter interior and missing benches, 1990, Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

²³ See note 2 above.

²⁴ Facility card shows that shelter had no electricity, Poinsett State Park Building Inventory Cards, n.d. [ca. 1949], Records of Poinsett State Park.

²⁵ "Repairs Necessary at Poinsett State Park and Burnt Gin and Mill Creek Group Camps," 4 September 1948. Poinsett State Park Files, Box 2, SCDAH.

²⁶ Horace Craig, email to author.

²⁷ Shelter is proposed in "Master Plan", 29 May 1936 and shelter is completed in "Master Plan", 27 February 1937, Poinsett State Park Plans.

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top plates and twelve posts, three at each corner, with braces and railings. There are four entryways, each centered on one of the shelter's four elevations. There are three full length coquina rubblework stairs leading to the west entrance. The floor is concrete. Originally, the floor was coquina and had a centered barbecue pit made of coquina rubblework and firebrick. This floor and pit were removed between 1948²⁸ and the 1949²⁹ and replaced with a concrete floor. Wood shingles were replaced with composite shingles and electricity was added after 1949.³⁰ Originally, the wood was stained. Painting began in the 1940s

9. Picnic Shelter #5 (PO-S5)— Structure

The Picnic Shelter #5, completed in November 1935,³¹ sits on a bluff overlooking the Wateree River floodplain (See Figure 2). It is a front gable, one room, open air, wood shelter with a rectangular coquina foundation and a basket weave patterned brick floor. The roof has composite shingles and rafters with exposed rafter tails. The gables are clad with flush wood siding. Originally, the roof was shingled with cypress. Four flared coquina rubblework stairs lead to a centered entryway on the north and



VIEW OF LOOKOUT SHELTER - UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Figure 2: Shelter #5 under construction [Photo album of State Parks, 1934-1940, CCC files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.]

south elevations. Twelve square, notched wood posts are grouped in three at each corner with notched braces and top plates. There are three wood braces connecting the east and west elevation top plates. A wood railing runs from the north entryway along the west elevation to the south entryway. An identical railing is located on the east elevation. Wood benches were installed below these railings but were removed sometime between the mid-1970s and 1996³² and added back in 2012. Many of the other original hewn posts were replaced with rough sawn posts sometime before 2012. The vista of the Wateree River floodplain is an important associated feature of the surrounding landscape.

²⁸ Repair barbecue shelter pits listed, "Repairs Necessary at Poinsett State Park and Burnt Gin and Mill Creek Group Camps", 4 September 1948, Poinsett State Park Files, Box 2, SCDAH.

²⁹ Floor and foundation listed as concrete, Poinsett State Park Building Inventory Cards, n.d. [ca. 1949], Records of Poinsett State Park.

³⁰ Shelter was listed as having no electricity and wood shingles, Ibid.

³¹ "Form A-4-3 Report on Project Completion Project No. 119 (5) Look Out Shelter", 6 November 1935, State Commission of Forestry, District Forester's files, Box 18, South Carolina Department of Archives and History(SCDAH), Columbia, S.C.

³² Photograph shows benches, n.d. [circa 1975]. Photograph shows benches removed, 1996, Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

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10. Recreation Building (PO-32)—Building

The Recreation Building (ca. 1937-8), located on a wooded plain at the RV campground's eastern end, is an open air rectangular screened wood building with three partially clad walls and one fully clad wall.³³ The gable roof is supported by king trusses, wood top plates, and posts. The king trusses have externally placed iron gusset plates. The gable ends are covered with weatherboard siding with rakes. The east, north and west walls are three feet high with the remaining area between posts open and covered with screening. The south end wall adjoins partial walls on the southwest and southeast corners of the building to create an enclosed area. Along each of these two partial walls is a screened window with board and battened shutters. A raised hearth coquina fireplace and stepped-back chimney are centered on the south wall and flanked by two screened windows with board and batten shutters. The west wall has a narrow single modern door with screen door. On the north wall, there is a screened double door. The floor is concrete.

Originally, the shelter was a stained open air shelter with no screen doors or short walls on the east, north and west elevations. Painting the exterior began in the 1940s.³⁴ The screened double door and the short walls were added sometime before the 1970s and the single door with screen door was added sometime after the 1970s.³⁵ There were wood seats built into the post and railing system along the east and west walls. The posts and railings are still extant but the seats were dismantled at an unknown date. There were ten foot wide entryways on the east, north and west walls. Only one still exists in its original location on the north wall and now is has screened double door attached to it. The fireplace was originally made completely of coquina. A repair was made above the lintel using yellow brick at an unknown date. The floor was dirt and now is concrete which was added sometime after 1948.³⁶ The original roofing material was cypress shingles and this was replaced with composite shingles sometime between the 1950s and 1970s.³⁷

11. Campfire Circle—Structure

The Campfire Circle, completed in 1937³⁸, is located 400ft west of the Recreation Building (PO-32). It consisted of a centered coquina campfire ring surrounded by two rows of hewn oak log and coquina benches. The benches were laid out in a circular pattern with a break between each

³³ Recreation Building is shown completed, "Utilities Plan Bath House, Picnic and Trailer Camp Areas", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

³⁴ See note 2 above.

³⁵ Photograph shows double screen doors and short walls but no single door with screen door, n.d. [circa 1975], Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

³⁶ Repairs deemed needed include adding a masonry floor. "Repairs Necessary at Poinsett State Park and Burnt Gin and Mill Creek Group Camps," 4 September 1948, Poinsett State Park Files, Box 2, SCDAH.

³⁷ Wood shingles are listed as present. Poinsett State Park Building Inventory Cards, n.d. [ca. 1949], Poinsett Research Files. Photograph shows composite shingles, n.d. [circa 1975], Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

Photograph shows composite shingles, n.d. [circa 1975], Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

³⁸ Campfire circle is shown as built in "Master Plan", 27 February 1937, Poinsett State Park Plans.

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bench to allow for people to walk between rows. Portions of the fire ring and coquina bench supports are extant.

12. Coquina Incinerator—Structure

The incinerator, built October 1936,³⁹ is located along a dirt road between the Picnic Shelter #3 (PO-S3) and the Picnic Shelter #5 (PO-S5). It is a top loading, fixed grate coquina rubblework incinerator measuring approximately three inch by three inch by four and a half feet. Near the base on the south elevation below the iron grate is a nine inch by four inch cleanout slot. It was used by staff to burn trash.

13-14. Lower Picnic Area Fireplaces—Structures (2)

North of the Picnic Shelter #1 (PO-S1), there are two low-profile, three-sided coquina rubblework informal fireplaces constructed in 1937. They both have firebrick fireboxes. Originally, both had grates. Only the north fireplace's grate exists today.

15-19. Water Fountains—Structures (5)

Five coquina rubblework water fountains were built in 1937-8.⁴¹ They are currently in their original locations: near Picnic Shelter #1 (PO-S1), Picnic Shelter #2 (PO-S2), Picnic Shelter #3 (PO-S3), Recreation Building (PO-32) and lakeside between the Park Office (PO- 25) and Boat House (PO-30). Each one is a rectangular pillar approximately three feet tall and two feet wide. The fountains near the Recreation Building, Picnic Shelter #1, and Picnic Shelter #3 sit on coquina rubblework bases.

Two water fountains of unknown origins exist and therefore, they are non-contributing and described in that section.

20. Old Levi Mill Lake (PO-LA-1)—Site

Old Levi Mill Lake is the park's only lake and is fed by Shank's Creek. The creek flows from the east near the park entrance, paralleling Poinsett Park Road, to fill the ten acre lake. A lakebed existed before the CCC arrived. The CCC removed trees from the dry lake bed. Three decorative coquina walls line portions of the lake's north shore. Their construction date is unknown but compliments the lake's original CCC landscape design and are in keeping with CCC design principles.

21. Dam (PO-DA-1)—Structure

³⁹ "Form A-4-3 Report on Project Completion Project No. 137", 15 October 1936, District Forester's files, Box 18, SCDAH.

⁴⁰ "Poinsett State Park (SP-3)--No.245 Outdoor fireplace in picnic area: 5/1937", CCC files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.

⁴¹ Fountain plans are approved in "Drinking Fountains" Plan, 23 July 1937, and fountains are shown completed, "Utilities Plan Bath House, Picnic and Trailer Camp Area", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

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A small raceway and dam existed before the CCC arrived. The CCC removed trees from the dam slopes. They also moved the dam's center line and made the dam wider and higher. The curvilinear earthen embankment dam is 607 feet long with a finished grade 105 feet above sea level. At elevation 101 feet, normal pool, the CCC installed coquina rip rap on the dam's upstream slope to protect it from wave action. The dam was completed in 1935. 42



ROCK RETAINING WALL ---- EAST END OF THE DAM NO. 35 SP-3

Figure 3: Small spillway under construction by Company 421. [Poinsett State Park Photograph Collection, SCDAH]

the lake, the CCC built a control tower and bleeder pipe in 1934-5.⁴³ The tower is a square, hollow pillar with buttressed formwork concrete walls located on the eastern (upstream) side of the dam. The tower platform is floored with coquina rubblework and has a cast iron gate lift station manufactured by the Ludlow Valve Manufacturing Company. The wheel to operate the lift station is extant but is kept in the park's maintenance

To control the water level in

shop when not in use. The bleeder pipe which runs from the tower, through the dam, perpendicular to the dam face, and exits below the dam is seventy-two feet long and is made of twenty-four inch reinforced concrete pipe. There is a concrete headwall with coquina rip rap at the bleeder pipe outlet on the dam's downstream slope. Originally, there was a wooden walkway built from the dam to the control tower. It was removed after the 1940s.⁴⁴

The small spillway is north of the dam. The first run and drop with accompanying walls were built by Company 421 in 1935 (See Figure 3).⁴⁵ The second run and drop with accompanying walls was built by Company 2413 sometime during 1936-1937.⁴⁶ It is a stepped spillway made mostly of coquina block. Water is funneled into the spillway's flared entrance which is created by two staggered coquina walls. The first run is approximately 110 feet long and six feet wide.

⁴² "Form A-4-3 Report on Project Completion Project No. 128", 29 June 1935, District Forester's files, Box 18, SCDAH.

⁴³ Narrative Report, 1 April 1935, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files.

⁴⁴ Photograph shows man fishing off bleeder pipe dock, n.d. [circa 1940s], Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

⁴⁵ Narrative Report, 1 June 1935, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files.

⁴⁶ No second run and drop are shown in "Landscape Plan for Bath House Area", 9 September 1935, and the addition of the second run and drop are shown in "Repair Small Spillway" Plan, 8 November 1937, Poinsett State Park Plans.

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The walls are five feet high and fourteen inches thick. The run's bottom is made of concrete mixed with large pebbles. The first step has a two foot drop. The second run is approximately thirteen feet long and six feet wide. Both the walls and floor of this run are made

Figure 3 - Small spillway under construction by Company 421. 47

of coquina. The walls are four feet high and fourteen inches thick. The second step has a four foot drop. At both steps, there are retaining walls perpendicular to the run walls at their downstream terminus. After the second step, water flows over about twenty-eight feet of coquina rip rap before emptying into Shanks Creek as it flows behind the dam from the large southern spillway. There are two footbridges crossing this spillway. The upstream bridge has one foot high, fourteen feet long curved coquina walls and an earthen floor and was built by Company 2413. It replaced a wood foot bridge built by Company 421. Floor supports consist of iron braces and formwork concrete. The footbridge below the spillway is a noncontributing structure since it was built after the period of significance as a replacement for a CCC-built bridge which had deteriorated.

The large spillway is located south of the small

spillway and earthen dam. It was built in 1935 by Company 421. 48 It's sloped and curved funnel shape consists of two four feet high



Figure 4: Large spillway showing concrete floor added by Company 2413. [Poinsett State Park Photograph Collection, SCDAH]

coquina and concrete walls, a concrete floor and coquina rip rap at the terminus. Originally, the floor was coquina rubblework and it was replaced with concrete (See Figure 4) by Company 2413 during 1937-8.⁴⁹ The north wall is 131 feet long and the south wall is 134 feet long. The concrete floor is seventy-six feet long and fifty feet wide at the spillway mouth and narrows slightly at the terminus.

⁴⁷ Poinsett State Park Photograph Collection, SCDAH.

⁴⁸ Narrative Report, 1 June 1935, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files.
⁴⁹ Concrete is shown, "Poinsett State Park (SP-3)--No.292 View of large spillway at dam, dam height:13 feet,

length: 650 feet; area of lake:10.4 acres, spring feed [sic] by Shank's Creek: 3/25/1938", CCC files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.

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22. Diving Platform—Structure

Located 150ft southeast of the small spillway are the remnants of the diving platform. The diving platform was originally built as a two-story wood structure with a diving board at each level. The upper level also had a metal railing. It was attached to a concrete platform with underwater concrete leg supports. The wood was replaced with a two-story metal structure sometime between 1938 and 1943⁵⁰. The metal diving platforms were removed completely sometime between 1954⁵¹ and 1993.⁵² Currently, only the concrete base and legs exist.



Figure 5: Entrance portal after completion ["Poinsett State Park (SP-3)—No.236 Stone wall and gate at main park entrance, approaching from east: 3/1937," March 1937, CCC files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.]

23. Entrance Portal—Structure

A portal flanks the park's main entrance at the junction of Poinsett Park Road and Milford Plantation Road. It consists of two curving coquina rubblework walls with pillars (See Figure 5), constructed in 1937.⁵³ Originally, the portal had a small wooden "Poinsett State Park" sign located on the large pillar south of the roadway and paired wooden swing gates. The sign and gates were removed at an unknown date. A small section of the portal's northern wall has been pushed slightly north due to a car accident in 1993.⁵⁴

24. Gate House (PO-34)—Structure

East of the entrance portal's northern section is a coquina rubblework and wood gate house. It is a small, side gabled, open air shelter, constructed in 1938.⁵⁵ The roof with exposed rafter tails is

⁵⁰ WPA (disbanded in 1943) took photos of both the original wood and replacement metal diving platforms. "Bathing at Poinsett State Park", 1935-194u, WPA Photograph Collection, South Caroliniana Library University of South Carolina, accessed February 25, 2014, http://eos.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/wpaplp/id/952/rec/9; "Diving at Poinsett State Park", South Caroliniana Library University of South Carolina, accessed February 25, 2014, http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/ref/collection/wpaplp/id/1052.

⁵¹David Abeel, "There's a Lake in Her Backyard; Harriet Dwight Splashes Way to Swimming Titles," *Columbia Record* (Columbia, SC), August 16, 1954.

⁵² Photograph shows lake level dropped, diving platform base with no platforms, 1993, Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

⁵³ Current layout is shown as suggested changes in "Suggested Revisions Park Entrance", 18 August 1936, Poinsett State Park Plans; Current layout is shown completed, "Poinsett State Park (SP-3)--No.240 Main park entrance gate and wall approaching from west, wooden county highway bridge in foreground; 3/1937", CCC files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.

⁵⁴ Damage details outlined in accident report, Records of Poinsett State Park.

⁵⁵ Designs for Gate House are shown in "Contact Station, Gate and Signs", 19 January 1938, and Gate House is

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covered with replacement wood shingles. Weatherboard covers the gable ends. The east and west walls contain open windows and the north wall is solid coquina block. There is an original coquina curb at the entrance that is flush with the floor. Originally, the floor was earthen which was replaced with concrete at an unknown date. The interior includes built-in wood benches on the east, north and west elevations that were added at an unknown date.

25. Roads (PO-RD-1)—Structures (11)

The roads built by the CCC at Poinsett include Poinsett Park Road, Ranger Residence Road, Cabin Road, Shop Service Road, Campground Road, Picnic Shelter #2 Road and Picnic Shelter #3 Road. Associated with the roads are twenty-one culverts (four contributing and seventeen non-contributing), three coquina gutters and a coquina retaining wall (see Map 2 for locations). The portion of Poinsett Park Road that the CCC constructed begins at the park entrance where Milford Plantation Road branches to the south off of County Road 63/Poinsett Park Road and continues west into the park property.

The curvilinear Poinsett Park Road runs along parallel to Shanks Creek for 1.06 miles where it terminates in an elongated loop parking lot. The Ranger's Residence Road, Cabin Road, Campground Road and the Picnic Shelter #2 Road branch north off Poinsett Park Road. Poinsett Park Road was completed in 1936.⁵⁶ It currently is paved with asphalt. Originally it was surfaced with a sand clay mixture⁵⁷ and crushed coquina.⁵⁸ Paving of Poinsett Park Road and the parking lot began sometime between 1939 and 1965.⁵⁹

One-tenth of a mile west from the park entrance along Poinsett Park Road is Ranger Residence Road. It measures 0.14 miles and runs north, up a hill. This paved asphalt road was completed in 1935⁶⁰ and shortened in 1938⁶¹. Originally, it had a sand clay finish. There is a coquina gutter along the eastern road edge that was completed in 1936⁶³. The Ranger's Residence Road ends as a turnaround loop at the back of the Ranger's Residence. On the loop's western section is a small parking area cut into an embankment along the interior of the loop. A coquina retaining wall and gutter were added to this parking area in 1936 to "prevent a slope from

shown completed in "Utilities Plan and Roads and Trails Map", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

⁵⁶ "Form A-4-3 Report on Project Completion Project No. 205a", 31 March 1936, State Commission of Forestry, District Forester's files, Box 18, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.

