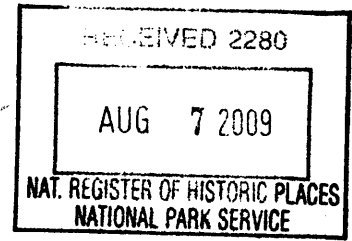


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name MILLERSYLVANIA STATE PARK

Other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 12245 Tilley Road not for publication

city or town Olympia vicinity

State Washington code WA county Thurston code 067 zip code 98512

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 8.5.09  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

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

[Signature] 9.16.09  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

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

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not incl. previously listed resources in the count.)

Number of Resources within Property		
Contributing	Non-Contributing	
15	30	buildings
2	3	sites
6	2	structures
16		objects
39	35	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing:**

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

N/A

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

None

**6. Functions or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Landscape

Sub: State Park

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and Culture

Sub: Outdoor Recreation - park

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: NPS Rustic Architecture

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation See continuation sheet

walls

roof

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Politics and Government,  
Entertainment/Recreation  
Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1933-1939

**Significant Dates.**

1933

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation****Architect/Builder**

Civilian Conservation Corps (builder)

Ernest Ebmeier/Ellsworth Storey (architects)

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

**Name of repository:**

Washington State Parks Headquarters

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreage of Property 842

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**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM References on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>10</u> Zone	<u>5</u>   <u>070</u>   <u>11E</u> Easting	<u>519</u>   <u>748</u>   <u>5N</u> Northing	3	<u>10</u> Zone	<u>508</u>   <u>07</u>   <u>8E</u> Easting	<u>519</u>   <u>467</u>   <u>0N</u> Northing
2	<u>10</u> Zone	<u>5</u>   <u>074</u>   <u>13E</u> Easting	<u>519</u>   <u>748</u>   <u>5N</u> Northing	4	<u>10</u> Zone	<u>504</u>   <u>95</u>   <u>9E</u> Easting	<u>519</u>   <u>464</u>   <u>2N</u> Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

See continuation sheet.

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

See continuation sheet.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Alex McMurry, Historic Preservation Planner  
organization Washington State Parks date 03/01/2009  
street & number 1111 Israel Road SW telephone (360) 902-0930  
city or town Olympia state WA zip code 98504-2650

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets****Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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

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name Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
street & number 1111 Israel Road SW telephone (360) 902-0930  
city or town Olympia state WA zip code 98504-2650

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet -

MILLERSYLVANIA STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT  
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## Narrative Description

The Millersylvania State Park Historic District is an 842-acre park that is located approximately eleven miles south of Olympia, Washington in Thurston County. Millersylvania State Park primarily serves as a public day and overnight-use park that provides camping and picnic facilities, hiking trails, water access for water activities, horseshoe pits, interpretive activities, and wildlife viewing.

The 39 contributing resources in the Millersylvania State Park Historic District are varied in character. Of these, no resources post-date the historic period of significance, 1933-1939. Most of the resources are in good to excellent condition.

## Setting

Millersylvania State Park is an expansive wooded tract situated in a second-growth stand of massive, mature Douglas-fir and Western Red cedar trees mixed with occasional old-growth conifers and native deciduous trees such as maple and alder, and includes 3,300 feet of shoreline on Deep Lake. Tilley Road and McCorkle Road both intersect the park and run parallel to the park's eastern and northern border, respectively. Millersylvania State Park is located approximately eleven miles from the state of Washington's capital, Olympia, in southwestern Washington State.

During the nineteenth century, the Miller family bought the park property from a homesteader, and called it "Miller's Glade" and later renamed it "Millersylvania." Early logging operations also existed within the current park boundaries, including the use of a railroad track by the Tacoma Mill Company until 1890. In 1921, the Miller's established a will to donate the property to the state of Washington with the agreement that the land be used as a park. Millersylvania State Park was established in 1923, although formal development of the park did not began until 1933 when the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) began construction on most the buildings and other features within the park, including entrance signs, fountains, and fire-rings. After 1939, the park continued its growth with the addition of another former homestead at the west end of Deep Lake (now the Environmental Learning Center (ELC)), campsites, and interpretive activities.

## Park Character

Millersylvania State Park's natural systems and features of the park that were present during Euro-American settlement are generally intact today and provided the basis for the formal park development. Many of the natural features of the lake, forests, wetlands and prairies would have been visible during the period of early exploration. The area is generally low marshes to the north of Deep Lake, with forested hills surrounding the low areas. The outlet of the lake, Spruce Creek, runs to the north through a manipulated opening at the northwest corner of the lake. The natural systems were modified during the

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homestead era when selective logging, land clearing and marsh filling operations were conducted. The northern shore of Deep Lake that is within the park boundary is the primary recreation site of the area and retains much of its original integrity. The shoreline undulates and is bordered by mature native evergreen and deciduous vegetation. With the exceptions of the bathing beaches and boat launches, the shore remains largely in its natural state. The vista along the lake's northern shore remains substantially intact, with mature vegetation lining the shore for most of its length. The lakes southern vista lacks the same integrity. Lying outside the boundary of the park, it has seen more severe impacts from development ranging from private homes to a small resort operation.

Other prominent vistas include those created by the homestead development around the lake by the Miller and the Taylor families. The Miller homestead orchard provides limited vistas within a larger cleared area. This vista is now interrupted by the intrusion of power transmission lines cutting through the north end of the clearing. The Taylor homestead site left a large open space at the west end of Deep Lake on a low rise, providing a vista both toward and away from the lake. The Taylor barn, located on the northern edge of the clearing is a significant feature of this vista. However, this historic vista is now interrupted by a small cluster of buildings that serve as bunkhouses for the Environmental Learning Center.

Two separate areas in the park have remnants of early settlement and agricultural use. Homestead farming, logging and recreation were the primary land uses of the pre-park era. The extant cultural landscape of this era features elements designed for agricultural use. These include open spaces devoted to crop farming, grazing operations, and formal plantings. The formal plantings include both the Miller family orchard and the small grove of lilacs at the site of the Taylor home. Evidence of once cultivated fields and orchards are visible today. The railroad grade, which leads from the northeast side of the lake to the north-northwest boundary of the park, was established in the late nineteenth century for logging operations.

Few of the circulation routes present in the park today reflect the early use by the homesteaders with the exception of Tilley Road, which was a branch off of the main North-South route between Puget Sound and Vancouver, Washington. However, the narrow-gauge railroad grade represents an industry circulation route from the pre-park era.

**Site Character**

The Millersylvania State Park Historic District encompasses the entire park and contains 39 buildings, structures and objects that originated with the CCC, as well as several other buildings and sites that precede the era of formal park development. The Depression-era cultural landscape consists of buildings, structures and sites associated with recreation development dating from 1933 to 1939. Though formal park construction began in 1933, there was no official Master Plan until 1939, although some documentation

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mentions a 1933 Landscape plan. It is believed that this “working plan” guided the initial development, and the Master Plan formally documented the completed park design. The Depression-era cultural landscape highlighted the natural beauty of the land and was greatly influenced by natural systems and features. The nearly flat shoreline sheltered by mature vegetation on the north side of the lake was identified as the primary area for picnic areas and bathing beaches. Campsites and circulation routes were located near the lake also to take advantage of the shelter of mature evergreen trees. The open spaces and wetlands were left undeveloped to provide a sense of expansiveness. The trail system interlaces the park meandering down the railroad grade, through the Miller orchard and around the Taylor barn.

The topography and natural features also influenced the development of the park roads system. With so much wetland, the road system was kept at a minimum, but there was wetland filling to create roads. The natural geology and vegetation of the area is also highlighted in the choice of building materials. Large logs and native rock are used in most buildings and structures. Where concrete was used, it was typically faced with Tenino sandstone to blend with the natural landscape, in keeping with the Rustic architecture lexicon.

Climatic conditions played a factor in the choice of recreation facilities during the Depression-era park development. To accommodate the cool and wet climate, the northwestern Depression-era projects typically included more shelters than are found in other parts of the country. Millersylvania State Park Historic District is no exception. The four large covered kitchens incorporate stone cooking stoves. Fireplaces also were developed in the day-use area to provide shelter from the sometimes inhospitable weather.

*Spatial Organization and Topography*

The park’s internal spatial organization is based on the development of separate day-use and overnight recreation areas that are linked by a central park access road. The overnight campground is nestled amongst towering timbers. It is separated from the day use areas by natural vegetation and the park access road. The day use areas focus on the lake. Trails link the campground to the day use areas as well as leading to scenic vistas and unique features such as the narrow-gauge railroad grade.

*Land Use Activities*

The primary land use was recreational and included day and overnight use by park visitors. Park facilities supported activities such as swimming, boating, picnicking, hiking and overnight camping. Other land uses such as the CCC camp and caretaker’s residences supported the primary recreation land use. Two features on the 1939 Master Plan were not implemented, including two softball fields and a tennis court, which were planned for a clearing to the north of the campground.

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*Cultural Traditions*

The park landscape strongly reflects the high craftsmanship and refined rustic design standards that are characteristic of national and state park planning efforts of the 1930s. The master planning process, adopted for state parks from procedures implemented by the National Park Service, included a cohesive design strategy for the entire park unit.

Thus, depending upon the size and purpose of the park, master plans usually included a variety of activity areas, including picnic areas, campgrounds, and specialized recreation areas (such as the bathing areas around the lake), maintenance areas, and circulation networks. All of these were included in the master plan for Millersylvania State Park.

Typical campgrounds from this era incorporated one-way loop roads with parking spurs creating individual campsites. Each campsite included a fireplace or fire-pit, camp table, and a cleared and leveled tent site. Large boulders or logs were often used to define edges and intersections of roads. Native trees and shrubs were planted to screen sites and provide individual privacy. Such is the campground design within the Millersylvania State Park Historic District.

Recreation and campground development also included the following: comfort stations, amphitheaters, water fountains, footpath systems, stone steps, bridges, campfire circles, scenic viewpoints, signage, swimming beaches, and terraced picnic areas. The use of native materials and rustic building traditions is a significant characteristic of park architecture and park planning from the 1930s. These characteristics are visible today within the Millersylvania State Park Historic District in the choice of local stones and logs for building materials used in the manager's residence, office and garage; ranger's residence, comfort stations, bathhouses, kitchens, blacksmith's shop, and oil-and-gas house. Care was also taken in situating the buildings, structures and circulation systems so that they would be subordinate to the surrounding natural landscape.

*Circulation*

The Millersylvania State Park Historic District has a two-way paved road leading from the entry around the north and west shore of the lake to the Environmental Learning Center (ELC). The campground is accessed from this roadway via a one-way road. Parking areas for the east and west bathing beaches are each accessed from one-way loop roads which branch from the main road. A hiking trail which begins just north of the main entry, leads roughly around the perimeter of the park, passing through the Miller Orchard site, and following at times the logging railroad grade. Spurs to the trail lead also from the campground at various locations. Paths through the woods or near the shoreline connect the day use areas.



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### *Cluster Arrangement*

Clustering is an important landscape characteristic within the formally developed park. On a large scale, each of the activity areas represents a cluster, with improvements sited and designed to accommodate the area's specific land use. The 1939 plan included several clusters: at the eastern bathing beach, at the western bathing beach and boat launch, at the secluded picnic area, the campground, the manager's residence and office, and the maintenance buildings cluster. Within each activity area, improvements were clustered in response to the surrounding landforms, vegetation, and circulation. Each of these areas is still used for the purposes stated in the original master plan. Typically, as in the boat launch area, a two-way access road entered the rear of the recreation area where it ended in a looped parking lot. Public facilities such as comfort stations were sited so that they were near to and visible from the parking areas. Other improvements, such as picnic shelters, are typically located at the edge of the forest or are screened from each other by native plant materials. Unlike modern examples of recreation planning, a visitor cannot park immediately next to a picnic area.

At Deep Lake, the kitchens, bathhouse and picnic areas are organized in a linear form that parallels the lake edge, thereby maximizing the use of the lakeshore. Typically, the structures are sited in close relation to the forest edge or other natural features, so that the structures are subordinate to the natural setting. Each cluster of structures tends to be framed by its natural surroundings so that visitor groups using the facility maintain some sense of privacy from other park users.

The 1939 Master Plan included a small campground with approximately 20 campsites which still exists today. The original campground loop appears to have included the main road and short loop. It is possible that the original sites have been adjusted over the years – the road has been paved and electrical hookups and water service has been added to each site. However, the general layout of the original campground is still visible even though the campground has been expanded over the years.

### *Views and Vistas*

Significant vistas from the bathing beaches are similar to pre-park development views from the lakeshore. The hiking trail offers views of the open meadow and marsh leading from the campground amphitheater as well. Important pre-park vistas and views were preserved in formal Depression-era park planning.

### Resource Character

The Millersylvania State Park Historic District contains pre-Depression and Depression-era buildings, structures, and landscapes, developed as part of the park master plan that contribute strongly to the historic character of the park and continue to add richness and texture to the designed function. These elements

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reflect the craftsmanship, native materials and naturalistic principles of design that are the hallmarks of the National Park Service (NPS) Rustic Architecture style adopted by the Washington State Park system.

The district reflects building styles that existed from 1900 to 1945, but primarily reflects the main era of park development in the 1930s. A minority of the district features were built prior to 1900. The main styles in the district are:

- NPS Rustic Architecture/National Park (*Modern Rustic*), characterized by the use of native materials in both the built and natural environment in order to subordinate built environment and designed landscape to the natural setting.
- Bungalow/Craftsman, characterized by low pitched roofs, wide overhang with exposed rafters, decorative braces or beams, porches, and pedestals or columns supporting roofs.
- Vernacular Cultural Landscapes, characterized by open cleared areas with features such as orchards, barns, and industrial remains (railroad grade).

The majority of the buildings in the Millersylvania State Park Historic District are constructed of logs and other native materials, especially Tenino sandstone and cedar shakes, in keeping with the NPS Rustic Architecture style.

Many of the buildings in the district have undergone some alteration over time. Some of the more common modifications included replacing deteriorated logs with pressure treated logs, replacing roofs, but with the same materials originally used, and the addition of new electrical fixtures and storm windows.

Structures, objects, and sites: Several structures, objects, and sites are located throughout the district including bridges, parking areas, fences, stone drinking fountains, fire-rings and fire-pits, stone and log signs, beaches, and homestead sites.

Many of these structures, objects, and sites have not been altered.

**Integrity and District Boundaries**

Overall, the Millersylvania State Park Historic District maintains a strong overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Most of the resources within the district maintain their historic integrity.

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“Historic, Contributing” resources were constructed during the district’s period of significance (1933-1939), relate to the documented historic significance of the district, and have integrity. Several of the contributing resources have been modified over time, but maintain their contributing status since these changes did not severely change its historic character and integrity. For example, deteriorated logs replaced with pressure treated logs, roofs replaced, but with the same materials originally used, and the addition of new electrical fixtures and storm windows, but the overall building maintained its architectural details and character defining features.

- Total number of Historic, Contributing resources in the district = 39

“Historic, Non-Contributing” resources were present during the district’s period of significance (1933-1939), but do not relate to the documented significance of the district, or lack integrity. Some of these historic resources have been significantly altered. These alterations included enclosure of porches and the use of modern materials including new siding and windows that compromised the resource’s integrity.

- Total number of Historic, Non-Contributing resources in the district = 6

“Non-historic, Non-contributing” resources in the district were constructed or significantly altered after 1939, and also lack documented historical significance within the district.

- Total number of Non-historic, Non-contributing resources in the district = 29

Cultural landscape features from the pre-park development era (1855-1923) that remain intact within the Millersylvania State Park Historic District are primarily limited to land use activities and vegetation, including an orchard and grove, the narrow gauge railroad grade, and farm clearings. Remaining buildings from this era include the reconstructed Taylor barn and the Barner House. Overall there is a high degree of integrity to all cultural landscape features from the Depression-era development era (1933-1939), particularly in the circulation networks, land use activities, buildings and structures and small-scale features. All of the activity areas originally constructed and shown on the Master Plan have survived intact and continue to serve visitors today. Although minor modifications have been made to some buildings, their rustic design has not been compromised and they retain sufficient integrity to warrant inclusion on the National Register.