⁵⁷ "Form A-4-2 Project Estimate and Allotment Request for Project 205 Park Roads", 16 August 1935", District Forester's files, Box 18, SCDAH.

⁵⁸ Superintendent letter to Mrs. Holladay, 9 March 1938, Records of Poinsett State Park.

⁵⁹ Watson, interview.

⁶⁰ Narrative Report, 1 June 1935, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files.

⁶¹ Shortened road is shown in "Poinsett State Park Utilities Plan and Roads and Trails Map", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

^{62 &}quot;Form A-4-2 Project 205 Park Roads", SCDAH.

⁶³ "Poinsett State Park (SP-3)--No.119 Grouted rubble gutters of choquina [sic] rock being placed in park road ditches on steep grades to prevent wash by concentrated water in ditches; gutter empties into V headwall at the bottom of the picture, Project 409-B: 5/1936", CCC files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.

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slumping into the parking area."⁶⁴ The turnaround loop's eastern half was added in the post-CCC era.⁶⁵

Two-tenths of a mile west from the entrance portal on Poinsett Park Road is Cabin Road. It existed prior to the park being built as a logging road and the CCC improved it and incorporated it into their design. Currently, the surface is asphalt and sand clay. The 0.14 miles of paved asphalt runs north up a hill to an unpaved, sand, oval-shaped drive measuring 0.18 miles where four cabins (PO-C1 thru PO-C4) and the Ranger I Residence (PO-4) are located. Running north of the Ranger I Residence (PO-4) from Cabin Road, is Shop Service Road. It is a one lane, sand clay road measuring 0.08 miles and was completed in 1938.

Eight-tenths of a mile west from the park entrance on Poinsett Park Road is Campground Road. Currently, the surface is asphalt and sand clay. The 0.23 miles of paved asphalt, built in 1935, ⁶⁸ runs north, up a hill, to a fork. There is a coquina-lined gutter on west side of this portion of Campground Road. The right fork leads to an elongated loop road for access to campsites. This sand clay road is 0.28 miles long and was built by the CCC in 1937. ⁶⁹ The left fork leads to two picnic shelters. The first 0.12 mile of sand clay road leads to Picnic Shelter #3 and was built by the CCC in 1935. ⁷⁰ The remaining 0.27 miles to Picnic Shelter #5 was added after 1969. ⁷¹

At the western terminus of Poinsett Park Road is the Picnic Shelter #2 Road. It is a 0.06 mile unpaved road containing a rectangular parking lot and circular drive with a single lane turn around loop at its northwest corner that allows for vehicle access to the Picnic Shelter #2. It was built during 1936-7.⁷²

Non-contributing roads and culverts are detailed in the non-contributing section.

26. Truck Trail—Structure

A truck trail measuring 2.25 miles was built during the period of significance using pre-existing dirt roads north of the developed areas of the park. It has two sections that run north-south near

⁶⁴ Narrative Report, 31 March 1936, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files.

⁶⁵ In 1942, the State Highway Department requested permission to grade a loop into this parking area for turning equipment around. Poinsett State Park Files, Box 2, SCDAH.

^{66 &}quot;Form A-4-2 Project 205 Park Roads", SCDAH.

⁶⁷ No road is shown in "Master Plan", 27 February 1937, and road is shown as built in "Utilities Plan Caretaker's House and Cabins", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

⁶⁸ Narrative Report, 1 February 1935, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files. ⁶⁹ This portion of road is shown as proposed in "Master Plan", 27 February 1937, and road is shown completed in "Utilities Plan and Roads and Trails Map", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

Narrative Report, 1 February 1935, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files.
 "Poinsett State Park" shows road ending at Shelter #3 (PO-S3), June 1969, Records for Poinsett State Park, Recreation, Planning and Engineering Office, South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.
 Road is shown as proposed in "Master Plan", 5 May 1936, and road is shown as built in "Master Plan", 27 February 1937, Poinsett State Park Plans.

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the eastern and western park boundaries and one section running east to west, connecting the two, completing the truck trail. A small portion (0.25 mi.) of the original trail was abandoned and replaced with a more northerly section sometime between 1939 and 1994.⁷³

27. Foot Trails—Structures (3)

During 1935, the CCC constructed foot trails along the forested bluffs and riparian areas along Shanks Creek and Old Levi Mill Lake.⁷⁴ There are 2.66 miles of CCC-built foot trails still in use which include the Laurel Group Trail, the Coquina Trail and the Hilltop Trail⁷⁵ (see Map 2 for locations). The Coquina Trail creates a 1.49 mile loop around Old Levi Mill Lake, utilizing the dam as part of the trail.

Laurel Group Trail spurs off the southeast corner of the Coquina Trail and parallels Shank's Creek eastward and crosses Bloomhill Creek which is a small feeder creek. Continuing east, it reaches at its terminus at a trail bridge that connects it to Poinsett Park Road at Ranger Residence Road.

Hilltop Trail runs east-west for 0.42 miles and is south of the Coquina and Laurel Group Trails. It connects these two trails along a higher elevation route. Minor reroutes of these trails have occurred after the period of significance. The CCC also built other foot trails but they have been removed from the trail system. Other trails have been built after the period of significance and are non-contributing. They are listed in the non-contributing section.

28. Ranger II Residence (PO-2)—Building

The Ranger II Residence (PO-2), completed in September 1935, 77 sits midway up a wooded hill overlooking Poinsett Park Road, Cabin Road and Shank's Creek. One and one-half stories of timber frame sits on a brick pillar foundation with coquina rubblework inlay. It has an irregular floorplan. The principal roof is side gable with a secondary saltbox roof over the northeast corner bedroom. All shingles are composite. Originally, they were cypress. It is sided with weatherboard over most of the exterior; however, on portions of the west and south elevations, it is sided with board and batten. Tongue and groove sides four dormers and the porch eave on the west elevation.

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⁷³ Original truck trail is shown on "Utilities Plan and Road and Trails Map", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans. Using an aerial photo dated 6 February 1994, the newer truck trail and the older southern route can be observed. Google Inc., "Google Earth," http://www.google.com/earth.

⁷⁴ Narrative Report, 1 Feb 1935, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files.

⁷⁵ Foot trails are shown on "Utilities Plan and Road and Trails Map", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

⁷⁶ Foot trails north of Poinsett Park Road that are not currently extant are shown on "Poinsett State Park General Development Plan", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

⁷⁷ "Form A-4-3 Report on Project Completion Project No. 110 Caretaker's House", 27 September 1935. District Forester's files, Box 18, SCDAH.

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Many of the twenty-six windows are original including two four-pane lucome casement windows, four four-pane narrow windows located at the eaves and numerous sash windows, most with uncommon configurations like twelve over twelve and four over six. All original windows have board and batten shutters though not all shutters are currently installed. All first floor windows are covered with aluminum storm windows. Originally, they were covered with screen windows.

This residence has four brick chimneys. The two original chimneys include an exterior half stepped-back chimney on the north gable end and an interior ridgeline chimney. The two newer chimneys were added after the period of significance but before 1965. The residence has two porches. A screened porch partially clad with board and batten siding is located on the west elevation. Seven wood steps lead to its north elevation screen door entrance. Originally, this porch was larger, measuring thirty feet by nine feet and the screening was from floor to ceiling. Sometime between 1972 and 2003, the southern half of the porch was enclosed to make a laundry room. The second porch, a storm porch with front gable roof on the east elevation, covers the kitchen entryway. It is sided with board and batten and has two open windows. Originally it had a shed roof.

There are four entryways into the house. Three on the first floor are original and all have four light transoms. Two on the east elevation have brick steps laid in a basket weave pattern with rowlock courses. The east elevation centered entryway with a wood six light door with a brick landing and step, leads to the main hallway. The southeastern entryway with a tongue and groove wood door with two brick steps, leads into kitchen. The third, a tongue and groove wood door on the west elevation, leads into the main hallway from the porch. The fourth entryway, constructed during the post-CCC era, is on the south elevation and leads to the basement addition.

A major alteration occurred between September 1948⁸² and the mid-1960s⁸³, when the kitchen porch on the southwest corner was replaced with an interior dining room with brick chimney, an unfinished room with dormer above the dining room and basement. This side of the building had weatherboard siding however after the addition, the siding was replaced with board and batten. Coquina stairs and support walls were added to the exterior entryway of the basement. An HVAC system was also added at an unknown date.

⁷⁹ "Proj. 29A Caretaker's House Poinsett State Park No3 SC" 15 Jan 1935, Poinsett State Park Plans.

⁷⁸ Watson, interview.

⁸⁰ Mr. Craig stated that the porch was intact while he managed Poinsett. Horace Craig, email to Laura Kirk.

⁸¹ Mrs. Yenny stated that the laundry room existed when she was hired in 2003. Fayette Yenny (former Poinsett State Park Manager), email to Laura Kirk, 15 Nov. 2011.

⁸² Suggestion given to extend breakfast alcove to provide a dining room. 18 September 1948, Poinsett State Park Files, Box 2, SCDAH.

⁸³ Watson, interview.

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The interior contains a few significant features: cypress board and batten on the walls and ceilings throughout much of the home, cornice and fireplace moldings and hand-forged iron hardware.

29. Ranger's Barn (PO-64)—Building

The Ranger's Barn, completed in August 1935,⁸⁴ is located on a wooded hillside east of the Ranger's house and serves as a storage building. It is a rectangular, two-story, timber-framed barn with an attached wagon shed. The primary roof is front gable with a secondary shed roof over the wagon shed. Flush wood siding with open lattice covers the east, north and west elevations. The foundation is formwork concrete piers under the barn and concrete block under the wagon shed support columns. The wagon shed's floor is concrete. The main entrances are on the south elevation – a z-braced battened door and a plywood double door. There is also an X-braced battened door on the east elevation leading to a horse stall.

Most major first floor alterations occurred at an unknown date, most likely after the period of significance. These include the replacement of a single board and batten cow stall door with a sash window and replacement of lattice with plywood siding on the east elevation. The lattice was replaced with double plywood doors on the south elevation after 1989. Also, the wagon shed's support columns were originally three sets of paired wood columns with knee braces. They were replaced with eight shorter and smaller diameter columns with a concrete block foundation built to support the shorter columns. Major alterations on the second floor occurred in 1941 when the barn's loft was converted to a living space for servants and lifeguards with five rooms, a chimney, ten six-light horizontal sliding windows, plumbing and a second story front gabled porch with spiral staircase set on concrete leading to the residence's entryway on the north elevation. Since this building contributes to the architecture of racial segregation, it is contributing.

30. Shop (PO-61)—Building

The Shop, completed in 1938⁸⁷, is located 0.1 mile northeast of the Ranger I Residence (PO-4) along a single track sand clay road. It is a timber-framed building with a side gable roof with exposed rafter tails that sits on a rectangular foundation of concrete. The exterior walls consist of vertical board and batten siding with horizontal weatherboard under the gables. There is one

⁸⁴ Form A-4-3 Report on Project Completion Project No. 105", 25 August 1935, District Forester's files, Box 18, SCDAH.

⁸⁵ This lattice can be seen in a 1989 photo of the barn in Stephen Skelton, "POINSETT STATE PARK: National Register Nomination Preliminary Research." History 789 assignment, University of South Carolina, 1989, copy in Poinsett Research File.

⁸⁶ Loft modifications are outlined in "Servants Quarters in Barn Loft", 2 February 1941, Poinsett State Park Plans, State Commission of Forestry Collection, Resource Management Office, South Carolina State Park Service, Columbia, S.C.; 1941 Summer Season Report contains a photo of the north elevation with completed modifications, Poinsett Research Files.

⁸⁷ Shop is shown completed on "Utilities Plan Caretaker's House and Cabins", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

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twelve pane hopper window on the west elevation, one on the north, and one on the east. The building originally had eight – twelve pane windows. Five windows were removed at an unknown date and the openings were covered with plywood. Two metal single doors and one metal roll-up overhead door, located on the south elevation, are the only entrances. Beneath the south wall is a concrete apron.

Originally, there was one z-braced battened wood door and three sets of z-braced battened double wood doors. The left set of double doors was replaced with a single entrance door sometime before the mid-1970s and the center and right sets were removed sometime after the mid-1970s. 88 The center double door set was removed and replaced with a wall. The right double door set was replaced with a metal roll-up overhead door. The building was also stained and the roof had cypress shingles. Painting began in 1940s. 89 The cypress shingles were replaced with composite shingles sometime after 1950. The current roof material is metal sheeting. Significant interior features include a diagonal wood paneled door with hand forged iron hardware and tri-bearing trusses.

31. Shop Pump House (PO-66)—Building

The Shop Pump House, constructed during 1937-8, 90 is located to the west of the Shop. It is a timber-framed building with a front gable roof with exposed rafter tails that sits on a squareshaped foundation of concrete. The siding is vertical board and batten with horizontal weatherboard under the gables.

Originally, there were fifteen louver windows. These louver windows are intact but are now covered with wood on the exterior. The original entry door was a z-braced battened door which was changed to a plywood door at an unknown date. The siding was stained and is now painted. Painting began in 1940s. 91 It also was roofed with cypress shingles which were replaced with composite shingles after the period of significance.

32. Reservoir Building (PO-70)—Building

The Reservoir Building was constructed by the CCC in 1937-8.92 It is a timber-framed building with a two-tiered front gabled roof with exposed rafter tails that sits on a rectangular foundation of concrete. It is partially set into the side of west facing wooded hill north of the park's office and lake area. The exterior walls are covered in board and batten siding and weatherboard. There are twenty-eight wood louver windows. Originally, the structure's exterior was stained.

⁸⁸ Photograph shows two single entrance doors and two sets of double wood doors, n.d. [circa 1975], Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

⁸⁹ See note 2 above.

⁹⁰ Construction plans are shown in "Pump House for Water System No 2", 25 May 1937 and pump house is shown built in "Utilities Plan Caretaker's House and Cabins", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

⁹² Construction plans are shown in "Reservoir and Shed and Pump House", 22 January 1937 and it's shown as built in "Utilities Plan Bath House, Picnic and Trailer Camp Areas", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

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Painting began in 1940s. 93 The original cypress shingles were replaced with composite shingles at an unknown date.

A significant interior feature is a formwork concrete retaining pool measuring twenty feet long by seventeen feet wide by five and one-half feet deep with walls one foot thick, used to hold potable water for the park.

33. CCC Camp Site—Site

The CCC Camp Site is located 600 feet east of the Shop. Construction began in 1934⁹⁴ in an open, flat field with few trees. ⁹⁵ In August 1938, Camp Superintendent Richardson inventoried twenty-two buildings in the camp. ⁹⁶ There were decorative fountains and water fountains also built. The camp was abandoned by the CCC in September 1938. ⁹⁷ Buildings were dismantled and removed in June 1939. ⁹⁸

Currently, only ruins of the camp remain. There are two decorative fountains and one drinking fountain/decorative fountain combination. None of the fountains are in working order. There are approximately three trash pits, a brick-lined pit with an unknown purpose and short coquina rubblework walls. The largest fountain is a circular coquina rubblework and concrete fountain measuring eighteen feet in diameter and inset into the ground two feet. At the center of the basin is a two foot high truncated rectangular pyramid which may have been the base for the fountainhead. The next largest fountain is an irregularly-shaped drinking fountain and decorative fountain combination structure made of coquina rubblework. The decorative fountain is inset into the ground and measures fifteen and one-half feet long and fourteen feet wide. The drinking fountain, a slightly flared round pillar, measures three feet high. The smallest fountain is part of a "sunken garden", ⁹⁹ a cross-shaped walkway inset into the ground three feet. The south entrance into the sunken garden contains three coquina rubblework steps. The fourteen feet in diameter concrete and coquina rubblework circular fountain is at the cross's center.

Non-Contributing Resources

There are a total of forty-one non-contributing resources in the park. The majority were constructed after the period of significance. Others, dating to the period of significance, have not

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⁹³ See note 2 above.

⁹⁴ Work at Poinsett began October 22, 1934. Preliminary Reconnaissance of Poinsett State Park, South Carolina, June 30-July 1, 1935, National Park Service, Record Group 79, Entry 41, Box 123, NARA, College Park, M.D., copy in Poinsett Research Files.

⁹⁵ Surrounding land is shown, "Poinsett State Park (SP-3)--No.1 Camp building under construction: ca. 1934-1942", CCC files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, SCDAH, Columbia, S.C.

⁹⁶ MB Richardson, letter to JL Dulford, 15 August 1938, District Forester's files, Box 18, SCDAH.

⁹⁷ Work at Poinsett abandoned September 1, 1938, camp moved to Greenwood. South Carolina Commission of Forestry. *Report for the Year: 1937-1938*, 66.

⁹⁸ G Buell, letter to RA Walker, 9 June 1939, District Forester's files, Box 18, SCDAH.

⁹⁹ Civilian Conservation Corps, Annual for District I, Fourth Corps Area, 1935, copy in Poinsett Research Files.

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been listed as contributing because they have lost integrity or have been moved. The following descriptions provide explanations for the more complex resources that are not being nominated.

a. Picnic Shelter #3 (PO-S3)—Structure

The Picnic Shelter #3 (PO-S3), completed in 1935, 100 is located on a forested bluff north of Shank's Creek. It is a side gable, one room, open air shelter with enclosed ends, a rectangular coquina and formwork concrete foundation and a concrete floor. It is enclosed on each end with board and batten walls, open windows and a coquina rubblework raised hearth fireplace and chimney. Five flared coquina stairs lead to a centered entryway on the south elevation. The centered north elevation entryway is at ground level.