The geography, natural resources, climate and accessibility to this landscape have changed little. In many ways the park’s location is much as it was from its earliest days of development and exhibits *integrity of*

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*location.* Design of the formal park has not changed since it was first developed in 1939, with the exception of the campground that has been expanded into undeveloped forestlands. The heavily wooded setting lessens the impact of these additions to an acceptable level. The setting is also intact with the exceptions of parts of the perimeter fence that has been reconstructed with in-kind materials and workmanship, the shoreline trail that has largely disappeared with development of adjoining properties, and changes to the Taylor homestead during development of the ELC. The park has good *integrity of design and setting.*

A hallmark of rustic park development is the use of native materials in both the built and natural environment in order to subordinate built environment and designed landscape to the natural setting. The Millersylvania State Park Historic District exhibits a high degree of *integrity of materials and workmanship*, throughout the original development and subsequent modifications. The overall park design and its pattern of use, as well as the character of the CCC-era buildings, contribute to the *integrity of feeling.* The Millersylvania State Park Historic District distinctly reflects *integrity of association* by its continued use and occupation as a place to swim, picnic, and camp, as well as for its relationship to the New Deal Depression work relief program, the Civilian Conservation Corps.

With the exception of the campground, which has been enlarged to the north in a large clearing, and the Environmental Learning Center, which was developed much later within the area of the former Taylor Homestead, the park has seen little change since its original development. Millersylvania State Park is still used today for recreational activities such as swimming, picnicking and camping as originally planned, and remains a fine example Depression-era state park development.

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**Inventory of Millersylvania State Park Historic District Resources**

Dates given in the following inventory are based Millersylvania State Park documents and other historical documents. Dates posted before or after the period of historical significance were verified through historical documents as well. Names for CCC-era buildings conform to the 1939 Master Plan for the park.

**Taylor Homestead Site [site]** **Built: c. pre-1900**

Style: n/a Builder/Architect: Taylor family

Rank: **Historic, Non-Contributing** ID#: 1

**Description:** The Taylor homestead sites cover 160 acres and consist of two large open spaces, with various remnants of the Taylor family's improvements, including lilac bushes and a barn. Taylor Homestead site #1 is located at the west end of Deep Lake on a low rise. The Taylor Homestead site incorporates two cleared areas, the first at the west end of Deep Lake on a low rise and the second further west beyond a low marsh area. These sites are bounded by mature vegetation on all sides.

**Alterations:** The cleared area was once much larger as shown on the 1934 and 1953 aerial photos of the area. The home is now gone, with the exception of a few foundation stones, but the lilacs remain to indicate the location of the house. The split rail fence once around the boundary of the homestead is no longer present.

**Taylor Barn [building]** **Built: 1976**

Style: Builder/Architect: Taylor family

Rank: **Non-Historic, Non-Contributing** ID#: 2

**Description:** The Taylor barn, originally constructed around 1900, is located on the northern edge of the eastern clearing established during the Taylor family tenure. It is a gable-roofed building, with the primary axis running east-west. The roof is clad with wood shakes, and the exterior walls are clad with cedar board and batten siding. It is a large open volume, supported by a heavy timber frame of logs that have not been squared. The frame rests on new concrete piers, and consists of four bays with three bents. The barn once contained a milking shed used by the Taylors in their cattle operation, but that component was removed, probably during the reconstruction. The barn is characterized by its placement in the clearing, its open volumes, timber frame, board and batten siding, shake roof with exposed rafters and purlins, and large openings in the gable ends that are not enclosed by doors of any type. The barn lies just northwest of the former Taylor home site and was constructed to store hay that the family produced after initial efforts of row crop farming and orchard planting had failed.

**Alterations:** The barn collapsed in 1976 and was reconstructed using many of the original timbers, siding, and roofing.

**Miller Homestead Orchard [site]** **Built: planted 1896**

Style: n/a Builder/Architect: Miller family

Rank: **Historic, Non-Contributing** ID#: 3

**Description:** The Miller Homestead orchard consists of a collection of various fruit trees and is located on the west side of Tilley Road, approximately one-quarter mile north of the park entrance. The features of the orchard include trees arranged in loose rows within a larger clearing bounded by mature evergreen trees to the north, west and east sides, and a wetland to the south. Not all of the original trees remain, but many are still present in the large grassy area in the northern half of the clearing and at the fringes on the southwest side.

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**Alterations:** The Miller home was destroyed by fire in the 1960s. However, it is present to both the 1934 and 1953 aerial photographs of the area as well as the 1939 plans for the park. The orchard once contained 179 trees including apple, pear, prune, and plum trees.

**Narrow-Gauge Railroad Grade [site]**

**Built: c. 1888**

**Style:** n/a

**Builder/Architect:** Tacoma Mill Company

**Rank:** Historic, Non-Contributing

**ID#:** 4

**Description:** The railroad grade that once served early logging operations in the area is still in existence to the north of the main entrance to the park. The track originated in Deep Lake to facilitate loading. These track remnants are still visible in the lake just to the south of the park boundary. The grade runs roughly north-northeast through mature vegetation on the north side of the main park entrance, approximately 0.1 mile north from Deep Lake. It runs for approximately 1.1 miles where it dies into Tilley Road. The railroad grade is characterized by a low rise in the land that cuts through the landscape in a straight line on a consistent gradient. The grade was used from the spring of 1888 through the fall of 1890 by the Tacoma Mill Company.

**Alterations:** Tracks and ties have been removed, portions re-graded.

**Barner House [building]**

**Built: c. 1920s**

**Style:** Craftsman

**Builder/Architect:** Barner family

**Rank:** Historic, Non-Contributing

**Site ID#:** 5

**Description:** The Barner house, located between the boat launch and the outlet to Spruce Creek, was built in the late 1920s by the Barner family of Chehalis, Washington. The house is a fair example of the Craftsman style, with a side gable roof and projecting gable over the front porch. The house once featured decorative molding at the rakes, and exposed rafter tails, typical of the style. Built as a primitive fishing cabin without plumbing or electricity, it is sited on a one-quarter acre parcel. It was used as a summer rental until the 1960s when it was purchased by Washington State Parks.

**Alterations:** Altered by Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission in 2005, the house has been re-sided and all windows have been replaced resulting in a significant loss of integrity.

**Caretaker's Residence [building]**

**Built: 1935**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 6

**Description:** The building is similar in design to "Caretaker's Residence – Type A" drawn by Elsworth Storey, National Park Service Architect, and is typical of many buildings found in national and state parks constructed during the Depression-era using native and natural materials.<sup>1</sup> The T-shaped one-story cottage is constructed of peeled, horizontal logs on a concrete foundation. The pattern of logs and joinery used provides a rich visual texture. The logs of the walls extend out at the corners of the building and are supported by extensions of concrete foundation below them. The building has a cross gabled roofline with cedar shakes and exposed rafters, purlins and beams. A central chimney allows a cobblestone fireplace to be located in the living room. The front porch is recessed under the north end of the roof, and has an open gable with log fretwork, with the date 1935 carved on the crosspiece. The porch shelters an entry door and there

<sup>1</sup> Historic Preservation Northwest, *Millersylvania State Park Cultural Resources Management Plan*, Olympia, WA, Washington State Parks, 2002, p. 36.

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is another door on the east façade facing Tilley Road. An unusual eave pattern exists at the rear elevation of the house. The eaves are shorter directly above the windows to allow more light into the living space. The windows are multi-light wood frame casement windows, ranging from 4, 10, 12 and 15 lights, and are protected by storm windows. A rubble stone retaining wall lines the east façade. A split rail fence borders the yard between the residence and the office, and frames the northern and eastern boundaries of the yard. The building is situated in close proximity to the combination Office/Garage and helps shield the view of the maintenance area, enhancing visitor perception of the park.

**Alterations:** In the 1960's a one-room log addition was completed in a compatible style but without the hand craftsmanship of the original cottage. A partial restoration was done in 1978-1979 using pressure treated logs to replace the deteriorated logs.

**Caretaker's Shop and Garage [building]**

**Built: 1935**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC /Elsworth Storey

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 7

**Description:** The Caretaker's Shop and Garage was inspired by Elsworth Storey's "Garage/Shop – Type A", but specifically modified for this park as it was used in combination with the standard Caretaker's Residence. It is located adjacent to the Caretaker's Residence close to the entrance of the park, and also close to the maintenance area of the park, and was built in 1935.<sup>2</sup> The Office/Garage utilizes similar log joinery as the Manager's Residence, and is constructed of native and natural materials upon a concrete foundation. The original wood garage doors and multi-paned windows are still intact. The gable roof and roofing substrate have been replaced, but the roof remains clad in cedar shakes.

**Alterations:** The interior was converted from a garage and shop to an office while retaining the integrity of the exterior in the late-1970s.

**Comfort Station #1 [building]**

**Built: 1935**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 8

**Description:** This building was constructed in 1935 and appears to have been inspired by Storey's "Comfort Station – Type A" plan.<sup>3</sup> This comfort station shares architectural characteristics with the other bathhouses and comfort stations in the park. The rectangular building features a gable roof with deep roof overhangs and exposed rafters, beams and purlins. Constructed of native materials, this comfort station includes a sandstone base. The walls are hand pitched sandstone laid in a random pattern on the lower 2/3 and large diameter logs on the upper 1/3 that frame the windows. The end elevations feature a small gable porch over the offset door with clerestory multi-paned fixed windows on the other side of each primary elevation. Vertical logs separate the windows. The porch is detailed with log brackets and cantilevered signage as well as rough sawn louvered screens. The pipe chase entry features the date "1935" carved in the log header above the doorway.

**Alterations:** At some point, presumably during the late-1970s, the windows were replaced with translucent glass and the original pane configuration was removed in favor of larger single panes. The building is currently used for storage.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, p. 38

<sup>3</sup> Good, Albert, *Park and Recreation Structures: Part I – Administration and Basic Service Facilities*, Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1938.

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**Kitchen #1 [building]**

**Built: 1935**

**Style: NPS Rustic**

**Builder/Architect: CCC**

**Rank: Historic, Contributing**

**Site ID#: 9**

**Description:** This building was constructed in 1935 and is located in the center of the cluster of resources that follow the shoreline of the lake near the east bathing beach, and is the closest kitchen shelter to the eastern bath house and concession stand. As with the other kitchens, it is near a comfort station (in this case #1, which is used as a storage facility). Constructed of native and natural materials, important features of the building include log column groups supporting the hip roof, small diameter log rafters and purlins, and the sandstone features of the building. These sandstone features include the central chimney with two separate cook stoves and stone supports for the central column groups on the north and south elevations. More open in feeling than Kitchen #2, this building is supported by massive corner piers and two central piers of battered sandstone each topped by a quartet of log columns, which are spanned by horizontal logs of graduated lengths which form wide arches. The interior contains a sandstone counter area with two sinks on the south wall.

**Alterations:** The kitchen has been modified but retains much of its original integrity of proportions and layout. The original railings were removed in the 1950's when the sandstone bases were added to the primary vertical members at all corners of the building. These added stone bases were removed at the corners in 2006, restoring the original configuration of the primary log support structure.

**Comfort Station #2 [building]**

**Built: 1935**

**Style: NPS Rustic**

**Builder/Architect: CCC**

**Rank: Historic, Contributing**

**Site ID#: 10**

**Description:** This building was constructed in 1935 and has the year inscribed in the lintel over the pipe chase entrance. Located at the east end of the day use area, it shares architectural characteristics with the other bathhouses and comfort stations in the park, being constructed of native materials including battered sandstone with occasional granite, large-diameter vertical logs, and cedar roof shakes. The gable-roofed rectangular building has typical elements including a sandstone base, large diameter log walls and a cedar shake shingled gable roof with widely overhanging eaves and exposed log rafters, beam and purlins. The sandstone was hand pitched and laid in a random pattern. The end elevations feature a small gable porch over the offset door and multi-paned wood cased fixed windows east and west elevations. The porch is detailed with log brackets, wood horizontal louvers filling the upper third of the wall, and cantilevered signage. Although, it is currently used as a storage building, this building retains its physical integrity.

**Alterations:** In 1978-1979 the building underwent rehabilitation. The original multi-light wood casement windows were replaced with single sheets of translucent glass, though the openings remain in their original size and configuration. Ceramic tile and plastic laminate were added to the interior floors and counters. All floors, as well as other wood elements which were deteriorated, were replaced with pressure treated wood.

**Park House/Concession Stand [building]**

**Built: 1936**

**Style: NPS Rustic**

**Builder/Architect: CCC / Jack Paterson**

**Rank: Historic, Contributing**

**Site ID#: 11**

**Description:** The Park House is located south of Comfort Station #1 behind the Kitchens and Bathhouse on the east-bathing beach, near the center of the day use portion of the park and along a wide pathway. The rectangular building, which has a large overhanging gable roof with exposed log rafters, beams and purlins, supported by log brackets on the front façade, was designed to provide shelter to concession customers. As with all of the park buildings, it is constructed



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of native and natural materials on a concrete foundation with a battered sandstone base laid in a random pattern, with large diameter logs laid upon the base. A small gable roofed projection, measuring approximately ten by four feet, is located on the north end of the west façade near the main entry door. A similar addition is located on the east side of the north elevation. Originally, the Park House included a flagstone chimney, which was removed when a bathroom was added to the house. The building was originally used as a concession stand (southern half of the building), with a living quarters for park staff in the northern half.

**Alterations:** During a modernization effort (date unknown), the addition of a shower prompted removal of the flagstone chimney. It was replaced with a sheet metal flue, and 8-inch log gutters were removed. Storm windows were added to protect the original six pane wood frame casement windows. The large banks of windows on the southern end of the building replaced early wood shutters, hinged at the top, for the concessionaire's service windows. Despite these changes, which can be reversed, the building retains sufficient physical integrity to qualify for as a contributing feature within the district.

**Kitchen #2 [building]**

**Built: 1936**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC / Ernest Ebmeier

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 12

**Description:** Also known as the combination building, this building was constructed in 1936. It is located near the east bathing beach area. Ernest Ebmeier designed it to be used as a communal building, and it is the largest and most elaborate of the kitchens within the Millersylvania State Park Historic District.<sup>4</sup> Constructed of native and natural materials on a concrete foundation, it shares architectural characteristics with other buildings in the park. The exterior features include a sandstone base, large diameter log walls laid horizontally, and a cedar shake clad hip roof with widely overhanging eaves and exposed log rafters, beams, and purlins. The sandstone facing has a battered configuration and is laid in a random pattern. The center cross gable runs to its north and south façade beneath which are large doorways with heavy double doors, flanked by banks of multi-paned windows on the south (lake facing) façade and oblong openings on the north façade. The building is organized into two parts: a kitchen with a central chimney fed by three cook stoves in the eastern end and a community room with a massive stone fireplace against the west end of the north façade. The porch and glazing are sensitively located to provide shelter from the prevailing winds.

**Alterations:** In 1984-1985, Kitchen #2 was torn down to the sandstone base and exactly reconstructed using native logs and wood which had been pressure treated. The chimneys were re-pointed and new electrical fixtures were installed in a sensitive manner to hide the wiring.

**Bathroom #1 [building]**

**Built: 1936**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC / Jack Paterson

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 13

**Description:** Completed in 1936, this is a long rectangular one-story building with a deep overhanging gable roof with exposed log rafters, beam and purlins. The building is constructed of battered sandstone laid in a random pattern and upper walls of peeled horizontal wide diameter logs. The wide central entry features the a check room for bathers' belongings, and opens to enclosed dressing chambers on the east and west ends of the building. The entry features a shed

<sup>4</sup> Historic Preservation Northwest, *Millersylvania State Park Cultural Resources Management Plan*, Olympia, WA, Washington State Parks, 2002, p. 42.

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roof raised off the shallow gable roof and is supported by wide sandstone piers. These freestanding piers are wider than the roofline and curve gently back from the base to the roofline, creating an interesting detail. Originally, the dressing chambers had skylights but no windows. There are still no windows in the dressing areas.

**Alterations:** Although the original skylights have been removed, the exterior maintains good integrity. The interior was rehabilitated in 1978-1979, including the replacement of original interior materials in favor of ceramic tile and plastic laminate (as with Comfort Station #1).

**Kitchen #4 [building]**

**Built: c. 1936**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 14

**Description:** This building is located in the cluster of buildings near the western bathing beach and boat launch area. Oriented parallel to the lake and positioned at the top of a slight rise, it is constructed upon a concrete foundation with a sandstone base laid in a random pattern upon which rest large diameter logs. As with all of the park buildings, it is constructed of natural and native materials and features hand craftsmanship throughout. Important features include log walls utilizing the similar joinery to other buildings in the park, sandstone base, and cedar shake shingles on a hip roof with deeply overhanging eaves and exposed log rafters, beams, and purlins. The main entry is centered on the north façade, under a gable roof that projects from the main hip roof. The interior contains two sandstone cook stoves, which feed a single battered sandstone chimney, and two sinks located at the northeast and southeast corners. Interior logs are peeled, stained and varnished. There are multi-paned windows in groupings of four on the east and west ends of the lake facing façade (south) for protection from the prevailing winds.

**Alterations:** This building was completely reconstructed in 1983-1984 using pressure treated native logs and the same sandstone according to the original design.