Sometime after the period of significance, substantial changes were made to this structure. Formwork concrete was applied to the part of the coquina rubblework foundation exterior. The wood walls were cut off approximately one foot above the floor and replaced with formwork concrete. Sixteen posts with railings located on the north and south elevations were removed and replaced with eight larger posts without railings. The roof and trusses were removed and replaced. The new roof was built at a lower pitch. Although this building was constructed during the period of significance, it has been significantly altered and therefore, is not contributing.

b. Picnic Shelter #4 (PO-S4)—Structure

Picnic Shelter #4 was built as a pump house in 1937.¹⁰¹ After the period of significance, the pump house was dismantled, a concrete floor was poured and a picnic shelter structure was built. Due to these major alterations, it is not considered contributing.

c. Park Office (former Bathhouse) (PO-25)—Building

The bathhouse, completed in 1937 or 1938¹⁰² consisted of a bathhouse, coquina rubblework loggia, a tea room with an attached kitchen and a coquina rubblework terrace. Due to severe termite damage, rot and almost complete replacement of all original siding, the bathhouse changing room wings were demolished.¹⁰³ The terrace was removed and replaced with a small poured concrete pad. The kitchen was torn down and rebuilt as the park office in 2007.¹⁰⁴ Although this building was constructed during the period of significance, it has been significantly altered and therefore, is not contributing. Very little of the original material remains except for stonework, roof framing and windows. The removal of the changing room

¹⁰⁰ Narrative Report, 1 June 1935, National Park Service, Box 123, NARA, copy in Poinsett Research Files.

^{101 &}quot;Pump House", 22 January 1937, Poinsett State Park Plans.

Report lists bathhouse as completed. South Carolina Commission of Forestry. *Report for the Year: 1937-1938*, 72

<sup>72.

103</sup> Multiple images show bathhouse complex being torn down with heavy equipment and new construction taking place, 2007, Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

104 Ibid.

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wings resulted in a loss of approximately fifty percent of the building and was a major alteration to its form and design.

d. Campground (PO-GR-2)—Site

Nine campsites were constructed along a looped dirt road east of the Picnic Shelter #3 during the period of significance. Each site had water, electric, a picnic table and a short coquina rubblework grill. A latrine was built in the central area of the loop. After the period of significance, one of the original campsites was obliterated and fifteen campsites were added. The period latrine was torn down and replaced with a stucco and concrete block comfort station (PO-26) in 1970. The original picnic tables have been replaced with new tables, and the grills, dilapidated after decades of use, were rebuilt in 1997. A rustic tent campground with twentysix campsites was built after the period of significance and adjoined to this campground. Since major alterations and additions have taken place and the setting has been altered, the campsites built during the period of significance are non-contributing.

e. Boat House (PO-30)—Structure

A wood boat dock was built during the period of significance. It was replaced with a boat house in 1973. The boat house was built after the period of significance and is non-contributing.

f. Ranger I Residence (PO-4)—Building

The Ranger I Residence, originally constructed as a rental cabin in 1937-8, ¹⁰⁸ is located at the Cabin Loop Road entrance on a wooded hillside overlooking a Shank's Creek tributary. The one-story timber-framed cabin sits on semi-rectangular shaped coquina rubblework foundation. The principle roof is a saltbox side gable combination with exposed rafter tails. There is a shed secondary roof with a false extended eave on the east elevation. The siding is a blend of board and batten and weatherboard. On the north gable end is an exterior coquina rubblework chimney. Coquina rubblework stairs lead to the west facing entrance and the south facing entrances. The west facing entrance steps are covered with a modern wood stoop. The west entryway has a low-pitched shed awning. All roofs are covered with composite shingles. This residence has twelve windows - two are original and ten have been added at a later date. The original windows are six-over-six sash windows and the modern windows are single and paired one-over-one, four-over-four and six-over-six sash windows.

¹⁰⁵ Budget and Control Board Annual Permanent Improvement Program Existing Facilities Information for Poinsett State Park, dated fiscal year 1984-5, shows year built 1970, copy in Poinsett Research Files.

¹⁰⁶ Youth Conservation Corps project overseen by Park Manager and Resource Management Office, Poinsett Research Files.

¹⁰⁷ Budget and Control Board Annual Permanent Improvement Program Existing Facilities Information for Poinsett State Park dated fiscal year 1984-5, shows year built 1973, Poinsett Research Files.

108 Report lists cabin as completed. South Carolina Commission of Forestry. *Report for the Year: 1937-1938*, 72.

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Between 1972¹⁰⁹ and the mid-1970s, ¹¹⁰ a one-room addition was built onto the southwest corner. During the addition, the formerly secondary front gable roof was rebuilt as a saltbox and the pitch was increased, allowing its ridge to meet the primary roof's ridge. After the period of significance, the south elevation porch was enclosed, original cypress shingles were replaced with composite and most if not all the original windows were replaced. For comparison purposes, the front and rear elevations (photos #177 and #178) should be identical to Cabin #3 front and rear elevations (photos# 14 and #17) if these alterations had not occurred. Although this building was constructed during the period of significance, it has been significantly altered and therefore, is not contributing.

g. Paint Shed (PO-71)—Building

The shed was originally built as one-half of a latrine during the period of significance. The latrine was cut in half and moved in the 1980s¹¹¹ with one half becoming the paint shed and the other half becoming a storage shed (PO-72) at the Park Manager's house. Although this building was constructed during the period of significance, it has been significantly altered and moved and therefore, is not contributing.

h. Roads (portions of PO-RD-1)—Structures (19)

Roads built after the period of significance and therefore are non-contributing include the dirt roads from Shelter #3 to Shelter #5 and from the Shop to the Foreman's Residence. Seventeen non-contributing culverts are found on Poinsett Park Road, Cabin Road and Campground Road and mostly consist of concrete slab covers or modern iron grates made after the period of significance and therefore, are non-contributing.

i. Storage Building (PO-72)—Building

The shed was originally built as one-half of a latrine during the period of significance. The latrine was cut in half and moved to the Park Manager's residence yard in the 1980s ¹¹² with one half becoming the shed and the other half becoming the paint shed (PO-71) in the Service Area. Although this building was constructed during the period of significance, it has been significantly altered and moved and therefore, is not contributing.

j-o. Tall Coquina Grills—Structures (6)

Six tall coquina rubblework grills were constructed sometime during the period of significance in the field north of the Picnic Shelter #3. Sometime after the period of significance, all six grills

¹⁰⁹ Horace Craig, email to Laura Kirk.

¹¹⁰ Photograph taken in the mid-1970s shows the added bedroom, Poinsett State Park Historic Photographic Collection.

¹¹¹ Park Lites, spring 1989, Records of the South Carolina State Park Service, Resource Management Office, Columbia, S.C.

¹¹² Ibid.

¹¹³ Grill locations are detailed in "Utilities Plan Bath House, Picnic and Trailer Camp Areas", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

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were moved. One grill was placed immediately outside the Picnic Shelter #3. Another was moved to outside of the Picnic Shelter #1 and the third was moved to the outside of Picnic Shelter #2. The remaining three cannot be located and may have been dismantled.

Although these grills were constructed during the period of significance, they have been moved from their original location and therefore, not contributing.

p-q. Water Fountains—Structures (2)

Two free standing coquina water fountains of unknown origin can be found a Shelter #5 and in the Shop yard. The Shelter #5 fountain works and the Shop yard fountain is not functioning and lies in a scrap area. These are non-contributing because they have an unknown origin.

r. Water Tower near Picnic Shelter 5—Structure

A water tower was constructed near the Picnic Shelter #5. The support structure is a kit made by the Aermotor Company. The original tank was replaced in the late 1960s. 114

s. Water Tower near Shop—Structure

A water tower was constructed near the Shop before May 1938. 115 Sometime after the period of significance, the tank and metal support structure was removed, leaving only four concrete footings. Since most of the structure is missing, it is non-contributing.

t-x. Foot Trail Foot Bridges—Structures (5)

At least five wood foot trail bridges were built by the CCC. 116 Due to rot, they were replaced during the 1940s. 117 Since all foot bridges have been replaced, they are non-contributing.

In addition, these buildings and structures were present before the period of significance or added after and are non-contributing.

y. Park Manager's Residence (PO-1)—Building

Located near the Shop (PO-61), this building was constructed in 1970, after the period of significance, and is non-contributing.

z. Foreman's Residence (PO-3)—Building

Located near the Ranger Residence II (PO-2), this building was constructed in 1948, and is noncontributing. It was not built by the CCC and does not reflect the district's association with the CCC or the architecture of racial segregation.

¹¹⁴ Watson, interview.

^{115 &}quot;Service Building Service Yard Fence", 31 May 1938, Poinsett State Park Plans.

¹¹⁶ Five foot trail bridges are shown on "Utilities Plan and Road and Trails Map", 1 July 1938, Poinsett State Park

¹¹⁷ Poinsett State Park Files, Box 3, SCDAH.

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aa. Comfort Station (PO-26)—Building

Located in the center of the RV/tent campground, this building was constructed in 1970, after the period of significance, and is non-contributing.

bb. Comfort Station (PO-27)—Building

Located in the center of the tent only campground, this building was constructed in 1970, after the period of significance, and is non-contributing.

cc. Rest Station (PO-28)—Building

Located between Picnic Shelters #1 (PO-S1) and #2 (PO-S2), this building was constructed in 1970, after the period of significance, and is non-contributing.

dd. Rest Station (PO-29)—Building

Located near Picnic Shelter #5 (PO-S5), this building was constructed in 1970, after the period of significance, and is non-contributing.

ee. Latrine (PO-31)—Building

Located near the Campground (PO-GR-2), this building was constructed in 1951and is non-contributing. It was not built by the CCC and does not reflect the district's association with the CCC or the architecture of racial segregation.

ff. Garage (PO-62)—Building

Located near Ranger Residence II (PO-2), this building was constructed in the 1940sand is non-contributing. It was not built by the CCC and does not reflect the district's association with the CCC or the architecture of racial segregation.

gg. Shop Garage (PO-63)—Building

Located near Ranger Residence II (PO-2), this building was constructed at an unknown date and is non-contributing. It was not built by the CCC and does not reflect the district's association with the CCC or the architecture of racial segregation.

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hh. Tractor Shed Storage Building (PO-65)—Building

Located near the Shop (PO-61), this building was constructed in 1965 and is non-contributing. It was not built by the CCC and does not reflect the district's association with the CCC or the architecture of racial segregation.

ii. Well House (PO-67)—Building

Located near the Foreman's Residence (PO-3), this building was constructed in 1982, after the period of significance, and is non-contributing.

jj. Storage Building (PO-73)—Building

Located near the Park Manager's Residence (PO-1), this building was constructed in 1981, after the period of significance, and is non-contributing.

kk. Brick Incinerator—Structure

Located near the Shop (PO-61), this structure was built at an unknown date, and is non-contributing.

mm. Mill Ruins—Site

These may be archeologically significant under a different set of criteria and may be eligible for listing as a separate nomination. However, they need to be evaluated before this can be determined.

nn. Primitive Campground—Site

Located near the Campground (PO-GR-2), this primitive campground was developed sometime after the period of significance and is non-contributing.

oo. Trails—Structures (4)

Trails built after the period of significance include Levi's Run, Splice Trail, Knot Trail and the Bowline Connector. As of March 2014, more trails are under construction north of Poinsett Park Road.

The following resources **contribute** to Poinsett State Park Historic District:

- 1. Cabin #1 (PO-C1)
- 2. Cabin #2 (PO-C2)
- 3. Cabin #3 (PO-C3)
- 4. Cabin #4 (PO-C4)
- 5. Cabin #5 (PO-C5)
- 6. Trailside Shelter (PO-33)
- 7. Picnic Shelter #1 (PO-S1)
- 8. Picnic Shelter #2 (PO-S2)
- 9. Picnic Shelter #3 (PO-S3)

Name of Property

- 10. Recreation Building (PO-32)
- 11. Campfire Circle (no facility number)
- 12. Coquina Incinerator (no facility number)
- 13-14. Lower Picnic Area Fireplaces (no facility number)
- 15-19. Water Fountains (no facility number)*
- 20. Old Levi Mill Lake (PO-LA-1)
- 21. Dam (PO-DA-1)
- 22. Diving Platform (no facility number)
- 23. Entrance Portal (no facility number)
- 24. Gate House (PO-34)
- 25. Roads (PO-RD-1)*
- 26. Truck Trail (no facility number)
- 27. Foot Trails (no facility number)*
- 28. Ranger Residence II (PO-2)
- 29. Ranger's Barn (PO-64)
- 30. Shop (PO-61)
- 31. Shop Pump House (PO-66)
- 32. Reservoir Building (PO-70)
- 33. CCC Camp Site (no facility number)

The following resources **do not contribute** to Poinsett State Park Historic District:

- a. Picnic Shelter #3 (PO-S3)
- b. Picnic Shelter #4 (PO-S4)
- c. Park Office (former Bathhouse) (PO-25)
- d. Campground (PO-GR-2)
- e. Boat House (PO-30)
- f. Ranger Residence I (PO-4)
- g. Paint Shed (PO-71)
- h. Roads (portions of PO-RD-1)*
- i. Storage Building (PO-72)
- j-o. Tall Coquina Grills (no facility number)
- p-q. Water Fountains (no facility number)*
- r. Water Tower near Picnic Shelter 5 (no facility number)
- s. Water Tower near Shop (no facility number)
- t-x. Foot Trail Foot Bridges (no facility number)
- y. Park Manager's Residence (PO-1)
- z. Foreman's Residence (PO-3)

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aa. Comfort Station (PO-26)

bb. Comfort Station (PO-27)

cc. Rest Station (PO-28)

dd. Rest Station (PO-29)

ee. Latrine (PO-31)

ff. Garage (PO-62)

gg. Shop Garage (PO-63)

hh. Tractor Shed Storage Building (PO-65)

ii. Well House (PO-67)

jj. Storage Building (PO-73)

kk. Brick Incinerator (no facility number)

ll. Brick Pillar (no facility number)

mm. Mill Ruins (no facility number)

nn. Primitive Campground (no facility number)

oo. Trails (no facility number)*

^{*} see text for specific locations of contributing and non-contributing resources within a type

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Name of Pro	perty		County and State	
8. S	tatei	ment of Significance		
	: "x"	e National Register Criteria in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for N	ational Register	
X	A.	. Property is associated with events that have made a significant c broad patterns of our history.	ontribution to the	
	В.	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our	past.	
X	C.	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, perio construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses hig or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose compindividual distinction.	h artistic values,	
	D.	. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important history.	in prehistory or	
	: "x"	Considerations in all the boxes that apply.) Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes		
		Removed from its original location		
		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	

Sumter County, South

Carolina County and State

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Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Politics/Government
Entertainment/Recreation
Conservation
Ethnic Heritage: African American
_Architecture _
Landscape Architecture
Period of Significance
1934-1966
Significant Dates
Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
,
Cultural Affiliation
Architect/Builder
Civilian Conservation Corps
National Park Service
Moise, Samuel Lenoir (Architect)
Coble, Jack Pickens (Architect)
Dinkens, William (Engineer)
<u>Schellenberg</u> , Albert (Landscape Architect)
Woollard, William Featherston (Engineer)

Poinsett State Park	Sumter County, South	
	Carolina	
Name of Property	County and State	

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Poinsett State Park is significant because it belongs to a group of seventeen South Carolina State Parks built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Unlike some States, South Carolina had no state parks before the CCC was created in 1933. The CCC spent 1934 to 1938 building recreational facilities, support facilities, and trails at Poinsett State Park using rustic architecture and landscaping techniques that were derivatives of the Arts and Crafts architectural movement. Across South Carolina, the CCC used the same construction techniques that were deployed at Poinsett; notably the use of native materials, an attempt to blend new construction with the surrounding habitats, and doing it primarily with manual labor. At Poinsett the use of a local stone, coquina, matches in color and texture the surrounding sandy landscape of many parts of the park. Coquina was mined and shaped locally, and was utilized in the construction of many of the buildings, structures, and objects throughout the park. The extensive use of coquina offers an organic feel to much of the park architecture, providing a sense that the buildings have almost grown from the ground where they sit. Roads and trails were constructed to follow the contours of the landscape, creating a scenic and sinuous labyrinth. The CCC's use of manual labor also helped to produce buildings and structures that are rustic in appearance while providing the more modern conveniences of the era, such as electricity in the rental cabins. Poinsett is important to South Carolina's history because it presents itself as a visible piece of the architectural contribution made by the CCC through the deployment of rustic techniques, local materials, and manual labor. The property is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria A and C at the state level of significance. The historic resources at Poinsett are properly understood within the statewide historic context of the establishment and development of the South Carolina State Parks and contributes to the National Register Multiple Property Submission "Historic Resources of South Carolina State Parks." The district also includes resources associated with the architecture of racial segregation under Criterion C.

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

Significance under National Register Criterion A:

Politics/Government

The CCC was created by the Emergency Conservation Work Act (ECW) which was part of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal legislation passed in March 1933. The name Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) became official when it was placed in the Act in 1937. The CCC was in operation from 1933 to 1942.