**Bathroom #2 [building]**

**Built: 1937**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 15

**Description:** Completed in 1937, this building is situated at the edge of the lawn area near the boat launch and the west bathing beach and surrounded by mature evergreen trees, it combines dressing chambers, rest rooms, attendant's station and concession area under one roof with open walkways between the individual units. The central unit is a T-shaped building housing the bathrooms at opposite ends, with a shorter central south-facing projection that houses the concessions and attendant's station. The dressing chambers are separate roughly square facilities located approximately twelve feet to the east and west of the concessions unit and connected only by the roof. The double cross gabled roof has deeply overhanging eaves with exposed log rafters, beams and purlins. The building walls are constructed primarily of battered sandstone laid in a random pattern with clerestory windows separated by vertical logs in the upper walls. Horizontal logs make up the remaining upper portions of the buildings above the stone. This was the last primary building completed during the initial period of formal park development (1933-1939).

**Alterations:** Originally, the dressing chambers had skylights that have been removed. Restoration work was done in 1978 when deteriorated logs were replaced with pressured treated native logs and the windows were replaced with yellow tinted translucent glazing. Also interior modifications included replacement of original materials with ceramic tile and plastic laminate, as with Bathroom #1. Despite these reversible window glazing alterations, the building retains sufficient integrity to qualify for inclusion on the National Register.

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**Comfort Station #3 [building]**

**Built: 1935**

**Style: NPS Rustic**

**Builder/Architect: CCC**

**Rank: Historic, Contributing**

**Site ID#: 16**

**Description:** Along with Kitchen #3, this building is more isolated than the other clusters of buildings, located away from the shoreline of the lake, set amongst mature evergreen trees at the top of a small plateau above the surrounding marsh. The building was constructed in 1935, and like the other comfort stations at the park, appears to be modeled after NPS Rustic Park Architecture style "Comfort Station - Type A," designed by Ellsworth Storey. This comfort station shares architectural characteristics with the other bathhouses and comfort stations in the park. Constructed of native materials, it featured battered sandstone with occasional granite, large diameter logs, and cedar roof shakes. Typical elements include a sandstone base, walls that are sandstone on the lower 2/3 and horizontal large diameter peeled logs on the upper 1/3 with multi-paned windows set into the horizontal logs, and a cedar shake roof. The sandstone was battered and laid in a random pattern. The building is rectangular in shape with a gable roof. The east and west elevations feature a small gable porch over the door and offset multi-paned wood cased fixed windows. The porches are well detailed, as is the entire building. The horizontal logs gradually increase in length towards the roof, providing an interesting profile and contrast to the battered sandstone base.

**Alterations:** This building has been minimally altered since its construction, but alterations include the replacement of the original glazing and signs, and a few small logs have been replaced.

**Kitchen #3 [building]**

**Built: c. 1930s**

**Style: NPS Rustic**

**Builder/Architect: CCC**

**Rank: Historic, Non-Contributing**

**Site ID#: 17**

**Description:** Along with Comfort Station #3, this building is more isolated than the other building clusters, located away from the shoreline of the lake, set amongst mature evergreen trees at the top of a small plateau above the surrounding marsh. Constructed upon a concrete foundation it has a battered sandstone base laid in a random pattern upon which rest massive corner posts of large diameter peeled logs cross-braced to two other log posts set approximately eight feet from each corner which support a cedar shake hip roof with deeply overhanging eaves and exposed log roof rafters, beams and purlins. Other important features include natural and native materials and hand craftsmanship throughout. The interior contains two cook stoves, which feed a central sandstone chimney.

**Alterations:** This structure has been extensively altered from the original plans. It originally appeared closer in appearance to Kitchen 1, with horizontal log walls featuring wide windows. At an unknown date, the structure was nearly entirely rebuilt with only vertical log supports and a few diagonal braces. The central chimney and sandstone and concrete foundation are all that remain of the original building at this site. Due to the extensive alteration, the building does not reflect its historic appearance and does not contribute to the larger district.

**Main Office [building]**

**Built: c. 1934**

**Style: NPS Rustic**

**Builder/Architect: CCC**

**Rank: Historic, Non-contributing**

**Site ID#: 18**

**Description:** The Main Office Building is one of four historic period buildings on the east side of Tilley Road, and is on the south side of the current Southwest Region Headquarters complex. Originally constructed as a tool and storage building, the building sits under a gable roof with the main ridge running east-west. The building is divided into bays by log columns at the exterior. This building was one of the first constructed by the CCC for park maintenance and development purposes, and like the others in this complex it is one of the only buildings in the park with non-load bearing

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exterior stud walls. The vertical logs support the roof structure, and the walls essentially fill in behind the logs.

**Alterations:** Originally designed as a storage building, it was converted into an office building in the 1960's, significantly compromising its integrity. The exterior wall materials and windows were replaced, and only the arrangement of the primary structural members (vertical logs) relates to the historic period.

**Blacksmith's Shop/Conference Room [building]** **Built: c. 1935**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC / Jack Paterson

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 19

**Description:** The blacksmith's shop is a one-story rectangular building of wood frame construction. Its gable roof, covered with cedar shakes, has wide overhangs and wide fascia boards. The roofline is broken by a stone chimney on the west façade. Walls are clad in vertical board siding, with log pilasters at the corners and between the windows. The front (east) façade has a central entry door flanked by multi-paned windows. Sidewalls are lit by paired multi-paned casements.

**Alterations:** The building has been converted to a conference room and meeting space, but the exterior appearance is close to the original. The vertical log pilasters and siding retain their historic appearance, but a window was added on the north elevation during the conversion. The main door was also replaced, but within the historic opening. The exterior appearance has changed slightly with the new door and windows, but the essential form of the building retains enough integrity to contribute to the larger district.

**Garage/Storage [building]** **Built: c. 1935**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC / Ernest Ebmeier

**Rank:** Historic, Non-contributing

**Site ID#:** 20

**Description:** The garage is an elongated wood frame building; its gable roof covered in cedar shakes. Divided into bays by vertical log members supporting the roof, the building historically featured outswinging bay doors on the entire west elevation. Log columns separate the bays, and the spaces between the logs were simply framed and clad with board and batten siding.

**Alterations:** This building has been converted to office space, and the bay doors were removed and the spaces infilled with stud walls. New windows are present on all façades, and much of the siding has been replaced with modern sheet siding. Though the west façade has been extensively modified, to enclose the garage bays, the original design is still evident. However, the choice of modern materials has compromised the integrity to the point that the building does not contribute to the larger district.

**Oil and Gas House [building]** **Built: c. 1936**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC / Jack Paterson

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 21

**Description:** As with all park buildings, it was constructed using native and natural materials. Constructed on a concrete foundation, the building has a front gable roof clad with cedar shingles. The primary supports for the roof structure are the vertical logs, augmented by 6" x 6" posts on the northern corners. The building is traditionally framed between the logs with stud walls and clad with board and batten siding with scalloped ends. The building floor is elevated as originally the gas and oil stored in the building was delivered by truck and unloaded on the southern loading platform.

**Alterations:** The Oil and Gas House has been converted to office space, but the exterior retains its historic appearance with the exception of modern vinyl windows that have replaced the original sash. Visually the building retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the larger district.

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**Drinking Fountains (9 total) [object]**

**Built: 1934-1938**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

**Description:** A number of small-scale features developed as part of the park master plan continued to add richness and texture to the designed park landscape. These features contribute strongly to the historic character of the park structure and clusters. These elements reflect the craftsmanship, native materials, and naturalistic principles of design found in the larger built features of the park. The Depression-era cultural landscape of the Millersylvania State Park Historic District has nine drinking fountains which still remain as indicated on the 1939 plan. Constructed of hand carved Tenino Sandstone and worn from years of use, these fountains are approximately three feet in height with stone steps leading up to the fountain for children at some locations. Either one or two steps are present leading up to the monolithic fountains. The fountains also feature a smooth bowl shape carved into the top to provide a drainage basin and collection area. These fountains were featured in Good's Park and Recreation Structures as model prototypes for stone fountains nationwide.

**Alterations:** n/a

**Fire-ring #1, 2, 3, 4, 5 [object]**

**Built: 1934-1938**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 31, 32, 33, 34, 35

**Description:** There are five fire-rings still existing within the Millersylvania State Park Historic District. Two of the fire rings (one near Kitchen #3 and one near Kitchen #4) retain their original stone bench supports surrounding the ring. Constructed of hand split, pitched faced Tenino sandstone and worn from years of use, these fire rings are all located in the day use area of the park. The stones are laid in a circle approximately six feet in diameter, and extend beneath the surrounding grade approximately one to two feet.

**Alterations:** Some log benches missing, but base stones are intact.

**Fire-pit [object]**

**Built: c. 1930s**

**Style:** n/a

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 36

**Description:** There is one open fire pit still existing within the Millersylvania State Park Historic District. Located in the picnic area near the eastern bathing beach, features a large monolithic stone at one end and a lower area with stones at the side, creating a rectangular fire area. The side stones are flattened at the top, historically used for a grate or grill.

**Alterations:** n/a

**Signs #1, 2 [structure]**

**Built: c. 1935**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing (?)

**Site ID#:** 37, 38

**Description:** There were a number of signs constructed during the Depression-era development at various locations throughout the park, but only two still exist on Tilley Road today. Sign #1 is just south of the main entrance to the park on the east side of the road, and Sign #2 is on the west side of the road at the north end of the park property. Constructed of a single log flattened on one side and inscribed with the title "Millersylvania State Park," these signs sit on a base of hand split, pitched faced Tenino sandstone. The main log is elevated above the stone by a pair of small saddle logs located near the ends of the sign.

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**Alterations:** The original finish on the log portions of the sign no longer remains, as they have been painted. However, they have the same general appearance as the original.

**Stone Steps [structure] Built: c. 1937**

**Style:** NPS Rustic

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 39

**Description:** These features were built as part of a larger circulation route along the north shoreline of Deep Lake. The trail appears on the 1939 Master Plan, but the steps are not located on this drawing. The four sets of steps that remain are all that is left of the trail, as many of the other parts of the trail have become overgrown or have vanished into the lake. They are constructed of hand split, pitched faced Tenino sandstone and are worn from many years of use. Each tread is approximately three feet wide, made from a single stone. There are eight steps in each set. The sides are lined with vertically mounted stones.

**Alterations:** n/a

**Parking Area #1, 2 [structure] Built: c. 1936**

**Style:** n/a

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Historic, Contributing

**Site ID#:** 40, 41

**Description:** Parking Area #1 and #2 were built by the CCC in two locations, adhering to the campground development scheme of utilizing one-way traffic patterns. They are narrow loop roads lined on two sides by clearing areas for parking. The parking areas are defined by the clearings. Parking Area #1, the eastern parking area, has vegetation in the median, and Parking Area #2, the western area, is clear in the center of the loop. These parking areas feature a paved circulation system, with grassy clearings for vehicle parking. The areas are bounded by mature deciduous and evergreen vegetation, with log barricades in the center of the western parking lot.

**Alterations:** The paving was not an original feature of the lots, but the log barricades were included.

**Bridge #1 [structure] Built: c. 1935**

**Style:** n/a

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Non-Historic, Non-contributing

**Site ID#:** 42

**Description:** Bridge #1 is a vehicle/foot bridge on the service road going west to the current Environmental Learning Center. The structure is fifteen feet long and eleven feet wide and features battered granite boulder arching foundation piers.

**Alterations:** The original timber beams on the road bed have been replaced with steel, and the road crossing the bridge has been paved.

**Bridge #2 [structure] Built: c. 2000**

**Style:** n/a

**Builder/Architect:** CCC

**Rank:** Non-Historic, Non-Contributing

**Site ID#:** 43

**Description:** Bridge #2 is a foot bridge leading west from the western parking lot. Approached by a boardwalk, the short bridge crosses Spruce Creek. It is fifteen feet long and approximately three feet wide.

**Alterations:** The current bridge has replaced the original bridge in this location, and has been entirely rebuilt.

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**Bathing Beach #1, 2 [site]**

**Built: c. 1935**

Style: n/a

Builder/Architect: CCC

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 44, 45

**Description:** There are two bathing beaches, both on the north shore of Deep Lake. The bathing beaches were once surrounded by floating docks with diving platforms, but are now surrounded by buoy lines. The beaches were cleared and graded to provide a suitable clearing next to the lake for sunbathing and swimming. Each bathing beach is a designed element of the landscape, with an integral bathhouse at the north side of the beach. The beaches are defined by their boundaries, with the lake serving as the southern boundary, a bathhouse serving as the northern boundary, and mature vegetation serving as eastern and western boundaries. The open spaces are grassy, with sand near the water's edge. The opening itself is the primary feature of these places, containing access to both the lake and the bathhouse at each beach.

**Alterations:** n/a

**Fence [structure]**

**Built: c. 1934**

Style: split-rail

Builder/Architect:

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 46

**Description:** A split-rail fence of overlapping rails and notched posts is present at various locations within the park, primarily near the park entrance on Tilley Road. One of the first features of the park to be constructed, it is built of hand split cedar. The fence is both representative of the kind that were constructed on the Miller and Taylor homesteads as one of the required improvements, as well as representative of a Depression-era park development boundary barrier.

**Alterations:** Deteriorated rails and posts have been replaced over time with in-kind materials.

**Miller Family Memorial [object]**

**Built: 1935**

Style: n/a

Builder/Architect: Unknown

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 47

**Description:** Located to the north of Bath House #1 and near the east parking area, the memorial is a huge monolithic granite stone set into the ground with a polished face and etched letters. A historic photo of the monument places it on the site by July of 1935. The monument reads "Millersylvania Park / Given to the People / of the / State of Washington / by / Frederick J.X. Miller / Christine Mary Miller / Matilda Sophia Miller / to be used as a State Park / Forever".

**Alterations:** n/a

**Pump House [building]**

**Built: 1934**

Style: NPS Rustic

Builder/Architect: CCC

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 48

**Description:** The Pump House is centrally located within the park's day use area just east of Comfort Station #1. The building rests on a concrete foundation that extends approximately 4 ½ feet below grade to the floor. The building was constructed to house a small tank and well pump feeding the park's original reservoir. The building is approached by a stair leading down to the floor, which is covered by an extension of the main gable. The building sits low on the landscape, constructed of horizontal logs set on the concrete foundation. The roof is clad with cedar shakes.

**Alterations:** The building's only alteration is the removal of the diagonal logs bracing the posts supporting the gable extension over the entry.

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**Environmental Learning Center (ELC) Administrative Cluster [4 buildings]** **Built: 1956-1961**

**Style:** PanAbode **Builder/Architect:** WSPRC / Pan-Abode

**Rank:** Non-historic, Non-contributing **Site ID#:** 49

**Description:** The ELC Administrative Cluster is located on a low rise to the west of Deep Lake in a clearing that was formerly part of the Taylor Homestead. The complex includes four buildings, one shed, and one picnic shelter. The main building, the dining hall, was designed by the Pan-Abode Company for State Parks. Pan-Abode buildings are prefabricated stacked cedar log building packages, with individual logs typically 4"x6" joined by a tongue and groove system. The dining hall seats up to 150 people. In addition, there are three cabins used for administration, an infirmary, and staff housing. The cabins are also prefabricated building kits, with horizontal board siding below the window sill level, plywood panels above, and a simple gable roof. This cluster was initially developed in 1956 with the construction of the dining hall, and by 1961 the smaller auxiliary structures were in place. The small buildings have been somewhat rearranged on the site since they were constructed, but are in the same general area. Because they were constructed outside of the period of significance for the park, these buildings are considered non-contributing to the district.

**Alterations:** Smaller buildings shifted within the cluster, miscellaneous upgrades to utilities.

**Environmental Learning Center (ELC) Meadow Cluster [5 buildings]** **Built: 1956**

**Style:** n/a **Builder/Architect:** WSPRC

**Rank:** Non-historic, Non-contributing **Site ID#:** 50

**Description:** The ELC Meadow Cluster is located in a small clearing to the north of the Administrative Cluster. This cluster, constructed in 1956, features five buildings including four eight-person cabins and a small shower house. Three of the four cabins are identical in construction to the staff cabins at the Administrative Cluster, with horizontal board siding below the window sill level and plywood siding above with a simple front gable roof. The fourth cabin is entirely clad with plywood siding. Because they were constructed outside of the period of significance for the park, these buildings are considered non-contributing to the district.

**Alterations:** Buildings shifted within the cluster c. 1961, miscellaneous upgrades to utilities.

**Environmental Learning Center (ELC) Forest Cluster [4 buildings]** **Built: 1956**

**Style:** n/a **Builder/Architect:** WSPRC

**Rank:** Non-historic, Non-contributing **Site ID#:** 51

**Description:** The ELC Forest Cluster is located at the edge of the clearing containing the Meadow Cluster. This cluster, constructed in 1956, features four eight-person cabins. All four cabins are identical in construction to the staff cabins at the Administrative Cluster, with horizontal board siding below the window sill level and plywood siding above with a simple front gable roof. Because they were constructed outside of the period of significance for the park, these buildings are considered non-contributing to the district.

**Alterations:** Buildings shifted within the cluster c. 1961, miscellaneous upgrades to utilities.

**Environmental Learning Center (ELC) Swamp Cluster [4 buildings]** **Built: 1956**

**Style:** n/a **Builder/Architect:** WSPRC

**Rank:** Non-historic, Non-contributing **Site ID#:** 52

**Description:** The ELC Swamp Cluster is located in a small clearing directly east of the Administrative Cluster. This cluster, constructed in 1956, features four eight-person cabins. All four cabins are identical in construction to the staff cabins at the Administrative Cluster, with horizontal board siding below the window sill level and plywood siding above



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with a simple front gable roof. Because they were constructed outside of the period of significance for the park, these buildings are considered non-contributing to the district.

**Alterations:** Buildings shifted within the cluster c. 1961, miscellaneous upgrades to utilities.

**Environmental Learning Center (ELC) Desert Cluster [5 buildings]** **Built: 1956**

**Style:** n/a **Builder/Architect:** WSPRC

**Rank:** Non-historic, Non-contributing **Site ID#:** 53

**Description:** The ELC Desert Cluster is located at the western end of the clearing that was formerly part of the Taylor Homestead at the west end of Deep Lake. This cluster, constructed in 1956, features four eight-person cabins and a restroom. All four cabins are plywood sided with shallow front gable roofs. Because they were constructed outside of the period of significance for the park, these buildings are considered non-contributing to the district.

**Alterations:** Buildings shifted within the cluster c. 1961, miscellaneous upgrades to utilities.

**Campground Comfort Station (Building 15)** **Built: c. 1956**

**Style:** Pan-Abode **Builder/Architect:** WSPRC / Pan-Abode

**Rank:** Non-historic, Non-contributing **Site ID#:** 54

**Description:** This comfort station is located within the original campground loop at Millersylvania on the northern edge. Designed by the Pan-Abode Company, it was added to the park to replace the CCC-built pit toilets in the center of the campground loop. Pan-Abode buildings are readily identifiable as such due to their assembly method. Because it was constructed outside of the period of significance for the park, this building is considered non-contributing.

**Alterations:** Miscellaneous upgrades to utilities and interior finishes.

**Campground Comfort Station (Building 17)** **Built: c. 1957**

**Style:** n/a (concrete block) **Builder/Architect:** WSPRC

**Rank:** Non-historic, Non-contributing **Site ID#:** 55

**Description:** This comfort station is located within the original campground loop at Millersylvania on the northern edge. It is typical of midcentury comfort stations built by WSPRC, featuring CMU walls, a shallow gable roof, and nearly full length windows on the east and west elevations. The building is divided into two sides (men's and women's) plus a pipe chase between the two. Because it was constructed outside of the period of significance for the park, this building is considered non-contributing.

**Alterations:** Miscellaneous upgrades to utilities and interior finishes.

**Campground Comfort Station (Building 19)** **Built: c. 1997**

**Style:** n/a **Builder/Architect:** WSPRC

**Rank:** Non-historic, Non-contributing **Site ID#:** 56

**Description:** This comfort station is located north of the original camp loop at the western edge of the clearing containing the campground area that was expanded and redeveloped in the late-1990s. The building features a nod to the CCC past of the park through the use of exterior log and stone details. Because it was constructed outside of the period of significance for the park, this building is considered non-contributing.

**Alterations:** n/a

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**Campground Contact Station (Building 55)**

**Built: c. 1997**

**Style:** n/a

**Builder/Architect:** WSPRC

**Rank:** Non-historic, Non-contributing

**Site ID#:** 57

**Description:** This contact station is located alongside the primary entrance road to the park and serves as both a contact station and small store. It is clad with board and batten siding covered by a side gable wood shake clad roof. The building has a drive-up window on the east façade and the main entry door is located on the south side. The building sits between the two one-way entry and exit roads. It's design and materials echo those used by the CCC. Because it was constructed outside of the period of significance for the park, this building is considered non-contributing.

**Alterations:** n/a

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### SUMMARY

Millersylvania State Park Historic District, a forested tract surrounding a small lake in the south Puget Sound region of Western Washington developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), reflects distinctly the contributions of Depression-era New Deal relief programs to our social history. These programs provided a humanitarian influence on unemployed young men by providing meaningful work and also resulted in vital conservation of our natural environment efforts through the development of state and national parks. Millersylvania State Park Historic District also has several fine examples of rustic park architecture, a style that uses extensive and high quality stone and timber construction using local available resources. The park is significant under criterion A for its associations with the New Deal programs that represent a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history and is also significant under criterion C for its representation of high artistic values, having distinctive characteristics of rustic park architecture. Millersylvania State Park Historic District maintains a high degree of integrity: it is in use as it was originally planned as a camping and swimming park, has survived without significant alteration, and it is representative of the Depression-era parks in Washington State.

### NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

#### **Pre-Park Development 1855-1933 Context**

For millennia, American Indian groups lived and worked in the southernmost area of Puget Sound that now includes Millersylvania State Park. These groups included the Nisqually, Puyallup, Squaxin, and Suquamish, among others, who frequented the streams and rivers in the area rich in salmon and other food sources, where they maintained fisheries and participated in a widespread exchange economy. Even though American Indians living in the coastal Pacific Northwest encountered Europeans long before the arrival of Euro-American settlers in the mid-nineteenth century, the Oregon Trail helped to expedite the settlers' arrival in American Indian territory.<sup>1</sup>

As a harbinger of the country's westward expansion, the Oregon Trail, established in 1841, provided a transportation route to the Pacific for fur traders, missionaries and settlers. One of the northern arms of the main Oregon Trail led north from the mouth of the Columbia River to Puget Sound. The United States government offered several incentives to entice individuals to relocate to the territories such as the Preemption Act of 1841 that allowed U.S. citizens to purchase 160 acres of land in the American Territories for \$1.25 per acre.

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<sup>1</sup> Robert Ruby and John A. Brown, *Indians of the Pacific Northwest: A History* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988), 39.

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Homesteading of the area began in earnest after the establishment of the Donation Land Claims Act of 1850. The Act created a powerful incentive for settlement by offering 320 acres at no charge to any U.S. citizen (640 to married couples) who arrived in the territory before December 1, 1850. Arrivals after that 1850 deadline could still acquire the land if they agreed to "prove up" the land. This included living on the land for four years, constructing fences, wells, permanent housing, and other improvements. Amendments to the Act in 1854 cut the size of the allowable claim in half. The amended Act also allowed homesteaders the option of purchasing an additional 120 acres from the government. The Donation Land Claims Act expired on December 1, 1855, but the Preemption Act remained in effect. Due to the increased presence of Euro-American homesteaders in the South Puget Sound region, territorial Governor Isaac Stevens proposed a treaty with the Nisquallis, Puyallups, Squaxins, and others for traditional lands in the lower Puget Sound region. Through the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854, these Indian groups ceded their lands and relocated to reservations within the territory.<sup>2</sup>

In 1862, Congress passed the Homestead Act in an attempt to encourage immigrants to migrate from the eastern seaboard to western areas of the United States. This legislation allowed the head of family to acquire 160 acres section of land, to settle it and cultivate it for five years. At the end of the five-year period, if the head of the family had become a U.S. citizen or declared an intention to do so, he/she would gain ownership of the land. Many people who attempted to homestead failed because of the difficulty of working the land. If a homesteader failed, the claim could be purchased from the government by an adjoining homestead neighbor, as was the case for property in the present-day Millersylvania State Park Historic District.

In 1855, the same year the Washington Territory was carved out of the Oregon Territory, Squire B. Lathan, was the first homesteader to lay claim to 160 acres of land that is now part of the Millersylvania State Park Historic District. Little is known of Lathan except that he was part of the first influx of Euro-American settlers in the region. Only ten years before his arrival, the first non-native child was born in the area.

### **Miler Homestead**

In 1882, John Leonard Miller purchased the Lathan homestead from its second owner Frank Glidden. In addition to the Lathan homestead, Miller also purchased failed homesteads adjacent to his own property. Eventually, Miller owned most of the forested land around Deep Lake, amounting to 720 acres.

Though legends of the Miller family abound, the family history is shrouded in mystery. Most of the legends describe John Leonard Miller as a high ranking officer under Franz Joseph I, Emperor of Austria,

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<sup>2</sup> Robert Ruby and John A. Brown, *Indians of the Pacific Northwest: A History* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988), 131.

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who, for various reasons, was exiled and fled to America and married an expatriated member of the Austrian royalty. According to a newspaper article written in the 1930s by John McClelland of the National Park Service, a mail carrier for the Miller's reported that Miller refused to accept a letter postmarked from Austria. When asked by the mail carrier why, Miller responded, "If I lift that mail, the senders would know where I am. This I do not want."<sup>3</sup>

Perhaps a more realistic story about the Miller family is found in the journal of Frederick Jacob Xenophen Miller, son of John Leonard and Anna Barbara. According to the Miller's journal, his parents were Bavarian farmers who settled first in Missouri. They moved to Washington with their three adult children, Frederick and two daughters, Christian May and Matilda Sophia.

What is known about the Millers is that none of the children married or had families. Frederick was educated at Stanford and taught school a mile from their homestead. The Miller family raised livestock and kept an orchard that included 179 apple, pear, prune and plum trees according to a diagram of the orchard from 1896.<sup>4</sup> It is recorded that Miller first built a cabin, and later on built a frame house and a barn. Other buildings were likely constructed but evidence of such is absent. Remnants of the orchard are all that remain from the Miller's time on the land, as the home and other associated buildings no longer exist.<sup>5</sup>

In 1921, at age 73, Fredrick Miller established a will in which he deeded his family estate to the State of Washington upon the death of his last surviving sibling. In 1923, Fredrick's last surviving sister, Matilda Sophie, died, thus leaving the property in the hands of the State of Washington. The will further stipulated that the property be used as a public park named "Millersylvania Memorial Park" as a tribute to his family.

The will had two other provisions. First, that all assets be sold upon his death and the proceeds to be used to buy bonds, the interest on which was to be used to care for his surviving sister until their death, and the remainder to be used for the maintenance and upkeep of the property. The family assets included 160 acres on Brush Prairie, the sale of which amounted to \$5,500.

The second provision stipulated that the trees and shrub on the farm be conserved, and that the only timber to be taken from the land would be limited to dead and downed timber. Frederick had been on the farm in the early 1900s to witness the logging off of the land. At times, teams of oxen dragged logs to one of the first narrow gauge railroad used for logging in the Pacific Northwest. Remnants of this railroad grade,

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<sup>3</sup> John McClelland, "State Park Built on Love for Austrian Princess," *Tacoma News Tribune*, July 20, 1969

<sup>4</sup> The fruit trees included: 81 Northern Spy Applies, 35 Ben Davis Plums, 32 Italian Prunes, 15 Newton Apples, 9 Bartlett Pears, 1 Baldwin Plum, 1 Winter Nelly Pear, and 4 unknown apple trees.

<sup>5</sup> Historic Preservation Northwest, *Cultural Resources Management Plan, Millersylvania State Park*, Olympia, Washington: Washington Parks and Recreation Commission, 2002.

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which terminated in Deep Lake, are still visible within the park, though the tracks are gone. Miller wished to prevent widespread logging of the property from occurring again.

### **Taylor Homestead**

In addition to the Miller homestead, the H.P. Taylor family had a homestead at the west end of the lake, where the Environmental Learning Center now stands. Mr. Taylor was a row crop farmer and cleared much of his land to plant crops such as corn, beans, peas, and wheat. Taylor had very limited success with row crop farming, and he eventually converted the fields to an orchard. When his orchard also failed, he turned to hay production and cattle ranching, which did prove successful. Taylor constructed a large barn near the west end of the lake for hay storage. This building collapsed in 1976 and was entirely reconstructed that same year. The Taylor house was sited on a low rise near the west end of the lake. A small grove of lilacs was planted around the house. The lilacs and the foundation stones are all that remain of the house today. The Taylors lived on the property until around World War II, when the land was purchased by the State to be incorporated into the park.

### **Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission**

Frederick Miller's desire to create a state park from his homestead was a bold idea. At the time of his will, state parks were a new concept. When Yellowstone was set aside in 1872 as the first national park in the United States, it marked the start of a new attitude toward the American outdoors. By 1900, three more national parks had been created (including Mount Rainier National Park in 1899) and a few scattered states had begun to develop public parks of their own. It was not until 1913 that the State of Washington created a Board of Park Commissioners to accept and control property donated for park purposes. This Board was the State's first attempt to respond to the growing public demand for protection of and access to scenic and wilderness areas. As the population of the state grew, particularly in the cities, noise, crowds, and mechanization followed leading to an increased physical and psychological distance from the natural world. The Board of Park Commissioners was created to manage programs to provide recreational facilities and protect remaining natural areas in the state.

In 1921, when the first National Conference of State Parks was held, twenty-nine states still had not established any state parks at all. Washington, through its Parks Board, already had seven state parks. The 1920s saw enormous growth in state park systems all across the country, as increasing automobile ownership allowed more and more people the ability to venture out from the cities into nature. While Washington's park system grew to nearly twenty in that decade, legislative funding for park development was minimal. By 1931, after four straight years of gubernatorial veto of the Parks appropriations, most state parks in Washington were closed and park facilities deteriorated due to vandalism and deferred maintenance. In 1932, three years into the Great Depression, funding for Washington State Parks was again approved as hard-times increased public demand for parks that families could visit for free.

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Though the State of Washington received title to the Miller homestead in 1923 for establishment of a state park, little was done to develop the site during the 1920s. The area continued to be used by local residents, but did not see any formal development until the 1930s.

### Depression-Era Park Development, 1933-1939 Context

#### New Deal Programs

The Great Depression, which occurred following the stock market crash of 1929, left millions of Americans unemployed. Washington State suffered in league with the nation. By 1933, one third of all Americans were unemployed. In Washington, at the depth of the Great Depression (ca. 1934), 287,000 men, women, and children were on relief. The New Deal was formulated as a response to the despair and privation of the Great Depression. Under the leadership of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt a variety of government programs were devised to address a broad spectrum of problems. Legislative reform programs were created to stabilize the banking system, regulate business, secure the right of collective bargaining, provide social security, address housing needs, and stabilize agriculture. In essence, New Deal programs provided opportunities to work for millions of Americans at the federal, state, and local levels, including projects within national and state parks.

The two major programs to affect the development of national and state parks were federal projects funded by emergency Depression-era appropriations and administered through the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) programs, which were carried out by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). As part of the New Deal, Congress channeled special allotments to fund improvements in national parks, such as roads and buildings. The work itself was carried out according to NPS standards and design, with skilled labor provided by craftsmen from the private sector. For example, the WPA built or improved 600,000 miles of roads, highways or streets, built more than 116,000 bridges and dams, and constructed or reconstructed more than 110,000 buildings including public libraries, schools, and auditoriums. On average each county in the nation saw ten WPA building projects.<sup>6</sup>

The CCC, which proved to be one the most popular New Deal programs, was created during the "first hundred days" period of New Deal legislative activity with passage of the Emergency Conservation Work Act of 1933. Its purpose was, 1) to ease the critical unemployment situation for America's young men and, 2) provide for the conservation of the nation's devastated forest and soil resources.

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<sup>6</sup> Donald S. Howard, *The WPA and Federal Relief Policy* (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1943), chapter V.

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Since the bulk of the unemployed labor force was in the East and most of the work projects were in western states, logistics was an immediate problem. Also, while the majority of the works projects were conservation efforts, another important function of the CCC was development of state and national park systems. Effective administration of the CCC required an unprecedented organization. An Advisory Council composed of representatives of the Secretaries of War, Labor, Agriculture, and Interior was created to oversee the "civilian army." The Department of Labor, through its state and local relief offices was responsible for selection and enrollment of applicants; the Army transported companies of enrollees and commanded the camps; the Department of Agriculture managed soil conservation projects while the Department of the Interior managed forestry conservation projects and national and state park development projects.