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Part of the ECW goal was to provide food and shelter to men while they aided the government in conservation work like building state and national parks and planting trees to help stop and reverse the effects of soil erosion. For their work, the CCC enrollees received room and board at a CCC Camp, a thirty dollar per month stipend with twenty-five dollars of that sent home to their family, and on-the-job training and education classes in the evening after the work day was over. On-the-job training included, but was not limited to, carpentry, electrical work, plumbing, and well drilling, all of which could be used to help them find gainful employment outside the CCC. Evening classes included mechanics, forestry, journalism, radio, and typing for example.

The CCC was a cooperative effort by State and Federal agencies. The CCC Camps were supervised by the US Army and work plans were designed by other Federal Agencies like the National Park Service (NPS) and the US Forest Service with input from relevant state agencies like the State Forestry Commission in South Carolina. Camps were located in every state to aid in the nationwide conservation effort. 118

Sumter County citizens, where Poinsett State Park is located, were suffering from the effects of the Great Depression. Dr. Jack Irby Hayes, Jr., wrote that in 1932, Representative "Wyndham Manning of Sumter County reported that more than 1,400 county families were unemployed, hungry and 'practically naked'." By enrolling in ECW work, men could earn money to help feed and clothe themselves and their families while learning skills to help them find employment outside of the ECW and CCC. To enroll in the CCC, one had to be a male and on 'relief'. The CCC was broken into Companies with each company given a specific overarching goal such as to rehabilitate the land through improved forestry practices or to build facilities to create a state park for recreation.

There were only three types of Companies - Junior, Negro and Veteran. Junior Companies were composed of white males aged eighteen to twenty-five. "Negro" Companies were composed of African American males aged 18-25. Veteran Companies consisted of enrollees who were World War I Veterans. Poinsett State Park was built by CCC Camp SC SP-3. All three company types were part of this camp during the time of the park's construction - Junior Company 421, "Negro" Company 4475, and Veteran Company 2413. The fact that all three types of CCC Companies helped construct Poinsett further strengthens this site's eligibility under Criterion A. Junior Company 421 was the first to occupy the property in October 1934. Their first job was to build the CCC Camp where they would stay while they built the park. The camp was located on the eastern boundary line within the park property's northeastern section. This company was reassigned in August 1935 to a CCC Camp in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Company 4475, composed of African American enrollees, arrived in September and was reassigned to the CCC Camp at Chester State Park, Chester, South Carolina in November 1935.

¹¹⁸ "Historic Resources of South Carolina State Parks," Multiple Property Submission to the National Register of Historic Places, 16 June 1989, copy accessed at http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/MPS/MPS038.pdf on 10 June 2015.

¹¹⁹ Quoted in Jack Irby Hayes, Jr., *South Carolina and The New Deal* (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press), 8.

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The final Company, Veteran Company 2413, arrived in February 1936 and completed park construction in September 1938. 120

Company 421 built the small spillway and large spillway. They also rehabilitated and enlarged the dam for Old Levi Mill Lake. They started construction of the Coquina, Hilltop, and Laurel Group trails, Shelter #5, and the Ranger's Residence. All of these were completed by Company 4475 in the few months they worked on Poinsett. Company 2413 built the cabins, the Shop, Trailside Shelter, Shelter #2, the Coquina Incinerator, Entrance Portal, and Gate House. In addition to building new buildings and structures, the Veteran Company also repaired some construction completed by the previous companies. They fixed leaks in both the large and small spillways. The floor of the large spillway was coquina rubblework but this was covered with concrete by the Veteran Company. The small spillway originally only had one drop. The Veterans added a second drop to decrease to erosive power of the falling water which led to leaks.

Entertainment/Recreation

Poinsett is also significant for its association with the history of recreation in South Carolina. The establishment of Poinsett and other parks by the CCC created new opportunities for public, outdoor recreation in the state. Before 1934 there were no state parks, and little public land of any kind, in South Carolina. The new facilities for recreation demonstrated their popularity even before their completion. For example, one observer noted in the summer of 1935 that at Poinsett "bathers are already beginning to swarm into the pond. Doubtless the park will be a very popular place." On one busy day in May 1935, 266 visitors came to the park even before it had officially opened. Photographs from the late 1930s, which show numerous visitors at the new swimming beach and the parking area full of cars, attest to the local interest and use of the park during these early years. 124

Importantly, the new park also served as a community gathering place. In the summer of 1941, the City of Sumter Recreational Department began holding regular day camp activities at the park. More than 14,000 swimmers used the waterfront, where they were joined by 32,000 spectators over the course of the season, in a county which had only 52,000 residents in 1940. Numerous families held reunions in the picnic area, and churches, civic clubs, and businesses also gathered on the park. Five large army groups from Fort Jackson, including soldiers from the 43rd Field Artillery and the 117th Infantry, used Poinsett for rest and recreation during the months

¹²⁰ Tara Mitchell Mielnik, *New Deal, New Landscape: The Civilian Conservation Corps and South Carolina's State Parks* (Columbia: The University of South Carolina Press, 2011), 108-112.

¹²¹ Mielnik, New Deal, New Landscape, 65; J. H. Gadsby, "South Carolina," in Park and Recreation Progress: 25th Anniversary Yearbook (Washington, DC: National Council on State Parks, 1946), 100.

¹²² Charles W. Porter, "Preliminary Reconnaissance of Poinsett State Park, South Carolina, June 30-July 1, 1935," copy on file in Poinsett State Park research files, Resource Management Offices, South Carolina State Park Service, Columbia, S.C.

¹²³ Mielnik, New Deal, New Landscape, 109.

¹²⁴ Narrative Reports for Poinsett State Park, Records of the National Park Service, Record Group 79, Entry 41, Box 123, National Archives, College Park, MD.

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prior to World War II. 125 These uses are examples of the significant social and recreational roles that the park would play locally for the next seventy-four years, roles established during the park's period of significance from 1934-1966.

Conservation

Prior to the work of the CCC, the land that became Poinsett State Park was used primarily for cotton production. The upland portion of the property, in particular, was made up of largely deforested, abandoned agricultural fields. The area surrounding Poinsett was considered "submarginal" farmland by the Resettlement Administration and Farm Security Administration, two federal agencies charged with land reform during the Great Depression. Federal planners considered land "sub-marginal" when it could no longer support its farmers because of poor soil quality, erosion, a history of misuse, and social and economic isolation. ¹²⁶ In the case of the Poinsett area, project staff described the land as "severely cut in past decades," and with large areas "unsuited for producing farm crops." An aerial photograph of the park taken in 1937 shows much of the upland portions of the park, especially the northeastern section, almost completely devoid of trees. 128

Federal and state land use planners believed that the best use for sub-marginal lands was conservation. They concluded that with careful rehabilitation of natural resources these lands could be converted into productive forests or scenic settings for outdoor recreation. H. A. Smith, South Carolina's State Forester, argued that parks, managed with sound forestry principles, could help educate the public about the need for conservation of natural resources. He noted in 1935 that each of the new state parks would contain "actual demonstrations in forest tree planting, in thinning, in fire control, and in general forest improvement," and that this would create a "powerful ally in the advancement of the cause of forestry—as well as recreation." This approach was consistent with the National Park Service's goal of helping states transform wornout farmland into public parks during the 1930s. 130

At Poinsett, the men of the CCC carried out a number of important conservation tasks to implement the ideas of Smith and the National Park Service. Under the guidance of the NPS

"using service," which employed foremen trained in conservation, the CCC enrollees planted

^{125 &}quot;Report of Summer Program, Poinsett State Park," 1941, unpublished typescript, Resource Management Offices, South Carolina State Park Service, Columbia S.C.; Sumter County population data from "Population of South Carolina Counties (1940-2010 Censuses)," South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, accessed on 15 July 2015 at http://abstract.sc.gov/chapter14/pop4.php.

^{126 &}quot;U.S. Will Buy Land in Sumter, Purchase 13,000 Acres of Sub-Marginal Land Given Approval," The Spartanburg Herald, 20 April 1935.

127 "Narrative Report of the Poinsett State Forest for F.Y. 1944-45," Land Acquisition Historical Files, Manchester

State Forest, S.C.; "Data for Monthly Project Reports," 20 August 1940, Land Acquisition Historical Files, Manchester State Forest, S.C. Copies of both documents are on file with the South Carolina State Park Service, Resource Management Offices, Columbia, S.C.

¹²⁸ Aerial photograph PK2-34, 19 September 1937, aerial photograph flat files, South Carolina State Park Service, Resource Management Offices, Columbia, S.C.

¹²⁹ H. A. Smith, "Recreational Forestry in South Carolina," *Journal of Forestry*, Vol. 33, no. 7 (July 1935): 668-669. ¹³⁰ Linda Flint McClelland, Presenting Nature: The Historic Landscape Design of the National Park Service, 1916-1942 (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1993), 386, 414.

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216,000 longleaf pine seedlings on 120 acres of open land on the park. The men also collected redbud seeds, established plants in a nursery, and transplanted numerous small shrubs and oak trees across the property. During the construction of the lake, the men left tupelo gums in the shallow end "for the purpose of affording sanctuary for fish and wildfowl." They moved soil and leaf mulch by the truckload to enrich planting areas as well, and used hand tools to reduce erosion along roads and other construction projects. ¹³¹ Job records indicate that they also constructed fire breaks and carried out wild fire hazard reduction work. ¹³² One project involved building a cache equipped with fire-fighting tools. ¹³³ These examples suggest that the conservation work carried out by the CCC was almost as extensive as the construction of new recreational facilities. In many ways it may have had a much greater impact on the landscape, not only in the short-term but also over the decades that followed. Today, Poinsett is almost completely forested, and based on the evidence of historic aerial photographs, the land probably looks much different than it did prior to the work of the CCC.

Ethnic Heritage: African American

The property is also significant under criteria A for its association with the history of segregation in the CCC and the contributions of African Americans to South Carolina's early conservation movement. The CCC divided its labor force into separate companies, in most cases segregated by race. Poinsett is one of only three state parks (Poinsett, Chester, and Aiken) in the state developed by an African American CCC company. Company 4475 was stationed at the park from September to November 1935, and though their tenure was brief, it illustrates some of the challenges faced by African American enrollees in the CCC, as well as their contributions to the South Carolina's early efforts in natural resources conservation.

Across the country, whites frequently expressed misgivings about hosting black CCC companies in their communities, and in some cases actively opposed their establishment. Often they expressed their opposition through racist tropes, claiming that African American CCC companies would bring social disorder and crime to nearby communities. In response, CCC officials sought to assuage local doubts by forming companies from men residing in the state where the camp was to be located, arguing that the men were not outsiders and would adhere to local codes of behavior. Still, some South Carolina communities remained uncooperative and resisted the formation of African American camps. ¹³⁵

Sumter County and Poinsett serve as a representative example of white opposition to the African American CCC program. Even before the new enrollees arrived at the park in the summer of 1935, Sumter's county commissioners, city councilmen and other leaders in the white

¹³¹ Narrative Reports for Poinsett State Park, Records of the National Park Service, Record Group 79, Entry 41, Box 123, National Archives, College Park, MD; Mielnik, *New Deal, New Landscape*, 109.

¹³² Job records for Poinsett State Park, especially job numbers 602-605, 706, 716, 906 and 1004, Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia SC.

¹³³ Photograph #261, SP-3 Poinsett State Park, Photographs from CCC Files, Box 1, Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia SC.

¹³⁴ Mielnik, New Deal, New Landscape, 49.

¹³⁵ Olen Cole, Jr., *The African-American Experience in the Civilian Conservation Corps* (Gainesville: The University Press of Florida, 1999), p. 5; Mielnik, *New Deal, New Landscape*, pp. 59-60.

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community expressed their desire for a white company rather than an African American one. Despite opposition, the CCC brought company 4475 to Poinsett that September. A controversy, centering on the new swimming area, soon erupted: whites had begun using the lake already, and argued that it was inappropriate for the different races to be using the same lake, even if it was at different times. After holding several meetings with local leaders, CCC and park officials decided to transfer the African American workers to a different camp location where there was less opposition. But, as historian Tara Mitchell Mielnik has noted, "this incident from Poinsett State Park demonstrates the disparate experience of African American enrollees in South Carolina's CCC; while receiving much-needed work, training, and educational opportunities through the program, they still faced segregation, discrimination, and often hostility." 136

The early 20th century conservation movement in South Carolina was dominated by middle and upper class individuals and groups, often with primarily white membership, who worked to protect natural resources.¹³⁷ African Americans seem to have played a less central role, but the work of company 4475 at Poinsett is an example of a brief but important black contribution to natural resources conservation in the state.

Criterion C:

Architecture (Parkitecture or Rustic Style)

Buildings, structures, objects and landscapes that were shaped by the National Park Service (NPS) at Poinsett almost entirely reflect the same type of rustic construction known as Parkitecture. Parkitecture is one of the derivatives of the English gardening tradition of the 1800s. The English Gardening tradition went on to influence the Adirondack tradition, Arts and Crafts movement, and, later, this architectural style was adopted by the NPS during the early 20th century. Parkitecture combines characteristics of these traditions and movements using native materials and manual labor. Native materials and natural colors were used to help buildings, structures, and objects blend into the existing environment. Also, using manual hand tools to create a hand hewn rustic look produced a feeling that the construction had sprouted organically from the ground. Roads and trails were designed to be sinuous, following the contours of the land, resulting in the roads and trails that blended with the environment.

Consistent with Parkitecture design principles, the CCC at Poinsett made extensive use of native materials, in particular locally available coquina stone. Coquina is a naturally-occurring conglomerate material of ancient sea shells and sand and is creamy peach beige in color. When first mined, coquina is soft and can be shaped easily with hand tools. Once dried, it is a solid building material. A supply of coquina was located on private land about three miles south of the park property. In exchange for planting trees on the landowner's property, the CCC was allowed to mine coquina for use on the park. ¹³⁸

transcript on file at Resource Management Office, South Carolina State Park Service, Columbia, SC.

¹³⁶ Mielnik, New Deal, New Landscape, 49-50, 60, 110-11.

 ¹³⁷ Al Hester, "The Growth of Utilitarian Conservation in South Carolina, 1900-1933," unpublished paper, 25 April
 1998, copy on file at Resource Management Office, South Carolina State Park Service, Columbia S.C.
 138 Joe Frank Watson (former Poinsett State Park Superintendent) interview by Laura Kirk, October 13, 2010,

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Coquina was used throughout the park with the result producing the feeling that the buildings and structures harmonize and blend with their sandy surroundings. Design elements using coquina include foundations, fireplaces, fountains, chimneys, columns, stairs, spillways, retaining walls, gutters, culverts, and an incinerator. The coquina has been allowed to be naturally accented over the years with living natural material like lichen, moss, and resurrection fern which help to further blend the stone into its surroundings as recommended by Henry Hubbard¹³⁹, an influential landscape architect and professor, whose teachings helped to guide and develop the national Parkitecture movement.

To appear rustic, building materials have to be proportionally sized to the surrounding habitat. ¹⁴⁰ The CCC achieved this proportionality in their construction efforts, choosing appropriately sized coquina stones for the entrance gates, spillways, foundations, and steps. All stones are larger than what you would find if you were constructing a more refined building or structure. When coquina was used for foundations or chimneys, large coquina stones formed the base with the stones gradually lessening in size as construction continued vertically to help preserve informality and lend interest. ¹⁴¹ The coursework is irregular with irregular horizontal joints and the coquina is placed on its natural bed. Both techniques further the goal of a naturalistic appearance, a core agenda of the Parkitecture style. ¹⁴² In areas where coquina walls were built, like the Ranger's Residence parking area retaining wall and the small spillway's entrance, "skillful buttressing" was used to make it look as if the coquina had "sprung from the soil," creating a more natural appearance. ¹⁴³

Another native material that was used in the park's design was wood, South Carolina pine and cypress, which helps to create a rustic feeling. Hand buildings are clad in weatherboard siding whose horizontal lines help them subordinate to their surroundings while others are clad with board and batten, which was seen as an economical choice and harmonious with a wooded setting. Both support the rustic design aesthetic of the Parkitecture style. The oldest buildings designed while the Junior Company 421 was present, the Ranger's Residence, Cabin #1, and Cabin #2, are clad in weatherboard. Buildings like Cabin #3 and #4 and the Shop that were designed later and built by Veteran Company 2413 were clad in board and batten. In yet another effort to subordinate buildings and structures to the surrounding environment, the exterior wood was stained (See Figure 6). In later decades, the South Carolina State Park Service began painting buildings and structures to protect the wood better. They continued the tradition of using certain earth tone colors like browns and grays to help them blend in with the surrounding environment.

¹³⁹ Linda Flint McClelland, *Presenting Nature: The Historic Landscape Design of the National Park Service, 1916-1942* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1993), 63.

¹⁴⁰ Albert Good, Park and Recreation Structures (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1938), 5.

¹⁴¹ Ibid., 7.

¹⁴² McClelland, Presenting Nature, 344.

¹⁴³ Good, Park and Recreation Structures, 6.

¹⁴⁴ Ibid., 5.

¹⁴⁵ Ibid., 75.

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Figure 6: Cabin being stained ["Poinsett State Park (SP-3)--No.110 Overnight cabin, being stained, Project 107-B", n.d. [ca. 1934-1942], Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH), Columbia, S.C.]

Also, buildings that were not for public use were constructed in areas with existing vegetation or in areas where the vegetation was allowed to grow to screen the buildings from public view to help preserve a more natural viewshed for visitors. These screened buildings include the Reservoir Building, Lifeguard Cabin (now Cabin 5 PO-C5), Shop, and Pump House. Hand-wrought ironwork was also made for the park. Strap hinges, made in the Camp Shop, can be found on doors in cabins, the Reservoir Building, Shop, and

other buildings throughout the park. 146 Suffolk latches were also made and used in the cabins. Handmade items further the feeling of the rustic, pioneering spirit.

Architecture (Architecture of Racial Segregation, 1934-66)

From its inception, the State Park system developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in South Carolina was intended to be segregated, and Poinsett was no exception. The South Carolina State Forestry Commission noted as early as 1938 that in the parks, "white and colored areas will be segregated and will not conflict." The first parks in the system, including Poinsett, were to be reserved exclusively for the use of whites. Later, under pressure from the federal government, the State Forestry Commission agreed to establish facilities for African Americans, some as separate areas within parks, and others as completely separate, stand-alone parks designated specifically for black use. These included the African American areas at Greenwood (1938), Hunting Island (1938), and Huntington Beach (1962) state parks, as well as African American parks at Campbell's Pond and Mill Creek (ca. 1941) and Pleasant Ridge (1955).

Poinsett's design as a segregated "whites only" park serves as an important material document, which when examined in the context of segregated African American park facilities, suggests that, as one historian has noted, "the concept of 'separate-but-equal' was never applicable to

¹⁴⁶ Iron hinge design is shown and text indicates they will be made in the camp shop. "Individual Cabins 3-4-5," 12 August 1936, Poinsett State Park Plans, CCC Plan Collection, Resource Management Office, South Carolina State Park Service, Columbia, S.C.

¹⁴⁷ Stephen Lewis Cox, "The History of Negro State Parks in South Carolina, 1940-1963," (MA Thesis, 1992, the University of South Carolina), pp. 18-24, quote on p. 19.

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County and State South Carolina state parks."¹⁴⁸ Poinsett's facilities can be compared with those at Mill Creek Group Camp, an African American recreation area developed by the State Forestry Commission in cooperation with the National Youth Administration, which is also located in Sumter County. The former's design is clearly more elaborate, with a much larger number of buildings, a wider variety of recreational facilities, and more sophisticated architectural design. Mill Creek's original design included only twelve structures and a small lake, and lacked the larger rental cabins, campground, picnic shelters, trails, and tea room of Poinsett. 49 Mill Creek is currently managed by Sumter County and its resources are not included as part of this National Register nomination.

However, even though Poinsett was designed exclusively for the use of whites, the park could not function smoothly without African American employees and, consequently, facilities for their use were included in the design. These were comprised of work areas, restrooms, and living accommodations specifically for the black employees of the tea room/kitchen at the bathhouse and possibly for the cabins' housekeeping staff. The park's bathhouse originally included a "help's" or "servant's" restroom that was separate from the building's public facilities. Though kitchen employees may not have always been African American, the designers seem to have anticipated that future employees might be a different race from visitors and would need separate toilet facilities. 150

A 1938 architectural plan survives for a "helper's dwelling" but it was apparently never built. 151 Instead, in 1941, the park converted the second story of the caretaker's barn into a "servant's quarters," also referred to as quarters for the "Colored Park Help." This structure is extant and is listed as a contributing resource primarily because of its association with the architecture of racial segregation. The park superintendent in 1941 anticipated that the new servant's quarters would provide accommodations for the two female cooks who worked in the park's dining room. Later this building was used for white lifeguards, but the original intent of its 1941 design was to provide separate, segregated housing. 152 This structure was also available to African American servants whose employers were renting the cabins as park visitors. As far as this use was concerned, the park superintendent provided the following guidelines:

It is permissible to sleep colored servants in the cabins but under no condition on one of the regular Park beds or mattresses. Provision for quartering servants may

¹⁴⁸ Ibid, p. 18

¹⁴⁹ "Mill Creek Group Camp Layout Plan," 1941, Poinsett State Park Plans.

^{150 &}quot;Remodeling of Bathhouse, Poinsett State Park," 1938, Architectural Plan, Poinsett State Park Plans; "Inspection of Poinsett State Park 5 and 9 August 1946, Box 1, Poinsett State Park Files, 1940-1965, S 162026, Records of the State Commission of Forestry, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC. ¹⁵¹ "Helper's Dwelling," 1938, architectural plan, Poinsett State Park Plans.

^{152 &}quot;Proposed Floor Plan For Converting Park Barn Loft To Use As Quarters For Colored Park Help," and "State Park Servant's Quarters In Barn Loft", 1941, both in "Barn Conversion" Folder, Box 3, Poinsett State Park Files, 1940-1965, S 162026, Records of the State Commission of Forestry, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC; "Report of Summer Program, Poinsett State Park," 1941, unpublished typescript, Resource Management Offices, South Carolina State Park Service, Columbia SC; Elias Hilden (Bill) Nettles, III to Tom McCants, 29 October 2009, copy on file at Resource Management Offices, SC State Park Service, Columbia, S.C.

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be made either by the occupant's bringing the bed for them or the Park's supplying them at 50ϕ for a servant's canvas cot or by quartering them in the servant's quarters at the Superintendent's residence at a cost of \$1.00 per week... 153

In this case, because complete exclusion of African Americans would have made park operations and visitation difficult, the State Forestry Commission enforced segregation through multiple strategies. These methods included construction of separate, duplicate, spaces on the overall park (the servant's quarters); "architectural partitioning," or an attempt to separate the races physically by means of fixed walls within buildings and separate entrances (the help's toilet at the bathhouse); and "behavioral separation" (using the cabins at times when whites were not present, provided that different bedding was used). Because Poinsett's architectural design included a variety of segregation strategies, it provides a good record of practices in the state during this era.

Almost immediately after opening, there were challenges to the new park's segregated status. The conflict between local white park users and the African American CCC company has already been described, but black visitors were also interested in using Poinsett for recreation and not just work. In July 1940, a group of African Americans visitors arrived at the park hoping to use its picnic grounds, in response to a handbill that was circulated in Sumter's black community advertising a picnic at the park. The park superintendent asked the group to use the black recreation area at Mill Creek that was under development (though at this point it probably did not have any facilities yet). Later the same day around 150 people were turned away from the park because of their race. ¹⁵⁵ In response to the report of this incident, the State Parks supervisor responded:

Confidentially, the negro problem is one which worries us quite a good deal. Legally we probably have no right to keep them off a public area but we have been able to handle the problem in the past by a little tactfulness on the part of our park superintendents as well as a little bluff. This method, I believe, will keep us out of trouble for the next few years and if it becomes more serious some steps will undoubtedly have to be taken. ¹⁵⁶

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¹⁵³ Francis Marion Dwight to Jessie Davis, undated but in folder with 1948 documents, Untitled Folder, Box 3, Poinsett State Park Files, 1940-1965, S 162026, Records of the State Commission of Forestry, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

¹⁵⁴ For a typology of the segregation strategies employed through architectural design, see Robert R. Weyeneth, "The Architecture of Racial Segregation: The Challenges of Preserving the Problematical Past," *The Public Historian*, Vol 27, no. 4 (Fall 2005): 11-44.

¹⁵⁵ F. Marion Dwight, Jr. to R. A. Walker, 29 July 1940, "Walker, R. A." Folder, Box 3, Poinsett State Park Files, 1940-1965, S 162026, Records of the State Commission of Forestry, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

¹⁵⁶ R. A. Walker to Francis Marion Dwight, 7 August 1940, "Walker, R. A." Folder, Box 3, Poinsett State Park Files, 1940-1965, S 162026, Records of the State Commission of Forestry, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

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Though this was probably an infrequent occurrence, eventually the situation did become more serious, and steps were taken, but of a different type than the State Parks supervisor imagined. In 1961 the segregated status of the entire State Park system was contested in court, and a 1963 ruling in favor of the plaintiffs finally led to the opening of all of South Carolina's parks, on a fully integrated basis, by 1966. 157

Landscape architecture (Parkitecture or Rustic Style)

The CCC employed Parkitecture principles in Poinsett's landscape design as well as in the architecture of its buildings. Sinuous lines that follow the contours of the land blend structures into their surroundings. Poinsett Park Road and the Campground Road wind around small hills and curves creating the impression that the road is part of the natural environment. Poinsett Park Road parallels Shank's Creek and Old Levi Mill Lake, providing scenic views of the creek and lake along most of path. Foot trails also deliberately meander through the forest and gradually up the steep hillsides. This orientation provides for both up close and panoramic views of the creek and lake.

In addition to contouring the roads, the CCC impacted Poinsett's landscape greatly through the contouring the land itself and use of native vegetation plantings. At the park entrance, the road slopes were smoothed and planted with trees to decrease erosion. The public road paralleling the park boundary had four foot high road shoulders as a result of road maintenance grading. The CCC graded these high shoulders down to allow visitors to see into the park property as they drove by. They also transformed interior roads from old farm roads to truck trails that would be used for patrolling the park for forest fires.

Before the CCC arrived at Poinsett, trees and shrubs had been allowed to grow in the old lake bed. They removed most of the vegetation, leaving tupelo trees behind for habitat. They landscaped around both the large and small spillways. They obtained native plants from the surrounding woods and planted hundreds of dogwoods, wax myrtle, black willow, crab apple, redbud, red, white and live oaks, yellow poplar, sweet gum, sassafras, Carolina cherry laurel, ferns, and fetterbush. North of the small spillway was an old field. The CCC planted trees to provide shade. The parking area for the lake was also landscaped with native plants planted around the perimeter and through the center island. Above the lake area, near Shelters #3 and #5 (PO-S3 and PO-S5), the CCC cleared ten acres of brush and planted hundreds of native trees and shrubs. The CCC also planted more than 200,000 longleaf pines on the park property. A number of Poinsett's landscape features were designed to encourage social interaction in an outdoor setting. These included the terrace of the tea room, the swimming beach, picnic grills, and the open play fields in picnic areas. The remains of the "campfire circle" in the campground are an excellent example of a landscape feature that promoted the social aspects of park recreation. Landscape architects Jens Jensen and Frank Waugh popularized the use of "council rings" or campfire circles in early 20th century park and garden design. 158 Jensen described the importance of this feature that he used in many of his designs:

157 Cox, "The History of Negro State Parks in South Carolina," pp. 80-82, 84-85, 107-108.

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Practically the ring brings people close together . . . From a spiritual standpoint, there is something within us that loves a fire, and gathering about it has a social leveling effect that puts us all on par with one another. A council-fire gathering is one of the most democratic institutions that we have. ¹⁵⁹

Poinsett's campfire circle, designed by Albert Schellenberg, incorporated all of Jensen's and Waugh's design recommendations: it was approximately 18' in diameter; it included a ring of seats around a central fire pit; its fire pit was ringed with 6" high stones; and it was built of rustic materials that harmonized with the surrounding landscape. Though only portions of this feature are extant at Poinsett, the remnants are significant for their association with early 20th century park design principles.

Currently (in 2015) most of the park landscape appears largely natural, though small areas are kept open and mowed by successive generations of park staff. Native plants predominate, though many of the individual original shrubs transplanted by the CCC are no longer extant. The landscape has changed as trees have matured and died and as the park has experienced natural disasters, such as Hurricane Hugo in 1989. Much of the original design intent, however, remains intact, particularly in the areas immediately adjacent to the park facilities developed by the CCC. The majority of actual constructed landscape features, such as roads, trails, retaining walls, drinking fountains, etc., remain essentially intact. The same holds true for the spatial relationships between buildings and structures, both to each other and between them and the surrounding landscape.

Architects and Landscape Architects

The NPS played a central role in the design and construction of Poinsett. It directly employed foremen who supervised the work of the CCC workers in the field as well as architects, landscape architects and engineers who designed the new park facilities. Each of the original architectural drawings for the park includes the notation "Department of the Interior, National Park Service, and the South Carolina State Forestry Commission Cooperating." Local designers stationed at the park created a series of plans, consistent with NPS design standards, which the foremen then used to guide construction of park facilities. Drawings included master plans, which showed the proposed locations of buildings, roads and trails; architectural plans; landscape plans; and engineering plans. ¹⁶¹ Job records contained detailed justifications for each work project, and tracked the expenditures of money and man hours. NPS regional inspectors visited and evaluated the work while it was underway, in some cases making changes to designs to better reflect NPS design philosophies. ¹⁶² For example, in 1936 the NPS Branch of Plans and

¹⁵⁹ William H. Tishler, ed., *Jens Jensen: Writings Inspired by Nature* (State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 2012), 91-92.

^{160 &}quot;Public Campground Development—Detail of Campfire Circle," 5 January 1937, Poinsett Park Plans.161 See Poinsett Park Plans.

¹⁶² For examples of visits by regional inspectors, see Narrative Report for Poinsett State Park, SP-3, for period of October 1st to November 6th, 1935, Records of the National Park Service, Record Group 79, Entry 41, Box 123, National Archives, College Park, MD.

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Designs sent to the park-level designers a comment drawing that suggested revisions to the front entrance layout. ¹⁶³ Final plans had to be approved by a regional officer of the NPS, as well as by State Forestry official, prior to commencing work. ¹⁶⁴

Poinsett had five designers listed on their blueprints though most park blueprints have no designer listed. Of the thirty-three contributing structures, Samuel Lenoir Moise is the most prolific of the designers. Moise was born in Sumter, South Carolina in 1912. He attended Clemson University and earned his B.S. in Architecture in 1934. He designed most notably the Recreation Building (PO-32), the outdoor fireplaces, the entrance gates and contact station, and Cabin #5 (PO-C5). His designs for the entrance gate and contact station made extensive use of coquina and did much to establish the park's rustic character. Later works include Parkitecture style buildings at both Table Rock and Greenwood State Parks in South Carolina, also completed while employed by the NPS and CCC. His Table Rock designs included a family cabin and the lifeguard quarters, both of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The lifeguard quarters at Table Rock has an almost identical plan as Poinsett's Cabin #5. Work at Greenwood (now Lake Greenwood State Park) included picnic shelters, the custodian's residence, and a general development plan. All are consistent with NPS architectural standards for 1930s park buildings. Moise served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II, and does not appear to have resumed his architectural practice when he returned.

Other designers include William Dinkins, also of Sumter, Jack Pickens Coble, Walter Featherston Woollard, and Albert Schellenberg. William Dinkins graduated cum laude from the University of South Carolina with an Engineering degree. His two most notable designs at Poinsett are repairs and improvements to both lake spillways. After working on Poinsett, he stayed in Sumter and became a real estate developer. 167

Jack Pickens Coble, a Greensboro, North Carolina native, graduated from Cornell University in 1934 with a degree in Architecture. On his application to the American Institute of Architects, he listed the Department of the Interior as his employer during his CCC years, indicating that he worked directly for the NPS. While at Poinsett, he designed a few buildings including the Ranger Residence (PO-2), two cabins (PO-C1 and PO-C2), and two picnic shelters (PO-S1 and PO-S2). He left Poinsett in August 1935 for New York where he had employment prospects for an architectural position. He returned from New York to Greensboro to work for himself from

¹⁶³ "Suggested Revisions, Park Entrance," Poinsett State Park SP-3, 18 August 1936, Poinsett State Park Plans.

¹⁶⁴ See Poinsett State Park Plans for listings of approving officials.

¹⁶⁵ Harold Moise, The Moise family of South Carolina; an account of the life and descendants of Abraham and Sarah Moise who settled in Charleston, South Carolina, in the year 1791 A.D. (Columbia, S.C.: R.L. Bryan Company, 1961), 144.

¹⁶⁶ Department of the Army, *Official Army and Air Force Register, Vol. 1, 1948* (Washington: USGPO, 1948), 1274. ¹⁶⁷ "William Dinkins, developer, dies," *The Sumter Item* (Sumter, SC), January 12, 1990, http://news.google.com.

¹⁶⁸ Stanley R. Russo, ed., *The 1934 Cornellian* (Ithaca: Cornell Annuals, Inc., 1934), 187, http://www.ancestry.com.

¹⁶⁹ "Application for Membership," Jack Pickens Coble, American Institute of Architects, copy on file at SC State Park Service, Resource Management Offices, Columbia, SC.