Within thirty-seven days of its establishment, the CCC had an enrollment of 250,000 young men between the ages of 18 and 25. By 1935, there were over 500,000 CCC enrollees. By the end of its nine-year history, over three million young men would enroll in the CCC.<sup>7</sup> The work undertaken by the ECW and CCC included forest improvement projects, construction and maintenance of firebreaks, clearing of campgrounds and trails, construction of fire and recreation structures, road and trail building, forest fire suppression, survey work, plant eradication, erosion control, bridge buildings, flood control, campground construction, and landscaping, roadside improvements, and the restoration of historic sites and buildings.<sup>8</sup>

The CCC paid enrollees \$30 per month along with room and board in exchange for eight hours a day of hard work. Portions of the enrollees' wages were sent home to their families, providing widespread economic benefits. In addition to acquiring skills from their CCC activities, there were physical benefits from exercise and the outdoors. In his first month of service, the average enrollee gained 12 pounds.<sup>9</sup> Evenings and weekends were always free. Educational needs were also provided in a variety of after work classes. CCC enrollees also gained a renewed sense of self-pride, and hope for the future. The value of the CCC as a relief agency was important, but its accomplishments were even more profound.

Seventy-five percent of all CCC camps (12,119 of a total of 16,953) were administered by the Department of Agriculture, and most of these were focused on reforestation activities. They constructed 3,470 fire towers, laid 97,000 miles of forest roads and brought 20 million acres under erosion control through

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<sup>7</sup> John A. Salmond, *The Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942: A New Deal Case Study* (Durham, North Carolina: Duke University Press, 1967), 37, 63.

<sup>8</sup> John C. Paige, *The Civilian Conservation Corps and the National Park Service, 1933-1942: An Administrative History*, (Washington D.C.: USDI, NPS, 1985), 18.

<sup>9</sup> Nancy Dombroski, *The Civilian Conservation Corps at Millersylvania State Park, Slide/Tape Presentation* (Olympia, Washington: The Evergreen State College Library, Washington Film Library), 1980.



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replanting efforts. The CCC is credited with planting an estimated three billion trees between 1933 and 1942.

Even if it was not the main thrust of the ECW and CCC programs, their efforts had a profound impact on the development of national and state parks. The Great Depression had effectively shut down state park system development across the nation. The ECW and CCC program brought major changes to the administrative organization of the NPS with the creation of the State parks division that was headquartered at the NPS western regional office in San Francisco. Under the first organization of state parks ECW, the nation was divided into four districts, each headed by a district officer. By the height of the CCC in 1935, there were nine districts. Millersylvania was within the Ninth District, as were all of the camps in Washington State.

In 1935, at the program's height, the NPS oversaw the work of 600 CCC camps, 118 in national park units and 482 in state parks or recreation development areas, staffed by nearly 120,000 enrollees and 6,000 supervisors.<sup>10</sup> The joining of NPS with state parks through the New Deal programs increased state park acreage by seventy percent. This was the result of an unprecedented action: the establishment for the first time of federal aid to state parks through which NPS provided technical assistance and administrative aid for both immediate park improvement and long range planning.

In Washington State there were 187 CCC camps between 1933 and 1941. The majority of these camps were forestry camps that performed reforestation, fire control, and forest road building activities. Other CCC camps built roads to parks, constructed picnic areas and campgrounds, forged miles of trails, and built bridges and protective railings. Eleven state parks were significantly developed and improved by CCC crews, who built the majority of their structures: Beacon Rock, Deception Pass, Ginkgo, Lewis and Clark, Millersylvania, Moran, Mt. Spokane, Rainbow Falls, Riverside, Saltwater, and Twanoh.

### **National Park Service Rustic Architecture and the Master Planning Process**

The National Park Service expanded dramatically, both in staff and mandate, with New Deal funding. The expertise within NPS, which had been assembled from its inception in 1916 under the leadership of Stephen T. Mather and Horace Albright, enabled the NPS to influence the course and direction of New Deal conservation and development programs. Perhaps most influential was the technical expertise related to theories of landscape design. NPS Director Arno Cammerer summarized the NPS design ethic:

In any area in which the preservation of the beauty of Nature is a primary purpose, every modification of the natural landscape, whether it be construction of a road or erection of a shelter, is

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<sup>10</sup> Barry Macintosh, *The National Parks: Shaping the System*, Washington D.C.: USDI NPS Division of Publications, 1991, 44.

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an intrusion. A basic objective of those who are entrusted with development of such areas for the human uses for which they are established is, it seems to me, to hold these intrusions to a minimum and so to design them that, besides being attractive to look upon, they appear to belong to and be part of their settings.<sup>11</sup>

To meet the challenge of subordinating development to natural character and scenic value, park designers adopted naturalistic and informal practices of landscape design rooted in a nineteenth century philosophy of scenery preservation and landscape development promoted by Andrew Jackson Downing and practiced by Frederick Law Olmstead, Sr. among others.<sup>12</sup>

This design ethic has its roots in the "Romantic Movement," a seventeenth and eighteenth century English landscape gardening tradition of Capability Brown, William Kent, and Humphrey Repton. This landscape style, which was found mostly on large private estates, emphasized a romantic and picturesque view of nature comprised of open meadows, circled by walks and drives that flowed through the landscape in curvilinear lines, small stands of trees, rustic bridges and benches and picturesque rockwork. Many early public parks and gardens throughout Europe applied the same principles as a reaction against the excessively formal gardens of the ruling class such as at Versailles, and as a counterfoil to the dehumanizing effects of the burgeoning industrial age. The call to return to nature and the simple life was joined by landscape artists, poets and writers of the period that reinforced the general public's approval of this naturalistic approach. Naturalistic approach to landscape design minimized intrusions on the natural topography and blended man-made structures with the natural surroundings. Referred to as rustic, this naturalistic style features the enhancement and presentation of natural features and the use of native materials for construction and for plantings.

The naturalistic approach also drew from architectural styles of Shingle, Adirondack, Prairie, in addition to vernacular forms and methods of indigenous cultures and early pioneer settlers. These highly adaptable styles could incorporate features drawn from vernacular forms and unify groups of buildings through the use of native materials. All these styles and methods called for situating manmade features in harmony with the natural surrounding by using native materials of log, wood, stone, clay, or thatch. This design ethic aimed at presenting the scenic beauty of the parks and enhancing the visitors experience while preserving the natural features of the topography. The design of rustic architecture evolved from Andrew Jackson Downing's fanciful shelters and seats wrought from twisted roots and saplings to sturdy timbers

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<sup>11</sup> Cammerer quoted in introduction to *Parks Structures and Facilities*, Washington D.C.: USDI NPS, Branch of Planning, 1935, 1.

<sup>12</sup> Linda Flint McClelland, *Historic Park Landscapes in National and State Parks*, Washington D.C.: USDI NPS, NRHP, 1995, 3.

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and stone structures in urban parks. Author Linda McClelland lists the following characteristics in early national park designs including:

The use of native timbers and rock in a rustic unfinished form, [the] naturalistic placement of structures, [the] incorporation of porches and viewing platforms, the climatic adaptation of using native stone for the foundation and lower story and native timber above, stone chimneys with massive fireplaces and mantels, open interiors with ceilings of exposed rafters and trusses, and a multitude of windows.<sup>13</sup>

Andrew Jackson Downing advocated the naturalistic approach through numerous publications of design guides that were widely used by homeowners as well as professional designers. During this same time, underpinned by a growing concern for the health of the working class in the highly industrialized cities, popular opinion about the benefits of “nature” led to the creation of large public parks such as New York City’s Central Park. Landscape architects of that period were guided by the opinion that park improvements should be subordinate to the natural setting and should enhance the natural beauty of the area. They also were advocates for planning before developing a natural park for public use.

These romantic and naturalistic landscape design concepts evolved into what is often referred to as the “rustic style.” By the early 1930s, the NPS had refined the practices and principles of rustic style into practical design guidelines for parklands and other natural informal settings, to make the parks more accessible to people. Scenery was managed through preservation and enhancement of nature and creation of vistas through screening and framing with vegetation. Principles of construction were codified to set buildings apart from elements of natural beauty. Buildings and structures were carefully sited to prevent them from becoming a dominant feature in a landscape. The use of native plant species of marked the ecological approach to planting. The naturalistic landscape style sought to consciously preserve and interpret the scenery for the visitor’s enjoyment. Values of the rustic design style include:

- Designs that blend with the setting and topography
- Reference to vernacular forms and the past as inspiration
- Enhancements by use of native vegetation
- Strong connections of interior spaces to nature around the building
- Use of natural materials
- Hand-worked detail in response to an age of industrial mass production<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Ibid, 31.

<sup>14</sup> Historical Research Associates, *Cultural Resource Management Plan, Deception Pass State Park*, Olympia, Washington: Washington State Parks Commission, 2000, 18-21.

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Early park design was influenced by several other concerns. At the turn of the twentieth century, conservation advocates began to call for wiser management of our natural resources. The Public Lands Bill of 1891 was enacted to set aside forest resources as public forest reserves, reflected the public concern about nature. Concurrently, the popular Arts and Crafts movement, which prized pioneer and indigenous handcrafts, naturalistic appearances and natural settings, shared the similar design principles of Downing, Olmstead, Gustav Stickley and others. The Arts and Crafts movement would have an enduring influence on national and state park designs. The rustic style architecture in park designs called for use of native materials, in a design that harmoniously integrated site, structure, and setting. They focused on scenic vistas, using picturesque details to integrate interior spaces with the outdoors through porches and terraces.

Between 1935 and 1938 the National Park Service produced a number of publications containing designs and ideas for nearly every aspect of park planning, such as privies and entrance gates. These publications were intended to give national and state park officials guidelines for developing facilities that could be modified for the specific regions and areas by the park's technical staff. These guidelines fostered creativity and allowed for variation based on the parks unique natural and cultural history. "Park design therefore encouraged experimentation, innovation and refinement, and a steadfast search for sensible, simple and pragmatic solutions that followed function on the one hand and nature on the other."<sup>15</sup>

### Master Planning Process

In addition to developing a design standard for parks, the NPS also contributed guidelines for management of the physical and social components of recreational park usage. The program implemented general planning concepts that enabled park superintendents to schedule construction and improvement of roads and other buildings over a five-year development period. By 1932, in coordination with Depression-era funding that made extensive park development possible, this design process evolved into a master planning program that scheduled all park improvements for a six-year period.<sup>16</sup>

Through master planning the park development could be viewed holistically in terms of visitation, recreational usage, geography, and landscape preservation, while including important programs of fire control, interpretation and infrastructure development. This advance master planning approach ensured that the NPS could take part so quickly and effectively in the emergency conservation and public works programs of the New Deal.

The parks master planning process was typically in three-parts, beginning with a park development outline. This outline identified the various geographic areas of proposed park development using a standard format

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<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ethan Carr, *Wilderness by Design: Landscape Architecture and the National Park Service* (Lincoln and London: University of Nebraska Press, 1998)

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to ensure that each park addressed the same items. The outline included a current conditions and future needs assessment. The next step was development of the Master Plan that graphically represented each area. The Master Plan was accompanied by a narrative, typically organized into major roads, trail systems, major development areas, minor development areas, and areas with no planned development. The final part of the master planning process was a six-year prioritized schedule of various projects required to complete any portion of the park.

The NPS was responsible not only for conservation of natural resources, but also for development of historic, cultural and recreational properties. In the 1930s, NPS programs for master planning, rustic design and landscape naturalization were extended beyond national parks to include the development of state, county and urban parks. Emergency Conservation Work by the CCC provided the NPS an opportunity to give direct assistance to states and local jurisdictions in developing scenic and recreational areas.

Planning for state parks had the same objective for national parks: ensuring that the entire park area was used to its fullest extent without impairment of natural features and that the natural phenomena and historical sites were protected. A 1937 National Park Service pamphlet stated:

The object is first to conserve and protect the entire area . . . then to develop necessary facilities for the enjoyment of each park feature without interfering with the use of other features. The cardinal principle governing all . . . is that the park areas are to be kept in as natural a state as possible<sup>17</sup>

Recreation facilities, especially those near a large urban area, were planned to include organization camps with central dining and recreational halls, sleeping cabins, a washhouse, and a lodge with an attached outside kitchen. These organization camps would allow low-cost vacations for low-income families and groups. Ideally, recreational units would possess both scenic beauty and interest, which hallowed passive recreation, in addition to natural features for active recreation, such as swimming spots, boat launches, and trail systems.

Campground planning and development also advanced during this time, stemming mostly from E.P. Meinecke's *A Camp Ground Policy* which called for the use of one-way loop roads with individual campsites delineated and accessed by a short driveway for parking vehicles.<sup>18</sup> The policy called also for each site to be equipped with a fire grate, picnic table, and a cleared area for a tent. Boulders and logs were to be used to define the edges and intersections of the roads, and native trees and shrubs were to be planted

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<sup>17</sup> Quoted in Linda Flint McClelland, *Presenting Nature*, chapter 7 <[http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online\\_books/mcclelland/mcclelland7a.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/mcclelland/mcclelland7a.htm)>

<sup>18</sup> E.P. Meinecke, *A Camp Ground Policy*, Washington D.C.: USFS, 1932.

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to screen the campsites and provide a measure of privacy. This model became the standard for campground planning.

Using the Master Planning process, the NPS developed a planning model for recreational development that was subsequently adopted by state and local park planners. The NPS provided supervision on conservation activities carried out by each CCC camp. CCC enrollees and other Depression-era relief laborers were used to develop recreational facilities for a wide range of recreational opportunities. NPS inspectors traveled to the state park CCC camps to oversee the construction of roads, trails and structures. Each CCC camp was headed by a superintendent and had several foremen who supervised the CCC enrollees carrying out NPS plans.

The era of naturalistic park-building began to diminish as the New Deal work relief programs gave way to World War II defense programs. Although many of the characteristics of the naturalistic and rustic design linger still in new park buildings, changing demographics, different values and attitudes have altered the way parks are designed and used. The Craftsman ethic and attention to detail that pervaded the quality of Depression-era of park development gave way to functionalism in design that advocates the use of new materials, streamlined designs, and new technology.

Though Depression-era recreation planning impacted the built environment, its cultural significance was profound. The Great Depression was the result of economic and social failure of the industrial revolution, marked by high unemployment and a world-wide collapse of economic markets. Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal agenda promoted a powerful "back-to-the-soil" movement that proclaimed the moral, psychological, and physical benefits of outdoor recreation. The benefits would stem not only from the use of these new facilities but also from the actual construction process itself. In 1933, NPS Landscape Inspector Norman Newton wrote that "for the enrolled men (CCC), many of whom had never before seen Nature at close hand, the experience is one of not only personal reconstruction and training in the manual arts, but also of contact with those basic properties inherent in nature."<sup>19</sup> Using and creating recreational facilities was seen as critical to both the social and economic well-being of the nation.

### ***Millersylvania State Park Depression-Era Development***

A master plan, dated 1939, and developed by the Washington State Parks and NPS, shows facilities intended for high-density outdoor recreational use.<sup>20</sup> The layout describes an administrative site, composed

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<sup>19</sup> Merrill, Perry, *Roosevelt's Tree Army, A Brief History of the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942*, 1981, 2003  
<<http://www.ccalumni.org/history1.html>>

<sup>20</sup> It is interesting that the official plan for the park was not created until 1939, after the park construction was completed. Because of the heavy work load of the CCC in its early days, often park development was generally guided at first by

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of a ranger's residence and office/garage building, and several activity areas including picnicking and day use, group use, two swimming beaches each with bathhouses, comfort stations and kitchen shelters, an additional park attendant residence and overnight camping sites. The 1939 plan also described a youth organization site with a kitchen shelter and "squad houses." This component was not built during the Depression-era development phase. However, it is significant as one of the major Depression-era parks in the Washington State Park system that was fully developed with as many adjunct buildings, especially those that were utilitarian in design, like the Attendant's Quarters/Sewage Disposal Building, Blacksmith shop, and the Oil and Gas House.

CCC Company 1232 initially manned Camp Millersylvania, one of nearly 200 CCC camps in Washington State during the Depression-era. This company of 200 young men was formed May 30, 1933 at Fort Slocum, New York. The CCC men were enlisted and outfitted by the Army and supervised by the NPS. During a time when even highly skilled professionals were out of work, the CCC was able to employ very competent craftsmen and technicians to supervise the less skilled laborers. Company 1232 enrollees were mostly from New York and New Jersey and included one experienced carpenter among them. On June 10, 1933, Company 1232 arrived at Mt. Rainier National Park and by October 1933, Camp Millersylvania was occupied with 200 CCC enrollees, including a few from Washington State. Few of the men had ever been west of the Cumberland Mountains, much less the Mississippi River. Fewer still had ever experienced true wilderness, let alone held an axe in their hands.

The CCC camp at Millersylvania was one of seven established in Washington in 1933, and one of four established in various State Parks during October of that year. Only the camps at Moran and Deception Pass State Parks were established earlier, and the camp at Millersylvania was established at the same time as those at Rosario Beach (part of Deception Pass), Rainbow Falls, and Lewis and Clark State Parks. These were all typical 200 man camps, which was the standard enrollment until April of 1936 when the number was reduced to 160 men per camp. Millersylvania was designated SP-6.

Contemporary reports indicate that life at the camp was very good. The enrollees lived in four bunkhouses just north of what is now the main administrative complex for State Parks' Southwest Region (the former Garage, Oil and Gas House, and Blacksmith Shop) and had a laundry facility, mess hall, and many opportunities for recreation. Outdoor and indoor sports were common pastimes, and the camp teams competed very well with basketball and baseball teams from nearby towns, high schools, and colleges. The camp was also said to have one of the finest cooks in any of the camps, and morale was typically high. Other social activities included traveling to dances, religious services, and various community events in the immediate area. Educational instruction was also provided, and the camp used the former Miller home

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a simpler Landscape Plan or some other similar initial design, which followed the Rustic Park planning guidelines already set forth by the NPS. Though there is no record of such, it is assumed that Millersylvania development was guided by such a plan.

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(located across Tilley Road) as a classroom and library space. Instruction included reading and writing as well as more advanced studies in various topic areas. The camp had an educational advisor, as did all CCC camps, to assist with these endeavors. The camp also produced its own newspaper, the *Millersylvania Grapevine*, which highlighted people and happenings both within the camp and the local community.

By the end of December 1933, the crewmen of CCC Company 1232 were conducting early work on the park site, including felling snags, cleaning up and removing debris. They built fire trails, and footpaths and assembled a split-rail fence that enclosed the entire state park. Preliminary work was done to build the caretaker's cabin, parking spaces, bathing beaches, community kitchens and comfort stations.

During the following year the CCC built bridges, oiled and graded roads and made drainage improvements, all with hand tools. The timbers used for the building structures, mostly downed and dead wood, were hand hewn by axe, saw, and adze. Locally quarried stone, including Tenino sandstone, were used for the bases for the log buildings, drinking fountains, and fire pits, and were hand chiseled. Additionally, door hinges and handles were forged in the camp and blacksmith shop on site. Being limited in terms of modern tools and construction technology, the crewmen applied some non-traditional construction methods for some of the park structures. For example, in 1935, to simplify construction, the frame for the community kitchen was constructed upside down then turned right side up to complete the building process.<sup>21</sup>

By the end of 1934 the caretaker's cabin was nearing completion and the garage was well under way. The speed of work is impressive considering there was only one carpenter in the CCC Company and novices did most of the construction. Yet the craftsmanship evident today demonstrates how quickly the young men were able to learn carpentry skills during their six-month tour of duty.

In the March 18, 1935 report to the Governor, State Parks Superintendent W.G. Weigle stated that during the previous year improvements to Millersylvania State Park included: roads and trails, a new playfield, bathing floats in the lake, community kitchen, caretaker's house, modern latrine, new water system with water forced to all parts of the park using a pressure system, and all buildings electrically lighted. He claimed that as a whole, the park had been developed into a "splendid playground and is well patronized by the people."<sup>22</sup>

By summer 1936, construction was at full steam. This time CCC Company 938 had also been assigned to Camp Millersylvania. The largest building constructed by the CCC at the new park began in June 1936. This kitchen, also called a combination building, included a large sandstone fireplace on one end of the

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<sup>21</sup> Historic Preservation Northwest, *Cultural Resource Management Plan, Millersylvania State Park* (Olympia, Washington: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, 2001)

<sup>22</sup> Ibid, quote on p. 13 and *Papers of W.G. Weigle*, Olympia, Washington: Washington State Archives, nd.



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building for a communal area and three sandstone stoves behind it, all feeding into a central sandstone chimney. During this summer, the Thurston County Relief Organization requested and received permission to place under-nourished children at the park for the summer, as the park was very popular with local visitors even during its construction phase. During one typical summer Sunday in August of 1936, 880 cars were registered at the entrance gate.

By 1939, CCC Company 1232 and 938 had completed their work at Millersylvania State Park. Over a six year period, the CCC at Camp Millersylvania constructed seventeen large buildings as well as many other smaller landscape features: an entrance arch, perimeter fence, over four miles of roads, over five miles of trails, manager's residence (caretaker's cabin), manager's office, two comfort stations, four kitchens, two bathhouses, pump house, ranger's residence, main office building, engineer's office building, storage building (former oil house), conference room building, drinking fountains, stone steps, fire rings, outdoor furniture, parking areas, bathing areas, and the campground with twelve campsites. Of them, only the entrance arch and portions of the perimeter fence have been lost.

Typical of CCC camps, designs for the buildings and structures were produced in cooperation with the National Park Service who did the majority of the design work. An examination of the original drawings on file at Washington State Parks' Headquarters reveals at least five designers actively engaged in the development of the park. The drawings' title blocks differ depending on the type of drawing and the date produced, resulting in various levels of information. For instance, some drawings have no space to indicate the designer or drafter while others are clearly signed by the designer. Three named designers on the plans include Ellsworth Storey, Jack Paterson, and Ernest Ebmeier. Two other designers, known only by their initials "A.S.H." and "P.W.K." on the plans, produced drawings for the entry sign, the fountains, and the 1939 Master Plan for the park (by P.W.K., likely P.W. Kearney).

Ellsworth Storey (1879-1960) was born in Chicago and received his training at the University of Illinois. He moved to Seattle in 1903, establishing a small practice mostly focused on residential architecture. His designs were influenced by his travels in Europe and by the Arts and Crafts movement. His designs integrated local materials and responded to their natural surroundings. These early designs clearly show he was conversant in the design principles of the Arts and Crafts movement, and he had developed a regional vernacular vocabulary to complement these principles. Storey was one example of an established architect who left private practice to go to work for the National Park Service during the 1930s to develop State Parks. Storey worked across the state, designing such notable structures as the Caretaker's House at Lewis and Clark, multiple kitchens and cabins at Moran, and within the State Parks context is probably best known for the Mount Constitution Tower at Moran State Park. Storey was influential on many of the younger designers also employed by the NPS, including Jack Paterson.

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Jack S. Paterson was initially hired by the NPS as a student drafter in 1934, but proved to be an architect with a high level of skill in designing according to what is now known as the NPS Rustic Style. Paterson (1907-1968) was later known as an "industrial architect", but where and when he received formal architectural training is unknown. He eventually replaced Storey within the NPS on general architectural work when Storey was transferred to work at Point Defiance Park. After replacing Storey, Paterson also worked throughout the state, designing buildings not only at Millersylvania but was also responsible for designs at Moran (Caretaker's House, Mountain Lake Cabin and Latrine), Beacon Rock (Comfort Station and Storage Building), Twanoh (Concession Building and Community Kitchen), Seven Mile (Caretaker's House, now Riverside S.P.), and Ginkgo (Caretaker's Garage and Museum Building) State Parks. This is only a sampling of his works throughout the state, and his talent is evidenced not only by the number of buildings he designed but also in the wide variety of structures he created.

Ernest Ebmeier is another architect who worked for the NPS, but about whom little is known. Ebmeier's only other attributed design within State Parks aside from those at Millersylvania is the Combination Building at Lewis and Clark State Park. All of these designs were produced during a relatively short period, and Ebmeier does not appear elsewhere in the historic record.

P.W. Kearney produced the 1939 Master Plan for the park, after most of the improvements were completed. Kearney also produced master plans for individual areas within Moran State Park. These plans were theoretically to be produced prior to commencing work to ensure a holistic vision for a park was achieved, but in Washington this process seems to have been not rigorously followed. However, the late Master Plans do provide an indication of the actual work accomplished within each park.

Many of the buildings and structures at Millersylvania State Park were built to accommodate the Pacific Northwest climate, primarily heavy rainfall that can often interrupt outdoor recreation opportunities, such as picnics. Building useful picnic facilities in the Pacific Northwest during the early days of state and local park development usually consisted on one or more picnic stoves, sinks and a supply of table and bench combinations under a roof shelter. Another important climatic consideration is providing protection from prevailing winds, which tend to come from the southwesterly direction. Picnic shelters that are exposed to such winds often have full walls with large windows on facades that face the prevailing wind. Like other Depression-era parks in Washington State, the picnic shelters at Millersylvania are designed to address these climatic demands.

Perhaps the most interesting Millersylvania State Park building is bathhouse #1, the last building constructed during the formal park development and Depression-era. This cleverly designed building provides comfort stations accessible to both patrons of the bathhouse and to non-patrons, while centrally locating the attendant's station in combination with the concession stand. Thus what might have been four

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to five separate small buildings were incorporated for efficient construction and use. This unique design is seen in other Depression-era state parks as well.<sup>23</sup>

### CONCLUSION

The sites, buildings, structures, and objects left by different groups of people who lived and worked within the Millersylvania State Park Historic District, before and after the park developed formally, provide a rich opportunity to examine the natural, built, social, and cultural environments of the past. Millersylvania State Park Historic District reflects significantly its contribution to broad patterns of history, such as traditional native uses of the land, America's westward expansion, and especially the social historical context of Depression-era New Deal relief programs during the 1930s. Through varied historical resources, Millersylvania State Park Historic District tells the story of Euro-American migration during the nineteenth century, the timber and railroad industry that helped form a large part of the regional economy, and the New Deal reform and relief measures that not only provided relief to the millions of unemployed during the Great Depression, but also had a pervasive effect on the built environment of the past and present. The park design and structures of Millersylvania State Park Historic District not only represent high artistic value, having distinct characteristics of rustic park architecture, but also provide physical symbols of historical events that had lasting impacts in American culture and society. Accordingly, Millersylvania State Park Historic District provides significant historical resources that help give present-day park visitors with a more complete understanding and appreciation of national, regional, and local American history.

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<sup>23</sup> Good, Albert, *Park and Recreation Structures* (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1938)

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet -

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<<http://www.nr.nps.gov/multiples/64000392.pdf>>, 09/13/03.

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## GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

### UTM References

The four UTM references provided are a simplified version of the overall park boundary, reducing the complicated border to four points. These four points begin at the northwest corner of the park, traveling clockwise around its perimeter. Additional UTM references are provided below giving the points for the entire park boundary, beginning at the southwest corner of the park and traveling clockwise.

#### Additional UTM References:

- 1) 10 505361E 5194435N
- 2) 10 505361E 5194846N
- 3) 10 505412E 5194841N
- 4) 10 505407E 5195242N
- 5) 10 505829E 5195262N
- 6) 10 505819E 5195652N
- 7) 10 506210E 5195662N
- 8) 10 506210E 5196058N
- 9) 10 506611E 5196058N
- 10) 10 506611E 5196861N
- 11) 10 507007E 5196866N
- 12) 10 507007E 5197262N
- 13) 10 507403E 5197267N
- 14) 10 507418E 5195255N
- 15) 10 507829E 5195250N
- 16) 10 507824E 5194844N
- 17) 10 507083E 5194849N
- 18) 10 506369E 5194430N

### Verbal Boundary Description

From a point beginning at the southwest corner of the park, thence north for 0.275 miles, thence east for 0.033 miles, thence north for 0.249 miles, thence east for 0.251 miles, thence north for 0.249 miles, thence east for 0.255 miles, thence north for 0.253 miles, thence east for 0.25 miles, thence north for 0.5 miles, thence east for 0.258 miles, thence north for 0.247 miles, thence east for 0.245 miles, thence south for 1.252 miles, thence east for 0.254 miles, thence south for 0.25 miles, thence west for 0.458 miles to a point



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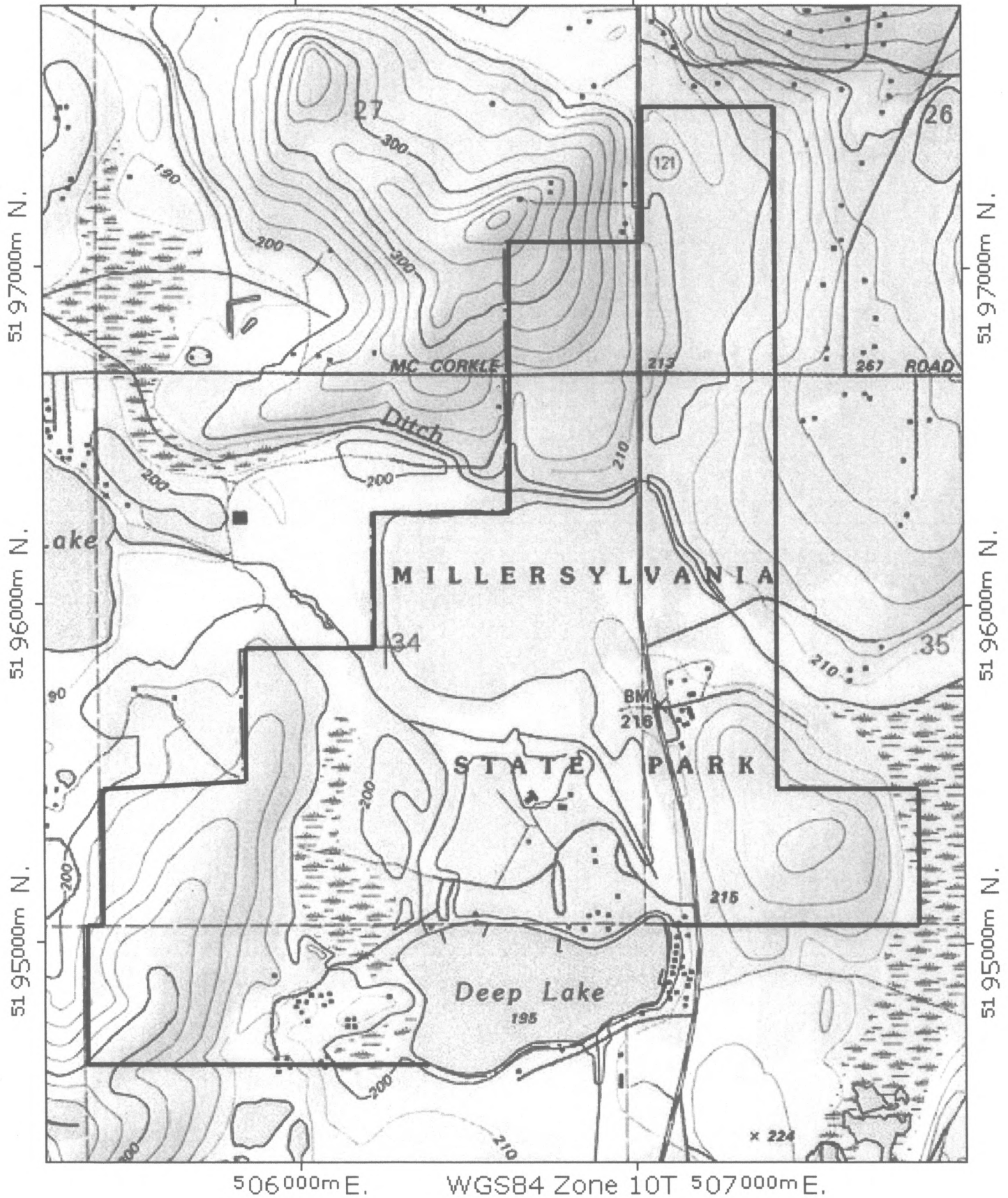
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of intersection with the shoreline of Deep Lake, thence west, south, and southeast along the shoreline of Deep Lake to the southernmost point of Deep Lake, thence west for 0.71 miles to the point of beginning.