¹⁷⁰ "Park Service News." *Poinsette Pointers*. 27 July 1935, Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Newsletters, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

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1938-1941. By the mid-1940s, Coble had returned to New York where he worked for a few architectural firms before opening his own firm. Some of his works include the Contemporary House for the House of Good Taste exhibition at the 1964 World's Fair and Cole Porter's Williamstown, Massachusetts residence.¹⁷¹

Coble's Poinsett work probably reflects the principles of NPS rustic style more than it does his own personal stylistic interests. Soon after leaving the CCC he designed the Marc Friedlaender residence in Greensboro, North Carolina, a modern design that seems to be a significant departure from his CCC work. However, elements of the Friedlaender house, such as the massive rustic stone chimney, may show that his earlier work had a residual influence. Similarly, his "Contemporary House" of 1964 seems distinct from his Parkitecture buildings, and only small details seem to relate to his CCC designs, such as unpainted oak paneling on the interior, pyramidal roofs, and an emphasis on a connection of interiors to the outdoors. 173

Walter Woollard was a WWI veteran and worked as a civil engineer for the Illinois Central Railroad in Iowa before taking a Superintendent position in Vicksburg, Mississippi with the CCC in 1935.¹⁷⁴ Woollard designed for Poinsett in 1937, primarily contributing repair designs for the large spillway. He continued to work for different agencies within the Federal Government, including the NPS, for the remainder of his career.¹⁷⁵

Albert Schellenberg, born in 1894 at Winterthur, Switzerland, immigrated to America in 1914 and naturalized in 1921 in Massachusetts. As early as 1916, he is listed as a landscape architect. While living in Massachusetts, he joined the Masons. Before working for the NPS and CCC, Schellenberg worked as a landscape architect in Florida also. Poinsett blueprints show him designing for the park from 1937 to 1938, and his contributions included

¹⁷¹ "Jack Pickens Coble, Architect, 84," *New York Times,* January 7, 1994, http://www.nytimes.com/1994/01/07/obituaries/jack-pickens-coble-architect-84.html.

http://www.ncmodernist.org/greensboro.htm, accessed on 22 April 2015.

Three World's Fair Houses!" *Better Homes and Gardens*, September 1964: 60-65.

¹⁷⁴ "Series 1731: Mississippi World War I Statement of Service Cards, 1917-1919, Army," Mississippi Department of Archives and History (Jackson, Miss.), http://mdah.state.ms.us/arrec/digital_archives/wwicards/show/16481; Polk's Fort Dodge (Iowa) City Directory (Kansas City: R.L. Polk and Co., 1930), 307, http://www.ancestry.com; Polk's Vicksburg (Warren County, Miss.) City Directory (New Orleans: R.L. Polk and Co., 1935), 343, http://www.ancestry.com.

¹⁷⁵Walter Featherston Woollard, World War II Draft Registration Card, 1942, accessed on 10 June 2015 at www.ancestry.com.

¹⁷⁶ "Index to Naturalization Petitions and Records of the U.S. District Court, 1906-1966, and the U.S. Circuit Court, 1906-1911," National Archives and Records Administration (Washington D.C.), microfilm serial: M1545; microfilm roll: 22, http://www.ancestry.com.

¹⁷⁷ The Boston Directory containing the City Record - A Directory of the Citizens, Business Directory and Street Directory with Map for the Year Commencing July 1 1916 (Boston: Sampson and Murdock Co.,1916) 1752, http://www.ancestry.com.

¹⁷⁸ Massachusetts, Mason Membership Cards, 1733-1990," New England Historic Genealogical Society (Boston, Mass.), http://www.ancestry.com.

¹⁷⁹ Polk's Daytona Beach City Directory (Jacksonville: R.L. Polk and Co., 1926), 466, http://www.ancestry.com; Polk's Daytona Beach (Florida) City Directory (Jacksonville: R.L. Polk and Co., 1932), 597, http://www.ancestry.com.

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landscape plans for the bathhouse area, the 1937 master plan, 1938 general development plan, and the design of the trail system. He continued to work for the State Commission of Forestry for the remainder of his career, retiring as South Carolina State Parks' Assistant Park Director in 1953. Many of his later designs reflect the work he did in the 1930s, and his almost twenty year career with South Carolina State Parks provided a continuity that ensured that the early design principles of the CCC remained part of the organization's identity for many years.

In addition, an early superintendent of the park, Francis Marion Dwight, Jr., oversaw a number of building changes and construction of new landscape features during the 1940s that were derivative of the earlier CCC rustic design principles. In particular, Dwight may have added a coquina retaining wall along the lake that blends particularly well with the surrounding CCC-era landscape design. According to one source, he had a couple of employees who were experienced in working with the stone, and it is possible that he had them build the coquina retaining walls, which likely post-date the CCC since they are not shown on the landscape plans of the area in 1938. ¹⁸⁰

Additional Information Brief Chronological History of the Property

The land that comprises the park has been in ownership since as early as the mid-1700s. ¹⁸¹ It was used mostly for farming. There was also at least one mill and an associated lake located on the property. This lake was renovated by the CCC and is still present on the site today along with remnants of the coquina walls and foundation that formed part of the mill. The 1000 acres of land that comprises Poinsett State Park was purchased by Sumter County for \$5,000 in 1934. ¹⁸² The Benehaly Family sold 104 acres. The Levi Family sold 522 acres. Mr. H.J. Windham sold eighty-six acres. The Protestant Episcopal Church of South Carolina sold 288 acres. ¹⁸³ Sumter County then donated to the South Carolina State Forestry Commission for development as a state park. The land chosen for the park was described as "very unusual" and having "very beautiful topography." South Carolina State Park locations were chosen throughout the state to prevent individuals from having to drive more than fifty miles to reach a state park. Poinsett was the second state park to officially open to the public on August 5, 1936. Even though it was open to the public, the CCC continued to work on the park until September 1938.

¹⁸⁰ Joe Frank Watson (former Poinsett State Park Superintendent) interview by Laura Kirk, October 13, 2010.

¹⁸¹ Anne King Gregorie, *History of Sumter County*, (Sumter, S.C.: Library Board of Sumter, 1954), 31.

¹⁸² Stephen W. Skelton, "Poinsett State Park: National Register Nomination Preliminary Research." History 789, University of South Carolina, 1989, copy in the Poinsett Research Files.

¹⁸³ Copies of deeds located in the Poinsett State Park research files, Resource Management Office, South Carolina State Park Service, Columbia S.C.

¹⁸⁴ South Carolina Commission of Forestry, *Report of the State Commission of Forestry for the Year 1933-1934* (Columbia: 1934), 25.

¹⁸⁵ Ibid.

¹⁸⁶ South Carolina Commission of Forestry, *Report of the State Commission of Forestry for the Year 1936-1937* (Columbia: 1937), 57.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):	
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been previously listed in the National Register	n requested
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	
X_Other State agency	
Federal agency	
Local government	

Poinsett State Park	_	Sumter County, South Carolina
lame of Property University		County and State
Other		
Name of repository: <u>South Carolin</u> <u>Columbia, SC</u>	na Department of Parks, Recreation	n & Tourism,
Columbia, SC		
Historic Resources Survey Number (i	f assigned):	
10. Geographical Data		
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2. Latitude: 33.817178°	Longitude: -80.546591°	
3. Latitude: 33.815545°	Longitude: -80.537270°	
4. Latitude: 33.816956°	Longitude: -80.531026°	
5. Latitude: 33.814146°	Longitude: -80.525100°	
6. Latitude: 33.800692°	Longitude: -80.533079°	
7. Latitude: 33.792864°	Longitude: -80.537926°	
8. Latitude: 33.798514°	Longitude: -80.531009°	
9. Latitude: 33.793724°	Longitude: -80.541576°	
10. Latitude: 33.799963°	Longitude: -80.546240°	
Or UTM References		
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Poinsett State Park			_	umter County, South arolina
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4. Zone:	Easting:	No	orthing:	
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•	e nominated district corresponds entitled "Geographic Map, Poin			
Boundary Justifica	ation (Explain why the boundari	es were sele	ected.)	
The boundary encor Sumter County, Sou	mpasses all of what has historica uth Carolina.	lly compris	ed Poinsett Sta	ate Park in
11. Form Prepared	l By			
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	C Dept of Parks, Recreation & To	ourism		
street & number:				
city or town: Colu		te: <u>SC</u>	zip code:_	<u>29201</u>
	<u>wscprt.com and ahester@scprt.com</u>	<u> </u>		
• — •	<u>) 428-4988</u>			
date: Nov. 10, 20	13			

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.

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- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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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. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Poinsett State Park

City or Vicinity: Sumter

County: Sumter State: SC

Photographer: Laura Kirk

Date Photographed: January, March-April 2010; January-February 2011; February and April 2013, June 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #1 Cabin #1 (PO-C1)

West elevation (left) and south elevation (right) shown in landscape setting; camera facing northeast.

Photo #2 Cabin #1 (PO-C1)

West elevation showing entrance, bedroom (left), bedroom (right), coquina stairs and foundation; camera facing east.

Photo #3 Cabin #1 (PO-C1)

North elevation showing former porch enclosed, and coquina chimney, stairs and foundation; camera facing south.

Photo #4 Cabin #1 (PO-C1)

East elevation showing bedrooms (left and right), kitchen (middle), and coquina foundation; camera facing west.

Photo #5 Cabin #1 (PO-C1)

South elevation showing bedroom, and coquina foundation; camera facing north.

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Photo #6 Cabin #1 (PO-C1)

Suffolk latch, interior, camera facing south.

Photo #7 Cabin #1 (PO-C1)

Door hinge, interior, camera facing west.

Photo #8 Cabin #2 (PO-C2)

South elevation (left) and east elevation (right) shown in landscape setting; camera facing north northwest.

Photo #9 Cabin #2 (PO-C2)

South elevation showing entrance, bedroom (left), bedroom (right), and coquina chimney, stairs, and foundation; camera facing north.

Photo #10 Cabin #2 (PO-C2)

West elevation showing former porch enclosed, and coquina chimney, stairs and foundation; camera facing east.

Photo #11 Cabin #2 (PO-C2)

North elevation showing bedrooms (left and right), kitchen (middle), and coquina chimney and foundation; camera facing south.

Photo #12 Cabin #2 (PO-C2)

East elevation showing bedroom, and coquina chimney and foundation; camera facing west.

Photo #13 Cabin #2 (PO-C2)

Coquina fireplace, interior, camera facing northwest.

Photo #14 Cabin #3 (PO-C3)

North elevation showing main entrance, great room (left), kitchen (middle) and bathroom (right), and coquina chimney and foundation; camera facing south.

Photo #15 Cabin #3 (PO-C3)

East elevation showing porch (left), great room (middle), kitchen (left), and coquina chimney and foundation; camera facing west.

Photo #16 Cabin #3 (PO-C3)

East elevation chimney, camera facing west.

Photo #17 Cabin #3 (PO-C3)

South elevation bedroom (left), entrance to porch, screened porch, and coquina stairs and foundation; camera facing north.

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Photo#18 Cabin #3 (PO-C3)

South elevation coquina stairs, camera facing north.

Photo#19 Cabin #3 (PO-C3)

West elevation showing kitchen (left), bathroom and bedroom (middle), porch entrance (right), and coquina stairs and foundation; camera facing east.

Photo #20 Cabin #3 (PO-C3)

Coquina fireplace in great room, interior, camera facing east.

Photo #21 Cabin #4 (PO-C4)

North elevation showing bathroom (left), kitchen (middle), bedroom (right), and coquina foundation; camera facing east south.

Photo #22 Cabin #4 (PO-C4)

East elevation showing porch entrance (left), bedroom and bathroom (middle), kitchen (right), and coquina chimney, stairs, and foundation; camera facing west.

Photo #23 Cabin #4 (PO-C4)

South elevation showing porch (left), bedroom (right), and coquina foundation; camera facing north.

Photo #24 Cabin #4 (PO-C4)

West elevation showing kitchen (left), great room (middle), and porch (right), and coquina chimney and foundation; camera facing east.

Photo #25 Cabin #4 (PO-C4)

Coquina fireplace in great room, interior, camera facing west.

Photo #26 Cabin #4 (PO-C4)

Wood rafters and board and batten, interior, camera facing northeast.

Photo #27 Cabin #4 (PO-C4)

Suffolk latch, interior, camera facing west.

Photo #28 Cabin #5 (PO-C5)

North elevation shown in landscape setting; camera facing south.

Photo #29 Cabin #5 (PO-C5)

North elevation showing ADA-accessible entrance (middle), bedrooms (left and right), ADA-accessible ramp leading to porch (right), and brick pillar foundation; camera facing south.

Photo #30 Cabin #5 (PO-C5)

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East elevation showing great room (left), kitchen (middle left), bathroom (middle right), bedroom (right), and brick chimney; camera facing west.

Photo #31 Cabin #5 (PO-C5)

South elevation showing ADA-accessible ramp (left), porch (middle), great room (right), brick chimney, stairs, and foundation; camera facing north.

Photo #32 Cabin #5 (PO-C5)

West elevation showing bedroom (right and middle), porch (right), and ADA-accessible ramp (in front); camera facing east.

Photo #33 Trailside Shelter (PO-33)

North elevation showing entrance and coquina posts, stairs and foundation; camera facing south.

Photo #34 Trailside Shelter (PO-33)

East elevation (left) and north elevation (right) showing open windows and coquina posts; camera facing northeast

Photo #35 Trailside Shelter (PO-33)

South elevation showing rear with open window and coquina posts; camera facing north.

Photo #36 Trailside Shelter (PO-33)

West elevation showing open window and coquina posts; camera facing east.

Photo #37 Picnic Shelter #1 (PO-S1)

South elevation showing posts and railings; camera facing north.

Photo #38 Picnic Shelter #1 (PO-S1)

West elevation showing square butt shingles and exposed rafter tails; camera facing east.

Photo #39 Picnic Shelter #1 (PO-S1)

North elevation showing rear of shelter; fireplace is non-contributing; camera facing south.

Photo #40 Picnic Shelter #1 (PO-S1)

East elevation showing square butt shingles, exposed rafter tails, and water fountain (foreground); camera facing west.

Photo #41 Picnic Shelter #2 (PO-S2)

South elevation showing exposed rafter tails and vented gable roof; camera facing north.

Photo #42 Picnic Shelter #2 (PO-S2)

West elevation showing coquina stairs and tri-bearing trusses; fireplace is non-contributing; camera facing east.

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Photo #43 Picnic Shelter #2 (PO-S2)

North elevation showing exposed rafter tails and vented gable roof; fireplace is non-contributing; camera facing south.

Photo #44 Picnic Shelter #2 (PO-S2)

East elevation showing tri-bearing trusses; fireplace is non-contributing; camera facing west.

Photo #45 Picnic Shelter #2 (PO-S2)

Coquina stairs, west elevation, camera facing southeast.

Photo #46 Picnic Shelter #5 (PO-S5)

West elevation (left) and south elevation (right) shown in landscape setting; camera facing north northeast.

Photo #47 Picnic Shelter #5 (PO-S5)

South elevation showing flush wood siding and flared coquina stairs; camera facing north.

Photo #48 Picnic Shelter #5 (PO-S5)

West elevation showing exposed rafter tails and coquina foundation; camera facing east.

Photo #49 Picnic Shelter #5 (PO-S5)

North elevation showing flush wood siding and flared coquina stairs; camera facing south.

Photo #50 Picnic Shelter #5 (PO-S5)

East elevation showing exposed rafter tails and coquina foundation; camera facing west.

Photo #51 Picnic Shelter #5 (PO-S5)

Coquina stairs, north elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #52 Recreation Building (PO-32)

North elevation showing main entrance; camera facing south.

Photo #53 Recreation Building (PO-32)

East elevation showing posts, weatherboard siding, and board and batten shutters; camera facing west.

Photo #54 Recreation Building (PO-32)

South elevation shows coquina chimney and board and batten shutters; camera facing north.

Photo #55 Recreation Building (PO-32)

West elevation shows posts and board and batten shutters; camera facing east.

Photo #56 Recreation Building (PO-32)

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Window hinge, south elevation; camera facing north.

Photo #57 Recreation Building (PO-32) King truss, interior; camera facing northeast.

Photo #58 Recreation Building (PO-32) Coquina fireplace, interior; camera facing south.

Photo #59 Campfire Circle (no facility number) Coquina bench supports visible; camera facing north.

Photo #60 Coquina Incinerator (no facility number) South elevation showing cleanout slot; camera facing north.

Photo #61 Coquina Incinerator (no facility number) West elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #62 Coquina Incinerator (no facility number) North elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #63 Coquina Incinerator (no facility number)
East elevation (left) and north elevation (right), camera facing southeast.

Photo #64 North Lower Picnic Area Fireplaces (no facility number) South elevation showing moss covered coquina fireplace; camera facing north.

Photo #65 South Lower Picnic Area Fireplaces (no facility number) South elevation showing fireplace front; camera facing north.

Photo #66 South Lower Picnic Area Fireplaces (no facility number) North elevation (left) and west elevation (right); camera facing southeast.

Photo #67 South Lower Picnic Area Fireplaces (no facility number) North elevation showing fireplace rear; camera facing south.

Photo #68 South Lower Picnic Area Fireplaces (no facility number) East elevation; camera facing west.

Photo #69 Water Fountains (no facility number) Located between picnic shelter #1 and rest station (PO-28); east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #70 Water Fountains (no facility number)

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Located between picnic shelter #1 and rest station (PO-28); showing step and spigot; south elevation, camera facing north.

Photo #71 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located between picnic shelter #1 and rest station (PO-28); west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #72 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located between picnic shelter #1 and rest station (PO-28); showing step and spigot; north elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #73 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located between picnic shelter #2 and rest station (PO-28); east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #74 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located between picnic shelter #2 and rest station (PO-28); south elevation, camera facing north.

Photo #75 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located between picnic shelter #2 and rest station (PO-28); showing spigot and step; west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #76 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located between picnic shelter #2 and rest station (PO-28); north elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #77 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near picnic shelter #3 (PO-S3); showing spigot and coquina base and step; east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #78 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near picnic shelter #3 (PO-S3); south elevation, camera facing north.