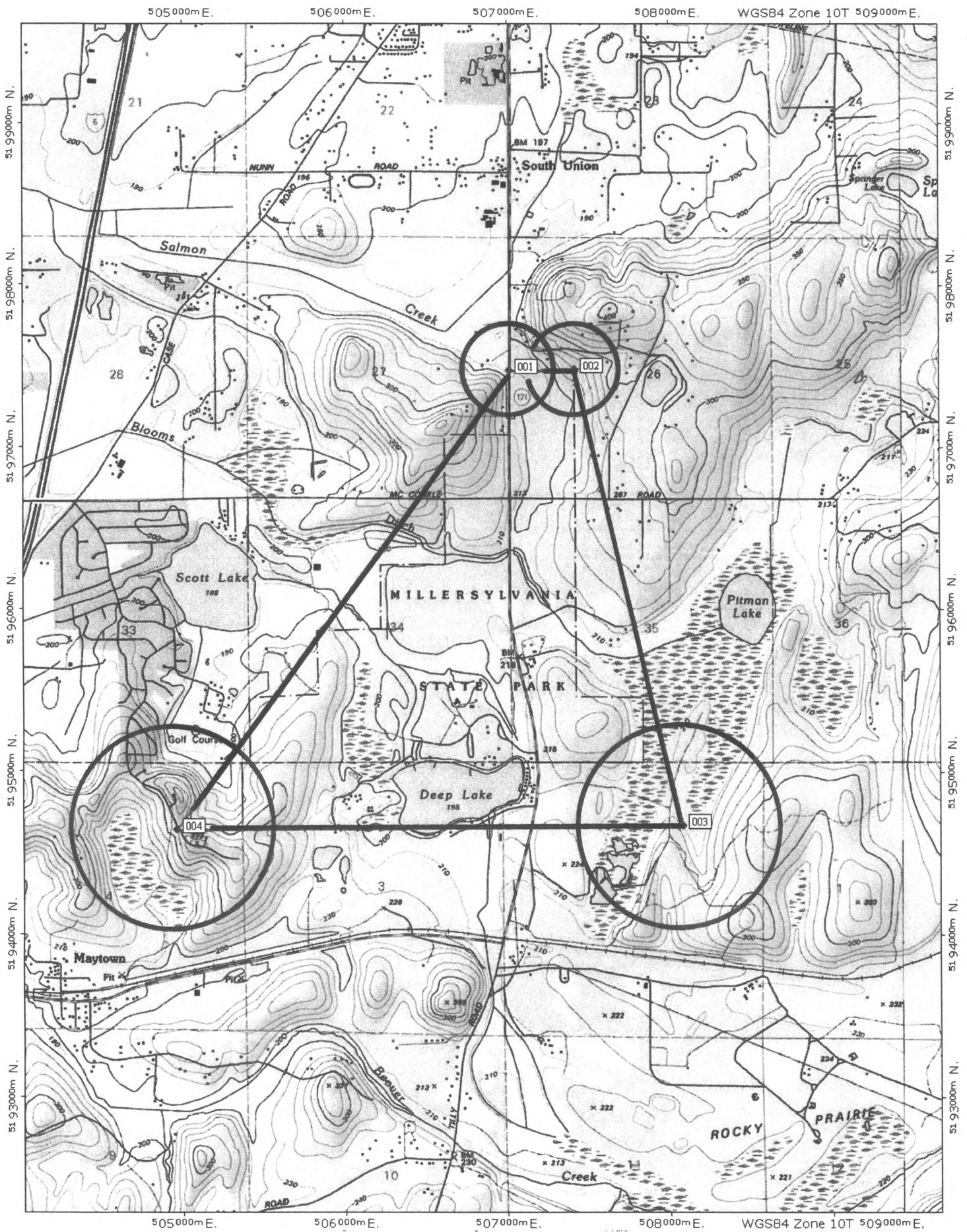
## Boundary Justification

Boundaries for the Millersylvania State Park Historic District were selected to encompass the entire park as it retains architectural integrity and historic context for the period of significance (1933-1939).

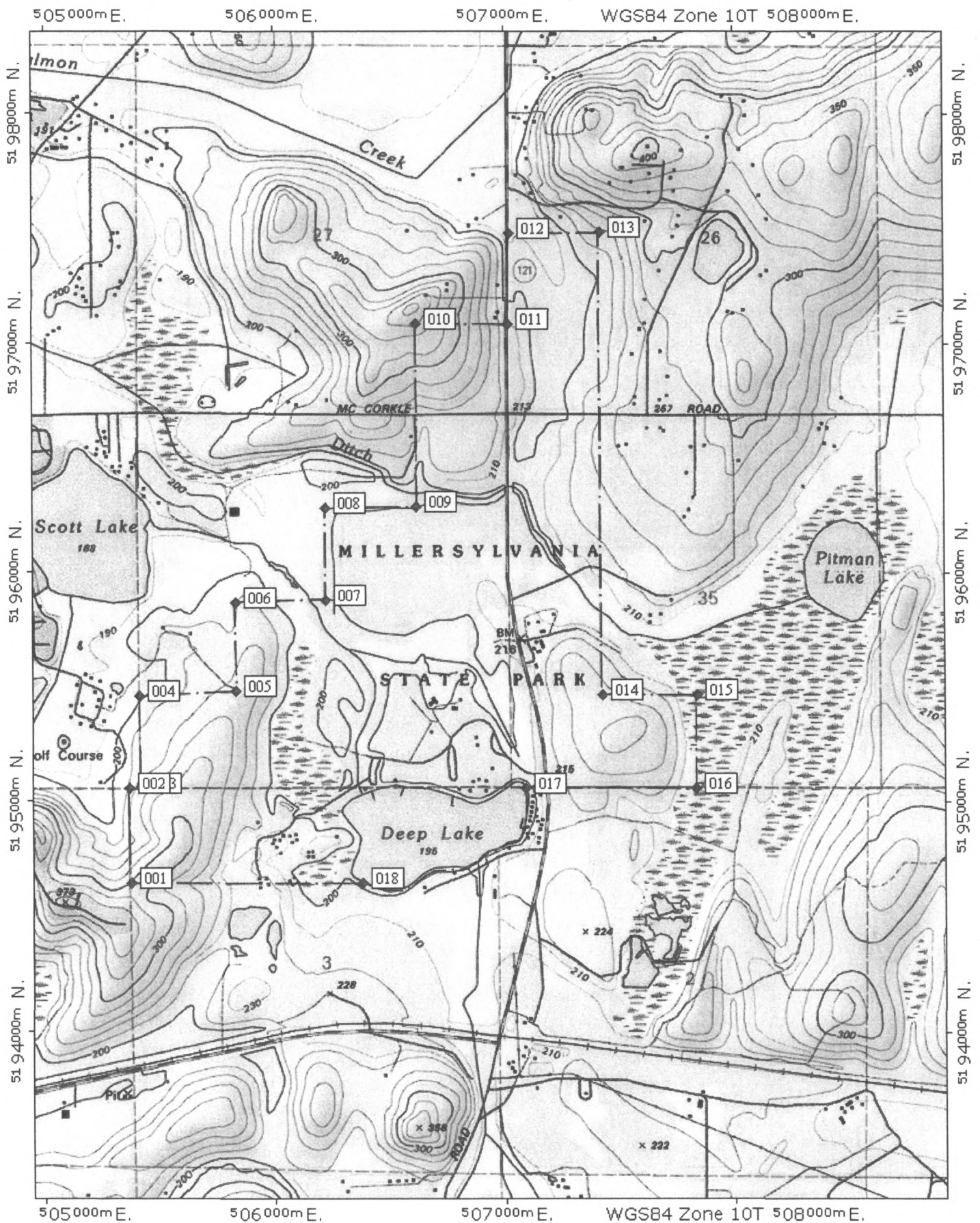
506000m E. WGS84 Zone 10T 507000m E.



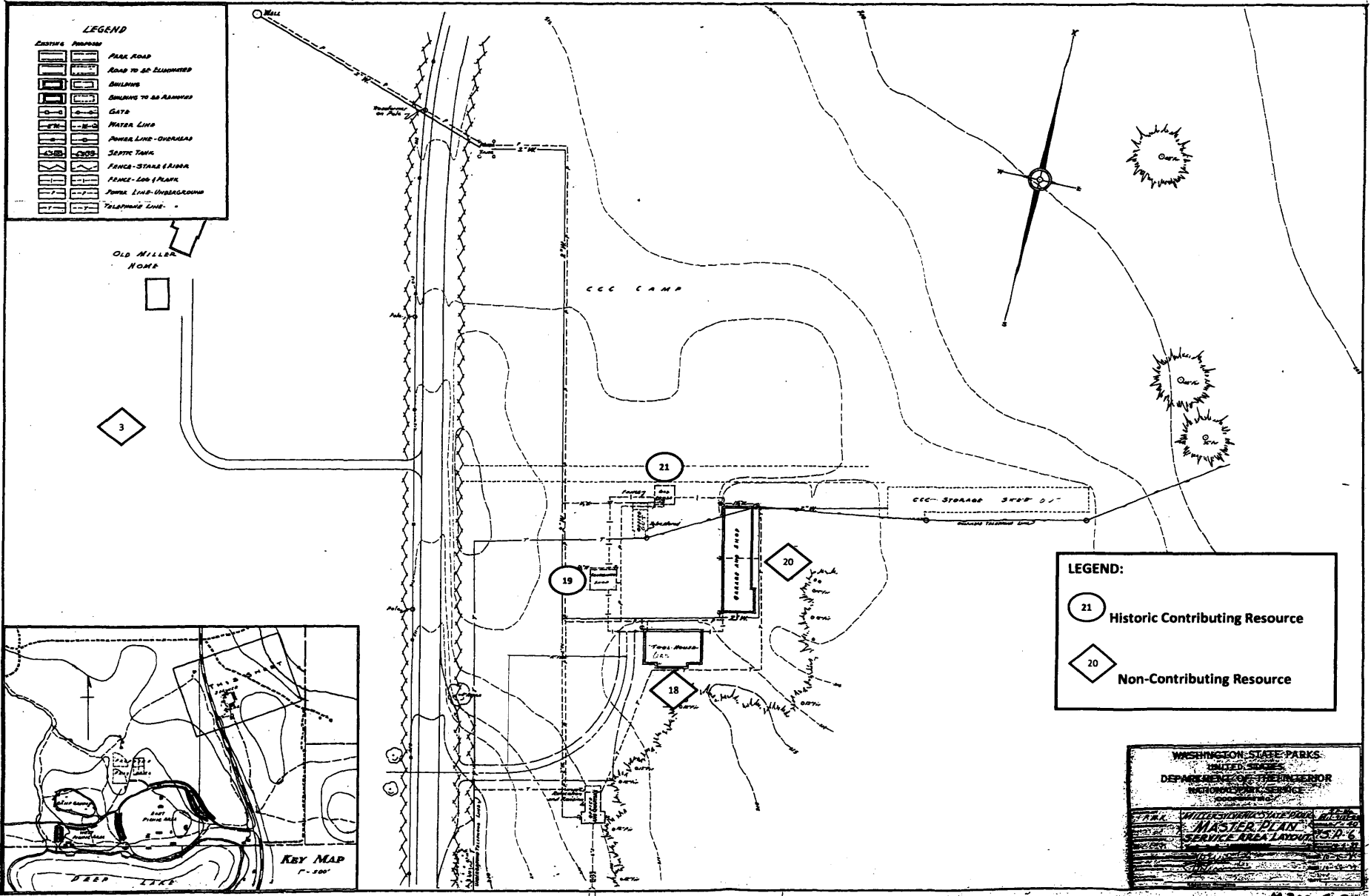
USGS Maytown, WA Quadrangle excerpt, 1990 edition showing Millersylvania State Park Boundary.

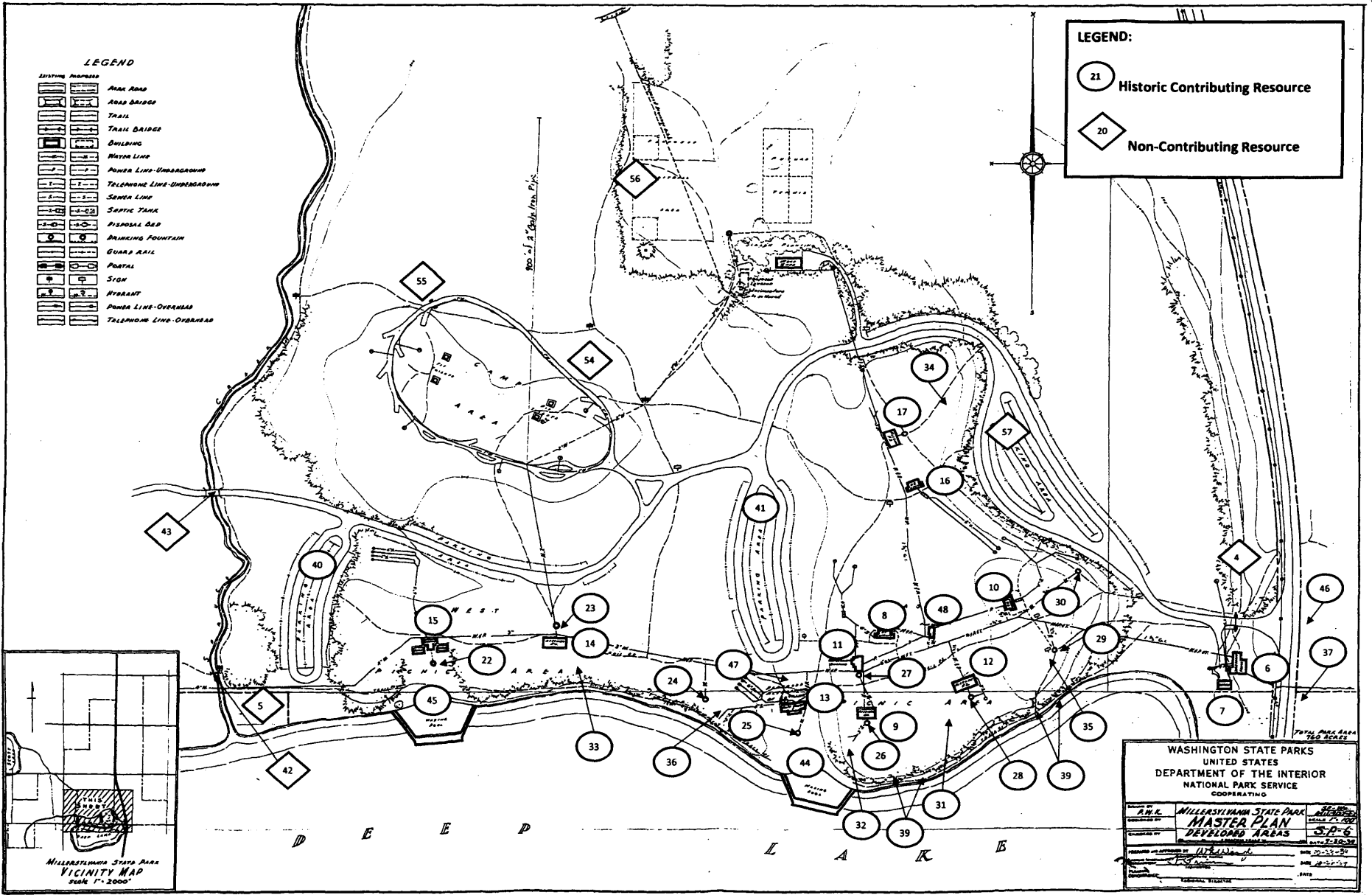


Primary UTM Reference Points, USGS Maytown WA Quadrangle excerpt, 1990 edition.

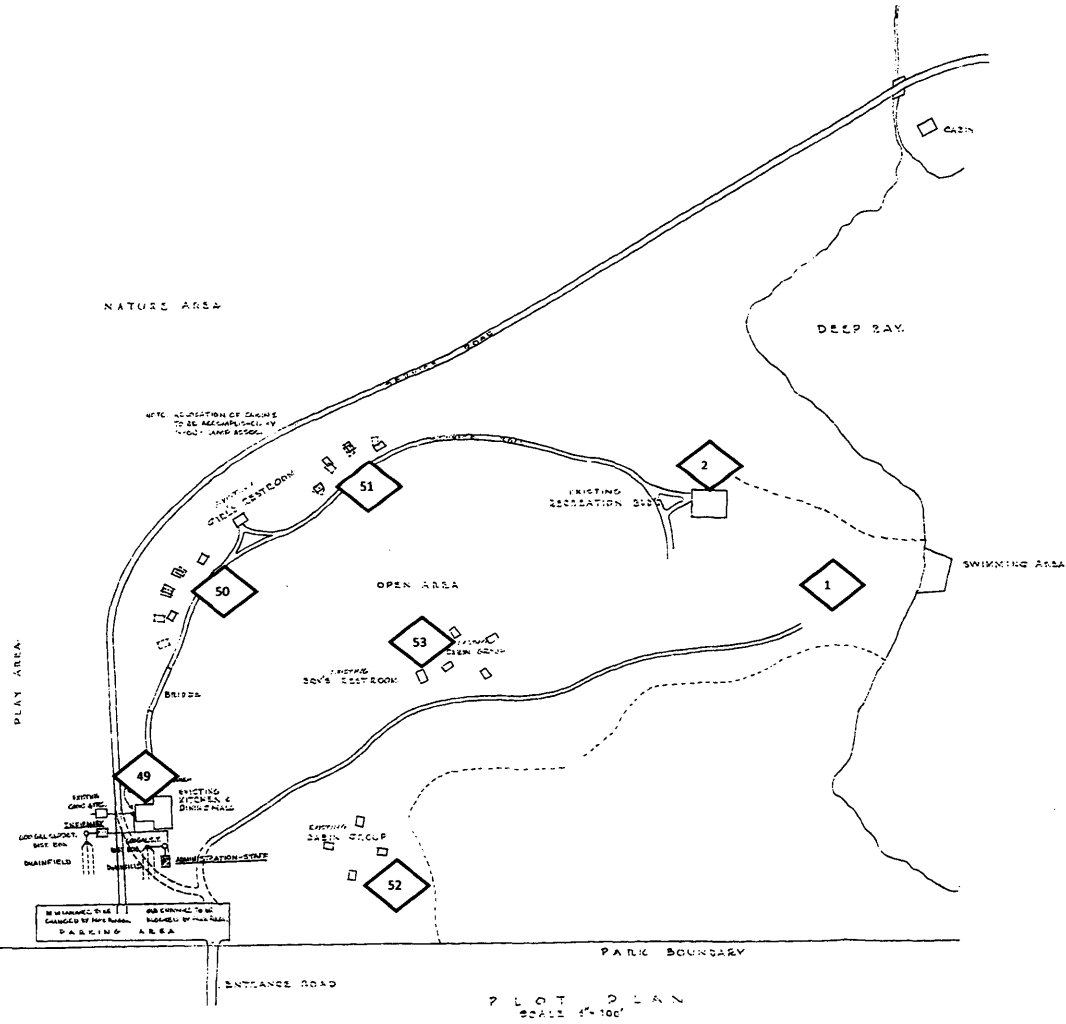


Additional UTM Reference Points, Millersylvania State Park Boundary, USGS Maytown WA Quadrangle excerpt.