Photo #79 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near picnic shelter #3 (PO-S3); showing spigot and coquina base and step; west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #80 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near picnic shelter #3 (PO-S3); north elevation (left) and west elevation (right), camera facing southeast.

Photo #81 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near park office (PO-25); showing step; east elevation, camera facing west.

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Photo #82 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near park office (PO-25); south elevation, camera facing north.

Photo #83 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near park office (PO-25); west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #84 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near park office (PO-25); showing spigot; north elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #85 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near recreation building (PO-32); showing landscape setting; north elevation (left side) and west elevation (right), camera facing southeast.

Photo #86 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near recreation building (PO-32); showing coquina step and base; north elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #87 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near recreation building (PO-32); east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #88 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near recreation building (PO-32); south elevation, camera facing north.

Photo #89 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Located near recreation building (PO-32); west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #90 Old Levi Mill Lake (PO-LA-1)

Looking upstream into lake headwaters; camera facing east.

Photo #91 Coquina lake wall with stairs (PO-LA-1)

Low profile coquina walls found on northside of lake; camera facing east.

Photo #92 Dam (PO-DA-1)

Lake drained for maintenance; earthen dam and control tower in middleground; camera facing south.

Photo #93 (PO-DA-1)

Lake drained for maintenance; control tower's east elevation (left), north elevation (right), and tower platform is shown; camera facing southwest.

Photo #94 (PO-DA-1)

Dam and concrete headwall for bleeder pipe outlet in background, coquina riprap in middle and foreground; west elevation; camera facing east.

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Photo #95 (PO-DA-1)

Small spillway entrance; camera facing northeast.

Photo #96 (PO-DA-1)

Small spillway's two drops, looking upstream; camera facing west.

Photo #97 (PO-DA-1)

Small spillway's upstream bridge; camera facing east.

Photo #98 (PO-DA-1)

Large spillway, looking downstream; no water due to lake drawdown for maintenance; camera facing south.

Photo #99 (PO-DA-1)

Large spillway, looking upstream; spillway in background, coquina rip rap in middle and foreground; no water due to lake drawdown for maintenance; camera facing west.

Photo #100 (PO-DA-1)

Large spillway, looking upstream; spillway in background, coquina rip rap in middle and foreground; lake returned to normal pool, water flowing; camera facing east.

Photo #101 Diving Platform

Platform in middleground with dam to the right; camera facing east.

Photo #102 Entrance Portal

Portal in middleground with modern park identification sign, gate house partially viewable to right of portal; camera facing north.

Photo #103 Entrance Portal

Portal's left walls and pillars with modern park identification sign, camera facing north.

Photo #104 Entrance Portal

Portal's right walls and pillars with gate house in the background, camera facing north.

Photo #105 Entrance Portal

Portal detail, camera facing north.

Photo #106 Gate House (PO-34)

West elevation (left) and south elevation (right); showing landscape setting; camera facing northeast.

Photo #107 Gate House (PO-34)

West elevation, showing entrance; camera facing east.

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Photo #108 Gate House (PO-34)

North elevation; showing open window; camera facing south.

Photo #109 Gate House (PO-34)

East elevation, showing rear; camera facing west.

Photo #110 Gate House (PO-34)

South elevation; showing open window; camera facing north.

Photo #111 (PO-RD-1)

Poinsett Park Road heading toward gate house and portal; camera facing east.

Photo #112 (PO-RD-1)

Campground Road heading uphill to campground and shelters #3 and #5; camera facing north.

Photo #113 (PO-RD-1)

Campground road heading downhill toward Poinsett Park Road, coquina gutter (center); camera facing south.

Photo #114 (PO-RD-1)

Ranger Residence Road heading uphill, coquina gutter under leaves (center); camera facing north.

Photo #115 (PO-RD-1)

Ranger Residence Road's coquina retaining wall and gutter in parking area; camera facing south.

Photo #116 (PO-RD-1)

Poinsett Park Road terminating in day use parking lot, camera facing west.

Photo #117 (PO-RD-1)

Picnic Shelter #2 Road; picnic shelter #2 and rest station (PO-28) in background; camera facing north.

Photo #118 (PO-RD-1)

Coquina culvert along Ranger Residence Road; camera facing north.

Photo #119 (PO-RD-1)

Coquina culvert along Cabin Road; camera facing south.

Photo #120 (PO-RD-1)

Coquina culvert along Cabin Road; camera facing south.

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Photo #121 Truck Trail (no facility number)

Truck trail section north of shop (PO-61); camera facing west.

Photo #122 Truck Trail (no facility number)

Truck trail section north of picnic shelter #2 (PO-S2); camera facing north.

Photo #123 Foot Trails

Coquina trail with Shank's Creek to left; camera facing east.

Photo #124 Foot Trails

Hilltop trail, notice steep slope to left of trail; camera facing east.

Photo #125 Foot Trails

Coquina trail near trailside shelter (PO-33); camera facing south.

Photo #126 Foot Trails

Coquina trail with Shank's Creek to right; camera facing west.

Photo #127 Foot Trails

Coquina trail looking downhill to lake; camera facing north.

Photo #128 Ranger II Residence (PO-2)

East elevation showing current main entryways (2); camera facing west.

Photo #129 Ranger II Residence (PO-2)

South elevation showing dining room (left), 2nd floor room (upper center), and basement additions (left), and kitchen with porch (right); camera facing north.

Photo #130 Ranger II Residence (PO-2)

West elevation showing bedroom (left), front screen porch (center left), laundry room (center), dining room with chimney (right), and bedroom dormers (upper center); camera facing east.

Photo #131 Ranger II Residence (PO-2)

North elevation showing bedroom (left), bedroom (center), screened porch (right), and hallway windows (upper center); camera facing south.

Photo #132 Ranger II Residence (PO-2)

Bedroom fireplace, interior; camera facing northwest.

Photo #133 Ranger's Barn (PO-64)

South and east elevation showing multiple entrances; camera facing northwest.

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Photo #134 Ranger's Barn (PO-64)

West elevation showing wagon shed and spiral staircase; camera facing east.

Photo #135 Ranger's Barn (PO-64)

North elevation showing spiral staircase added for ease of access to second floor; camera facing south.

Photo #136 Ranger's Barn (PO-64)

Interior chimney with graffiti signature of lifeguard residents; camera facing southeast.

Photo #137 Shop (PO-61)

South elevation, showing 2 entrance doors (left), and garage door (right); camera facing north.

Photo #138 Shop (PO-61)

West elevation showing board and batten siding with weatherboard under the gable, original hopper window (left) and missing window (right) and exposed rafter tails (right); paint shed (PO-71) in left foreground; camera facing east.

Photo #139 Shop (PO-61)

North elevation showing board and batten siding, original hopper window (left) and 3 missing windows, and exposed rafter tails; camera facing south.

Photo #140 Shop (PO-61)

East elevation showing board and batten siding with weatherboard under the gable, original hopper window (right) and missing window (left) and exposed rafter tails (left); camera facing west.

Photo #141 Shop (PO-61)

Trusses, interior, camera facing west.

Photo #142 Shop (PO-61)

Door hinge, interior, camera facing east.

Photo #143 Shop Pump House (PO-66)

South elevation showing exposed rafter tails, board and batten and weatherboard siding, entrance door (left), and boarded up louver windows; trash dumpster in right foreground and water tank in left background; camera facing north.

Photo #144 Shop Pump House (PO-66)

West elevation showing boarded up louver windows, and board and batten siding with new plywood where pipe from well leads to water tank (left), trash dumpster in right background and water tank in left background; camera facing east.

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Photo #145 Shop Pump House (PO-66)

North elevation showing weatherboard siding and boarded up louver window; view of building blocked by water tank in foreground; camera facing south.

Photo #146 Shop Pump House (PO-66)

East elevation showing exposed rafter tails, board and batten and weatherboard siding, boarded up louver windows, and concrete foundation; camera facing west.

Photo #147 Reservoir Building (PO-70)

West elevation showing main entrance and louver windows; camera facing east.

Photo #148 Reservoir Building (PO-70)

North elevation showing louver windows and landscape setting; camera facing south.

Photo #149 Reservoir Building (PO-70)

East elevation showing louver windows, portion of retaining pool exterior; illustrates how building is set into the hillside; camera facing west.

Photo #150 Reservoir Building (PO-70)

South elevation showing louver windows; camera facing north.

Photo #151 Reservoir Building (PO-70)

Concrete formwork retaining pool with float, interior; camera facing southeast.

Photo #152 CCC Camp Site (no facility number)

Largest fountain; camera facing east.

Photo #153 CCC Camp Site (no facility number)

Sunken garden fountain, portion of round fountain (center); camera facing south.

Photo #154 CCC Camp Site (no facility number)

Sunken garden fountain; coquina stairs leading to fountain from south; camera facing south.

Photo #155 CCC Camp Site (no facility number)

Fountain (center and right) with attached drinking fountain (left); camera facing north.

Photo #156 CCC Camp Site (no facility number)

Showing slanting side of fountain (foreground) with drinking fountain (background); camera facing south.

Photo #157 CCC Camp Site (no facility number)

Showing freeform shape of fountain with drinking fountain (foreground); camera facing north.

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Photo #158 Landscape

Looking uphill near the gate house (PO-34); camera facing east.

Photo #159 Landscape

Landscape from Milford Plantation Road; camera facing north.

Photo #160 Landscape

Landscape from Milford Plantation Road; camera facing north.

Photo #161 Landscape

Landscape near picnic shelter #1; camera facing north.

Photo #162 Landscape

Landscape from small spillway; picnic shelter #1 (PO-S1), rest station (PO-28), and picnic shelter #2 (PO-S2) can be seen in background; camera facing north.

Photo #163 Landscape

Landscape from Poinsett Park Road terminus near park office (PO-25); picnic shelter #1 (PO-S1) can be seen in the background; camera facing west.

Photo #164 Landscape

Landscape from Picnic Shelter #2 Road; picnic shelter #1 (PO-S1) and rest station (PO-28) can be seen in the background; camera facing west.

Photo #165 Landscape

Landscape from Picnic Shelter #2 Road; park office (PO-25) can be seen in the background; camera facing west.

Photo #166 Landscape

Landscape near picnic shelter #5 (PO-S5) (background); camera facing north.

Photo #167 Landscape

Landscape near picnic shelter #5 (PO-S5) (background); camera facing west.

Photo #168 Landscape

Landscape near picnic shelter #5 (PO-S5) looking west into the Wateree River floodplain; camera facing west.

Photo #169 Landscape

Landscape near picnic shelter #3 (PO-S3) (background); camera facing south.

Photo #170 Landscape

Landscape near picnic shelter #3 (PO-S3); camera facing east.

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Photo #171 Landscape

Landscape near campground (PO-GR-2) and campfire circle (left); camera facing north.

Photo #172 Picnic Shelter #3 (PO-S3)

Camera facing south, showing main entrance to shelter.

Photo #173 Picnic Shelter #4 (PO-S4)

Camera facing north, showing main entrance to shelter.

Photo #174 Park Office (former Bathhouse) (PO-25)

Camera facing east, showing office with lake in background.

Photo #175 Campground (PO-GR-2)

Camera facing south showing typical campsite.

Photo #176 Boat House (PO-30)

Camera facing east, showing main entrance.

Photo #177 Ranger I Residence (PO-4)

Camera facing southeast, showing front elevation with roofline change and room addition.

Photo #178 Ranger I Residence (PO-4)

Camera facing northwest, showing rear elevation with former screen porch as windowed room.

Photo #179 Paint Shed (PO-71)

Camera facing north, showing main entrance.

Photo #180 Roads (PO-RD-1)

Camera facing east, showing concrete culvert next to Poinsett Park Road.

Photo #181 Storage Building (PO-72)

West elevation, camera facing east, showing main entrance.

Photo #182 Tall Coquina Grills (no facility number)

Camera facing northeast, showing typical construction.

Photo #183 Water Fountains (no facility number)

Camera facing west, Picnic Shelter #5 in background.

Photo #184 Water Tower near Picnic Shelter #5

Camera facing east northeast, showing metal water tower.

Photo #185 Water Tower near Shop

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Camera facing north, showing one concrete water tower footing.

Photo #186 Foot Trail Foot Bridges (no facility number)

Camera facing southwest, showing footbridge over spillway.

Photo #187 Park Manager's Residence (PO-1)

West elevation, camera facing east, showing front elevation and main entrance.

Photo #188 Foreman's Residence (PO-3)

Camera facing west, showing front elevation and main entrance.

Photo #189 Comfort Station (PO-26)

Camera facing south, showing one of two entrances.

Photo #190 Comfort Station (PO-27)

South elevation, camera facing north, showing one of two entrances.

Photo #191 Rest Station (PO-28)

Camera facing north, showing one of two entrances.

Photo #192 Rest Station (PO-29)

Camera facing west, showing one of two entrances.

Photo #193 Latrine (PO-31)

Camera facing southeast, showing exterior utility sink.

Photo #194 Garage (PO-62)

Camera facing north, showing main entrance and garage door.

Photo #195 Shop Garage (PO-63)

West elevation (left) and south elevation (right), camera facing east southeast, showing main entrance and garage door.

Photo #196 Tractor Shed Storage Building (PO-65)

Camera facing west, showing main entrance.

Photo #197 Well House (PO-67)

East elevation, camera facing west, showing main entrance.

Photo #198 Storage Building (PO-73)

West elevation, camera facing east, showing main entrance.

Photo #199 Brick Incinerator (no facility number)

Camera facing northeast, showing access to firebox.

Poinsett	State	Park
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Photo #200 Brick Pillar (no facility number) Camera facing northwest.

Photo #201 Mill Ruins (no facility number) Camera facing south, showing mill foundation.

Photo #202 Primitive Campground (no facility number) Camera facing west, showing typical campsite.

Photo #203 Trails (non-CCC built) Camera facing west, showing typical modern trail.

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Figure 3: Small spillway under construction by Company 421. [Poinsett State Park Photograph Collection, SCDAH]—page 13

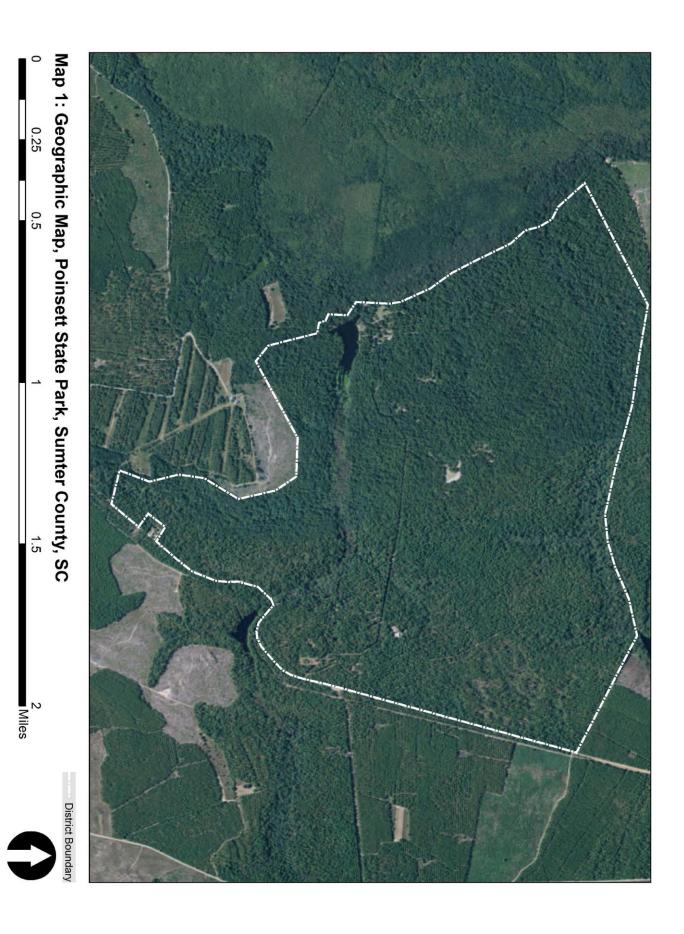
Figure 4: Large spillway showing concrete floor added by Company 2413. [Poinsett State Park Photograph Collection, SCDAH]—page 14

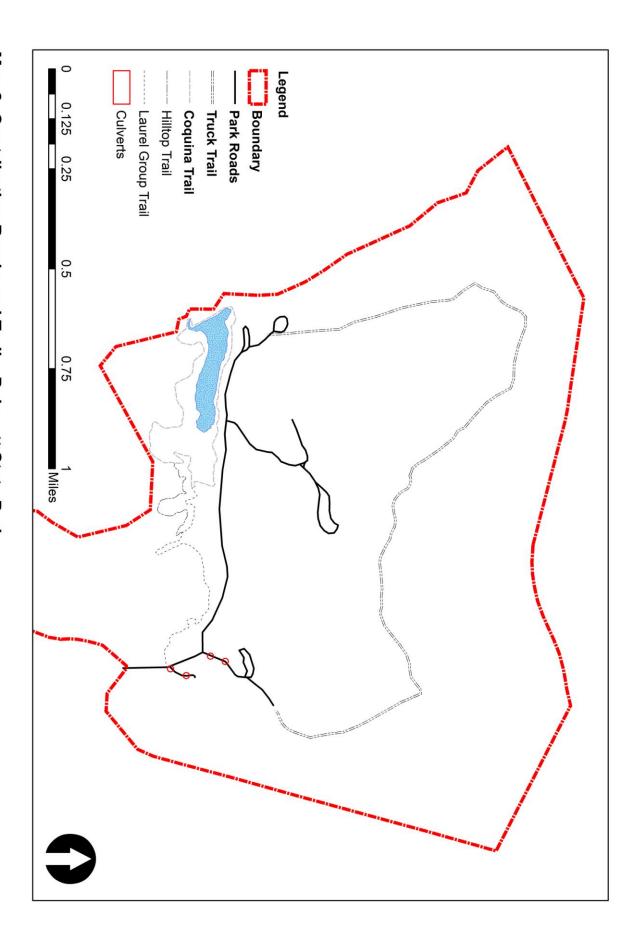
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Figure 8: Cabin being stained ["Poinsett State Park (SP-3)--No.110 Overnight cabin, being stained, Project 107-B", n.d. [ca. 1934-1942], Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) files (photographs), State Commission of Forestry Records, South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH), Columbia, S.C.]—page 40