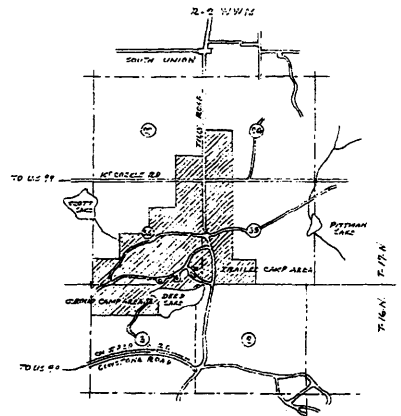
DESIGNED BY	REVIEWED BY SECTION	APPROVED BY:	REVISIONS
DRAWN BY	PLANNING	MAINT. & OPER.	
CHECKED BY	ENGINEERING	HISTORICAL	
	CONSTRUCTION	POVERTY	
	LANDSCAPE	RECREATION	
		DIRECTOR	
		ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	



PLOT PLAN  
SCALE 1" = 100'

**LEGEND:**

- 21 Historic Contributing Resource
- 20 Non-Contributing Resource



SCALE: 1/4" = 1 MILE  
MILLERSYLVANIA STATE PARK  
361  
THURSTON CO  
VICINITY MAP

**PLOT PLAN & VICINITY MAP**  
**GROUP CAMP AREA - MILLERSYLVANIA STATE PARK**

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON  
JOHN R. VANDERZICHT, DIRECTOR  
DRAWN BY H.T.D. SCALE AS SHOWN  
DATE MARCH 8, 1964 DRAWING NO. 1013

NOTE: THESE PLANS ARE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING USING ALTERNATE FLOOR PLAN SHEET ONE AND AN INTERIM BUILDING USING SIDE'S QUARTERS PLAN SHEET ONE

**BRIEF INVENTORY OF RESOURCES IN MILLERSYLVANIA STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT**

<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>ID #</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Built Date</b>	<b>Style</b>
Taylor Homestead Site #1	1	Historic, Non-Contributing	c. pre-1900	n/a
Taylor Barn	2	Non-Historic, Non-Contributing	c. pre-1900 (1976)	Vernacular
Miller Homestead Orchard	3	Historic, Non-Contributing	planted 1896	n/a
Narrow-Gauge Railroad Grade	4	Historic, Non-Contributing	c. 1888	n/a
Barner House	5	Historic, Non-contributing	c. 1920	Craftsman
Caretaker's Residence	6	Historic, Contributing	1935	NPS Rustic
Caretaker's Office and Garage	7	Historic, Contributing	1935	NPS Rustic
Comfort Station #1	8	Historic, Contributing	1935	NPS Rustic
Kitchen #1	9	Historic, Contributing	1936	NPS Rustic
Comfort Station #2	10	Historic, Contributing	1935	NPS Rustic
Park House/Concession Stand	11	Historic, Contributing	1935	NPS Rustic
Kitchen #2	12	Historic, Contributing	1935	NPS Rustic



<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>ID #</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Built Date</b>	<b>Style</b>
Drinking Fountain #5	26	Historic, Contributing	c. 1939	n/a
Drinking Fountain #6	27	Historic, Contributing	c. 1939	n/a
Drinking Fountain #7	28	Historic, Contributing	c. 1939	n/a
Drinking Fountain #8	29	Historic, Contributing	c. 1939	n/a
Drinking Fountain #9	30	Historic, Contributing	c. 1939	n/a
Fire-ring #1	31	Historic, Contributing	c. 1935	n/a
Fire-ring #2	32	Historic, Contributing	c. 1935	n/a
Fire-ring #3	33	Historic, Contributing	c. 1935	n/a
Fire-ring #4	34	Historic, Contributing	c. 1935	n/a
Fire-ring #5	35	Historic, Contributing	c. 1935	n/a
Fire-pit	36	Historic, Contributing	c. 1935	n/a
Sign #1	37	Historic, Contributing	c. 1935	n/a
Sign #2	38	Historic, Contributing	c. 1935	n/a

<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>ID #</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Built Date</b>	<b>Style</b>
ELC Swamp Cluster	52	Non-Historic, Non-Contributing	1956	n/a
ELC Desert Cluster	53	Non-Historic, Non-Contributing	1956	n/a
Campground Comfort Station (Bldg 15)	54	Non-Historic, Non-Contributing	c. 1956	Pan-Abode
Campground Comfort Station (Bldg 17)	55	Non-Historic, Non-Contributing	c. 1957	n/a
Campground Comfort Station (Bldg 19)	56	Non-Historic, Non-Contributing	c. 1997	n/a
Park Office (Bldg 55)	57	Non-Historic, Non-Contributing	c. 1997	n/a

Millersylvania State Park: Historic Images



Construction of Park Entrance Sign, May 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-119.



Completed Entrance Sign, July 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-46

*SP. 6. WASH.*

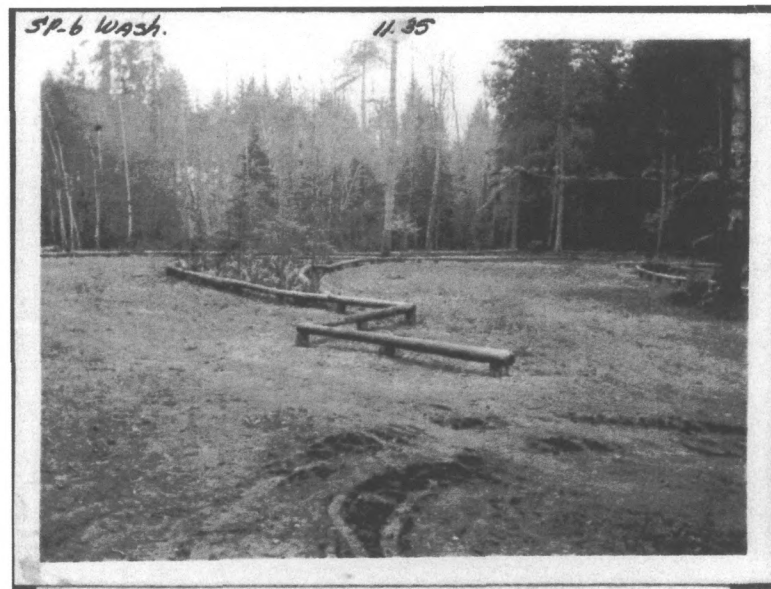
*3.36*



Park Entry Sign, March 1936. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-45

*SP. 6 WASH.*

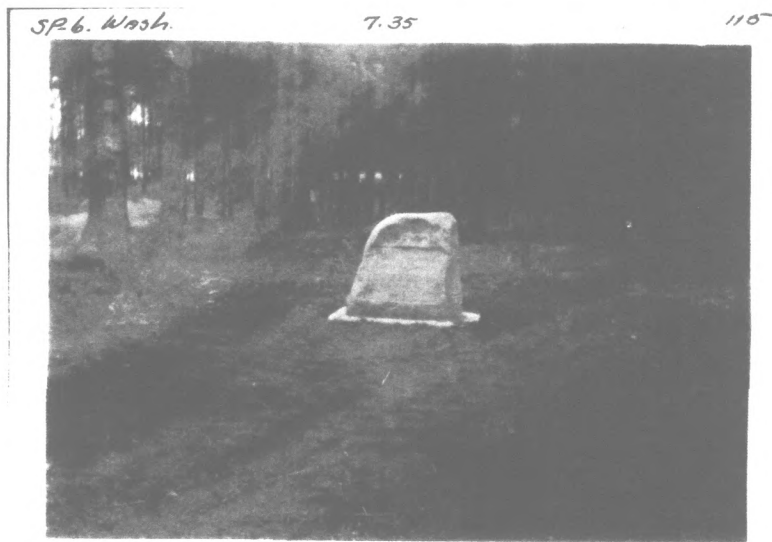
*11.35*



Parking Area #2, November 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-47



Carving drinking fountain, July 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-113



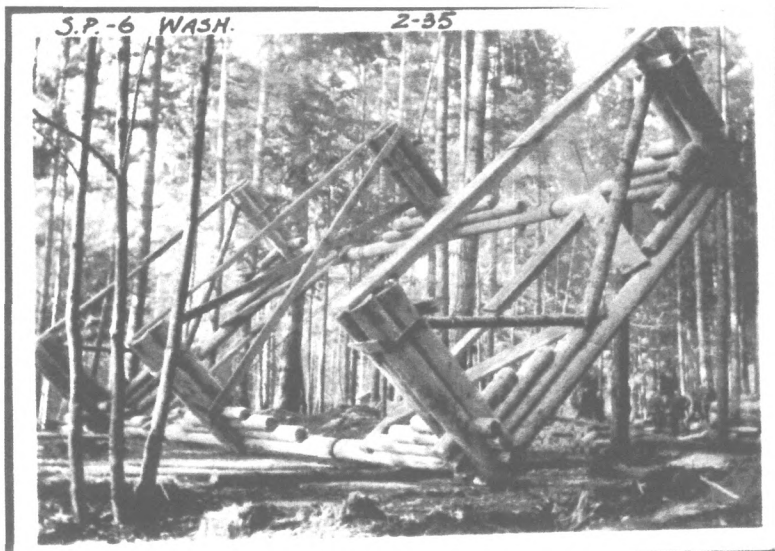
Miller Family Memorial, July 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-115.



Completed Pump House, March 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-96



Completed Park House/Concession Stand, n.d. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-157



Kitchen #1, turning structure over after framing upside down, February 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-52.



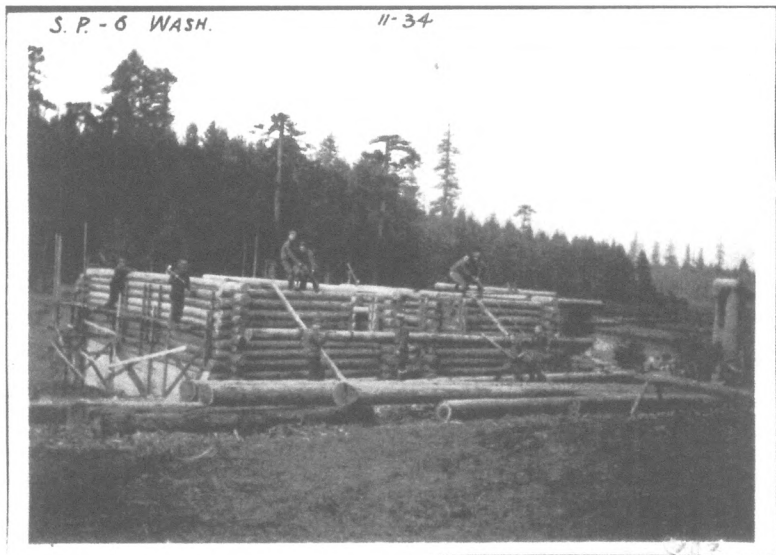
Kitchen #1, framing rafters, March 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-90



Kitchen #1 at completion, May 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-105



ECW Office at Millersylvania, July 1936. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-147



Caretaker's House, November 1934. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-78



Completed Caretaker's House and Garage, March 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-87



Completed fireplace for Kitchen #2, July 1936. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-126



Completed Bathhouse #1, n.d. WSPRC Photo.

SP-6 Wash.

11.35



Placing rafters on Bathhouse #2, November 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-55

S.P.-6 WASH

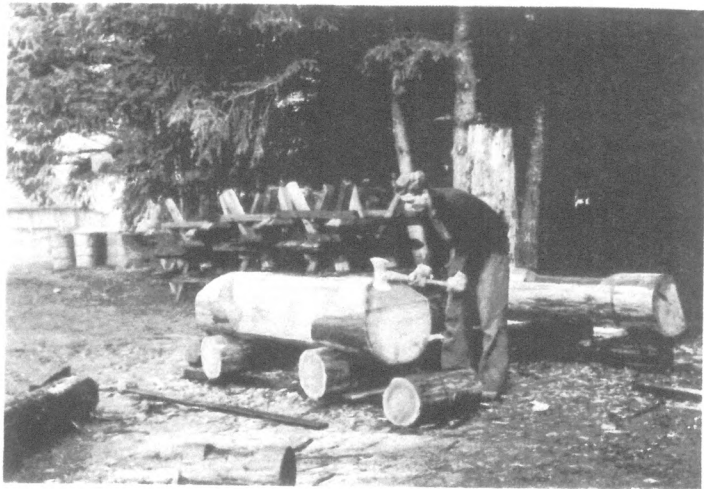
3-35



Completed Comfort Station #1, March 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-57

SP-6. WASH.

12.35



Hewing Park Signs, December 1935. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-44

SP-6. WASH.

3.36



Completed Fire Ring, March 1936. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-193

S.P.-6 WASH.

11-33

9.



*9. Part of Camp Bldgs, C.C.C. Co. 1232.*

CCC Camp Buildings, November 1933. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-9

S.P.-6 WASH.

12-34

22



*22 Entrance Camp Millersylvania before improvement.*

CCC Camp Entrance, December 1934. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-22



Picnic at Millersylvania, c. 1937. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-162



Children at fountain near Bathhouse #1, n.d. WSPRC Photo H74.SP-6-156



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## Photographic Index

Note: All photos taken by Alex McMurry, October 14, 2008. All photos are digital, with original electronic files on file at the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and at Washington State Parks Headquarters. View directions and descriptions below match the accompanying sketch plan of photo locations.

1. Manager's Residence (ID#6), view to south of main entry.
2. Manager's Residence (ID#6), view to northwest.
3. Office and Garage (ID#7), view to south.
4. Comfort Station #1 (ID#8), view to west.
5. Kitchen #1 (ID#9), view to northeast.
6. Comfort Station #2 (ID#10), view to southeast.
7. Park House / Concession Stand (ID#11), view to northeast.
8. Kitchen #2 (ID#12), view to south.
9. Bathhouse #1 (ID#13), view to north.
10. Kitchen #3 (ID#17), view to west.
11. Bathhouse #2 (ID#15), view to north.
12. Comfort Station #3 (ID#16), view to west.
13. Kitchen #4 (ID#14), view to northeast.
14. Blacksmith's Shop (ID#19), view to northwest.
15. Oil and Gas House (ID#21), view to north.
16. Garage (ID#20), view to east.
17. Pump House (ID#48), view to north.

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18. Drinking Fountain near Bathhouse #2 (ID#22), view to north.
  19. Drinking Fountain near Fire Pit (ID#24), view to east.
  20. Fire Pit (ID#36), view to east.
  21. Fire Ring (ID#31) near Kitchen #2, view to northeast.
  22. Fire Ring (ID#34) near Kitchen #3, view to northeast.
  23. Sign on Tilley Road (ID#37) at main park entrance, view to north.
  24. Stone Steps (ID#39).
  25. Parking Area #1 (ID#40), view to north.
  26. Miller Family Memorial (ID#47), view to south.
  27. Bathing beach (ID#44), view to south.
  28. Fence at park entry (ID#46), view to east.
  29. Taylor Barn (ID #2), view to northeast. [Non-Contributing]
  30. Miller Homestead Orchard (ID#3), view to north. [Non-Contributing]
  31. ELC Administrative Cluster (ID#49), view to west. [Non-Contributing]
  32. ELC Meadow Cluster (ID#50), view to north. [Non-Contributing]
  33. ELC Desert Cluster (ID#53), view to northwest. [Non-Contributing]
  34. Campground Comfort Station (ID#54), view to northwest. [Non-Contributing]
  35. Campground Comfort Station (ID#56), view to northwest. [Non-Contributing]
  36. Taylor Homestead Site (ID#1), view to west. [Non-Contributing]