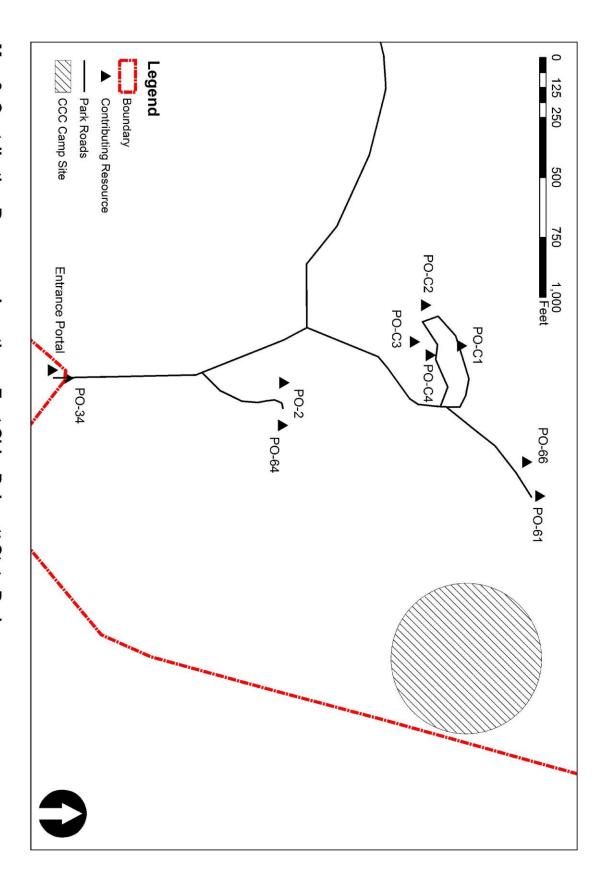
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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.

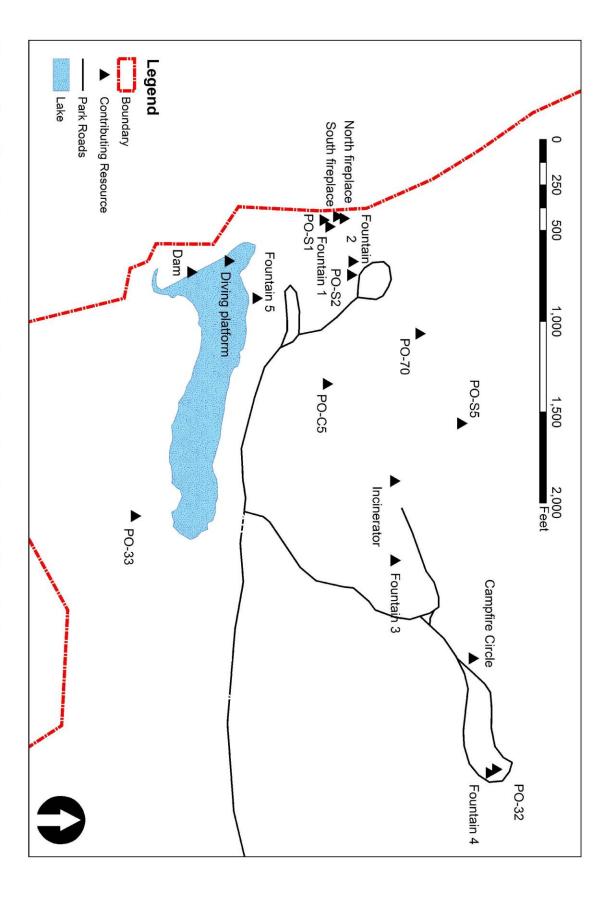




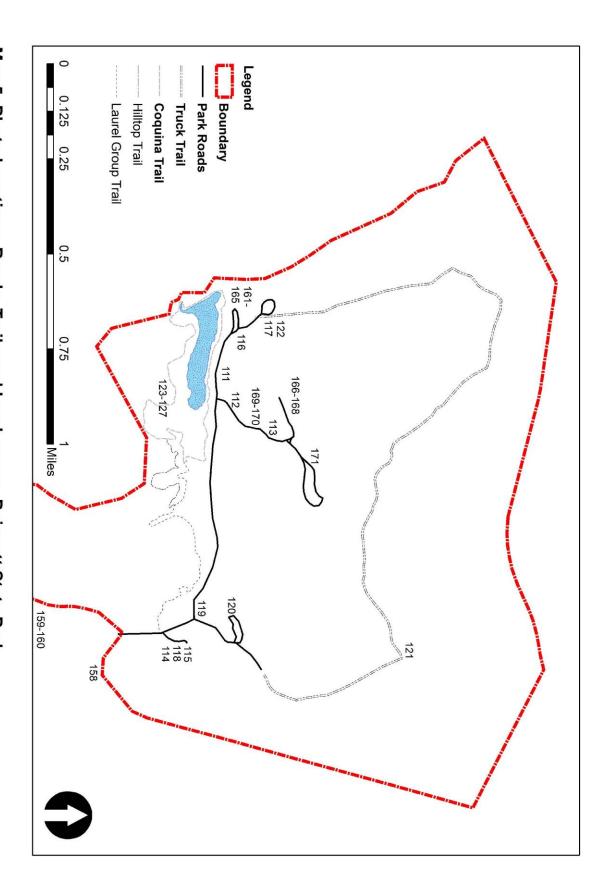
Map 2: Contributing Roads and Trails, Poinsett State Park



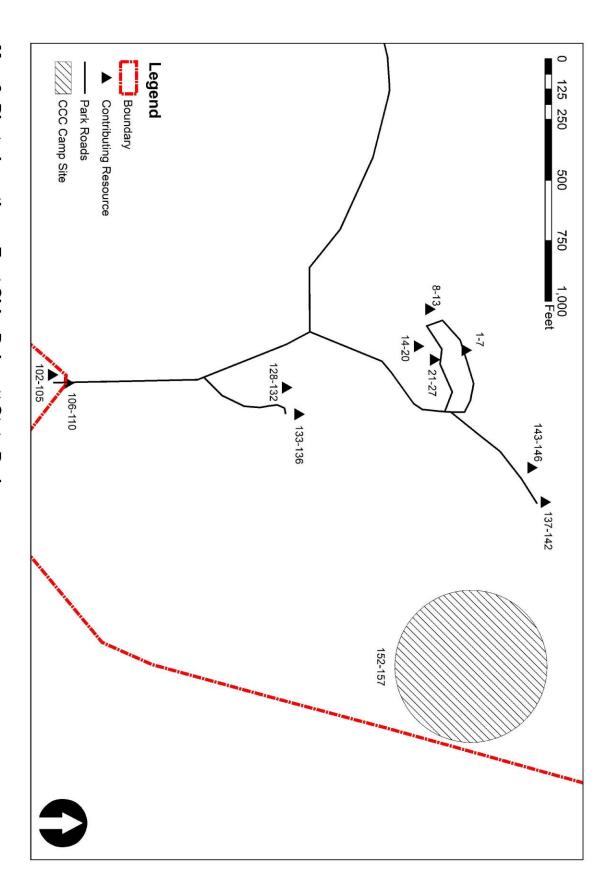
Map 3: Contributing Resources Locations, East Side, Poinsett State Park



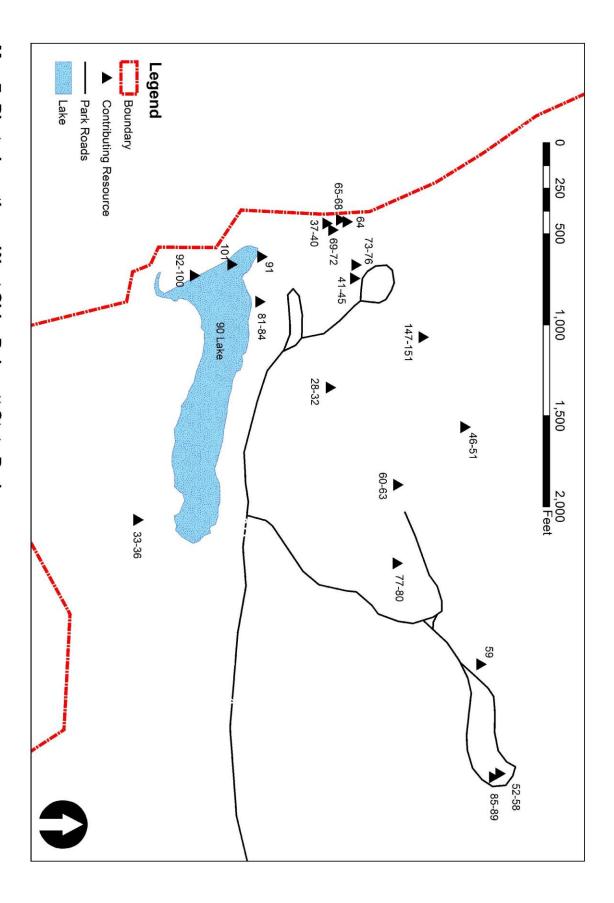
Map 4: Contributing Resources Locations, West Side, Poinsett State Park



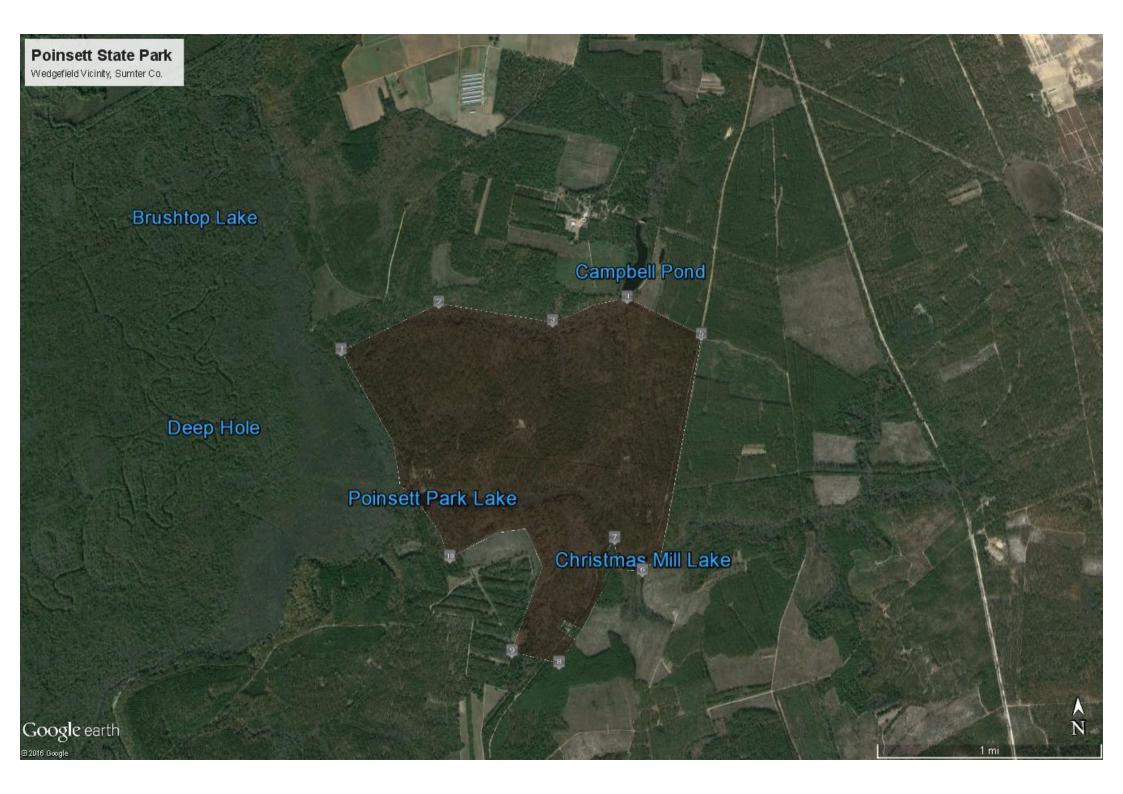
Map 5: Photo Locations, Roads, Trails and Landscapes, Poinsett State Park

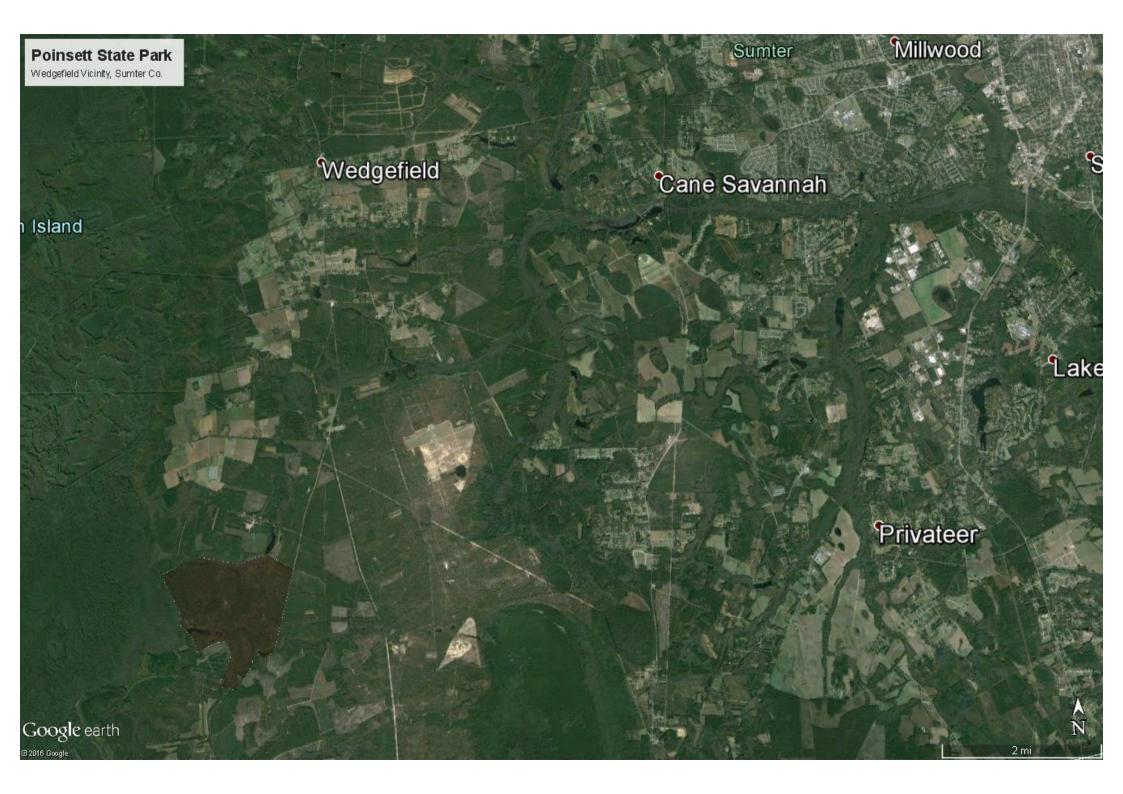


Map 6: Photo Locations, East Side, Poinsett State Park



Map 7: Photo Locations, West Side, Poinsett State Park



















































































































































































































































































MIKE GAUTHIER GERTRUDE KRUDD MIKER 7/21/60 TERRY ! AGNES GRIFFIN JIM GORDON SUSIE "BURP" John SEARS ETHEL GONS







































































































































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION
PROPERTY Poinsett State Park Historic District NAME:
MULTIPLE South Carolina State Parks MPS NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH CAROLINA, Sumter
DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/19/16 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/03/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/31/16 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000311
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:
COMMENT WAIVER: N
ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5.31.16 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.

April 6, 2016

RECEIVED 2280

APR 1 5 2016

Paul Loether National Register Chief U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service 1201 Eye (I) Street, NW (2280) Washington, DC 20005 Nat. Register of Historic Places National Park Service



Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed is the National Register nomination for Poinsett State Park in Sumter County, South Carolina. The nomination was approved by the South Carolina State Board of Review as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C at the statewide level of significance. We are now submitting this nomination for formal review by the National Register staff. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for Poinsett State Park to the National Register of Historic Places.

If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below, call me at (803) 896-6182, fax me at (803) 896-6167, or e-mail me at efoley@scdah.sc.gov.

Sincerely,

Ehren Foley, Ph.D.

Historian and National Register Coordinator

State Historic Preservation Office

8301 Parklane Rd.

Columbia, S.C. 29223